

GOVERNOR NEIL GOLDSCHMIDT, PREPARED REMARKS
~~DOWNTOWN JEWISH BUSINESS AND PROFESSIONAL BREAKFAST~~
SEATTLE, OCTOBER 3, 1990

Robert
Gold
Charlotte

Prepared
100 m. lines
said go
feel
closer

I'M VERY GLAD TO BE HERE WITH YOU THIS MORNING.

BACK IN FEBRUARY, I ANNOUNCED THAT I WOULD NOT BE
SEEKING RE-ELECTION AS OREGON'S GOVERNOR. SO, I'M
LOOKING FOR WORK. IT WAS WILL ROGERS WHO SAID THAT
ONCE A MAN HOLDS A PUBLIC OFFICE HE IS ABSOLUTELY NO
GOOD FOR HONEST WORK.

LATELY, I'VE BEEN REMINDED OF MARK TWAIN WHO, ONE DAY, WAS READING THE OBITUARY PAGES AND FOUND THAT AN OLD POLITICIAN HAD PASSED ON. A FEW DAYS LATER HE WAS ASKED IF HE ATTENDED THE FUNERAL, TO WHICH HE REPLIED, "NO, BUT I DID SEND A MESSAGE OF APPROVAL."

IT'S A TRADITION THAT OREGON GOVERNORS DON'T GET ANY RESPECT. AFTER TOM MCCALL, GOVERNORS WERE TREATED LIKE THE BODY AT AN OLD-FASHIONED IRISH WAKE. IT'S NECESSARY TO HAVE YOU IN ORDER TO HAVE THE PARTY, BUT YOU ARE NOT EXPECTED TO SAY A GREAT DEAL.

I DID RECEIVE THIS FAN LETTER, HOWEVER: "WHEN YOU VISITED PENDLETON, THERE WERE A LOT OF SIXTH GRADERS CROWDING AROUND YOU. YOU ELBOWED ME IN THE FOREHEAD. IT WAS ONE OF THE MOST EXCITING EVENTS IN MY LIFE."

ACTUALLY, IT'S BEEN INTERESTING AS GOVERNOR LEARNING HOW MANY MISCONCEPTIONS THOSE WHO LIVE OUTSIDE THE PACIFIC NORTHWEST HAVE OF OUR PART OF THE COUNTRY.

NIC BINGHAM, A CALIFORNIA SECOND GRADER, ASKED ME
TO CLEAR UP SOME ISSUES THAT HAD BEEN TROUBLING HIM:

- FIRST: HOW DID YOUR STATE GET A NAME LIKE OREGON?
- SECOND: WHY DOES THE CHINOOK SALMON DIE AFTER IT
LAYS ITS EGGS?

AND THEN THERE WAS MARIA BRAVO OF SAN FRANCISCO.
SHE WROTE TO ASK FOR A MAP OF OREGON, MY PICTURE, AND
TOUR GUIDES OF THE STATE. BUT MOST OF ALL SHE WANTED
SOME OF THE KIND OF MONEY WE USE IN OREGON.

SO I SENT HER A BEAVER PELT AND SOME SHINY BEADS.

LAST MONTH I RETURNED FROM A TWO WEEK VACATION IN ISRAEL, WHICH INCLUDED BOTH PERSONAL R & R AND DISCUSSIONS WITH POLICYMAKERS.

AS I REFLECTED ON THOSE DISCUSSIONS IN PREPARATION FOR BEING WITH YOU THIS MORNING SEVERAL THOUGHTS OCCURRED TO ME.

WITH THE END OF THE COLD WAR ERA; I BELIEVE OUR GREATEST STRUGGLE IN THE UNITED STATES IS JUST BEGINNING -- A STRUGGLE NOT AGAINST SOME FOREIGN ENEMY, BUT A STRUGGLE AGAINST OUR OWN FAILURE TO ACT ON THE PROFOUND PROBLEMS THAT FACE THIS NATION.

AND OUR FAILURE TO ACT HERE AT HOME THREATENS THE
VERY FUTURE OF THE NATION OF ISRAEL.

