

# STATE NEWS WEEKLY SUMMARY CONTINUED



Currently, elementary schools are above the national average in test scores. However, Oklahoma secondary students are below the national average based on ACT scores. "We have been making gains, but they are not adequate enough. Oklahoma students could be doing much, much better," Coppedge added. "I do not want to paint a dismal picture, but we ought to be concerned."

In addition, Coppedge suggested that curriculum and programs be strengthened.

The report card did not include data for national or regional comparisons. Coppedge and Keating said that the school report card program was new and could be amended to include such items.

The school report cards will be available to parents and communities through their local schools.

—MARTA MCCLOSKEY  
05/09/96

## KEATING COMMENTS ON SCHOOL-TO-WORK

■(GIT) Governor Frank Keating said Thursday in a press conference that he would still not sign a bill for school-to-work as long as the state vocational-technical system was leading the program. Last week, Attorney General Drew Edmondson issued an opinion stating that the Executive School-To-Work Council created by the Governor would not continue to function beyond the last day of adjournment by the Legislature, unless during that session the Legislature statutorily creates the agency.

However, Keating said that any board that performs executive functions should always be appointed by the governor. Keating contended that it should be the responsibility of the Legislature and the governor to represent Oklahomans on the issue of school-to-work. "It is not the responsibility of career educators ... elected officials should be the voice for the people," he said.

"If this is a fundamental remake of the education system, then who's authorizing it ... vo-tech," Keating questioned.

—MARTA MCCLOSKEY  
05/09/96

*"The optimist claims we live in the best of all possible worlds, and the pessimist fears this is true."*

*James Branch Cabell*

## GOVERNMENT & POLITICS

### SENATE BUSINESS & LABOR CONFIRMS KEATING APPOINTEES

■(GIT) The Senate Committee on Business and Labor unanimously confirmed nine of Governor Frank Keating's appointees Monday. Each serving a minimum of a four year term, the executive nominations filled vacant spots on the Oklahoma Accountancy Board, the Commission on Consumer Credit, the Oklahoma Employment Securities Commission and the Oklahoma Motor Vehicle Commission.

Longtime independent insurance agent and former member of the Board of Regents for Higher Education, Dean Corder, of Oklahoma City, was confirmed to serve a five year term on the Commission on Consumer Credits. He fills a vacant position that expires Jan. 1, 2000. Corder's nomination was carried by Sen. Keith Leftwich, D-Oklahoma City.

Corder was confirmed with a vote of 7 to 0.

Also appointed to the Commission on Consumer Credit, Terry Wyatt, of Hollister, sponsored by Sen. Gilmer Capps, D-Snyder, was confirmed with a vote of 11 to 0.

Wyatt will serve a five year term, expiring Jan. 1, 2001.

Succeeding himself, Vernon Askew, of Oklahoma City, was reconfirmed to his post on the Oklahoma Accountancy Board. He will serve a five year term, ending June 30, 2001. He was confirmed with a vote of 11 to 0.

James Nickles, of Tulsa, and brother of U.S. Senator Don Nickles, was also confirmed to the Oklahoma Accountancy Board with a vote of 11 to 0. He will serve a five year term, ending June 30, 2001.

Mike Bartlett, of Tulsa, was also confirmed to the Oklahoma Accountancy Board with a vote of 10 to 0. He will serve a four year term, ending Dec. 31, 1999. He was sponsored by Sen. Don Rubottom, R-Tulsa.

In the automobile industry since 1978, Bob Howard, of Edmond, was confirmed to serve on the Oklahoma Motor Vehicle Commission with a vote of 10 to 0. He will serve a six year term, ending June 30, 2001. He was sponsored by Sen. Mark Snyder, R-Edmond.

W.L. "Mac" McCullo, of Ardmore, was confirmed to a position on the Oklahoma

Motor Vehicle Commission. Sponsored by Sen. Darryl Roberts, D-Ardmore, he was confirmed with a vote of 10 to 0.

McCullo, in the automobile industry since 1949, said he hopes to require car salesmen to pass examinations on ethics and sales procedure before being licensed to sell cars in the state.

McCullo will serve a six year term, ending June 30, 2001.

Also appointed to the Motor Vehicle Commission was Dan Mullins, of Lawton. Sponsored by Sen. Jim Maddox, D-Lawton, he fills an unexpired term, ending June 30, 1999.

Rev. W.L. Parker, of Spencer, was reconfirmed to his position as chairman of the Oklahoma Employment Security Commission. In his fifth year, Parker was confirmed with a vote of 10 to 0. He was sponsored by Sen. Angela Monson, D-Oklahoma City. He will serve a six year term, ending July 2, 2001.

—BRANDON BEARD  
05/06/96

## HOUSE ADMINISTRATIVE RULE REVIEW COMMITTEE MEETS

■(GIT) The House Committee on Administrative Rule Review met Monday to address the proposed administrative rules for the Oklahoma Department of Mental Health and Substance Abuse Services. Failure to attain a working quorum caused HJR1101 to be laid over. The resolution directed the department to adopt replacement rules, establishing standards for residential care facilities.

Committee Chairman Rep. Charles Gray, D-Oklahoma City, said the committee would meet again to address the issue, though he was unsure when.

—BRANDON BEARD  
05/06/96

## SENATOR LAUDS KEATING CONVERSION, GOV FINALLY RECOGNIZES STATE'S ATTRIBUTES

■(OKLAHOMA CITY) Saying he's glad "Governor Keating has finally seen the light," a Senate leader is congratulating the State Chief Executive for recognizing Oklahoma's many economic attributes in the State Department of Commerce's new business recruitment site on the Internet.

"I don't know what caused his 11th hour

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