



greg wasson

a quorum of one

Attorney General Jim Redden's response to seven questions about citing of nuclear plants sharpens the focus on Gov. Vic Atiyeh's view of Oregon's future. Atiyeh obviously feels power from the atom should play a principle role.

The governor wants to replace two Energy Facility Citing Council members who will likely vote against nuclear development if given the chance. Atiyeh claims the statutes give him no choice.

Redden's ruling says the statutes do give him a choice and implies that Atiyeh's only obligation to tamper with the council is a personal bias for atomic energy.

Debate over nuclear development in the state currently centers on the seven-member council. It's that body that must act on the request of four

Northwest utilities to build two nuclear generators in northeastern Oregon.

The ability to be there now is essential in conventional warfare. The strength it would give our defense was a major argument used by those supporting development of the interstate highways. The invasion never came.

Like most roads in the state, Oregon's freeways are deteriorating. The surface is cracking, holes are developing and a multi-billion dollar investment is being lost.

It's going to take some bucks to stop the decay and the state Department of Transportation doesn't have them. According to legislative research, it would cost \$920 million over the next 10 years to fix the roads.

The situation could legitimately be

called a crisis and there's a strong drive in the Legislature to seek help from the general funds, money generated in the main by income taxes.

Historically, money for highway construction and repair has come from the constitutionally-protected highway fund. The fund is fed by registration fees, weight/mile taxes on trucks and the gasoline tax. Additional dollars must be generated and there's reason to think about raising the percentage of the funds trucks provide.

Since the last major study designed to designate who should pay what, there have been substantial changes. When it was decided that a fair ratio would be two-thirds of the funds provided by cars and one-third by trucks, axle weight was limited to 18,000 pounds. Since that time, the maximum load has increased to

20,000 pounds, according to a member of the department "this fact would indicate that they should probably pay more."

He then offers an example to support his call for another study.

"The axle of a fairly large pickup weighs about 3,000 pounds. It would take 1,700 passes of that axle to equal the damage done by one pass of an 18,000 pound axle. By going to a 20,000 pound axle the figure goes to 2,500 passes before the lighter axle will do the same damage. As weight goes up, damage to the roads goes up at an exponential rate."

As loads get heavier and emphasis of the department shifts from construction to repair, it's time for a new audit on how to fund roadways.

ours

Get on the bus

Students have a chance this week to demonstrate a more than academic interest in establishing the public availability of their evaluations of University courses.

The House Education Committee will listen to testimony Wednesday on a bill that would grant access to the results of course evaluations conducted at state institutions of higher education. Free transport via bus to Salem will be provided by the ASUO for persons interested in appearing at the 8:30 a.m. hearing to testify or give support to witnesses on behalf of the bill. Departure is set for 7 a.m.

The Emerald has often argued the need for public access to the results of course evaluations as a fundamental aid for students in planning their academic careers. This right would come as a special benefit to freshmen — for whom the University's dropout rate is highest — because of their unfamiliarity with courses, professors and the informal "grapevine" information on the usefulness and quality of particular classes.

Students interested in attending the Wednesday session should contact the ASUO office, EMU Suite 4, 686-3724.

yours

Boosts election

I am writing as a Student University Affairs Board representative and as a student, to urge student participation in the upcoming ASUO elections. Specifically, there are several positions open on the SUAB, and I hope eligible students will attempt to fill those openings.

There is much value in being a SUAB member. Foremost, it means having a chance to help form University policies beneficial to your own department, or beneficial to yourself in a more individual way. We need to reduce student apathy here so that school policies and programs will reflect the wishes of the student body.

By joining SUAB, one is exposed to the inner workings of the administrative and faculty systems, and to the professors and administrators who make those systems run. In addition, the experience of partaking in a parliamentary structure and the

knowledge of issues, diplomacy, government, etc., that a SUAB representative gains can only be valuable later in life.

The Board member's duties and responsibilities are considerable, but not overwhelming. She or he must attend the inter-SUAB meetings, the combined faculty-SUAB Senate meetings and those of the much larger faculty-student Assembly. We are expected to hold a few office hours weekly, when students in our departments can contact us with questions or grievances.

Furthermore, the SUAB representative may choose to assist in the ASUO Information and Grievance Booth in the EMU and serve on one of many student-faculty committees, working on any number of varied issues and subjects. We have also the crucial responsibility of soliciting input from the students we represent.

Truthfully, the SUAB can be

involved in interesting and substantial policy issues; it is not a body powerless to effect what path the school will take. This year, for example, we debated and voted on the issues of opening teacher evaluation files to student perusal and whether ROTC should remain part of the University. Each year, we also have the right to argue and vote on any revisions to the curriculum.

Finally, even if a SUAB opening doesn't exist for your department, please take the time to vote anyway, since other ASUO and EMU Board officers are being chosen during these same elections, including ASUO President. The SUAB, and the ASUO in general can give students what they want, but student support, not apathy, is mandatory, especially in the April elections.

Mark O'Brien
SUAB

Honor GTFs

Last fall, Mortar Board, the senior honor society, voted to honor two Graduate Teaching Fellows who would be chosen by student and faculty nominations as outstanding teachers. We wanted to present these Awards at spring commencement. Mortar Board thought that this recognition of excellent teaching would be helpful to these GTFs in their job searches. The following individuals not only enabled our idea to become reality, they also endowed our certificate of recognition with a monetary award of \$500 for each of the two winning GTFs.

The members of Mortar Board would like to thank the following for their invaluable assistance: Mary Hudzikiewicz of University Relations, our advisor; President Boyd, Vice Provost Wattles, Dr. Lallas, As-

sistant to the President; Prof. Littman, President of the Faculty Advisory Council, and Dean Novick of the Graduate School. The enthusiastic support of these individuals enabled the GTF Awards to become an annual University of Oregon tradition.

Now we need your recommendations to give these Awards to the two most deserving GTFs. Nomination forms for the GTF Awards are available in all department offices. If you know a GTF who has done an excellent job of teaching during any one term of this year, nominate him or her. Deadline for nominations is April 16. The administration and Mortar Board have acted on their commitment to quality teaching. How about you?

Ruth Cascone
senior, CSPA,
English literature
Tuesday, April 3, 1979

