

Finally, the House passes a records separation bill

By DANA TIMS
Of the Emerald

SALEM — The federal government decreed nearly five years ago that state educational institutions must keep student and faculty records separate. Friday, the Oregon House passed a bill that would finally bring the state statute dealing with federal records into compliance with that law.

In practice, the state's universities have been keeping the records separate all along. House Bill 2006, which passed by a 51-3 margin, will have only the effect of aligning Oregon's statutory language with the 1974 Family Educational Rights and Privacy Act, also known as the Buckley Amendment.

Had the revision not been made, however, Oregon could have lost millions of dollars in federal funding to higher education.

"If you don't comply with federal law, then funding can be eliminated," says Rep. Joyce Cohen, D-Lake Oswego, carrier of the bill. "But they never got around to cutting off our money."

Hurray, Cohen says, for that kind of oversight.

With the revision, which now goes to the Senate for final approval, universities may furnish only that information necessary to publish a student directory. Matters regarding discipline, counseling, membership activity, academic performance or other personal affairs must receive the student's authorization before they are released.

"Each university will be able to develop its own rules as to what constitutes directory information," Cohen says. "Students at each college are going to have to take it upon themselves to over-

see the development of these criteria."

Robert Bowlin, dean of students at the University, says the revision will have no effect on this campus.

"Student and faculty records have never been kept together here," Bowlin says. "We adopted a student records policy in 1967 to protect the student's privacy, and at the same time, grant the student access to his own records."

The only exceptions, he adds, are instances where officials must by law inspect student records.

"A student's faculty adviser," Bowlin explains, "has the right to review the student's academic record. Or a financial officer has the right of access to a student's financial record."

However, Bowlin says, the financial aid officer can't see a student's academic files and vice-versa.

"Our definition of record is not open-ended, as is the federal government's," he says. "In fact, the feds picked up the term 'directory information' from the University in 1971. Our definitions are spelled out specifically and in no way will this change affect the policy at the University."

The same law that was amended Friday may be changed even further late in the session if Rep. Mary Burrows, R-Eugene, introduces legislation that would make student evaluations of faculty performance public.

That, unlike Friday's minor adjustment, promises to be highly controversial.



Emerald graphic

Seven goals win IFC assent

The Incidental Fee Committee unanimously approved goals for seven of eight groups in its budget hearing Monday night.

Amazon Community Tenants, English Graduate Students' Advisory Council, CSPA Graduate Student Organization, Foreign Student Union, Social Workers Interest Group, ASUO Comptroller and MEChA all sailed through with little discussion.

The goals for Co-Ed Housing quickly failed because no group

representatives were present at the hearing.

"By voting down the goals, we may get some response out of them (Co-Ed Housing)," said IFC member Scott Bassett.

The Amazon Community Tenants want to increase awareness of the group, maintain the day care center, hire a director and run an efficient office.

The English Graduate Student's Advisory Council lists presentation of a film series, pro-

vision of transportation money to English graduates and travel to conferences as its main goals.

The Foreign Student Organization goals are to promote cultural activities and maintain its present office, library and student services.

The CSPA Graduate Student Organization includes publicity for social gatherings and meetings, maintenance of present office and invitation of guest speakers as its goals.

The Social Workers Interest Group's goals include recruitment, presentation of a workshop and continuation of present office duties.

The ASUO Comptroller goal to keep records of IFC allocated funds passed without discussion.

MEChA's goals include cultural awareness programs, recruitment, publicity and maintenance of present administration and office duties.

GOP groups host senator

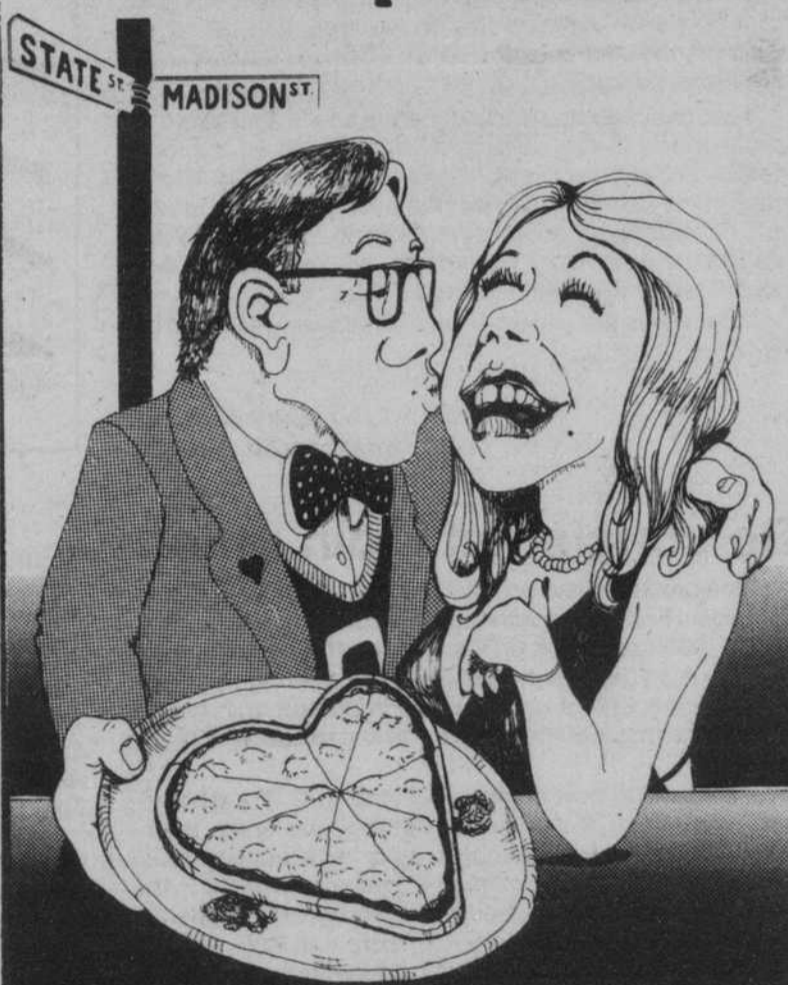
Oregon Sen. Bob Packwood will speak at a luncheon meeting of the Lane County Republican Party Wednesday, at the Asia Gardens Restaurant, 44 East 7th Ave.

The noon meeting is sponsored by the county's Rubicon Society, the Republican Forum, the Republican Women's Club and the GOP Central Committee. Later in the day he will speak at 3 p.m. in 129 Law.

Packwood will speak on Oregon's 120th anniversary of statehood. State Rep. Dave Fronmeyer, R-Eugene, will introduce Packwood and give opening remarks.

The meeting is open to the public. Lunch will also be provided for \$3.25.

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