LET ME TAKE A MOMENT TO EXPLAIN WHAT I MEAN.

THE COURSE OF HISTORY'S CHANGE NOT ONLY PROVIDES
EACH AMERICAN WITH AN OPPORTUNITY TO LOOK AT THE
WORLD THROUGH DIFFERENT EYES, BUT ABOVE ALL, TO LOOK
AT OURSELVES WITH OUR EYES WIDE OPEN.

LESSON NUMBER ONE FOR THE UNITED STATES: NATIONAL
SECURITY IS NO LONGER DEFINED BY MISSILES, BUT BY
MARKETS.

LESSON NUMBER TWO: THE WEAPONS IN THIS NEW ARMS RACE CONSIST OF SURPLUS CAPITAL FOR INVESTMENT, A HEALTHY ENVIRONMENT, ADVANCED COMMUNICATION AND TRANSPORTATION SYSTEMS, AND PEOPLE SMART ENOUGH TO INVEST THAT CAPITAL AND USE THOSE SYSTEMS WISELY AND EFFICIENTLY.

LESSON NUMBER THREE: THE UNITED STATES IS LOSING THIS ECONOMICS ARMS RACE.

IT STRIKES ME THAT IN ISRAEL THERE IS NO SIGNIFICANT UNDERSTANDING OF WHAT IS HAPPENING IN THE UNITED STATES TO SAP OUR COUNTRY OF ITS ECONOMIC POWER.

IF I HAD WANTED TO MAKE AMERICA POORER AND
WEAKER, HERE'S WHAT I WOULD DO:

FIRST, I WOULD DO EVERYTHING I COULD TO TURN THE
UNITED STATES GOVERNMENT FROM A LENDER TO A BORROWER;
BECAUSE HISTORY SHOWS THAT POWER SHIFTS FROM THE
DEBTOR TO THE CREDITOR NATIONS.

I WOULD USE THE LACK OF FEDERAL REVENUE AS AN
EXCUSE TO:

SLASH AID TO EDUCATION

GUT THE ENVIRONMENTAL PROTECTION AGENCY

ALLOW THE STEEL, BRICKS AND MORTAR THAT
SUPPORT OUR ECONOMY TO CRUMBLE FROM NEGLECT

SECOND, IF I WANTED TO MAKE AMERICA POORER, I
WOULD ALLOW CONFIDENCE MEN AND RACKETEERS TO RAID THE
NATIONAL TREASURY. THIS WOULD ACCOMPLISH TWO THINGS
AT ONCE: A SIPHONING OFF OF PRECIOUS RESOURCES, WHILE
FEEDING THE PUBLIC'S GROWING CYNICISM TOWARD
GOVERNMENT'S ABILITY TO ACT.

SAVINGS AND LOAN SCANDAL

THIRD, IF I WANTED TO WEAKEN AMERICA, I WOULD
DIVIDE AMERICANS, ONE FROM ANOTHER; I WOULD SOUND THE
RETREAT ON CIVIL RIGHTS AND WOMEN'S RIGHTS AND SET
THE STAGE FOR RENEWED BIGOTRY AND ANTI-SEMITISM.

AND FOURTH, IF I REALLY WANTED TO BRING THIS
COUNTRY TO ITS KNEES -- IF I WANTED TO GUARANTEE A
SECOND-RATE AMERICA -- I WOULD DO THIS ONE THING
ABOVE ALL ELSE: I WOULD IGNORE THE CRIES FOR HELP
FROM AMERICA'S CHILDREN.

-
- ALMOST ONE-THIRD OF ALL AMERICAN MOTHERS RECEIVE
NO PRENATAL CARE TO DETECT CONDITIONS THAT LEAD
TO PREMATURE BIRTHS, LOW BIRTH WEIGHTS AND OTHER
PROBLEMS.

 - NEARLY HALF THE CHILDREN IN CITIES ARE NOT
IMMUNIZED AGAINST PREVENTABLE DISEASES LIKE
POLIO, DIPHTHERIA AND TETANUS.

 - 0 MEANWHILE, DEFICIT REDUCTION PACKAGE WILL CUT THE
BUDGET FOR MANY CHILD HEALTH PROGRAMS IN THE
COUNTRY.

