

Fadeley versus Palmer

Veteran senator not worried by challenger

By JACK CONDLIFFE
Of the Emerald

It isn't that Sen. Ed Fadeley, D-Eugene, has forgotten how to campaign. It's more the case that the Eugene attorney isn't worried.

Fadeley, an 18-year veteran of the Legislature, has printed no campaign literature and says he will spend no money on his campaign, even though it's the first challenge he's faced in eight



years.

The challenge will come from a political newcomer, Republican Rod Palmer.

At least one reason for Fadeley's nonchalance is that he is one of the Senate's "entrenched powers." Last session he chaired the Senate Energy and Environment Committee and the Ways and Means Committee and the higher education subcommittee. This session, he looks past

the campaign and talks of challenging Senate Pres. Jason Boe, D-Reedsport, for the Senate's top spot.

Palmer, meanwhile, is waging a campaign virtually alone, and says the major issue is government spending. "If the people are interested in tax relief, I can't understand how they can re-elect Ed," Palmer says. On other issues, Palmer takes a strictly conservative view and seems to use the Republican party's book of issues.

Palmer makes two charges against Fadeley. He says Fadeley has lost effectiveness because he has embarrassed public officials. A more serious charge is that Fadeley has demanded legal fees for legislative constituent work.

Fadeley refutes the charge with vehemence. "When people try to hire me and they want a senator, not an attorney, I won't take the case," Fadeley cites an effort by the outdoor advertising industry to hire him to sue Gov. Tom McCall over his ban on such advertising during the energy crisis.

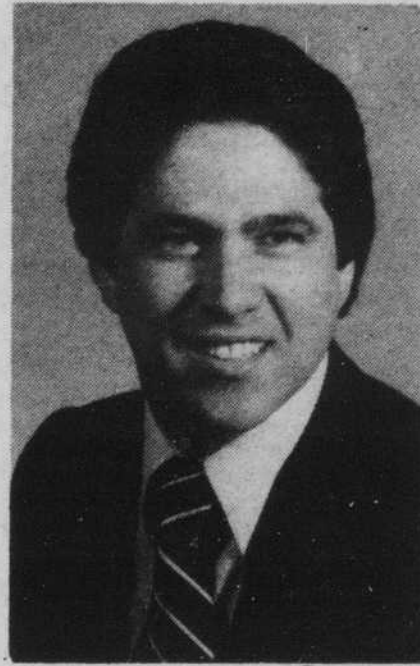
One of Palmer's examples of Fadeley's embarrassing public officials is a statement Fadeley made about House Minority

Leader Roger Martin, R-Lake Oswego. Fadeley called Martin "an itinerant liar for the Republican Party." Fadeley says that Martin was systematically attacking Democratic legislators and he responded in kind. "He (Martin) and I get along fine and we work well together," Fadeley says now.

Palmer and Fadeley disagree on the major issue facing Oregon voters, Ballot Measures 6 and 11. Fadeley supports 11; Palmer 6. Palmer says that Fadeley is directly involved in skyrocketing state spending as a member of the Ways and Means Committee. "You cannot tell me he is not a material cause of the rise in state spending."

On other issues, Senate District 21 voters will have a clear choice of ideologies:

- Nuclear power — Fadeley supports Measure 9 to prohibit utilities from charging for construction work of nuclear and coal plants before completion. This prohibition will require utility company stockholders to bear the burden of construction costs, not ratepayers. Palmer opposes the measure, saying, "If we need new power plants, if we limit access of funds, it's going to cost more later on."



Emerald photo
Challenger Rod Palmer



Photo by Gregg Weed
Sen. Edward Fadeley

- Abortion — Palmer supports state funding of abortions to protect the health of the mother or in cases of incest only. Fadeley says he supports state funding of abortions for the poor, but is personally opposed to abortion. Fadeley proposes increased education about birth control and free contraceptives.

- Higher Education budget —

Fadeley emphasizes his legislative experience and past record of friendship to higher education in holding the line on their budget. "It will be difficult for the University to get through this time without strong friends in the Legislature," he says. Palmer also opposes any cuts in higher education. He says, "Cutting the higher education budget will hurt the Lane County economy."

ann treneman political rhetoric

Do you recall the Rust recall drive? Calling the ex-treeplanter "irresponsible and unresponsive," the Committee to Recall Rust swung into action last spring. Meetings were called — the press was alerted, and then . . . nothing happened.

