

## Ex-VP Mondale cites Selma Center

Notes cooperative community efforts backbone of United States

By SHANE WELSH  
Staff Writer

"A strong nation begins in the Selmas of the (country)," said former

the war on terrorism to more personal questions about his feelings on today's government.

"I believe in a commu-

would not have supported the effort in Iraq, but that, "We're there now. We can't just pull out.

"The burden of national leadership in America -- the strongest, most powerful and impressive nation in the world -- is to somehow not only be strong," he said, "but have a knowledge, sensitivity and understanding that matches our military strength.

"I believe we need a positive approach to solve terrorism," said Mondale, who at 76 looks and acts like a younger man.

"There's no way," he said, "we can control the whole world by military power. There are some things in the world that are just not answered by a bomb."

Mondale first met with a select group; then with media representatives, followed by the public appearance in the gym.

AuCoin commented on SCEC saying, "The center is a metaphor for a place where people can get together and share like ideas. You have an opportunity (at the center) to reduce the scope of problems and discuss the issues at hand."

Comments by the former VP were met with overwhelming applause and cheers from the crowd.

Live entertainment followed the public meeting with performances from musicians. And there were educational booths from organizations including The Shining Stars, I.V. Community Response Team, I.V. Safe House Alliance, and others to provide public information about projects and resources.

nity that gets together to talk and try to understand each other," said Mondale, "I believe this country can't be what it must be unless we find a way to be civil to each other."

Mondale, now a practicing attorney, said that he is "having fun" visiting his brother, Mort, a Selma resident. He added later to a reporter that he has never stopped working, although he's cut back on hours.

"It's great to work and have fun," he said.

Asked how he felt the current administration is handling the war in Iraq, Mondale said, "You have to know what you're doing. You have to read; you have to think; you have to listen; you have to have people around to help you do so.

"I think one of the problems in American politics...is we forgot about that part of the public dialogue."

Mondale said that he

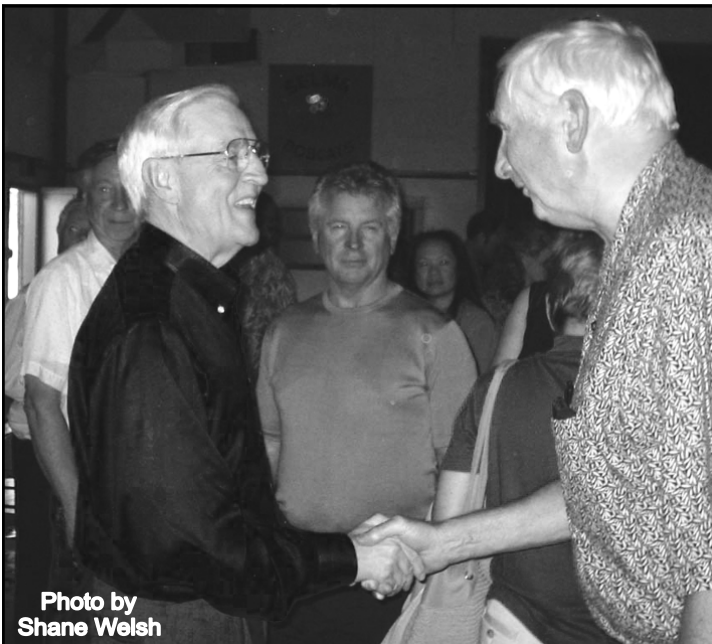


Photo by Shane Welsh

Former VP Walter Mondale greeted many people

Vice President Walter "Fritz" Mondale, guest speaker at the Selma Community & Education Center (SCEC) grand opening on Sunday, May 2.

Nearly 200 people attended a town hall meeting at the SCEC gymnasium, site of the former Selma Elementary School, to hear the former VP, a native and resident of Minnesota, answer public submitted and off-the-floor questions.

He was accompanied by his wife, Joan, also known as "Joan of Art" for her involvement in the arts, and former 1st District Oregon Congressman Les AuCoin.

The program, "Citizenship and America," began with entertainment by valley musicians and refreshments.

