

Primary '76  
Emerald Endorsements

## Continue Horton

**Lane County District Attorney**—Over the past few days the *Emerald* has endorsed several candidates and ballot measures that will appear on the May 25 primary. We now make our strongest possible recommendation for any candidate. The *Emerald* enthusiastically endorses Pat Horton for Lane County District Attorney.

For the past several months the *Register Guard* has conducted a news and editorial campaign against Horton. One can only guess at their motives. They raised a lot of smoke but the fire behind it wouldn't have singed a goat's eyelash. The *Guard* charged Horton with improper use of county funds for traveling and speaking engagements. A county audit left Horton in the clear. The funds had either been repaid or properly accounted for. They charged him with improperly leasing a car for his office. An investigation by the Oregon Law Enforcement Council revealed if anything that the council was at fault for giving his office a verbal OK for the lease instead of a written authorization. The *Guard* was upset at Horton for accepting honorariums for speaking engagements. An opinion by the State Attorney General stated this acceptance did not violate state statutes. The Oregon State Bar Association declined to rule on a charge of unethical conduct brought by Eugene attorney Charles Porter against Horton. The Oregon Government Ethics Commission dismissed a complaint against Horton brought by State Sen. Ed Fadeley.

The voters of Lane County are also beginning to wonder what's behind these knit-picking charges. When Fadeley was introduced at the Jerry Brown speech Wednesday he was booed. At the Carter speech Tuesday, he was booed. After the booing at the Brown speech, he remarked, "It hurts me. I don't think they understand the issue." The point is people like Fadeley have not been able to raise any real issues. The voters understand the issue is that there is no basis for these charges.

With the smoke cleared away, the only complaint with any substance at all was Horton's travels outside the state for speaking engagements on the decriminalization of marijuana. Oregon was the first state to decriminalize marijuana, and Horton's use of a citation system for incidental users attracted national attention. He was invited to explain the program by law enforcement agencies and governmental groups across the country.

This time spent out of his office did not affect the performance of his duties. The office's overall trial conviction rate rose by more than 14 per cent. The conviction rate for felonies rose by 30 per cent. He pioneered the reform of Oregon's rape laws so that now a victim's past sexual activities is inadmissible in court. He implemented the Lane Interagency Rape Team. For the first time women with defective status in the sheriff's office were used in rape investigations.

Horton's priority for the enforcement of criminal laws has been and will continue to emphasize the prosecution of crimes of violence, crimes against persons and property. Victimless crimes receive lower priorities. He feels that too many laws try to regulate private behavior or solve moral problems.

Horton's opponents in the race are John Charles, Springfield city attorney, and Betty Browne, state senator. Charles' candidacy represents a 180 degree switch in orientation from the present district attorney. He favors stiffer penalties against marijuana. He is opposed to the idea of regional correction facilities. His whole campaign has a Nixonian "law and order" flavor.

Why Browne would desert her senate post for the DA's office is unclear. The fact that she would leave her present office three years before her term expires doesn't speak well of her commitment to an office. The \$30,000 a year salary for district attorney may be the attraction.

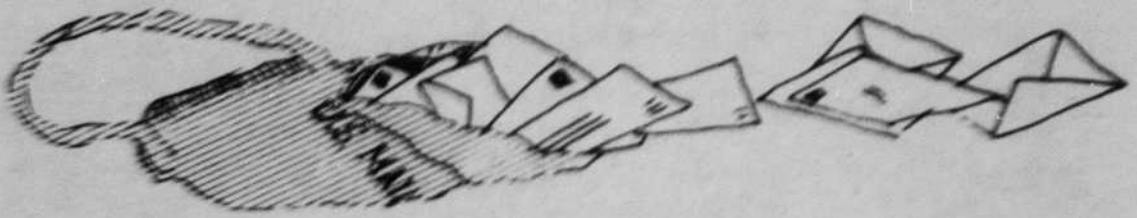
Horton's effectiveness as an administrator and prosecutor needs to be continued. His priorities of enforcement need to be continued. We urge that Horton be retained as district attorney.

**Lane County Sheriff**—The *Emerald* endorses the incumbent, Dave Burks for sheriff. Like Horton, Burks "prioritizes" crimes. While he is committed to the enforcement of all laws, Burks explains that budget problems have forced him to establish "areas of concentration," with crimes against people first and victimless crimes lower on the list. Like Horton, Burks is supportive of the Lane Interagency Rape Team. He feels that it should be funded on a yearly basis rather than on the present month-to-month basis. While Burks is not hot on gun control, he does appreciate the relationship between handguns and crimes. He feels that "certainty of punishment" would cut down on gun-related crimes.

Burks' opponent, Oley Nelson, could be described as running on the sour grapes ticket. He was dismissed as a Lane County deputy sheriff for "multiple acts of misconduct." His campaign contends that morale in the sheriff's department is low, even though he has produced no evidence to back up this contention. We are most worried about his stand on gun control. He feels that we have "got enough gun laws. If we'd had to register guns back in 1776, we wouldn't be celebrating a Bicentennial in 1976." We wonder if Nelson would even enforce the few ineffectual gun laws already on the books.

Burks' 18 years of experience with the sheriff's department and his performance as sheriff for the last three years leaves him head and shoulders above Nelson. We urge his re-election.

## Letters



### Claim ridiculous

I have just received a copy of a letter sent to Bob Taylor by Kirby Garrett. The copy was addressed to the Student Bar Association (SBA) and is posted on our office window for everyone to read. I feel a public reply is necessary.

