

Correspondent learns about releases

By NAN HENDERSON

Editor's note: Henderson is the Emerald's legislative correspondent.

Flinging open the Capitol Press Room door after a glorious vacation in Arizona, I was astounded at the mess which had developed on top of my small desk in the corner.

Hundreds of papers precariously soared almost to the ceiling and on the very top of the mess hovered some formidable-looking sheets pressing the rest of the papers down.

I stood staring at the disorder totally amazed.

"A few things have happened while you were gone."

Pulling my attention from the altercation on my desk, I glanced over to see one of the Capitol reporters who has always been helpful in explaining the complex and seemingly senseless intricacies of the legislature.

"Is the fight over the tax plan causing all of this?" I asked realizing that the mess of papers were more of the never-ending Press Releases which reporters thrive on.

"Yes, partly," my friend answered. "But it goes farther than that. This happens—to a lesser extent—every session," he explained. "Things picked up while you were gone and the real action is beginning. The session is half over—people get desperate," he whispered.

"But I don't understand."

"It all boils down to the never-ending struggle of the minority party," he continued. "A smart university student like

you must know that it is a political tradition for the minority party to do what ever is necessary to regain the majority."

I nodded. "Yes... the majority has all of the power—the House Speaker, the Senate President, the committee appointments—virtual control over some legislation."

"Exactly," my friend answered. "The minority party has to stir up conflict and corruption. The tax plan is a good example. The Republicans don't dare support the plan even though it was developed by their own governor because, unfortunately for them, the Democrats supported it first and since tax reform is the issue closest to the heart of every voter, the Republicans have to point out what is wrong with the plan."

"But what if nothing is wrong?" I continued.

The other reporter grinned. "They had better find something wrong with it... and every other thing the Democrats are doing."

He glanced at the disruption on my desk. "That is what all that is about. Take a look. The Republicans are doing a hell of a job in the minority part this year."

I walked over and began plowing through the accusations, rebuttals and statements comprising the Press Releases. I saw what my friend meant... the minority party had certainly stirred up some conflict while I was gone.

The resulting confusion was the product of brilliant minds...

...because the majority party had fallen into the trap—the press releases with lots of big Rs were at the bottom of the stack luring the press releases with big Ds into the mess and pulling them down fast.

Shuffling through the stinging papers, I found one piece that seemed the most brilliant on the part of minority Rs:

"Lopuszynski 'Embarrassment' to Boe," it read.

"SALEM—The Office of Sergeant at Arms of the State Senate took on a political hue about a month ago when Ted Lopuszynski admitted in a Portland newspaper article that he was at the Capitol to observe the legislature and prepare for a shot at political office again."

"He was defeated by Representative Stan Bunn, R-McMinnville, in 1972."

"The article on the life and times of Lopuszynski brought immediate response from House Republican Leader Gordon Macpherson and Senate Republican Leader Victor Atiyeh. But, aside from a letter of verbal spanking from Senate President Jason Boe, nothing has been done regarding candidate Lopuszynski's scheme, which is to make book on Bunn in preparation for the 1974 election."

The work was brilliant, I decided, because though everyone in the Capitol knows that it is a traditional practice of any majority party to award jobs to defeated and potential candidates of that party, the voters don't have any idea of the accepted tradition and protocol inside the legislature.

It was also brilliant because it effectively lured the Ds into the pile on my desk.

A Press Release with the heading, "Boe Backs Senate Employee Under Fire From GOP," surfaced a few sheets up from the first one.

"Senate President Jason Boe, D-Reedsport, today reprimanded House

Minority Leader Gordon Macpherson, R-Waldport, for 'Cheap, childish and vengeful' motives in asking for the firing of a Senate employee," the release read.

"I feel it beneath contempt," Boe said, "that Macpherson would stoop to attempt to blacken the career of a Polish immigrant and former Marine Corps officer, Ted Lopuszynski, who is doing an excellent job on the floor of the Senate."

"It is sad to see Macpherson degenerate into a whooping crane politician..."

Walking over to my friend, I questioned, "Do you guys use this stuff very often?"

"No, not the small stuff like the Lopuszynski flack," he answered. "And I don't feel quite so guilty about it since the legislature passed that bill which provides a way to recycle about a tenth of that paper."

"What should I do with it all?" I asked.

"Sort it out fast," he advised. "Don't let it pile up any more than it already has or you won't be able to make any sense out of it. It's the sort of thing you can only comprehend in small doses."

"Is there any way to stop it?"

Now my friend was amazed. "Stop it! Are you kidding? How would the minority ever gain control again? It is just all in partisan politics."

An incredible idea flashed through my mind. "How about a non-partisan legislature?" I suggested. "It would save energy, time, money, the voters wouldn't be so confused..."

"You won't find any support for that stupid notion around here," my friend informed me. "That would take all of the fun out of everything here," he continued.

Shaking his head, he added, "You still have a lot to learn, Nan."

Letters

For Marshall—Fitzpatrick

As one who reads the Emerald with fair regularity, it would be pleasing to learn that the pack of student political "warriors" who have contaminated the pages with their immature power feuds and grandiose political aspirations — be retired.

The best way of doing so, in my opinion, would be to bring in some more mature and serious people. Doug Marshall, the CSPA grad student who played a leading role in abolishing the student Senate in favor of the interim Incidental Fee Committee and the ultimate UO-wide co-governance, seems a good choice.

Running-mate Cathy Fitzpatrick, a woman who is keenly familiar with the needs of minority students and who is skeptical of the sound of transferring control from minority programs back into the hands of professional white administrators, also brings credentials that can improve upon this year's mediocre ASUO government situation.

George D'Angelantonio

For Marshall—Fitzpatrick

As a member of OABC (Oregon Architectural Barriers Council), I wish to express support for the serious approach Doug Marshall and Cathy Fitzpatrick would bring to the ASUO. Their keen interest in assisting all students with real needs is something needed. Disabled students can have a more enriched and vital University experience if there can be removal of barriers to mobility.

These barriers — as we all know — are solely traced to chance. Doug seems to realize that many other groups on this campus face other barriers — cultural, racial, financial. This is why I feel Doug's

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graduate studies in Public Administration and his experience in prisoner and migrant labor problems show that he transcends selfish personal aims — the type that have paralyzed ASUO government this year.

For a change from the lack of creativity in the ASUO, do consider Doug Marshall and Cathy Fitzpatrick. They are not involved in the current mess up there, and they seek to continue and improve the ASUO programs that are really assisting people's growth needs.

Peter Markus
1479 High St.

Feminists represented

The following statement appears in the article entitled "We Don't Foresee a Future" on page 3 of the Oregon Daily Emerald, March 30, 1973:

"The University Library is going to get rid of all books that are presently classified under the Dewey Decimal system and Pauli said that most women's literature is included in that category."

Ms. Mary Pauli was either misquoted or misinformed. The University Library has no intention of getting rid of books presently classified in the Dewey Decimal system. They are being reclassified to the

Library of Congress system. And, of course, all books which have come into the University Library since 1964, and that does include much literature about women, are already in the Library of Congress arrangement.

With women comprising 73 per cent of the total full-time staff of the University Library the feminist point of view is well represented. We would urge that the University Feminists use the resources already on hand in the University Library.

Carl W. Hintz
University Librarian



'YOU WANT TO CHANGE THE NAME OF WOUNDED KNEE TO WOUNDED WHAT?'

Monday, April 16, 1973