The former vice president, who served during the Carter administration and as ambassador to Japan, addressed questions encompassing issues from

## Peter Angstadt new RCC president

Dr. Peter Angstadt, current president of Colorado Northwestern Community College in Rangely, will join Rogue Community College (RCC) as new president.

The RCC Board of Education announced the hiring following a unanimous decision last month.

"Dr. Angstadt has a good academic foundation and a wide breadth of experience," said Pat Huycke, RCC Board vice chairman. "The board also appreciated his demeanor and the fact that he is very approachable."

Angstadt also has community college experience as dean of college services at Clackamas Community College in Oregon City.

And he has served as mayor of Pocatello, Idaho.

He holds a bachelor's degree from Colorado State University (CSU) and two master's degrees: one in higher education administration from CSU, and an MBA from Idaho State University. He

earned his doctorate in educational policy and management from University of Oregon at Eugene.

Angstadt did not attend the board meeting, but sent a message to RCC and the community later, saying he was "delighted to be able to work with all of you" and was eager to get started.

"I was very impressed with the students, faculty, staff, board members, communities and the enthusiastic, progressive spirit I saw when I was there," Angstadt said.

Angstadt will take the helm June 14, allowing transition time with current president, Rick Levine, who announced his retirement in May and will end his tenure at RCC June 30.

With the Oregon School Board Association assisting in the search for a new president, RCC received 24 applications for the position. A screening committee comprised of college instructors, administrators, students, board members and community

representatives helped winnow the list of initial candidates to three:

Angstadt; Dr. Blaine Nisson, vice president of Student Development at Clark Community College, Vancouver, Wash.; and Dr. Michael Holland, vice president of Administrative and Student Affairs at Linn-Benton Community College, Albany.

All three participated in public forums March 29 to April 2 in Medford and Grants Pass that gave college staff, faculty, students and others opportunities to meet with them.

Two board members, Dr. Davit Trump and Kevin Talbert, visited the Colorado Northwestern Community College campus, interviewing a number of faculty, staff, and community members.

"Colorado Northwestern Community College is similar to RCC in that the campus in Rangely is the home campus, while a second campus in Craig has grown to be larger," Talbert said.

## Health coverage issue gains funds

By Salem 'Statesman Journal'

The Legislative Emergency Board has endorsed a major shuffle of state human-service funding approving cuts in response to a failed tax measure while seeking to minimize human suffering.

Lawmakers provided full health coverage for more than 300,000 low-income children, pregnant women, welfare recipients and disabled people.

Their task was easier because of \$100 million in savings derived from an unexpected drop-off in people enrolling in the state health plan for the poor.

"This is not suddenly found money," said Rep. Alan Bates (D-Ashland).

Nearly 40,000 people dropped out of the financially troubled health plan because of new co-pay and premium fees, the elimination of many health services and other factors.

The February defeat of the Measure 30 tax package will force another 49,000 mostly working poor to lose their coverage

on Aug. 1.

Denying those people coverage will become a "hidden tax," Bates said, because they will seek care in hospital emergency rooms. That will drive up insurance costs for businesses and individuals who pay for health insurance, he said.

There is a chance that a provider tax on hospitals and health maintenance organizations will spare some people slated to lose services. However, that requires federal approval and successful negotiations with health-care providers. Some say that won't come together by August and won't provide enough money to insure all 49,000 people.

In other decisions, the emergency board approved:

\*\$9.8 million to preserve a state-county agree-

ment that puts low-level felons in county jails rather than state prisons. Douglas and Curry counties intend to back out of the agreement and hand back their state prisoners to the state. Other counties may have followed suit if more funding wasn't provided.

\*\$3.9 million to retain services at seven crime labs across the state.

\*\$1 million to speed the reopening of a juvenile-detention facility in Warrenton. Current facilities are overcrowded.

\*\$1.9 million to reinstate residential care services for 1,200 senior and disabled people who need assistance eating, bathing and with other personal care.

\*\$1 million to provide more services under Oregon Project Independence, enabling frail seniors to get in-home services.

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