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Two Sections

Portland boos Reagan

by Robert Lothian

Ronald Reagan may not want to come back to Portland for a long time.

While several thousand of his supporters rallied at the University of Portland Tuesday morning, a large group of hecklers who had somehow managed to get in hardly let a sentence of Reagan's speech go by without yelling something.

"Reagan, you killer," screamed one, and "We don't want your Central American war" chanted a small group in unison. Others chanted "Dump Reagan, dump Reagan" as media people aimed cameras and conducted interviews. Shouting matches broke out, and several hecklers were dragged away.

Outside, protesters dressed in black paraded near a coffin bearing pictures of El Salvadoran death squad victims. One person in a Reagan mask rattled a skull, greeting those coming for the President's speech.

Several times, Reagan supporters tried to drown out the hecklers and blockade them with signs.

University of Portland's Chiles Center, inaugurated for the President's visit, was decked out in red, white and blue Republican banners that read, "Bringing the U.S.A. Back," "Oreagan Country," and "Students for Reagan-Bush."

Reagan was welcomed by Governor Vic Atiyeh. Other leading Oregon Republicans, including Portland Mayor Frank Ivancie, Congressman Denny Smith and Senator Robert Packwood were also present.

The audience was treated to a viewing of the Reagan campaign film, "The Reagan Presidency," which touted "patriotism and the good old American values," in the words of Diana Evans, chairwoman

of Oregonians for Reagan-Bush.

Reagan began by telling the audience how he felt at home in Oregon because on a previous visit a state Republican official had offered to change Oregon's name to "Oreagan." His comment brought an immediate outburst from the hecklers.

The speech that followed was a predictable Republican litany of a stronger economy, more jobs, lower inflation and a stronger military posture for the U.S. under Reagan.

Much of the speech was drowned out by hecklers and by thunderous

applause from supporters. The President stopped several times to acknowledge the hecklers.

"I'll let Walter Mondale raise his taxes," he said, gesturing toward a particularly vocal detractor, drawing cheers and laughter from Reagan supporters.

"America will not stop, it will never give up its mission," said the President, amid cheers. "America's best days are yet to come."

"I know it will gall my opponents to say this," he said, in what seemed an obvious reference to the hecklers, "but you ain't seen nothin' yet."

DUMP
MR.
WARHEAD



Protesters outside Reagan speech.

(Photo: Richard J. Brown)



On Saturday, October 20, high school students from Jefferson, Madison, Roosevelt, Grant and Benson participated in a community clean-up sponsored by Project Pride, Inc. The theme was "Clean-Up and Keep It That Way." Approximately 350 enthusiastic students were involved along with various community businesses and organizations. The students received a certificate from Project Pride, Inc.; Portland trailblazer

ticket; T-Shirt from NIKE with Project Pride, Inc. logo; and a coupon from Sunshine Pizza. Others participating included faculty members, Rotary Club, Pacific Power and Light, North/Northeast Business Boosters, Neighborhood Association and Portland Development Commission. Pictured above are students from Jefferson High School who had approximately 75 students participating. (Photo by Richard J. Brown)

Strange bedfellows oppose #2

by Rorey Tyler

For the fourth time in six years Oregon voters will have a chance to decide the fate of a property tax relief measure. The 1984 version, Ballot Measure 2, seeks to hold property taxes to 1.5% of the assessed value of property, using the 1981 assessment as its rate base. Currently property owners pay between two and two and a half percent. The measure would also limit raises in assessed values to 2% per year. A similar measure in 1982 failed to gain voter approval by a very narrow margin. In an effort to gain the votes needed to assure pas-

sage this time, the measure's authors have added some new wrinkles. The most important change is language that would allow local voters to override the tax limit in special elections. In such an election over 50 percent of the taxing district's voters would have to participate and the tax hike would have to be for a specifically stated purpose and a limited amount of time. Number 2's sponsors believe that this would allow local voters to choose those services they wished to fund and the level at which they are to be funded. Furthermore, Ballot Measure 2 would prohibit the imposition of any new tax or increase in an old one without voter approval. These provisions would not become effective until July of 1985 in order to give local voters a chance to provide any additional funding they feel they will need. An election date is set for next May. Another clause in the measure would prohibit taxing Social Security benefits.