0 TOO MANY CHILDREN ARE DESTINED FOR FAILURE BEFORE
THEY EVEN REACH THE SCHOOLHOUSE DOOR.

WHY SHOULD YOU CARE? WHEN THE QUALITY OF OUR
WORKFORCE IS IMPAIRED, WHEN TALENT IS SQUANDERED AND
WASTED, THE ECONOMY SUFFERS.

(I DON'T THINK WE CAN BLAME JAPANESE TRADE
POLICIES FOR THAT.)

DIMINISHING ECONOMIC POWER IS THE BIGGEST SINGLE
THREAT TO OUR NATIONAL SECURITY.

IT IS A MATTER OF NATIONAL SECURITY WHEN ONLY 75%
OF OUR CHILDREN GRADUATE FROM HIGH SCHOOL.

IT IS A MATTER OF NATIONAL SECURITY WHEN
CORPORATE AMERICA HAS TO SPEND \$210 BILLION TO TEACH
WORKERS WHAT THEY SHOULD HAVE LEARNED IN SCHOOL.
THAT FIGURE EQUALS HALF THE TOTAL EXPENDITURE OF
AMERICA'S ELEMENTARY, SECONDARY AND HIGHER
EDUCATIONAL INSTITUTIONS.

IT IS ESTIMATED THAT BY THE YEAR 2000 THE U.S.
COULD HAVE AS MANY AS 20 MILLION YOUNG WORKING-AGE
ADULTS WITH POOR PROSPECTS OF HOLDING ANY JOB.

HOW DIFFERENT WOULD OUR CITIES BE IF TWENTY YEARS
AGO MAYORS HAD RUN HEAD START TO THE TOP OF THE
NATIONAL FLAGPOLE?

HOW DIFFERENT WOULD OUR CITIES BE IF THEY
GRADUATED 90 PERCENT -- FROM AN INTERNATIONALLY
COMPETITIVE SCHOOL SYSTEM?

EACH YEAR OF DELAY IN MEETING OUR RESPONSIBILITY
TO INVEST IN OUR CHILDREN MEANS ANOTHER MILLION
DROPOUTS WHOSE SKILLS ARE INFERIOR TO THOSE AGAINST
WHOM THEY HAVE TO COMPETE -- THE CHILDREN OF OSAKA
AND FRANKFURT.

WHEN OUR ECONOMIC INTERESTS WERE THREATENED
OUTSIDE THIS NATION'S BORDERS IN THE MIDDLE EAST, WE
RESPONDED.

A THREAT NO LESS DANGEROUS IS FACING US HERE AT
HOME, BUT WE ARE FAILING TO PROVIDE A COMPERABLE
RESPONSE..

OR AS THE CHINESE SAY, "THERE IS A LOT OF NOISE
ON THE STAIRS, BUT NO ONE ENTERS THE ROOM."

THE MESSAGE WE GET FROM THE FEDERAL GOVERNMENT IS
THIS: NO PROBLEM IS BIG ENOUGH TO BE CONSIDERED A
KNIFE AT OUR JUGULAR; NOT EDUCATION, DRUGS
INFRASTRUCTURE, MEDICAL CARE, HOUSING.

NO PROBLEM IS WORTH THE KIND OF INVESTMENT WE PUT
INTO THE G.I. BILL, THE MARSHALL PLAN, THE RACE TO
THE MOON.

INACTION BREEDS CYNICISM. CYNICISM FED BY
ECONOMIC HYPOCRITES AND FREE LUNCH HUCKSTERS WHO
PROMISE WE CAN GET WHAT WE WANT WITHOUT PAYING FOR IT.

CYNICISM FED BY LEADERS WHO BASE THEIR BELIEFS ON
POLL RESULTS.

HARRY TRUMAN SAID IT BEST: "HOW FAR WOULD MOSES
HAVE GONE IF HE HAD TAKEN A POLL IN EGYPT?"

