

# O'Rourke goes out talking

By Gary Scharrer  
Times staff writer

Beto O'Rourke, the 14-year-old son of County Judge Pat O'Rourke, asked his dad not too long ago what it's going to be like when the elder O'Rourke leaves office next month after eight years in the public light.

Basically, it will mean that orders will be ignored. No more

power, not even any influence, father explained to son.

"I'll say, 'I want this green and that yellow,' and they'll say, 'I don't give a damn,'" O'Rourke told 55 people attending Ray Pearson's weekly political forum last week.

O'Rourke assessed the state of politics as he eyes his exit from a candid and sometimes controversial political life.

"You can do it for ego or to make things happen. There's nothing better," O'Rourke said of politics.

The normally free-spirited O'Rourke didn't surprise anyone when he showed up for the pre-breakfast meeting wearing a colorful plaid shirt, old dockside shoes and white socks to address



•Please see O'Rourke, 5A

O'Rourke