

PENA SELECTS PANEL TO PICK NATION'S FIRST OFFICIAL SCENIC BYWAYS

From US Dept. of Transportation

■(WASHINGTON) U.S. Secretary of Transportation Federico Pena recently selected a panel of travel, tourism and historic preservation experts to select the first National Scenic Byways and All-American roads.

National Scenic Byways are roads or highways that states have deemed outstanding and that merit national recognition because of their scenic, historic, cultural, recreational, natural or archeological quantities. All-American Roads are the "superstars" or the best of the National Scenic Byways.

In naming the panel selections, Pena said, "President Clinton and I are strong advocates of protecting the environment and maintaining an efficient, safe transportation infrastructure. Scenic byways are the embodiment of these two goals.

"The blue-ribbon panel that I have selected will help us evaluate the nominations we have received so we can officially introduce America — and the world — to our beautiful, open roads. These roads reflect our country's rich, diverse natural landscape and are often destinations unto themselves. They also illustrate how we can effectively balance economic development with historic and environmental preservation."

The panel members are:

Homer Staves, Vice President of Customer Services, KOA Kampgrounds of

America

Peter Brink, Vice President of Program Services Information, National Trust for Historic Preservation

Mike Camarano, Manager of Data Research, American Automobile Association

Dorothy Redford, Site Manager, Somerset Place, North Carolina

Patty Hubbard, Vice President of National Councils, Travel Industry Association of America

Grant Jones, Principal, Jones and Jones Architects and Landscape Architects, Seattle, Washington

"While we recognize the beauty of our nation's scenic byways, it is also important to note that the value of these roads extends beyond their aesthetic qualities," Federal Highway Administrator Rodney Slater said. "These roads help to boost local economies by spurring and supporting tourism, a \$400 billion industry that accounts for 11 percent of consumer spending. In fact, some 90 percent of leisure travelers use our highway system to gain access to national parks, forests, cities and the scenic byways themselves which are among the most attractive places to visit."

The panel members will announce their selections of the National Scenic Byways and All-American Roads this Fall.

"Damn your principles! Stick to your party!"
Benjamin Disraeli

USAO, continued from page 6

Handbook. Considered the policy manual for all matters of interest to students, the 55-page document includes services available to students and University policies on everything from freshman orientation to graduation requirements.

New to the handbook this year is a statement on academic progress and a policy banning handguns, which was enacted by the school following a new state law allowing concealed weapons for licensed individuals. The handbook was updated by a campuswide committee and compiled by the Office of Administrative Affairs.

Regents learned that a new member has been named by Gov. Frank Keating to the USAO Board. Former Chickasha resident Beverly Carter, now of Oklahoma City, will join the board in July. She will fill a vacancy to be left by Regent Lillian Boland, who is completing nine years of service.

In personnel matters, the board approved the retirement of Dr. Pauline Hook, associate professor of speech pathology, and the appointment of Allison Fahsl as special adjunct faculty member in education.

Regents also approved the reappointment of Vaughn Groom, instructor in computer science, and the appointment of Jeffery Martin, student life counselor and intramural sports coordinator.

Eleven members of the physical plant staff were reappointed for 1996-97: Earl Brumley, Esta Hatchett, Linda Helms, William Ingle, Lawana Jackson, Robert Jones, Brenda Short, Sheila Smith, Harold Talbert, Lonnie Travis and Alva Turner.

Two members of the food services department were reappointed: Yvonne Christian and June Rankin.

INHOFE RATES AMONG BEST IN FISCAL RESPONSIBILITY

From US Sen. James Inhofe

■(WASHINGTON) U.S. Senator James M. Inhofe, R-Oklahoma, ranks near the top of the U.S. Senate in fiscal responsibility, according to a detailed legislative analysis prepared by the non-partisan National Taxpayers Union. Only seven out of 100 senators ranked better than Inhofe in the NTU's annual report which adds up the total spending proposed in every bill which is sponsored or co-sponsored by each member of Congress.

"I am very proud of my efforts to save taxpayers money and keep government spending in check," Inhofe said. "Few things are more important than getting control of runaway federal spending. Oklahomans didn't send me to Washington to run up the national credit card and increase the national debt. They sent me to help balance the budget, reduce the size of government and re-

store fiscal responsibility. I take this mandate seriously because it is right for America's future."

The NTU's annual "BillTally" report is a comprehensive evaluation of the cost implications of all the bills which members of Congress either propose or support which affect federal spending. This year's report covered 346 Senate bills introduced from January 1995 through February 1996, and co-sponsored through April 16, 1996. For each member of Congress, the NTU added up the cost estimates for all the bills that a member sponsored and co-sponsored. It then reported that totals of how much each members had proposed to increase spending and to decrease spending. By subtracting the proposed decreases from the increases, it determined the net spending impact of each member's legislative proposals.

The report showed that Inhofe had sup-

ported over \$27 billion in total spending reductions and only about \$9 billion in increases. His almost \$18 billion in net spending reductions was eighth best in the entire Senate. At the other end of the scale was one senator who had proposed net spending increases of over \$45 billion.

As was announced earlier this year, Inhofe has also received the NTU's "Taxpayers' Friend" award for his exemplary 1995 voting record on tax and spending issues.