IT'S NO SECRET THAT PRESIDENTS TAKE REFUGE IN
INTERNATIONAL ACTIVITIES. BUSH IS NO EXCEPTION; HE
USES FOREIGN POLICY TO CAMOUFLAGE HIS INABILITY TO
BITE THE TOUGH DOMESTIC BULLET.

WHAT IS THE MESSAGE FOR ISRAEL?

IF TWENTY YEARS FROM NOW WE LOOK BACK ON A PERIOD
OF FAILED COMMITMENT AROUND THE WORLD -- AND THAT
INCLUDES COMMITMENT TO ISRAEL -- IT WILL BE BECAUSE
PRESIDENTIAL LEADERSHIP WAS UNWILLING TO GENERATE
COMMITMENT TO OTHERS THROUGH INVESTING AND SOLVING
PROBLEMS AT HOME.

THE FUTURE OF A STRONG ISRAEL DEPENDS ON A STRONG
UNITED STATES -- NOT JUST MILITARILY, BUT
ECONOMICALLY AND SOCIALLY STRONG AS WELL.

I AM MORE OPTIMISTIC THAN THAT GREAT JEWISH
PHILOSOPHER, WOODY ALLEN: "MANKIND FACES A
CROSSROADS," HE WROTE. "ONE PATH LEADS TO DESPAIR
AND UTTER HOPELESSNESS, THE OTHER TO TOTAL
EXTINCTION. LET US PRAY WE HAVE THE WISDOM TO CHOOSE
CORRECTLY."

I BELIEVE WE ARE AT A CROSSROADS IN OUR NATIONAL
LIFE, WHERE WE HAVE THE OPPORTUNITY TO RECAPTURE THE
VISION OF WHAT OUR COUNTRY CAN BE -- IF WE DECIDE TO
NURTURE THIS HUMAN CAPITAL; IF WE DECIDE THAT FOR
NATIONAL SECURITY REASONS WE CAN'T AFFORD NOT TO.

*If you are a Jew — the messages
are clear — this is our battle / our
children's future —*

We can bring a unique
perspective / sensitivity
social purpose — justice
True justice to all

B'NAT BRITH

ADL

} needed
more
than
ever

GARVEY, SCHUBERT & BARER

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August 13, 1990

PLEASE REPLY TO SEATTLE OFFICE

Lori Vickers
Assistant to the Governor
for Scheduling
Office of the Governor
Salem, Oregon 97310-0370

Rob

Re: Governor Goldschmidt's Appearance at the Downtown Jewish
Business and Professional Breakfast, Seattle, Washington

Dear Ms. Vickers:

Thank you for sending a photograph and biography of Governor Goldschmidt in connection with his appearance before the Downtown Jewish Business and Professional Breakfast on Wednesday, October 3, 1990. The breakfast is sponsored by Greater Seattle B'nai B'rith, and is attended, regularly, by 100 - 150 people.

The breakfast starts at 7:30 a.m. and will conclude at 9:00 a.m. The guest speaker has 40 - 45 minutes for a presentation and an opportunity to answer questions from the crowd. For the last three years, the breakfast has been held in the Tower Club, on the 76th floor of the Seafirst Columbia Center, in downtown, Seattle. We are contemplating moving the breakfast to a downtown Seattle hotel. I will let you know, closer to October 3, the exact location of the breakfast.

As to a topic, I would be most interested in hearing Governor Goldschmidt's views on the role of the Jewish community in American politics. As a former mayor, cabinet secretary, and now governor, he certainly has a unique perspective on the subject. If the Governor has suggestions for other possible topics, I would certainly be receptive.

Please thank Governor Goldschmidt for agreeing to speak before our breakfast. If you have any questions in the meantime, please feel free to call me.

Very truly yours,


Robert B. Spitzer

rbs.03251.aa2

Need Fred's help?
Fred see me about
George Wilk's
concerns about
Fred's
us.
reluctant
to

CHILDREN'S DAY TALKING POINTS

SALEM, OCTOBER 17, 1990

- 0 THANKS TO CHILDREN'S SERVICES DIVISION FOR ORGANIZING THIS EVENT. AND IBM, PGE AND ROTH'S FRIENDLY FOODLINERS.

