

# Crime rhetoric springs eternal in AG race

**Analysis**  
By **ALAN HARRIS**  
Of the Emerald

Candidates for the Oregon attorney general's office traditionally fail to inform the public of the real powers and duties of the office, and this year's candidates are no exception.

But Rep. David Frohnmayer, R-Eugene, and Democrat Harl Haas, Multnomah County's district attorney, don't deserve too much of the blame. Their campaigns understandably cater to the public's mostly faulty perception of the office.

Libertarian Terry McCauley also has entered the race but is running a low-key campaign.

The attorney general writes opinions on legal questions in which the state or a public agency may have an interest. The requests for opinions come from the governor, any state agency, official or legislator.

The attorney general also

heads the Department of Justice, which has nine operating divisions: Appellate, Antitrust, Charitable Trust, Criminal Justice and Special Investigation, Trial, Tax, Consumer Protection, General Counsel and Support Enforcement Divisions.

Consequently, the attorney general heads the largest law firm in the state. According to current Attorney General James Brown, approximately 110 attorneys work full-time for the justice department.

Add approximately 20 full-time investigators, and the office's immense potential political clout becomes clear. In clout, the attorney general is subordinate only to the governor.

Brown, who was appointed by Gov. Vic Atiyeh in March when James Redden took a federal judgeship, says because his office's attorneys work on a day-to-day basis with state administrators, it's "important for them

to play it straight. There is a whole lot of (political) leverage."

Brown says the attorney general and his employees are strictly lawyers, although they do have the authority to initiate legislation in three areas: antitrust, consumer protection and support enforcement.

In all other questions they only provide constitutional data and let their clients — the governor or state employees — make the policy decisions.

These duties have little to do with the eternal "law and order" rhetoric that springs from most attorney general races.

The attorney general can express his personal views on any subject, especially if he is asked to do so by the public. But budgetary and legal constraints determine how he actually affects policy.

For example, from the 1979 attorney general's budget of \$14,188,825, only \$392,500 was

spent for criminal appeals. \$186,689 went for district attorney assistance. No other expenditure headings would apply to fighting crime.

On the issue of prison construction legislation, Brown and other informed sources indicate the attorney general has no legislative jurisdiction in the matter.

However, the attorney general can interest one of the state's 90 legislators in a pet project and have them introduce legislation.

In past public forums involving attorney general candidates, questions invariably centered around crime unless the candidates redirected the discussion. This experience prompted one former attorney general candidate to question whether he was running for sheriff or warden.

But the public's perception of the attorney general's office is

the key, and the candidates kill two birds with one stone by campaigning against crime. They appeal to the greater part of the public that is uninformed but looks for a person of high morals and integrity.

Those qualities also appeal to the smaller, informed part of the electorate that looks for a candidate who will not put self-interests before the duties of an influential state office.

**BOOK IMMEDIATELY!**

**Christmas Vacation Flights to New York**

**EUGENE TRAVEL 687-2823**

## Garage Continued from Page 1

"It's a rare situation to have a man come in and be offended," Frazer says.

"Sometimes they'll be sur-

prised, but not hostile. They feel really relaxed and say 'Here's my car. Take it. I don't know anything about it.' And seem really glad not to have to get into the male ego thing with the mechanic."

The cooperative's members are trying to set up an association of women mechanics. Frazer says they hope to change such things as sexist advertisements in automotive trade magazines.

Many of Country Volkswagen's women customers are aware of the hurdles involved in running an all-female enterprise and they try to be supportive.

Cooperative members return the support by showing customers how to take care of their automobiles and how to do minor repair work themselves.

"Many women come in here who've been lied to and overcharged," Frazer says. "Sometimes they have a defensive attitude. We try to explain to them, in terms they'll understand, what's wrong with their car and what it will take to fix it."

She probably could make more money elsewhere, Frazer says.

"But we are here because we like working on cars. We enjoy helping people."

## Correction

An article that appeared in Monday's Emerald contained a factual error about the Oregon Smoking Control Program.

The program offers six-week sessions that meet for one and one-half hours per week. The fee for the six-week program is \$20.



*Even the Great Pumpkin designed his costume at St. Vincent de Paul.*

We have lots of cheap clothing; come in today while the selection is best.

**St. Vincent de Paul**  
will be Open 'til 7:00 pm

from October 23rd thru Halloween

110 East 11th  
Eugene

501 Main  
Springfield

**25c**

**Hot Dogs**

8 pm  
til ?  
Tuesdays



**REMEMBER B'S FAMOUS HAMBURGERS**

Come and enjoy sporting events on our **BIG SCREEN**

3355 E. Amazon Dr., Eugene

342-3575

**SNEAK PREVIEW**

Don't Miss It!

October 22

Since we opened our doors in 1968, we've developed more than 20 highly innovative products and semiconductor fabrication processes that have made Intel an acknowledged leader in the semiconductor industry and have given us the commanding role in four major product areas: semiconductor memory, memory systems, microcomputer components, and microcomputer systems.

How have we consistently stayed on top of the competition? With a dynamic team of technical and non-technical people who have guided our business from one outstanding achievement to the next. We'd like you to be in on the excitement and the challenge.

If you're about to receive a degree, and you haven't signed up for an interview, drop by your placement office to leave your resume with one of our representatives.

Or write to Intel College Relations at one of our five locations in the area of your geographic preference.

**CALIFORNIA:**  
3065 Bowers Avenue,  
Santa Clara, CA 95051

**OREGON:**  
5200 N.E. Elam Young  
Parkway, Hillsboro, OR 97123

**ARIZONA/TEXAS/  
NEW MEXICO:**  
6401 W. Williams Field Road,  
Chandler, AZ 85224

An equal opportunity employer m/f/h.

intel®

