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Law clinic draws further appraisal

By GREG WASSON
Of the Emerald

The University law school's environmental law program may have a good reputation throughout the country, but a portion of the course and its funding sources have been receiving less than favorable attention from some quarters.

The complaints center on the Pacific Northwest Resources Center, an enterprise funded mainly by the National Wildlife Federation. The resources clinic is one arm of the Environmental Law Clinic, and operates under the joint direction of Terrence Thatcher, a staff member of the foundation, and University professor John Bonine.

One vocal opponent of the clinic is Wilson Hulley, executive director of the Federation for Oregon Research and Education, which first gained recognition for its attempts to dismantle the Oregon Student Public Interest Research Group (OSPIRG). Hulley is quick to characterize FORE as a neutral organization whose purpose is "to ensure that the tax dollar available to the state of Oregon is spent in the most effective manner."

According to Hulley, this isn't being done at the clinic. He called it "totally inappropriate" that tax dollars be used to provide Thatcher with office space, supplies and support. In short, Hulley charges the University is being used as a pawn by the wildlife federation.

Hulley began his complaints last year in letters to then-University Pres. William Boyd, the secretary of state, and the attorney general. His concern incited a letter from the secretary's office asking about the

propriety of the clinic and why Thatcher was allowed to establish a base in a school.

Acting-provost Richard Hill responded that the University gained the most from the arrangement.

"Given the availability of his (Thatcher's) services, the law school is able to increase the enrollment and faculty resources in a program where demand has been heavy and where supervisor-student ratios must necessarily be low," Hill said.

"Without the addition of Mr. Thatcher's energy and expertise, operating the clinical program would have placed severe burdens on law school resources."

The secretary of state hasn't given Hulley his desired condemnation of the clinic, and according to Assistant Attorney General Jerry Casby, the AG's office can be no more obliging.

"I'm aware of no phase of what I see at the present time that suggests to me there is a legal violation."

But Hulley's still not convinced. The controversy now centers on a lawsuit filed by the Idaho Wilderness Foundation challenging government plans to open the Snake River drainage area to logging. The area is an important salmon-spawning region, and the suit alleges the government hasn't adequately addressed how the logging will affect fish populations.

The Pacific Northwest Resources Clinic is representing the Idaho foundation, with Thatcher and Bonine listed as the attorneys of record.

Bonine says the suit provides a pretext for Hulley and other

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Gov. Vic Atiyeh

Photo by Erich Boekelheide

Atiyeh: Oregon needs diversified economy

By MARIAN GREEN
Of the Emerald

Oregon and Lane County should diversify to save the state economy from the "dramatic" depression that hit the lumber industry, says Gov. Vic Atiyeh.

National economic trends "hit hard Lane County's lumber and wood products industry," Atiyeh said Thursday night, "and the industry, which is Oregon's largest, has yet to recover."

Atiyeh's speech to a group of local business leaders was part of an "Employment in Lane County" meeting sponsored by the Eugene, Springfield and Junction City chambers of commerce.

In Oregon's wood products industry alone, Atiyeh said, unemployment reached over 17,000 early in 1980. In small communities, where wood products is the major employer, the effects "were almost devastating."

To remedy the ailing economy, Oregon and Lane County should diversify — even more than it has in the past, Atiyeh said.

As an example of Oregon diversification, Atiyeh noted that state-wide employment in high-technology industries increased 13 percent from 1955 to 1979, while employment in the forest products industry declined by 15 percent.

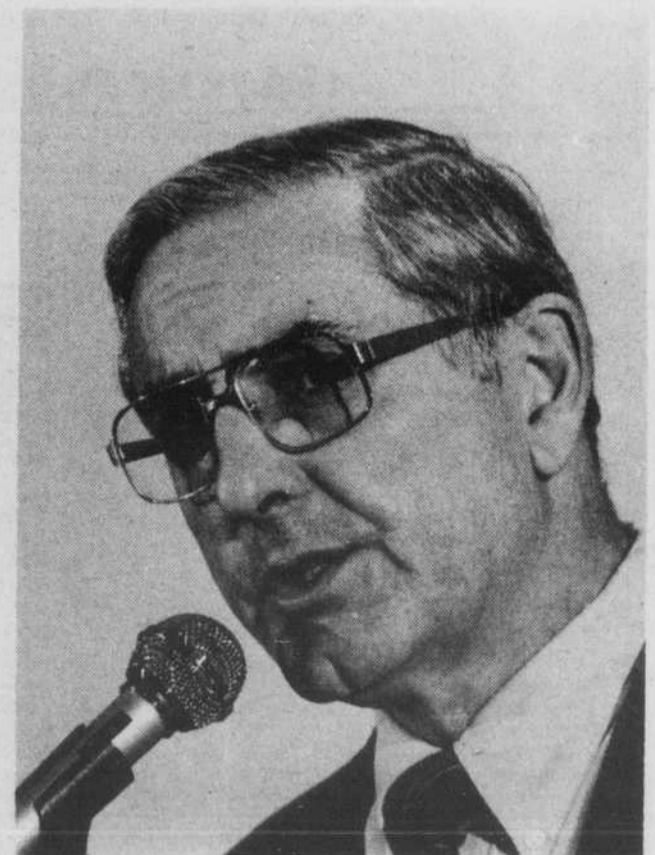
"This is a very favorable trend, and one we should encourage."

However, Atiyeh stressed the need to attract "new and developing" industries that are clean, and said his appeal is "not a call to the smokesack chasers."

Still, Oregon state and local governments should not forget the importance of the lumber products industry — "our number one industry" — and the government's responsibility to continue employing Oregonians and utilizing Oregon's resources.

"Economic development does not need an in-rush from outside the state," Atiyeh said. "Oregonians should be able to find jobs in their own state."

Atiyeh said although the wood products industry looks bad now, "the long term outlook for Oregon is bright for wood products."



Ex-hostage returns to Springfield area

Former hostage Victor Tomseth, a Springfield native, will discuss his experiences as a hostage Monday at 3 p.m. in the EMU Ballroom.

A 1963 University graduate, Tomseth will arrive in the Eugene area Friday night and will be honored at a reception at the Springfield Rodeway Inn Saturday from 8 to 8:30 a.m. The reception will include a speech by Springfield Mayor John Lively and music by the Springfield High School Band. Tomseth graduated from the high school in 1959.

On Tuesday from noon to 1:30 p.m., Tomseth will be honored with a luncheon at the Inn. Featured speakers will include Lively; Lane County Commissioner Vance Freeman, state Sen. Ed Fadeley, D-Eugene; state Rep. Vern Meyer, R-Springfield; and U.S. Rep. Jim Weaver, D-Ore.

Tomseth, who was the political officer at the United States Embassy in Tehran when it was captured in November, 1979, was held in the Iranian Foreign Ministry

Tomseth's campus appearance will be sponsored by the EMU Cultural Forum.