- 0 THE CHILDREN WHO ATTENDED LAST YEAR'S CHILDREN'S DAY EVENT WERE ASKED HOW WE COULD MAKE THIS YEAR'S CELEBRATION EVEN BETTER. THEY SAID, "WE DON'T WANT CAKE AND ICE CREAM. WE DON'T WANT TO PLAY GAMES AND HAVE FUN. WHAT WE REALLY WANT TO DO IS LISTEN TO MORE AND LONGER SPEECHES."

0 ACTUALLY WHAT THEY SAID WAS, "MORE FOOD -- LESS
TALK."

0 I PROMISE THAT'S WHAT YOU'RE GOING TO GET.
WHICH PROVES THAT ADULTS DO LISTEN TO WHAT YOU
HAVE TO SAY.

0 YOU ARE IMPORTANT; YOUR IDEAS COUNT

0 IN FACT, YOUR RESPONSES TO THE QUESTIONNAIRE
WILL BE PRESENTED TO THE LEGISLATURE IN JANUARY.

0 REMEMBER -- THIS EVENT TODAY IS JUST PART OF A

STATEWIDE CELEBRATION OF CHILDREN -- FROM THE
PARADE IN BAKER CITY TO THE ICE CREAM SOCIAL IN
PORTLAND

0 YEARS FROM NOW ON CHILDREN'S DAY I WANT YOU TO
BE ABLE TO TELL YOUR CHILDREN THAT IN 1990
ADULTS LISTENED TO YOU; THAT WE CARED ABOUT YOU
AND YOUR FUTURE.

0 THAT IS TRULY THE "GREATEST LOVE OF ALL." AND
WITH THE HELP OF THE JEWISH ACADEMY SINGERS,
WE'RE GOING TO SING THE SONG THAT WHITNEY HUSTON
SANG AT THE NATIONAL CHILDREN'S DAY IN
WASHINGTON, D.C.

TALKING POINTS
USWEST WOMEN REGIONAL CONFERENCE

OCTOBER 20, 1990

Marghera

Simply Best

Transfo

*live to
Oregon*

*Nalras et
P. D. Jacobs*

I'M VERY HAPPY TO HAVE BEEN INVITED TO SPEAK TO
YOU TONIGHT. ACTUALLY, THESE DAYS I'M HAPPY TO BE
INVITED ANYWHERE. THE NUMBER OF INVITATIONS I
RECEIVE HAVE BEEN MYSTERIOUSLY DECLINING SINCE I
ANNOUNCED I WASN'T RUNNING FOR RE-ELECTION EARLIER
THIS YEAR.

AND YOU HAVE TO UNDERSTAND, EVEN WHEN YOU ARE
RUNNING FOR RE-ELECTION, BEING GOVERNOR OF OREGON IS
NO BIG DEAL. YOU'RE TREATED LIKE THE BODY AT AN
OLD-FASHIONED IRISH WAKE. IT'S NECESSARY TO HAVE YOU
IN ORDER TO HAVE THE PARTY, BUT YOU ARE NOT EXPECTED
TO SAY A GREAT DEAL.

FOR A LONG TIME, I HAD A REAL IDENTITY CRISIS.

AFTER VISITING HEPPNER, A TOWN IN EASTERN OREGON, I RECEIVED A LETTER FROM A MRS. RILL. ~~SHE WROTE THAT~~ HER ~~SEVEN-YEAR-OLD SON~~ LONNIE HAD COME HOME FROM SCHOOL AND ANNOUNCED THAT HE HAD JUST MET ARNOLD GOLDFISH. WHEN HIS MOTHER ASKED HIM WHO ARNOLD GOLDFISH WAS, LONNIE REPLIED, "YOU KNOW WHO HE IS... HE'S THE PRESIDENT OF OREGON."

FOR THOSE OF YOU FROM OUT OF STATE, WELCOME TO OREGON. I KNOW MANY OF YOU HAVE A LOT OF QUESTIONS ABOUT OUR STATE. I SEE IT IN THE MAIL I GET.

