

By LESLIE ZAITZ  
Of the Emerald

They expected to lead the pack. Instead, they ended up eating dust.

They were pulled from the pinnacles of political power with half the effort it took them to get there.

Yet, they are not venomous or vengeful. They aren't whining. Four incumbents lost an election three months ago. Three were swept out by a Democratic tide. A third fell victim to his own political missteps.

John Dellenback, former Congressman. Kenneth Omlid, former Lane County Commissioner. Richard Eymann, former state representative. John Parkhurst, former county assessor.

They are the forgotten people, it seems, amid the ballyhoo of the new officials with their new ideas. Where are they now? What are they doing? Does the pain of defeat inflicted three months ago still hurt?

John Dellenback, defeated by Democrat James Weaver, is still living in Washington, D.C. He just completed his chairmanship of the National Prayer Breakfast, a major annual event attended by prominent intellectuals from around the United States and the world.

He says he doesn't dwell on his defeat. "I really don't think I should do a psychoanalysis of the issues. It's all speculation and that's not really the critical thing," he says.

He says quietly, "I'd rather look back at the eight years I served the people of the fourth district."

Dellenback, a former Medford lawyer, says he and wife Mary Jane are in the process of choosing one of four futures. "We are not looking for a way

# Say, whatever happened to ol' what's - his - face?



Richard Eymann

to make a million dollars," said Dellenback in a telephone interview.

"In a time when there are real crises around the world, where is it that Mary Jane and I can serve, can help with the major problems of the world?" asks Dellenback.

He continued, "If everyone lives in a box and we don't reach out from box to box, we're doomed to have some terrible troubles down the pike."

Dellenback said he is looking at four different jobs. One would involve moving back to Oregon. "The job would be a blend of teaching, practice of law and acting as a political commentator for television and radio stations." He said the job was appealing because it meant "once gain living in Oregon and physically being here."

He has also been offered an ambassadorship but wouldn't say to which country. He said that offer was appealing for obvious reasons. He said he wouldn't want to serve in a developed country simply to act as a diplomat.

Dellenback said he would like to go to an African country. "That is where some of the crit-



John Dellenback

ical decisions affecting the entire world will be made," he said. He said an African nation would involve work with critical problems that are facing other areas of the world.

The former Congressman said he also was considering two jobs in the Washington, D.C. area but declined to specify what they are. He said he expected to make a decision in two weeks. "But we're in no great rush at all," he said.

Dellenback said that if he takes the Oregon job, he would consider "as a possibility" challenging Weaver in 1976. But that is two years away. "The question is how can we support that man in office now so he can do the best job for the people of Oregon?"

Like Dellenback, Ken Omlid fell victim to the Democratic tide. Bob Wood outpolled Omlid for the county commissioner post.

Omlid, however, has no political hang-over from his defeat. "I really don't think about it," said Omlid.

He and two brothers own the McKenzie Golf Course near Waltherville and the former county commissioner said he intends to spend time in running the course.



Ken Omlid

Since leaving office Jan. 5, he has been fixing up his house, catching up on letters and "just relaxing."

Prodded into evaluating his defeat, Omlid said, "I was doing the job I was supposed to do, instead of politicking. I was making decisions for the public rather than for my own political gain."

He said he doesn't have any plans "at present" to get back into the political arena. "It feels so good to get out from all that pressure. I doubt that I'd get back into that arena, even in an appointed position. After 15 years of that type of pressure, of no vacations, well, it looks a lot better from this side."

John Parkhurst, defeated by Democrat Ken Bylund, is already busy in another job a world away. He has taken a job as an assessor with the military in the Phillipine Islands.

Of the defeated incumbents, Richard Eymann is the only one still grumbling. Eymann lost in a bitter race to Vida insurance man Bill Rogers. Rogers now sits in the state legislature as a representative from Dist. 44.

