

Court declares driving law unconstitutional

SALEM, AP — The Oregon Supreme Court on Wednesday struck down as unconstitutional part of the state's law against drunken driving.

The court, in a 6-1 decision reversing the Oregon Court of Appeals, said that persons charged for the first time with drunken driving are entitled to jury trials and to court appointed lawyers if they can't afford to hire counsel.

The case involves an appeal by Hugh Duffy Brown, who was charged under a 1975 law with drunken driving in Multnomah County.

The legislature two years ago decriminalized the first offense of drunk driving by making it an infraction, or a civil

offense carrying only a fine and no jail term.

Under state law, persons charged with traffic infractions have no rights to jury trials and court appointed lawyers.

Brown claimed he was entitled to those rights, and Multnomah County Circuit Judge Alan Davis agreed.

Davis said that even the first offense of drunk driving retained enough characteristics of a criminal charge to require compliance with constitutional guarantees.

The Court of Appeals reversed Davis. But the Supreme Court agreed with him and returned the case to the circuit court for trial under the requirements laid down by its

Wednesday decision.

In an opinion by Justice Hans Linde, the Supreme Court emphasized that a first offense carries a maximum \$1,000 fine and that persons arrested under the law can be held in jail unless they post bail.

Such detention "comports with criminal rather than civil procedure and is surely so perceived by the public," Linde wrote.

The court also said that a large fine "may be as severe, in practical terms, as a short imprisonment, and so strikingly severe as to carry the same punitive significance."

Justice Ralph Holman dissented from the majority.

KRVM features student-produced programs

By CAROLYN BEAVERO
Of the Emerald

Broadcast equipment once used by the air craft carrier U.S.S. Enterprise is now being utilized by KRVM, 91.1 FM, a local radio station run by Eugene high schools.

Churchill High School, one of the four schools involved in running the station, uses the equipment from 8:15 to 10 a.m. Monday through Friday.

KRVM has been broadcasting for about 30 years but until five years ago, the station was used mainly for instructional purposes, such as teaching languages or

broadcasting educational programs to elementary schools.

Since 1972, the station has been playing it "MOR" (middle of the road), says program director Bob Rathman. The schools have put together a combination of music, news, features and public affairs broadcasting.

Rathman's job is trying "to coordinate four high schools, four separate ideas, but still work towards the same goal." The main objective is to present an "easy listening" station, by anyone's standards.

Yet, just as disc jockeys on commercial stations have differ-

ent ideas about music, so does each high school, and every student DJ.

The schools broadcast from their own remote studios from 8:15 a.m. to 9 p.m. Monday through Friday, offering a variety of music and features about the schools and the community. You can find anything from Dylan to bluegrass, and even some jazz.

Originating from the main studio downtown in the administration building, at 6:30 p.m., Monday through Thursday, "Night Sounds" features jazz and big-band era music.

Every Friday night the students

call the plays for double-header football at 6 and 8:15.

KUGN had enough confidence in Sheldon's Larry Brodie to put him on the air live last weekend during an out-of-town game.

Brodie is a good example of the type of student that gets involved at KRVM. Faculty advisor Kathy Tippetts says Brodie was always good academically, but with broadcasting, "he found out he could also express himself well."

Churchill student Tracy Berry thinks the station gives students "an ingrained sense of responsibility." She says, "It's not easy to keep your head together and be personable at the same time while you're on the (control) board."

Many students obtain their operator's license, although the license isn't required to broadcast from the school's remote studios.

Students with licenses are able to broadcast from the main studio, do internships or work at local stations.

Two years ago, KZEL's station manager wanted to give a party for all his employees and asked Tippetts and a group of licensed students to take over for an hour.

"After the hour, the manager called to tell us we were doing a great job and that they were having too much fun to come back," says Tippetts. "We wound up stay-

ing for four hours and having a great time, too."

KRVM has considerations other than sports or music. "As a regular licensed station, we have a certain commitment to the FCC; we can't just play music," says Rathman.

These considerations include news and public affairs broadcasting. Students collect and put together their own news programs and public service announcements.

Although Churchill advisor Brian James says the station is "not concerned with a mass audience or ratings," they do try to reach the community. Students are required to do "community assertions," or surveys.

"Our surrounding community is a big part of our audience, and we try to reflect this in our programming," says James.

From the assertions, students produce features that interest both the community and other students.

As a federally licensed station the attitude is one of professionalism; the advisors set very high standards for the students.

As 30-second spot sums up: "we're not the best, but we try to bring you quality entertainment and public service broadcasting."

Area elementary students part of visual ed study

Almost 50 Lane County grade school students contributed Wednesday to the success of an experimental program designed to improve basic learning skills.

According to Betty Gibson, head of the Teaching Resource Center for the Lane Intermediate Education District (LIED), Wednesday's Essential Learning Skills pilot project went "extremely well."

The project, a series of 60 classroom television and film lessons which are designed to develop the communication, computation and critical thinking skills of the students, was provided by the Agency for Instructional Television, a national organization.

Gibson, who was present at two Eugene classrooms during the experiment, explained that the programs were good attention holders for the students.

"The program itself is designed sort of in the same way as 'Sesame Street' or 'Electric Company,' but not quite as gimmicky," she said.

The classes, 5th grade at Washington Elementary school in the 4-J school district and 6th grade at Danebo Elementary school in the Bethel district, answered a questionnaire after viewing the program and, according to Gibson, rated the project an effective teaching tool.

The project, however, is nothing new, Gibson said. Much of the same effect could be achieved through a classroom film, she explained. "The students and the teachers are used to the moving picture on the screen approach to teaching so this isn't new. It all depends on how well the teacher teaches after the film that makes a difference," she said.

Although the approach to teaching that the program takes is not novel, involving Lane County students in the evaluation process is something that hasn't been done before, Gibson explained.

"I've been teaching here since 1950 and this is the first time that some of our opinions and evaluations will be used in the final make up of such a program," she said.

Although the program is designed to fit into any curriculum, it will be coordinated with the new competency skills taught in Oregon schools.

The project of 60 films and television programs will be ready for all Oregon classrooms in the fall of 1979.

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