

Striking inmates end fast, begin feast

By KEVIN HARDEN
Of the Emerald

A hunger strike by nearly all 140 occupants of the men's dormitory complex of the Lane County Jail has ended after almost four days of fasting, the Lane County Sheriff's department said Monday.

The strike, which began at dinnertime Friday, was called by the prisoners after county officials and an Inmate Advisory Council failed to provide a solution to the over-crowded condition in the jail.

"It's over as far as we're concerned," George Chortos, administrative aide to

Sheriff Dave Burks, said Monday. "As of supertime Sunday the inmates started to eat again."

Although the majority of inmates have begun to eat, Chortos said, 11 inmates are continuing the strike.

One inmate, who refused to be identified, telephoned the Eugene Register-Guard Friday night, saying the striking inmates wanted several complaints answered by county officials. The complaints include over-crowding of prisoners in the dormitories, inadequate medical care and poor quality in the jail, the inmate said.

A list of 19 demands were presented to the jail supervisors Saturday night, the inmate said, but no action has been taken as yet. The demands on the list range from better medical and recreational facilities for the inmates, to letting inmates take cigarettes and combs to the courtroom for their trials.

The inmates are also demanding that they be allowed longer time for long distance phone calls, that they get out of their cells for longer periods of time and that a typewriter and up-to-date legal information be provided to them.

According to the inmate, who said he was acting as a spokesman for the participating inmates, jail conditions have worsened since January.

County officials have seen the list of demands, Chortos said and a meeting between the jail staff and representatives of the inmates will be held before the end of the week.

A similar strike over the same conditions was called last December, the inmate said. That strike ended after three days also when the inmates were promised their demands would be met.

Gubernatorial hopefuls declare positions

By ANN TRENEMAN
Of the Emerald

Now that Tom McCall has officially entered the Oregon gubernatorial primary race, battle lines between the candidates are being drawn.

Republican candidates are out to beat McCall in what is termed by Gov. Bob Straub's campaign manager "a very exciting Republican race." Democratic candidates concur Straub is their primary opponent.

Officially declared Republican candidates are state senator Victor Atiyeh; state representative Roger Martin; former Gov. Tom McCall; William Jolie, Willamina, and L.D. (Bud) Cretsinger, Manzanita. Democrats vying for the primary nomination are Marvin Hollingsworth, Portland; E. Buck Lambert, Salem; Gov. Bob Straub; Eugene County Commissioner Robert Wood and James Smith, Canon Beach. The filing deadline for candidates is March 15.

McCall, who recently announced his unsurprising inten-

tion to run, will soon be campaigning on a one-to-one basis throughout the state, according to Kim Skeritt, McCall's campaign manager. "That's the way he likes to do it," she said.

When asked if McCall thought he had the Republican nomination in the bag she answered, "He wouldn't be in it, if he didn't."

McCall's primary theme is growth to provide jobs without injuring Oregon's environment, Skeritt said. When asked if his age (64 years old) would be a touchy campaign issue, as many candidates are trying to make it, she answered, "the polls show it is not an issue, but he has had a physical and is in terrific shape!"

State representative Roger Martin's campaign manager Mark Cushing said, "We don't believe McCall has got this sewed up," but acknowledged "Our chances are not that great — it would be an upset of the first degree if we win...."

Martin, who decided yesterday to stick in the race despite national and state pressure to withdraw (see adjoining story), believes the

only difference between McCall and Straub is style. Cushing cited the "400 fold" increase in government size during the past 12 years of Straub-McCall leadership as an example.

Martin urges decentralization of state government and advocates an "almost war-like stance" against what Cushing termed, "the increasing federal authority over state decisions."

Victor Atiyeh could not be reached for comment.

