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Draft revival fails but registration ok'd

Stories By
KELI OSBORN
Of the Emerald

Members of a U.S. House subcommittee launched a "surprise attack" against draft opponents Monday by approving an amendment to a Defense Department authorization bill that calls for registration of 18-year-old males beginning in 1981.

However, the House Armed Services subcommittee on military posture fell one vote short, 5-4, of recommending actual reinstatement of the draft to the full committee, which will consider the defense bill before sending it to the House floor.

For draft opponents who have been focusing their attention for the last four months on eight separate bills calling for a revival of the draft or registration, the amendment came as an unwelcome surprise.

"It's an interesting tactic," said John Lawrence, president of the University Veterans Association. "They obviously feel a need to be more devious with this."

The amendment calls for registration of all males who turn 18 after Dec. 31, 1980. Dave Fidanque, an aide to U.S. Rep. Jim Weaver, D-Ore., said the cutoff date seems suspiciously related to the 1980 U.S. presidential race, by barring next year's 18-year-old voters from registration.

The amendment also echoes many of the provisions of HR 2500, introduced earlier this year by U.S. Rep. Bill Nichols, D-Ala. Although specifically prohibiting reorganization of the Selective Service into the Defense Department, the bill could allow waiver of the federal Privacy Act for purposes of speedy registration.

It would require the president to recommend to Congress the "desirability and feasibility" of authorizing registration of women, actual induction of young Americans, and any changes in the registration and induction process the president thinks appropriate.

Weaver and other members of Congress opposing the draft intend to challenge the right to tack such an

amendment on an authorization bill, Fidanque said.

"We'll challenge it on parliamentary grounds as well as on its merits," Fidanque said. An authorization bill is "not supposed" to include new programs, which draft registration would be, he added. "It should be under a separate bill."

Subcommittee members indicated that registration was but one step in the direction of draft reinstatement, Fidanque said, adding that the chairer had promised hearings within two months on a separate bill proposing as much.

Shawn Perry, assistant director of the National Interreligious Board of Conscientious Objectors in Washington, noted that attaching the amendment to an authorization bill doesn't guarantee registration's approval.

"But it definitely puts pressure on Congress and eventually puts pressure on the president," he said. "They very innocuously make it seem a part of the military procurements act."



Photo by Keith Allen

Matt Steele (he's the one on the left) takes advantage of spring weather to perform a nutty stunt with a campus buddy.

Group mobilizes efforts against draft

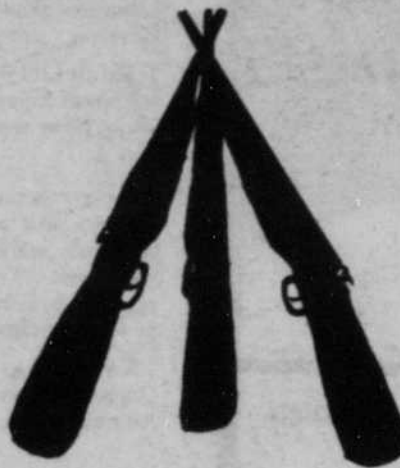
More than 90 members of Eugene's Coalition Opposed to Registration and the Draft met Monday night in the Wesley Center to discuss an upcoming Mobilization Against the Draft program and hear reports from the group's task forces.

Dave Fidanque, aide to U.S. Rep. Jim Weaver, D-Ore., also gave members a legislative update by outlining the Monday action of a U.S. House subcommittee amending a Defense Department authorization bill to call for draft registration of 18-year-old males beginning in 1981.

Weaver said Monday that the draft or draft registration is unnecessary during peacetime. "This bill is just a foot in the door by those who want to bring back the draft itself and scrap the All Volunteer Army which has been working well," he said.

The Mobilization Against the Draft,

May 18 and 19, is part of a universal day of registration for conscientious objectors and coincides with Armed Forces



Day. The coalition's acronym for the event, MAD, and its term for the military holiday, Armed Forces Day, indicate the tenor of the affair.

Kurt Hoelting, a minister with Campus

Interfaith Ministry and a CORD member, said the event will include skits, live music, rallies, speeches and workshops. "We want it to be entertaining and provide an incentive to get a response to the issue (of the draft)."

He added that the MAD days will serve as a focusing point for anti-draft activity in Eugene, giving impetus to the work that's "going to stretch for several months."

The coalition discussed plans for its "Run for Your Life" benefit May 12. "It's hard fighting the Pentagon with what we've been raising," Tony LeMay said in announcing the fundraiser, which will take participants on a 6.2-mile jog around Eugene.

Runners and other enthusiasts interested in joining should call the Koinonia Center at 484-1707

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Monje nabs Emerald editor post

The Daily Emerald hired Kathleen Monje as its first woman editor in 32 years during a Thursday night Board of Directors meeting.

"I'm really happy that a woman was chosen editor in spite of the fact that there's not a war going on," said Monje, noting that the last woman editor served from 1945-46.

Monje, who currently serves as wire and night editor for the Emerald, said she is looking forward to the change to an electronic system scheduled to take place this summer and fall, adding that she plans to hold training sessions for the staff during the summer.

She feels the paper's new electronic news system will provide journalism students with valuable firsthand experience since many professional papers use similar systems. Monje added that she hopes more students will take advantage of the opportunity to work for the Emerald.

"I am proud of the Emerald's achievements in coverage and design in

the past two years and plan to continue that pattern," she said.

Besides her current Emerald positions, Monje has served on the paper as copy editor, environmental associate editor and reporter. She also served as editor of the Lane Community College Torch, as well as reporter, proofreader and lay-out person and has written for Springfield News, Eugene Magazine and Sports Scene Magazine.

"A college newspaper is, at its best, a combination of experimentation and learning. It offers a place for exercise of new ideas, a kind of journalistic flexing, not possible in the commercial media," she said.

As editor, Monje will direct Emerald news and editorial policy and supervise a news staff of about 30 people. She will also be a voting member of the Emerald Board of Directors.

Monje, a senior majoring in journalism, will begin accepting applications and interviewing for 1979-80 staff positions later this month. She will officially take office on June 5.



Kathleen Monje

today

Need a spring steam-cleaning — your face, that is. Lucienne demonstrates the full facial treatment at her Eugene salon. See Page 6.

Portland Mayor Neil Goldschmidt (the Teddy Kennedy of Oregon?) isn't running yet, but he has a few words to say about Sen. Bob Packwood, whose U.S. Senate seat he may seek. See Page 7.

The female experience offers inspiration for a women's art display featured as part of this year's women's symposium. See Page 8.