

## ode analysis

# Next year test

*Editor's note: Today's issue of the Emerald marks the start of a new editorial page feature, ODE Analysis. This column is designed to give Emerald staff members a chance to step out of their usual roles as news reporters in order to analyze and comment on topics they cover.*

By PAUL WALDSCHMIDT  
Emerald Editorial Page Editor

The Incidental Fee Committee (IFC) approved Saturday a \$46,186 budget for legal services. This budget represents more than twice the amount spent last year in the area of legal services.

Of the \$46,186, \$22,200 is earmarked for low-cost legal aid to students. This aid, about the same amount spent last year for the same services, is in the form of client counseling services for students on a one-to-one basis with local attorneys.

Also coming out of the \$46,186 figure is \$1,962 to continue the ASUO's dormitory-tennis court suit against the State Board of Higher Education.

The remaining \$22,024 of the budget belongs to an entirely new program, the Office of Student Advocacy (OSA). This program, a first in the nation according to ASUO Pres. Jim Bernau, is aimed at protecting students as a group from "institutional interests."

The office, an "umbrella-type of structure," will include a research and development section, funded at \$5,000; a full-time professional law consultant, at \$12,500; a reserve fund for emergency litigation plans, at \$4,000; and temporary work-study help, at \$524.

At first glance the total budget looks like a huge, unprecedented increase over last year's. Approximately half the amount, however, will be used to support an already existing program, client counseling. This program was highly successful last year. It provided students access to low-cost legal help on such problems as landlord-tenant disputes and minor court hassles.

The rest of the budget, for OSA, will be used for what could become a landmark pilot program for the protection of students against such entrenched interests as the University administration and the State Board of Higher Education.

In explaining the program, Bernau used the example of the ASUO's suit against the state board over the construction of tennis courts with dormitory revenues. If successful, this suit could return over half-million dollars to the University's dormitory system.

In addition to the tennis court suit, there have been other times this year when some added legal manpower in the ASUO could have made the difference between success or failure for student causes.

Two cases in point are the issues of student control of Mac Court and the recent tuition hike. Another issue likely to heat up in the near future is student control of the EMU. Given more of a legal edge, the ASUO's chances of success should increase.

It is, of course, too early yet to predict how well the OSA will work out, but the potential is there. Next year will be the test.

## Letters

### Actively working

Your March 31 article presented a confusing picture of the Revolutionary Student Brigade (RSB) including several factual errors. The best way to clear up these errors is to talk about what we're about and what we do.

The RSB is a national communist student organization with chapters on more than 50 campuses across the country. All around us we see things we need like education and day care being cut back, major cities going to hell, growing unemployment, everything costing more, an increasing possibility of war. Most of us joined RSB because, in trying to fight one after another of these abuses, we learned that capitalism can't be reformed to provide all the things that people need. The only way we're going to get what we need and end such attacks in the long run is to get rid of the whole rotten system, which is run by a tiny handful for their own profit. The RSB is working to build a broad and powerful student movement as a part of the overall revolutionary movement to throw out this decaying system and build in its place a society that can meet our needs.

The RSB actively works to build struggles on campus that point the

finger at this real enemy and organize students to fight the various attacks coming down. There's no need to concoct "issues" to fight about; people are forced to fight back against attacks every day. The tuition hike that was put through here last month is one such attack coming down on students. RSB actively built the fight against the hike because that's the only way we're going to stop such attacks and keep from getting pushed out of school. We know we can win victories—like the 800 New Jersey students who last month stormed a Board of Regents meeting and won back the jobs of 65 professors who were under the axe. In the course of fighting back, win or lose, more and more students come to see that the real enemy of the vast majority of people is the capitalist system. And, as our strength and organization grows in the various skirmishes against this enemy, increasing numbers of students learn that our future does not have to be one of "getting by" or somehow surviving under this rotten system. In this process students become conscious fighters for the revolution.

Although students can strike powerful blows at the enemy as was learned through the anti-war and civil rights movements of the 60s and early 70s, we can't overthrow the system alone. That's going to take the conscious act of millions. It's in allying ourselves



"HOW DO YOU SPELL 'PHALANGISTS'?"

## more from Les

By LESLIE ZAITZ

# Novice doing things right

J. Patrick Horton, Lane County's incumbent district attorney, is all smiles these days, having been officially exonerated of any wrongdoing in his finagling with county funds.

Horton is sitting on a Trojan high horse and a challenger with little visibility so far — Springfield prosecutor John Charles — is crawling out of its belly.