NIC BINGHAM, A CALIFORNIA SECOND GRADER, ASKED ME
TO CLEAR UP SOME ISSUES THAT HAD BEEN TROUBLING HIM:

FIRST: HOW DID YOUR STATE GET A NAME LIKE
OREGON?

SECOND: WHY DOES THE CHINOOK SALMON DIE
AFTER IT LAYS ITS EGGS? AND DOES THE FATHER
DIE, TOO?

MARIA BRAVO, ALSO A CALIFORNIAN, WROTE TO ASK FOR
A MAP OF OREGON, MY PICTURE, AND TOUR GUIDES OF THE
STATE. BUT MOST OF ALL SHE WANTED SOME OF THE KIND OF
MONEY WE USE IN OREGON.

SO I SENT HER A BEAVER PELT AND SOME SHINY BEADS.

WHAT SHOULD YOU KNOW ABOUT OREGON?

FIRST, WE TALK TO EACH OTHER USING PHONES, NOT
SMOKE SIGNALS.

SECOND, THIS IS A STATE THAT LOOKS AND WORKS A
LITTLE DIFFERENTLY.

OREGON HAS ALWAYS BEEN KNOWN FOR ITS INDEPENDENCE
AND LEADERSHIP. WE WERE THE FIRST STATE TO PASS A
BOTTLE BILL. AND WE LEAD THE NATION IN CONTROLLING
AIR AND WATER POLLUTION, RECYCLING, PROTECTING
BEACHES, AND LAND USE PLANNING. WE HAVE EARNED A
REPUTATION AS STRONG ENVIRONMENTAL STEWARDS, AND WE
ARE NOT RESTING ON OUR LAURELS.

BUT TODAY IN OREGON, WE ARE BUILDING ANOTHER KIND
OF REPUTATION -- A REPUTATION AS A PLACE WILLING TO
INVEST IN ITS FUTURE AND ITS PEOPLE.

DURING THE LAST NATIONAL RECESSION, OREGON WAS ONE OF THE FIRST IN AND THE LAST OUT. OUR PEOPLE LEFT THE STATE BY THE THOUSANDS IN SEARCH OF WORK. IT HURT. AND WE COMMITTED TO OURSELVES THAT IT WOULD NEVER HAPPEN AGAIN.

SEVERAL WEEKS AGO OREGON WAS LISTED AS ONE OF ONLY SIX STATES THAT HADN'T FALLEN INTO THE NATIONAL RECESSION THAT IS NOW GRIPPING THE COUNTRY.

THE REASON? IT IS IN LARGE PART A NEW OREGON ATTITUDE. ONE THAT SAYS WE CAN COMPETE WITH ANYONE, ANYWHERE IN THE WORLD. FOR TOURISTS, FOR JOBS, FOR INVESTMENT.

AND WE ARE NOT GOING TO BACK UP. WE ARE GOING TO
FIGHT OUR WAY THROUGH THE NEXT RECESSION USING A TOO
OFTEN OVERLOOKED WEAPON -- OUR PEOPLE.

WE HAVE NOT ONLY COMMITTED TO CREATING A PLACE AT
THE TABLE FOR EVERY OREGONIAN, WE HAVE EMBARKED ON AN
INVESTMENT STRATEGY THAT SAYS WE WILL ACCEPT NOTHING
LESS THAN ALL OF OUR CITIZENS REACHING THEIR FULLEST
POTENTIAL.

*Gloria Steinem
Done more for men
by inspiring women
& respect for
women in
men*

I SUSPECT YOU IN THIS AUDIENCE TONIGHT HAVE MADE
A SIMILAR COMMITMENT TO YOURSELF. THAT IS, AS AN
INDIVIDUAL, YOU WILL DEMAND NOTHING BUT THE BEST FROM
YOURSELF. IT IS WHAT THIS CONFERENCE IS ABOUT.

gift

AND IT IS WHAT WE MUST EXPECT OF OUR COUNTRY.

AMERICA'S FUTURE, ALONG WITH OREGON'S, DEPENDS MORE
THAN EVER BEFORE ON HOW CAREFULLY WE NURTURE OUR
HUMAN RESOURCES.

