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ACTION

Mr. Vernell West

Selected As 1988

LEXINGTON, KY -- Mr. Vernell

West of Salem, Oregon was one

of 32 emerging state leaders from

across the nationa selected for

the prestigious Toll Fellowship

Program sponsored by The Coun-

The Toll Fellowship Program is

a week-long seminar on policy

issues and leadership development named in honor of Henry

Toll, the Colorado state senator

and visionary who founded the

Council of State Governments in

The Council of State Govern-

ments is a national nonpartisan, nonprofit public service organiza-

tion serving all branches of state

The Toll Fellowship Program,

27-September 1 in Lexington, Kentucky, is aimed at developing

the next generation of leaders from the three branches of state government. The intensive fiveday program will assist these

future leaders by providing them

with information and perspectives they would not ordinarily obtain during the course of their

The 32 "Toll Fellows" represent legislative, executive and judicial branches of state govern-

ments nationwide from 29 states. Those selected were nominated

by governors and legislative leaders in their states as the potential future leaders of state

Vernell West is a former Legislative

Assistant to Senator Bill McCoy,

D-Portland, during the 1985 and 1987

Legislatures. He is currently employed

with the Oregon Department of Transpor-

government.

regular governmental service.

government.

scheduled

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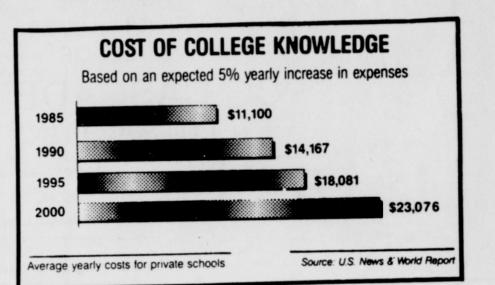
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tation, Highway Division, as a Program Coordinator. He administers one of the Division's three federally mandated exter-

the Univesity of Oregon within four years.

nal affirmative action programs. West was the first to earn three B.A. degrees (in French, Spanish and Italian) at He has lived and studied in several foreign countries and hopes to eventually become involved in international politics or

He resides in Salem with his wife and

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NSBA TELLS GOP PLATFORM COMMITTEE:

Education is Top Priority

KANSAS CITY, MO-The National School Boards Association today called upon the Republican Party to give "the highest" priority to education in its 1988 national Platform.

In testimony before the Republican Platform Committee in Kansas City, Mo., NSBA President Leonard Rovins declared that "education is the key to our progress as a nation and as a free people." He warned that the "world is quickly becoming more technological and more competitive." This results in "a much more dangerous and precarious position for any nation that fails to value and build its commitment to the next generation of citizens," he said.

To safeguard democracy, ensure individual achievement and strengthen the nation from within, Rovins said, requires a "national commitment to provide full educational opportunity for all citizens, regardless of race, sex, or ethnic background."

To achieve these goals, the NSBA president urged that the federal government increase its support for elementary and secondary education in eight major areas, as follows:

 International competition — Provide resources for the full integration of technology into education, generously support curriculum improvement in areas needed for international

competition, and invest in the workforce through 'second chance' programs for young people and increased adult literacy programs.

 Equal opportunity — Provide adequate funding to carry out federal mandates in providing equal educational opportunities, and concentrate research and policy efforts on goals that benefit all students.

 Technology — Underwrite and evaluate software development in the schools, conduct research on the effects of technology on classroom instruction, support a satellite-based education service, and support teacher training and model programs in the uses of instructional technology.

 Teachers — Establish incentive programs to attract teachers to schools with the most severe staffing problems, help improve teacher training especially in critical subject areas, and supplement reward programs for outstanding teachers.

 At-risk students — Increase federal funding for programs targeted at students with special needs, initiate literacy programs for at-risk youth and their parents, and develop new programs for dropouts and youth with limited English-speaking ability. Rural education — Provide federal funding for an expanded agency coordination, and support research in innovative uses of technology in rural areas.

 Urban education — Expand early childhood education for the neediest, provide funding for expanded use of school buildings by urban families, and develop policies that encourage intergovernmental support.

 Federal leadership -Strengthen federal research and dissemination of research findings, provide resources to improve school instruction and teacher training in critical subject areas, and provide supplemental funding for needed capital improvements.

Rovins, who is a school board member in Westport, Conn., said the school board association's recommendations would require "a minimum federal investment of \$25 billion a year." But he said that is a modest amount compared to the "compelling" needs. He pointed out that federal expenditures for education between 1981 and 1987 increased only \$2 billion, or just one-half of one percent.

The NSBA president also requested that "the next President appoint a White House counselor for education, who can help establish education as a high priority and who can help the Secretary of Education coordinate federal education policies and agencies.

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