

Court finds no negligence

Election charges against Parr dismissed

By TOM ROSSI
Of the Emerald

Defeated Incidental Fee Committee (IFC) incumbent Dave Parr posted a victory Wednesday night when all ASUO election law charges against him were dismissed.

Dave Tyler, Parr's successful opponent, had charged him with libel, misrepresentation and unethical conduct on the basis of comments made in a May 21

Emerald letter to the editor.

A second grievance against Parr was filed by Pi Kappa Alpha Pres. Gregory Minckley. Minckley charged the incumbent IFC member with tampering with ballots passed out and collected by Parr at a sorority house.

Tyler, in his grievance, claimed that statements in Parr's letter calling Tyler "a Watergate candidate," charging him with "use of false and misleading statements" and stating that he "probably" exceeded campaign spending limi-

tations, were libelous.

Tyler also claimed that statements attributed to him concerning Parr's competence and attendance were false.

ASUO consultant Don Chalmers, who represented Parr, called for a dismissal of charges on the basis that either "gross negligence or maliciousness" must be shown in order for libel to be proven. He added that the statements must also "severely diminish the reputation of the individual."

Chalmers argued that the term "Watergate" had been "watered down" in the past three years and that its use alone would not damage Tyler's reputation.

Chalmers then presented a witness who claimed that Tyler had made false and misleading statements in a speech before a sorority. He also produced a statement signed by 11 members of Pi Beta Phi sorority claiming that Tyler had called Parr incompetent in a speech before them.

Addressing the overspending charges, Chalmers said that Parr had "reason to believe that Tyler had spent over \$200 after an investigation into Tyler's advertising expenditures."

Therefore, Chalmers concluded, the claims made by Parr were neither negligent nor malicious. He added that under present definitions of libel no actual damage had been done.

In response to defense statements, Tyler said he had spent only \$118 in his campaign, which is far below the \$150 limit and only half of Parr's claim.

Tyler said Parr's statements concerning expenditures were libelous and "highly irresponsible" because his campaign records were readily available.

He also said witnesses could be presented to testify that he had made no specific statements in speeches concerning Parr.

Statements made in Parr's letter concerning his opponents' handling of personal and campaign finances were also labeled malicious by Tyler.

The three-member court deliberated approximately 30 minutes before returning to dismiss the charges against Parr. They ruled that Parr's statements were "neither grossly negligent nor malicious."

The charges in the Minckley grievance were dropped without the hearing of evidence because of a challenge of its wording by Chalmers.

Chalmers said that according to ASUO election laws, the grievance must make reference to the breaking of specific laws. Chalmers claimed the Minckley grievance did not do so.

Minckley responded, "Would stuffing the ballot box be a specific charge?"

Chalmers objected to this statement and the court sustained it.

Jo Nugent, ASUO election board member, then testified that there are no election laws covering the alleged acts by Parr.

The court stated that this constituted "a serious deficiency" in the election rules and recommended that steps be taken to correct the situation. But they added that this statement did not imply any wrongdoing on the part of Parr.

Assassination probe stalled

WASHINGTON (AP)—A delay of six months is expected before the new Senate intelligence oversight committee decides whether to reopen the investigation into the assassination of Pres. Kennedy, chairman Daniel Inouye,

D-Hawaii, said Thursday.

Inouye, chosen to head the 15-member panel, said the committee will concentrate first on drafting new charters for the CIA and other intelligence agencies.

Inouye, who spoke with reporters following the committee's first meeting, also said he:

- Is opposed to making public the CIA budget and is undecided about disclosing the level of overall intelligence spending;

- Would recommend that any member of the committee who discloses intelligence secrets on his own be removed from the panel and perhaps censured by the full Senate;

- Expects the White House to notify the committee in advance of any major new intelligence activities;

- Would warn the heads of intelligence agencies that if they do not cooperate fully with the new committee a successor panel would be formed which "will not be as friendly as this one."

Inouye also announced that Sen. Howard H. Baker, R-Tenn., has been named vice-chairman of the new committee. Both men first came to national attention as members of the Senate Watergate Committee.

Results of the Select Intelligence Committee's probe of the Kennedy assassination are expected to be made public within the next two weeks. Senators who have seen the report are predicting it will raise more questions than answers.

The 172-page report drafted by a two-man subcommittee composed of Sens. Richard Schweiker, R-Pa., and Gary Hart, D-Colo., will focus on the performance of the CIA and FBI before and after the Nov. 22, 1963, slaying and also will go into the possible motives of Lee Harvey Oswald.

Weyerhaeuser appoints Ruckelshaus to position

FEDERAL WAY, Wash. (AP)—William Ruckelshaus Jr., former director of the Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) and the FBI, Thursday was named a senior vice-president of the Weyerhaeuser Co.

President George Weyerhaeuser said Ruckelshaus, 43, will become a member of the senior management committee in charge of law and corporate affairs.

Ruckelshaus, senior partner in a Washington, D.C., law firm which bears his name, was the first director of the EPA. He was a deputy attorney general and for one day was acting attorney general of the United States.

He also served for a short time as acting director of the FBI. He is a former majority leader of the Indiana House of Representatives.

His responsibilities with the multinational forest products firm will be "policy setting for and coordi-

nation of the company's key external relationships and legal service functions," the firm said.

He will not be a lobbyist, and he will not be in charge of the company's environmental protection programs, a spokesman said.

"We are immensely pleased to gain the association of someone of his experience and qualities within our planning and policy-setting process," said Weyerhaeuser. "He has a rare combination of administrative, legal and government experience as well as a reputation for high personal integrity and intelligence."

Weyerhaeuser has eight senior vice-presidents, including Ruckelshaus, who will begin work in August. Each of them reports directly to the president.

Ruckelshaus will move to the Puget Sound region, the spokesman said.

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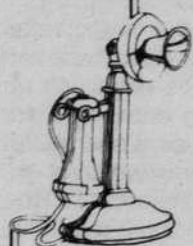
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