Given the State Legislature's inability to offer any sort of tax relief in the 1984 session, and the voters' frustration over that performance, Measure 2's chances for passage seemed very good this summer. However, as the election approaches a formidable array of opponents have been battering away at the measure and property tax reform once again appears to be on the ropes.

The most frequently cited arguments in opposition to Ballot Measure 2 deal with its perceived effects on the state's educational system and the delivery of government services, and on local governments' abilities to issue bonds for community development. Currently sixty-seven cents of every property tax dollar goes toward funding schools. Opponents say that Ballot Measure 2 would cut from one-fourth to one half the budget for public schools and community colleges. The measure's passage, they argue, would force an end to many sports, special education, and transportation programs and force fewer teachers to teach more students with fewer resources. Under Oregon's Constitution, legislators have an obligation to keep public schools

operational. This could mean dipping into other sources of funding, such as the state's \$400 million higher education budget, just to keep the public schools afloat.

Property taxes are also used to support such services as police, seniors' programs, fire departments, libraries, and sanitation districts and to pay off bonds used for government construction projects such as sewers and jails. In August the Association of Oregon Mayors passed a resolution opposing Measure 2. The resolution states that Measure 2 would force them to lay off workers and impel them to turn to the state to fund local services. City Commissioner Mike Lindberg has said that Measure 2's passage would mean laying off 990 city employees. The mayors also fear that, if they have to turn to the state for funding, they will lose local control of the kind and quantity of services they provide. Measure 2's supporters deny this, pointing to the override provision and the 1985 implementation date as a way for local governments to maintain control, if local voters desire. However, local elections seldom draw over fifty percent of registered voters, as Measure 2 mandates, and it could be very difficult to pass a tax levy for that reason alone. Measure 2's supporters suggest that voting by mail could solve this problem.

A surprise opponent to Ballot Measure 2 is the Association of Oregon Industries, Oregon's largest business lobby. If Measure 2 passes, sixty percent of the promised tax relief would go to realtors and businesses. At its August convention the AOI board of directors changed its position, from one of neutrality in 1982 to one of opposition in 1984. Although restructuring Oregon's system of taxation is high on the organization's list of priorities, it should not be done at the expense of weakening Oregon's schools or damaging local government's abilities to pass bond measures that would finance facilities that businesses need to expand. Moody's Investment Services, the nation's largest bond rating firm, has said that

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Campaign '84

Council draws conservative candidates

Bill Sizemore

by Lanita Duke

GRASSROOT NEWS, N.W. — Bill Sizemore, a local businessman and owner, said he wants to restore a conservative balance to the City Council.

"Forty-five to fifty percent of the city is conservative, and yet they have no representation on the City Council. I would bring a balance. The solutions to the city's problems are not all left-leaning solutions."

In office Sizemore said he would concentrate on basic services. He added that he opposed the City Club's proposed zone for prostitution. "I have more in mind with the minority report."

Sizemore said the city's affirmative action record was the least of his concerns. "I'm not a strong supporter of affirmative action. It usually ends up in reverse discrimination. I'm not in favor of affirmative action at all."

He added that crime would be his highest priority. He would increase the police budget for nighttime patrols, promote neighborhood watch and is a strong supporter of Ballot Measure 2.



BILL SIZEMORE

Joan Smith

by Lanita Duke

GRASSROOT NEWS, N.W. — Joan Smith, a former three-term president of the Portland Planning Commission, is running for the City Council seat vacated by Charles Jordan because she wants to extend her public service.

As president of the Planning Commission, Smith said the Ivancie regime made it impossible for her to continue her advisory role.

"We found that some decisions never reached City Council or were changed substantially. It was too frustrating. I backed off and turned my attention elsewhere."

Smith said she joined the Community Action Agency to add to her resume of community service that includes board membership on OMSI, Oregon Bank and she co-authored revisions on downtown development. Her experience in City Planning earned her the endorsement from The Oregonian newspaper.

A Republican, Smith said she was not a participant in the Reagan-Bush campaign.

"I've been involved in the Feminist movement. The whole point of



JOAN SMITH

the Feminist and Civil Rights movement was that we should be judged on our capabilities and not on race or gender. We should be judged on what we can do, what we have done and who can be fair." Among her campaign platforms are the restoration of openness to the governmental process, "Take City Council out to neighborhood groups," and "linking downtown to the convention area at Lloyd Center."

Smith said she supported the City Club's minority report that called for equal enforcement of prostitution laws. And she called the city's affirmative action record "incomprehensible."