



greg wasson

a quorum of one

The same week that the Coalition of American Public Employees called Oregon's "the fairest tax system in the country," Senate Republicans (minus Eugene Senator George Wingard) announced an initiative drive to radically change it.

Led by Sens. Bob Smith of Burns and L.B. Day of Salem, the group outlined plans to place on the ballot the 1.5 percent tax limitation that is the main component of Gov. Vic Atiyeh's property tax relief plan.

The Atiyeh program was rejected by the House revenue committee and if the Smith-backed plan makes the ballot, the voters should give it the same treatment.

Why Smith is backing the limitation is unclear — over a third of the tax code areas in his district would get zero relief — and the timing of his proclamation is poor.

Smith should know that threats to "go to the people" simply aren't valid this early in the session.

Smith served as Speaker of the House during the 1969 session, a session in which the republican-controlled legislature answered cries for tax relief by putting a sales tax on a June ballot. The tax measure seeking approval emerged early, but the full body didn't complete the entire plan until May.

Viewed against that backdrop, the revenue committee's actions seem neither needlessly slow nor irresponsibly partisan. It takes time to draft good tax legislation. Smith's call for an immediate action ignore that fact and smacks of petty politics.

The revenue committee is trying to build a good plan that would be accepted by the voters. Favorable reception will happen

only with unified support from Salem. Actions like those of Smith and the Senate Republicans fragment the legislature and make an integrated front impossible to create.

Radicals of the 60's were told over and over to work within the system. Governor Vic Atiyeh's action in the case of Dr. Kelly Woods exemplifies the attitude that prompted some protesters to take to the streets.

Atiyeh nominated Woods to serve as temporary director of the Department of Energy but the Senate rejected the nomination. Woods represents nuclear advocacy in many eyes and his nomination was rejected largely for that reason. For

Atiyeh to thumb his nose at the Senate and appoint Woods anyway is wrong.

The governor contends that discussion of executive nomination should be confined to the integrity and qualification of the appointee, not his or her philosophy.

Atiyeh's arguments conflict directly with the wording of November's Ballot Measure 2 where the voters required the governor to submit all appointments to the Senate and gave no guidelines as to what was legitimate discussion.

A letter to Senate Pres. Jason Boe, D-Reedsport, from Attorney General James Redden says it best.

Atiyeh's refusal to accept the Senate's decision is more than a constitutional crisis, it's an unfair and unethical attempt by the governor to impose his philosophy on the state.

yours

theirs

'Destroying past'

We believe the Emerald's Feb. 23 front page photograph of Gene Richards "searching for arrowheads" (commonly referred to as pothunting) at Fern Ridge is clearly a case of irresponsible journalism. Perhaps the Emerald believes that the pothunting season is as "newsworthy" as harmless seasonal pursuits, such as collecting hallucinogenic mushrooms in the fall or wildflowers in the spring.

Any sharp-eyed potential pothunter should be made aware of a few facts before embarking on such a pursuit. First, artifact collecting on public lands is illegal according to the Federal Antiquities Act of 1906. Secondly, contrary to the Emerald's picture caption, "Reflecting on the past," what the pothunter is actually doing is destroying the past. Unlike many natural resources which are potentially renewable, cultural resources are not.

The printing of such a front-page photograph without providing information on the potential damage done by such supposedly pleasurable activities is reprehensible. The very least the Emerald could do to compensate for this glaring mistake is to publish a front-page article explaining why the public *should not* take part in such destructive activities.

Richard Pettigrew
research associate,
State Museum of Anthropology

Becky Saleeby
graduate, anthropology

Wasn't consulted

While I still maintain the positions outlined in my memo to the University Librarian — the memo is quoted on the Emerald's opinion page of Feb. 23 — I want to emphasize that the copy of the memo in the possession of the Emerald came neither from me nor from Dean Axford, and to point out that no one on the Emerald consulted me regarding use of the memo in any way.

Guido Palandri
associate professor, library

Need ticket

What in the hell does the IFC think it is doing? How can they reasonably expect students already fighting inflation and the high cost of tuition and housing to come up with \$50 for an athletic ticket? I feel that the \$38.80 I paid this year is too much to ask. I, and many others, had to make sacrifices to be able to pack the pit" this year.

How can Dusty Rhodes justify a subsidy

cut because only 4,000 tickets are available to students? I doubt that he can name many other programs in the IFC budget that are enjoyed by such a large number of students.

I would remind Mr. Rhodes that he was elected to the IFC with considerably less than 4,000 votes. If he plans to continue to make cuts in the most popular programs on this campus, I suggest that he forget about running for office at Oregon again.

Randy Fletcher
senior, history
Steve Riley
senior, history

'Ultimate Encounter'

The popularity of this flick's subject matter and similar phenomena nowadays leads me to present some insights from an authoritative source on UFOs, "after-life" contacts, occult, demonology, etc., which share many common phenomenal characteristics. This source says that an evil spirit being called Satan can disguise himself as an angel of light (Corinthians 11:14).

In another place it says that the devil, real as he is, is the ruler of the kingdom of the air (Ephesians 2:2). And again it asserts that Satan and his forces are out to deceive the whole world (Revelation 12:9).

Once more it asserts that near to a time in which the world as we know it is to come caving in to an end, there will arise many false deliverers (Superman for imaginative starters?) and spiritual prophets seeking to replace Christ — some of whom will even be able to perform great signs and miracles (Matthew 24: 5, 24).

It is interesting that the same work which makes all these void assertions is the one which had predicted over 2,800 years ago such things as the dissembling of a people of that day to all corners and nations of the earth, only to come together again in their homeland as a nation and that occurring in the space of one day (by UN treaty in 1948) — a phenomenon nonexistent in those days.

Foretelling this include Isaiah 11: 11-12; 66: 8; Jeremiah 31: 7-8; Ezekiel 36: 24-38; and others. There is no parallel in history of any culture even being able to remain homogenous for thousands of years once conquered and dispersed to other lands — and then coming together again, as this record predicted. Maybe there is something of reckoning value to this work.

For those who have ears to hear, this same source also has this to say about the "end times": For the secret power of lawlessness is already at work; but the one who now holds it back will continue to do so till he is taken out of the way. And then the lawless one will be revealed, who the Lord Jesus will overthrow with the breath

of his mouth and destroy by the splendor of his coming. The coming of the lawless one will be in accordance with the work of Satan displayed in all kinds of counterfeit miracles, signs and wonders, and in every sort of evil that deceives those who are perishing. They perish because they refuse to love the truth and so be saved. For this reason God sends them a powerful delusion so that they will believe the lie and so that all will be condemned who have not believed the truth but have delighted in unrighteousness." (II Thessalonians 2: 7-12)

Putting two and two together, there appears from this source to be a mandate worth reckoning about, that indeed there will appear a "cosmic messiah" in the guise of a UFO (for which he is gearing our readiness already) in order to supposedly save our crumbling world system. And we will be quite compelled to look to him.

This deliverer, however, will be Antichrist — the incarnation of Satan, who will deceive with many miracles. The only viable antidote to our lining up with him will be to already know through faith the real Deliverer who is coming back, as the Bible testifies to — Jesus, the incarnation of God — one who also did many great miracles but who did them with the purpose and righteousness characteristic of a loving and holy God. I encourage you to get to know Him as I have.

Bob Nordahl
alumnus, recreation and park
management

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