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## Law clinic claims win in lawsuit

By JEFF BAKER  
Of the Emerald

The University environmental law clinic won a "significant victory" Wednesday in an Idaho timber case. Or did it?

A U.S. District Court judge ruled that two environmental impact statements submitted by the U.S. Forest Service were invalid.

Judge Fred Taylor also dismissed a suit brought by the Idaho Wildlife Federation, which was represented by the law clinic. Clinic co-directors John Bonine and Terence Thatcher were attorneys of record for the federation.

Bonine called the judge's ruling a "pretty significant victory," a claim that an attorney for Evergreen Forest Products can't believe. Evergreen was a co-defendant in the suit along with the forest service and Boise Cascade.

"They sure weren't claiming victory in court yesterday," Boise attorney Hugh O'Riordan said. "I'd call it a Pyrrhic victory — one where they lost more than they won."

O'Riordan said the National Forest Practices Act allows national forests to operate under old timber management plans while new plans are being challenged. Since the environmental impact statements were rejected by the court, the old plans go into effect in the two southwestern Idaho national forests in question.

"The old plans allow more road building and timber harvesting," than the rejected statements did, O'Riordan said. "Our people are happy because they want to cut timber."

Bonine, reached by phone in Boulder, Colo., said the government's attitude was "too bad, now we're going to use the old ones."

Thatcher said although he was "not absolutely clear what they'll do," he said the government "hinted rather broadly" that it would return to the old plans.

The next legal move is up to the federation, both sides agreed. The federation will "review any announcement of activity in that area very closely," Thatcher said.

"We don't think the old plans can be successfully challenged," O'Riordan said. "They've been around for 13 years and have never been contested."

Bonine and Thatcher paid tribute to the "at least six" law students who worked on the legal briefs used in the case.

"It's a tribute to the educational system that a group of law students can force the forest service to obey the law," Bonine said.

Not all Eugene residents consider the law clinic a tribute to the educational system.

The law clinic's involvement in the Idaho case sparked protests in January and February from several forest products executives, notably sawmill owner Aaron Jones.

Jones threatened to withhold a \$250,000 donation to the University's proposed basketball pavilion if the clinic was not disbanded. He said the law clinic, as a part of the University, should not take stands on controversial issues.