Mr. Garrett says, quite undiplomatically, that many law students lack understanding of the "nature and purpose of institutions of higher learning." Then he proceeds to twist some figures, in big lie fashion, and concludes law students are receiving "more in services than they actually pay for. I suggest you and your arrogant legal comrades put up or shut up."

I feel that the SBA has received a fair deal from the IFC this year, for the first time in a number of years. I think most law students would agree.

But to claim law students are receiving more than they pay for is ridiculous. An example of disregard for law student rights is the current ASUO presidential run-off election. The election is being held after law students have finished finals and left town. The elections committee refused to put up a polling booth at the law school for the run-offs, though I requested that they do so. Instead the law students remaining in town are forced to go all the way to the EMU in order to vote.

Who is the chair of the elections committee? Mr. Garrett, who claims law students get more than they pay for, but who, in the best tradition of Richard Daley and Frank Rizzo, denies them a decent opportunity to vote.

Mr. Garrett is one of the "good old boys" who have been running the ASUO for two years. Unfortunately, Jim Davis is deeply associated with this group. I, therefore, would like to take this opportunity to endorse the candidacy of Jan Oliver. As they say, a new broom sweeps clean.

**Merrill Schneider**  
Student Bar Association, pres.

### Kept ignorant

Political rhetoric is otherwise known as verbal masturbation. It is pitiful to watch the ASUO executive office go around misleading the students of this University to the belief that student unionization is of a greater probability if Jim Davis were elected ASUO president. It is an insult to the intelligence of this University ever to go along with such campaign rhetoric.

Student unionization is of vital importance if we as consumers are going to get our money's worth out of this University. We, the students of this University are the ones who keep this place going. We ought to have the power to even determine who the president of our University is going to be.

This verbal masturbation that I speak of on the part of Jim Davis and the ASUO executive office is that of student unionization during ASUO presidential elections. For Davis to speak of unionization when he and the ASUO executive office were unsuccessful to get student control over the EMU and Mac Court truly shows how he

wastes time, energy and our money.

Unfortunately Jim Davis is too busy playing the role of a politician that he does come out and state, that it will be extremely difficult to unionize the students for we are dealing with an administration that is narrow-minded in their thinking and they need to be educated. He lets the students exist in a state of fantasy letting us believe that student unionization is possible under his leadership. Has Davis already forgotten Mr. Boyd's denial of student control over the EMU and Mac Court?

Let us gain control over the EMU and Mac Court first before we talk about student unionization or is Davis unintentionally simply keeping the students of this University ignorant of the bureaucracy that we must go through in order to become unionized.

I urge the students of this University not to vote for Jim Davis unless you wish to remain ignorant to the process which we must follow in order to become unionized.

**Eric Wright**  
bus., soph.

### Blatantly false

David Tyler is a viable Watergate candidate for a position on the Incidental Fee Committee. Through the use of false and misleading statements, he has achieved some voter confidence by stating that the incumbent is incompetent. Tyler cites my lack of attendance and ill-prepared research. This is blatantly false. I have missed only three meetings while in office. As for not adequately preparing my research, a constituent of Tyler's cited a date in late January, claiming that I was not prepared. For the record, I was not appointed until February 4.

Tyler has vowed to make absences illegal. If this were to be accomplished, what would a member in conflict of interest do?

Tyler's campaign expenditures probably have exceeded \$200. My campaign expenditures have not exceeded \$14. If he handles his personal finances so loosely, how freely would he handle your dollars?

Tyler's political campaign has reached the lowest level possible. If no public apology is released by Tyler, slander charges may be filed shortly. Do not be taken in by such deception. Vote down these political practices by voting David Parr to the IFC.

**David D. Parr**  
IFC incumbent

### Tired of hearing

I am tired of hearing about how much more experience Clay Myers has in government than Irvin Mann does. It is true that Myers has been Secretary of State for nine years, but Mann's administrative and legislative experience acutely exceeds that of Meyers.

Mann was commissioner of the Port of Umatilla for five years, where he proved to be a very capable administrator. Later, he represented five eastern Oregon counties in the State Legislature for eight years. In 1971 he was appointed by Tom McCall to be director of the State Department of Agriculture, one of the state's largest departments. He handled this post admirably until 1975.

That's a total of 17 years of governmental experience, compared with nine years of experience for Myers. I believe that the *Emerald* was wrong in endorsing Myers over Mann for the office of State Treasurer. I feel that Irvin Mann would carry out the duties of State Treasurer with great efficacy.

**Mark G. Littleton**  
bus. ad., jr.

### Issues skirted

I've heard and read about both presidential candidates, but wonder what one of them stands for. Jan Oliver has skirted all issues of importance.

She says she wants to improve communication with students and establish better relations with programs. Jan Oliver has conspicuously avoided telling us how she would deal with these programs in true Ford-like fashion, while her opponent Jim Davis has identified seventeen problem areas that need immediate attention.

The choice is clear, Jan Oliver represents a shallow understanding of issues and I want more from my dollar than hollow rhetoric.

**Ken Loree**  
bus. admin., fr.

### Love depravity

Summer Session loved the depravity of the *Daily Immoral!* Would you consider running the display ad again?

**C.W. Schminke**  
summer session director

## Melevin revisited

In Wednesday's editorial, the *Emerald* looked at Doug Melevin's candidacy for county commissioner. In the interest of fairness, we feel we should point out that Melevin supports state-wide land use planning. His objections to the Land Conservation and Development Commission is that it is too top-heavy administratively. He would emphasize local control of this planning by counties so that state standards could be adapted to each county's unique growth pattern.

In addition he favors the idea of regional correctional facilities but feels that the \$11.7 million ballot measure for a new jail won't be approved by the voters.