IN OREGON WE HAVE SET VERY CLEAR OBJECTIVES. WE
INTEND TO BUILD A WORK FORCE THAT IS THE BEST IN
AMERICA BY THE YEAR 2010 AND EQUAL TO ANY IN THE
WORLD BY 2010.

TO ACHIEVE THIS, WE INTEND TO DISCARD NO ONE. WE
SIMPLY CAN'T AFFORD TO. OUR GOAL IS TO CREATE A
STATE IN WHICH OPPORTUNITY IS A FUNCTION OF HARDWORK
AND COMMITMENT, NOT RACE OR GENDER.

WE'VE MADE A START.

OVER THE LAST FOUR YEARS, THE NUMBER OF WOMEN IN OUR STATE GOVERNMENT AT THE HIGHEST SALARY RANGES HAS INCREASED MORE THAN 30%. THE NUMBER OF DISABLED HAS MORE THAN DOUBLED. AND THE NUMBER OF MINORITIES IN THE HIGHEST SALARY RANGES HAS GONE UP MORE THAN 50%.

THAT'S BUT ONE SMALL EXAMPLE OF WHAT WE HOPE TO ACHIEVE. ANOTHER ACHIEVEMENT FOR OREGON, AND ONE I'M PROUD OF, IS THE FACT THAT MY SUCCESSOR AS GOVERNOR WILL VERY LIKELY BE A WOMAN.

BARBARA ROBERTS, THE DEMOCRATIC CANDIDATE FOR GOVERNOR, IS THE CLEAREST EXAMPLE OF THE OREGON WAY. THIS IS A WOMAN WHO ENTERED POLITICS FIGHTING FOR THE RIGHTS OF HER HANDICAPPED SON.

I BELIEVE OREGONIANS OFTEN FIND THEMSELVES LEADING THE NATION ON AN ISSUE BECAUSE WE ARE AS IMPATIENT AS WE ARE INDEPENDENT.

LAST JANUARY WE LAID OUT A COURSE FOR BECOMING THE FIRST STATE IN THE COUNTRY TO MAKE HEAD START AVAILABLE TO EVERY ELIGIBLE CHILD. THIS IS AN EARLY CHILDHOOD EDUCATION PROGRAM FOR CHILDREN OF LOW-INCOME FAMILIES. IT HAS PROVEN ITSELF TO BE THE BEST ANTI-DRUG, ANTI-CRIME, PRO-EDUCATION PROGRAM IN EXISTENCE.

SEVERAL MONTHS AFTER WE BEGAN OUR EFFORT, PRESIDENT BUSH RELEASED HIS BUDGET PROPOSAL FOR NEXT YEAR. IN IT HE PROPOSED TO EXPAND HEAD START NATIONALLY. HE POINTED TO IT AS EVIDENCE THAT HE WAS TRUELY THE EDUCATION-PRESIDENT.

UNFORTUNATELY, YESTERDAY THE PRESIDENT INSISTED
THAT THE PROPOSAL BE DROPPED FROM THE BUDGET
NEGOTIATIONS.

OREGONIANS WON'T WAIT FOR GEORGE BUSH. WE'RE
GOING TO BLOW RIGHT BY THAT KIND OF LEADERSHIP.

IF I COULD LEAVE YOU WITH ONE FUNDAMENTAL
IMPRESSION OF MY STATE AND ITS PEOPLE, IT WOULD BE
THIS: THERE STILL EXISTS IN AMERICA A PLACE WHERE
PEOPLE BELIEVE THEY CAN TAKE THE FUTURE IN THEIR OWN
HANDS AND SHAPE IT TO THEIR WILL. AND TO LIVE IN
THAT BELIEF IS TO LIVE IN OREGON

FOR THOSE OF YOU WHO HAVE TO LEAVE, BE SURE AND
TAKE SOME TIME TO SEE OUR GREAT STATE.

Talking Points
USWEST Women Regional Conference

October 20, 1990

I'm very happy to have been invited to speak to you tonight. Actually, these days I'm happy to be invited anywhere. The number of invitations I receive have been mysteriously declining since I announced I wasn't running for re-election earlier this year.