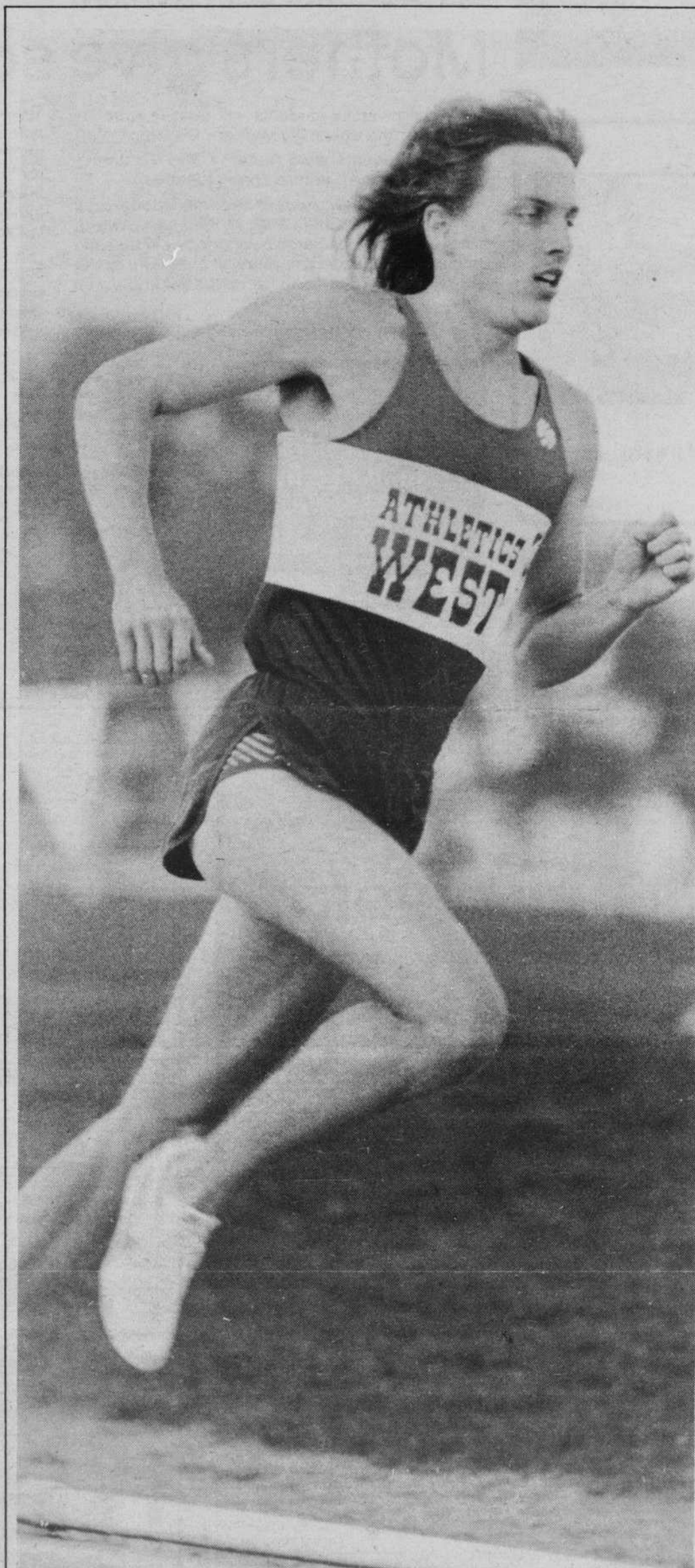


Photo by Steve Dykes

## Byers bests fast field

Tom Byers of Athletics West set a meet record of 3:55.73 in winning the featured mile at Thursday's Twilight Meet at Hayward Field. Byers led four other runners below the four-minute mark, including Bill McChesney, Rudy Chapa, Ed Spinney and Ken Martin. Story on Page 8.

## Lieuallen pleads for higher ed

By GREG WASSON  
Of the Emerald

SALEM — The battle to save higher education is moving into a new phase and all segments of the enterprise invaded the capitol Thursday.

First, Chancellor Roy Lieuallen and the presidents of the University, Oregon State and Portland State pleaded with the House Revenue Committee to approve Gov. Vic Atiyeh's revenue proposal so that the state budget won't require the drastic cuts threatened.

Then, students from around the state held another rally on the capitol steps and visited lawmakers from their areas, encouraging them to avoid the carnage that would result without additional funds.

In his testimony, Lieuallen contended that the past fifteen years have seen higher ed forced farther back in the pack.

"During the decade of 1967 to 1977," the chancellor said, "The share of the states general fund allocated to higher education has dropped from 24.4 percent to 14.6 percent."

Lieuallen added that Oregon enrolls in its four-year institutions about the same percentage of its population as the national average. If the money is drastically reduced, he warned, the state should consider reducing access.

Lieuallen predicted that without additional money, 100 faculty and 35 classified employees will be terminated this fall with an additional 400 faculty and 265 classified personnel going the following year. The chancellor estimated that the layoff would be accompanied by denial of access to 7,000 students.

Many of the professors who would be terminated have tenure, a situation that requires a declaration of financial exigency before the system can lay them off or reduce their salaries.

Such a declaration, Lieuallen told the committee, is the same as a declaration of bankruptcy and would cause the word to "be spread far and wide among academics and will reduce the attractiveness of the state system to able students and faculty."

Additionally, Lieuallen warned, the declaration would cause faculty and students already here to look for other opportunities.

"While openings elsewhere might be sparse, there are always places for the best. The best ones are the ones we can least afford to lose."

The same message was given to the students as they gathered on the steps by House majority leader Grattan Kerrans, D-Eugene.

"You don't destroy universities and then bring them back two years later. When the funding is gone and the faculty is gone, you don't call them back 'we didn't mean it.'"

Among the cuts proposed by the Ways and Means committee in the event additional money doesn't become available is \$200,000 given to campus radio stations. Such a move would mean the end of \$123,000 slated for KWAX and the \$70,000 budgeted for KSOR at Southern Oregon State College in Ashland.