Eymann contended two days after the election that Rogers violated campaign laws with an advertisement which suggested that Eymann was opposed to gun control. Eymann filed three different law suits in relation to the alleged advertisement. Two have been thrown out of court. Eymann's attorney recently filed an amended charge with Lane County Circuit Court Judge Helen Frye.

Eymann said he didn't think it was appropriate to comment on his defeat because of the litigation. "I'd be getting into the evidence we'll be introducing," he said.

Currently, he is working part-time for Lane Community College as a fiscal advisor and is doing free-lance work for businesses concerning fiscal and tax matters.

He says he is looking at several prospects for full-time employment "but I'm not free to say what they are at this time. I would probably be in the state of Oregon."

Will he seek office again? "It's a little premature to think along those lines. I might try for a higher office but, again, that's premature."

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## The Vienna Boys Choir: for an encore they do 'Swanee River'

By BEN SILVERMAN  
Of the Emerald

The Vienna Boys Choir in McArthur Court. Kurt Vonnegut, Jr., Luis Bunuel, or Salvador Dali might have appreciated the irony of the scene. But it was too much for me.

Thursday night the Vienna Choir Boys, or Wiener Sangerknaben, sang a concert of light classical and folk music before some 7,000 persons in the home of Duck basketball. Few, if any, of those 7,000 persons could meaningfully evaluate the performance. Not many could see the choir or their director, Anton Neyder, and most of them sat on uncomfortable bleachers and saw what they did at stadium, not concert-hall, distances. Worse yet, fewer still heard more than bland, watery and faint sounds coming from the stage. Was it the fault of the boys or their director? I don't know, but I'd prefer to blame it on the barnlike acoustics in the Pit.

The Sangerknaben opened the program with two Weelkes madrigals. Considering that it was Mac Court and that these were 24 10-year-old Austrian boys, their diction in these English language works was surprisingly understandable.

Roussel's "Madrigal aux Muses" and two beautiful numbers by Michael Haydn, an obscure younger brother of the fam-

ous "Papa" Josef, completed the first segment of the program. By this time, concentration was getting harder and harder. I presume the Roussel was sung in French, because of the name of the piece and the nationality of the composer, but I couldn't understand any of it. German-speaking singers' French diction is notorious no matter how old the singers are, but McArthur Court didn't help much. For all I knew, they were singing "Two for Stu, two for Stu!" The Haydn, was the most enjoyable part of the program. In the first number, a Latin "Anima Nostra," two boys did gorgeous

### review

solo singing. Then, one of them sang a solo "Glueckselig, Du Hirtenschar," again with beautiful vocal control and quality.

After the first intermission, the group donned elaborate costumes and performed Carl Maria von Weber's one-act comic opera "Abu Hassan." I suspect this work would have little appeal if adults performed it, but these virginal little boys, accompanied by their director at the piano, charmed and delighted those among the audience who could hear and see it. One little boy sang a woman's part—that is not so unusual, but

his performance, was outstanding—and another put on a moustache and played a remarkably believable villain, although he certainly wasn't a basso. Unfortunately, most of those who could see the stage had to twist themselves into unbearable positions to do so, and of course no one could hear too well.

An administrative problem with the program is that it contained too many musical potboilers and not enough serious fare. Roussel, Johann Strauss and folk songs are fine as far as they go, but director Neyder should balance them with some Bach or Monteverdi. This might require bringing along instrumental accompanists, but if they can afford the costume budget for "Abu Hassan," they can afford instrumentalists, too.

Responding to generous applause, Neyder brought the boys back to the risers after the last scheduled number for an encore. I still can't quite believe it myself but the encore was "Way Down Upon the Swanee River."

All in all, the performance was enjoyable, but all 7,000 could have enjoyed it more if they could have heard it better. Can't Eugene or the University build a facility so that we don't have to endure the world's most famous boys' choir in an acoustical nightmare? If 7,000 turn out for an event like this, support for an auditorium must be out there somewhere.