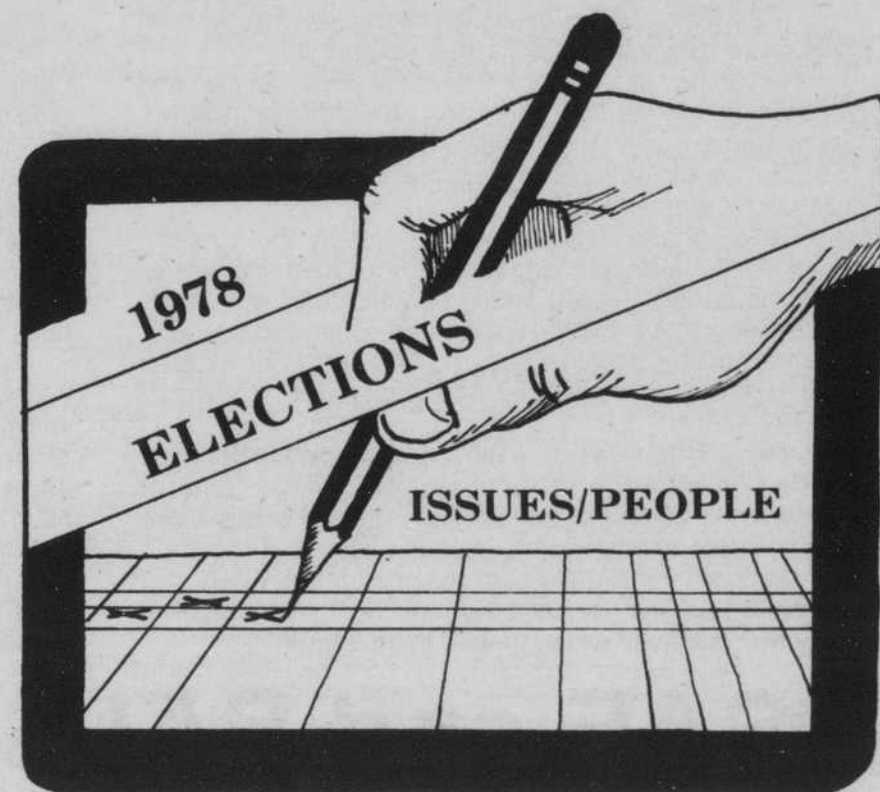
Len Bergstein, Straub's campaign manager, said Straub's main campaign problem is "a lot of Oregonians probably don't know what a good thing they've got." He said the campaign will stress Straub as an "accomplish-oriented, quiet, hard-working governor."

When asked about other candidates' criticism of the Straub administration's government expansion, Bergstein replied, "That's a statistical game. You can play around with those figures until you're twisted up in knots."

He said that in fact money has gone toward property tax relief, local government aid, health care, basic school support and senior citizen aid. "I'd be interested to hear what they would cut," he added.

Eugene County Commissioner Bob Wood said he feels Straub hasn't been doing his job and is "an embarrassment to Oregon."

Wood's success during the primary hinges on his ability to get state-wide name familiarity and an understanding of the issues, he



said.

"His primary issue is preventing the problem before they get started rather than implementing 'reactionary legislation.'"

Marvin Hollingsworth, said he feels Straub will be "tough to beat" but plans on winning the primary. Hollingsworth, who has been campaigning for a year, is running a "grass-roots" campaign centered around crime, property tax and less government. He favors the return of the death penalty and setting up casino strip gambling in Oregon with the proceeds to go towards school financing.

"I've researched this is Nevada and I think we can eliminate the property tax," he said.

William Jolie, who is running a low-profile campaign on \$500 from Willamina, said his main issues are survival and the compromise with sin in our society. He said both Straub and McCall were mandate politicians who would have to live with their record and said neither posed a threat to him in his bid for governor. Candidates Lambert, Cretsinger and Smith could not be reached to comment on their chances in the campaign race.

Martin opts to stay in race

Roger Martin, Republican candidate for governor, announced Monday he will not bow out of the Oregon gubernatorial race in response to state and federal pressure to abandon his campaign.

Martin, a state-representative, decided to "go for it" after spending "all last weekend thinking this thing out," Mark Cushing, Martin's campaign manager said.

"There has been national pressure to 'go easy on McCall,' Cushing said. 'Evidently they think Martin is going to rough up McCall up in the primary.'"

Martin said Republican supporters in Portland and Eugene say he and state Sen. Victor Atiyeh, also a Republican candidate for governor, will split the party vote, making it easy for former Gov. Tom McCall to walk away with the nomination.

"There has been state pressure for Vic and Roger to walk into a room and have only one come out the candidate," Cushing added. Carol Whitney, Atiyeh's campaign coordinator, said Atiyeh will stay in the race because "Roger is the one way down in the public opinion polls."

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