And you have to understand, even when you are running for re-election, being governor of Oregon is no big deal. You're treated like the body at an old-fashioned Irish wake. It's necessary to have you in order to have the party, but you are not expected to say a great deal.

For a long time, I had a real identity crisis. After visiting Heppner, a town in Eastern Oregon, I received a letter from a Mrs. Rill. She wrote that her seven-year-old son Lonnie had come home from school and announced that he had just met Arnold Goldfish. When his mother asked him who Arnold Goldfish was, Lonnie replied, "you know who he is... He's the President of Oregon."

For those of you from out of state, welcome to Oregon. I know many of you have a lot of questions about our state. I see it in the mail I get.

Nic Bingham, a California second grader, asked me to clear up some issues that had been troubling him:

First: How did your state get a name like Oregon?

Second: Why does the Chinook Salmon die after it lays its eggs? And does the father die, too?

Maria Bravo, also a Californian, wrote to ask for a map of Oregon, my picture, and tour guides of the state. But most of all she wanted some of the kind of money we use in Oregon.

So I sent her a beaver pelt and some shiny beads.

What should you know about Oregon?

First, we talk to each other using phones, not smoke signals.

Second, this is a state that looks and works a little differently.

Oregon has always been known for its independence and leadership. We were the first state to pass a bottle bill. And we lead the nation in controlling air and water pollution, recycling, protecting beaches, and land use planning. We have earned a reputation as strong environmental stewards, and we are not resting on our laurels.

But today in Oregon, we are building another kind of reputation -- a reputation as a place willing to invest in its future and its people.

During the last national recession, Oregon was one of the first in and the last out. Our people left the state by the thousands in search of work. It hurt. And we committed to ourselves that it would never happen again.

Several weeks ago Oregon was listed as one of only six states that hadn't fallen into the national recession that is now gripping the country.

The reason? It is in large part a new Oregon attitude. One that says we can compete with anyone, anywhere in the world. For tourists, for jobs, for investment.

And we are not going to back up. We are going to fight our way through the next recession using a too often overlooked weapon -- our people.

We have not only committed to creating a place at the table for every Oregonian, we have embarked on an investment strategy that says we will accept nothing less than all of our citizens reaching their fullest potential.

I suspect you in this audience tonight have made a similar commitment to yourself. That is, as an individual, you will demand nothing but the best from yourself. It is what this conference is about.

And it is what we must expect of our country. America's future, along with Oregon's, depends more than ever before on how carefully we nurture our human resources.

In Oregon we have set very clear objectives. We intend to build a work force that is the best in America by the year 2010 and equal to any in the world by 2010.

To achieve this, we intend to discard no one. We simply can't afford to. Our goal is to create a state in which opportunity is a function of hardwork and commitment, not race or gender.

We've made a start.

Over the last four years, the number of women in our state government at the highest salary ranges has increased more than 30%. The number of disabled has more than doubled. And the number of minorities in the highest salary ranges has gone up more than 50%.

That's but one small example of what we hope to achieve. Another achievement for Oregon, and one I'm proud of, is the fact that my successor as governor will very likely be a woman.

Barbara Roberts, the democratic candidate for governor, is the clearest example of the Oregon way. This is a woman who entered politics fighting for the rights of her handicapped son.

I believe Oregonians often find themselves leading the nation on an issue because we are as impatient as we are independent.

Last January we laid out a course for becoming the first state in the country to make Head Start available to every eligible child. This is an early childhood education program for children of low-income families. It has proven itself to be the best anti-drug, anti-crime, pro-education program in existence.

Several months after we began our effort, President Bush released his budget proposal for next year. In it he proposed to expand Head Start nationally. He pointed to it as evidence that he was truly the education-president.

Unfortunately, yesterday the President insisted that the proposal be dropped from the budget negotiations.

Oregonians won't wait for George Bush. We're going to blow right by that kind of leadership.

If I could leave you with one fundamental impression of my state and its people, it would be this: there still exists in America a place where people believe they can take the future in their own hands and shape it to their will. And to live in that belief is to live in Oregon.

For those of you who have to leave, be sure and take some time to see our great state.