Some things did happen, but one of them was not a special election. George Kramer, an aide to Commissioner Archie Weinstein — who consistently seems to oppose every stand Rust takes — was accused of using a county car to forage up to Salem to investigate recall procedures.

The Register-Guard stuffed 67,000 petitions in its May 14 edition, charging the committee \$1,200 plus \$1,250 in printing costs. The committee gathered \$3,249, according to records at the Lane County Elections office, for the drive. Several builders and timber officials contributed large sums of money to the effort.

With all the activity and money there still weren't any results. Ninety days after the initial petition filing there still weren't enough

signatures to call an election, despite comments from committee members that there were plenty of signatures.

And so it was with more than a hint of skepticism that county residents listened or read of a drive to recall Weinstein — the official with a pledge to purge "government parasites" and "hippies" from the Lane County payroll.

The drive was launched two weeks ago — shortly after Weinstein teamed up with Commissioner Bob Wood to ax several programs from the 1979 CETA funding list, including several 'alternate community' groups. The supporters of the recall, Citizens Cooperating to Recall Weinstein, whipped out a hand-out, detailing Weinstein's past votes and several quotes. Charges of Weinstein selling real estate on county time and of some tricky political maneuvering on his tax assessment value of his property were raised.

In two weeks, the anti-Weinsteiners — who are most likely the supporters of Rust —

gathered over the 15,333 signatures needed to place the recall on the Nov. 7 ballot.

Why did one recall fail and one succeed? It all boils down to signatures and support. "No amount of organization will work if people don't want to sign," says Ken Miller from the recall Weinstein committee. Miller also points to the funding differences between the two attempts, saying that to date the group has spent \$300. That's a far cry from \$3,249.

Someone was grumbling the other day about the election issues this year. "No drug issues on the ballot this year; Guess no one under 25 is gonna turn out to vote."

That was the other day. It's a matter of opinion how many of the student voting bloc would have noted on Nov. 7 before the recall petition, but its inclusion on the ballot is likely to spur a few more students — who signed the petitions and don't support Weinstein's views — to go to the polls this fall.

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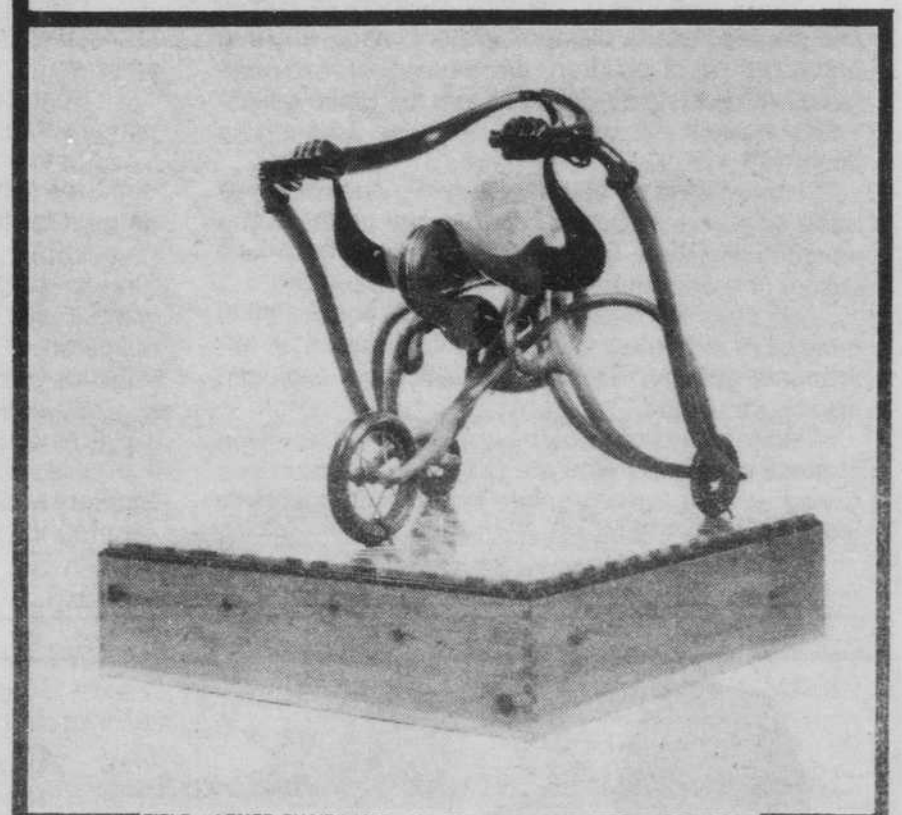
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