Incumbent Horton is confident he will win the race with little effort. While he's hustling to gather people at public forums to discuss issues, he's not terribly impressed with his opposition. Some of his office staff say, almost smugly, "We've got it in the bag."

But Horton and his supporters and a lot of others are probably mistaken in their assessment of his chances.

It's likely Horton is listening to the people around him, people who are telling him he doesn't have a problem in bagging the election.

Those people, it appears, haven't been out in the brush where the voters are. Horton hasn't been shaking hands and he hasn't carried on an active campaign. He hasn't been winning any votes, either.

Charles, though, is out there like a donkey chasing a carrot. He wants the election badly. For a guy who's never run for office before, Charles is doing a lot of things right.

His biggest problem, as difficult to solve as figuring out how to bottle fog, is name familiarity. People in Eugene have never heard of John Charles. In some circles, they joke about this guy named Jack Chuck who's running.

To take care of that, Charles has printed up 100,000 picture-filled brochures. He has started newspaper ads. He is making the radio and television talk show circuit.

More importantly, he's organized out in the brush. Charles has divided the county into 15 districts and is putting together 200 organizers in each district to handle the typical door-to-door campaigning.

He's sending out letters to special groups, authored respectively by prominent lawyers, doctors, engineers, realtors and other professionals.

Charles also intends to send literature to 70,000 registered voters in Lane County. Get that name out. Get it known. Charles has even got a guy to pull a banner with his name on it from the tail of an airplane.

Support has been forthcoming, quietly, from some big name attorneys, including John Jaqua and Ken Morrow. However influential those names might be in legal circles, though, they don't mean much to the Joe in Santa Clara or Florence. To that voter, those two gentlemen could be plumbers, for all he knows.

Charles isn't fooling himself. He intends to spend much of May blitzing the county, shaking hands day after day after day, with his army of campaign workers doing the same.

Races can be won that way. People are impressed, generally, when someone takes the trouble to come to their homes and introduce themselves. In a low-visibility race that just doesn't generate that much excitement, that contact could be crucial.

A somewhat unknown quantity in the race is State Sen. Betty Browne of Oakridge, the liberal Democrat who junked the secretary of state race to challenge Horton.

Everybody is asking around, wanting to know what Betty's doing. To the best of anyone's knowledge, she's doing nothing. Most of those who know her at all or are close to her campaign say she will rely heavily on her name familiarity in the county and strong support from Democrats.

Indeed, some Democrats are coalescing around the Browne candidacy. The active Democrats abhor Horton and react to Charles with what one Democrat typified as "loud ignoring." The University area, some say, is leaning to Browne.

Browne's political intentions really don't lie in the district attorney's office. Though many in the legal ranks say she would be an excellent administrator, the Oakridge senator is laying the groundwork for a campaign for the Fourth District Congressional seat. Some say she'll wait until the reapportionment in 1980. Some say she can hardly wait at all.

She hasn't done any campaigning and has made little effort to gather an effective core of campaigners that, apparently, will be vital to the success of this year's winner.

Eugene's legal community is split between Browne and Charles. Charles is unknown to older members of the bar and, to some of the younger attorneys, he has an image of a tough, uncompromising attorney.

If Charles can keep up his daily campaigning and make the name John Charles something more than a curiosity, he has a very good chance to take Horton.

Horton still hasn't realized how much the publicity over his use of county funds for travel has hurt him. He proudly names off the agencies that cleared him recently. He doesn't mention, though, that the people who do the voting at the poll still smell something fishy.

Voters, ever-suspicious of political types, don't need much of a reason to turn an incumbent out to pasture. Unless Browne comes on strong in May (somewhat out of character for her), Charles and the voters could very well surprise the shorts off of a lot of people.

with the largest class of people, the workers who produce all the wealth in this society and who have no interest whatsoever in capitalism, that we'll get rid of our common enemy. For this reason the RSB is affiliated with the Revolutionary Communist Party (RCP) even though most RSB members are not members of the RCP. The main work of the RCP is in the factories, mills and among the unemployed,

building a revolutionary workers' movement.

The RSB is open to and encourages participation by any student who generally agrees with our stand and wishes to fight the attacks of the system. This term our main work is building for the July 4 demonstration in Philadelphia. We'll join employed and unemployed workers, vets and other students under the slogan, "We've carried the rich for 200

years. Let's get them off our backs!" We can't make everything clear in a letter, so we encourage people to read our national paper, *Fight Back!*, and to stop by our table if you have questions or would like to work with us.

For the Revolutionary Student  
Brigade  
Jonathan Draper  
Sue Szymanski  
Ann Wade

Tuesday, April 13, 1976