

## Law center's future is in Olum's hands

The University's Pacific Northwest Resource Center is in serious jeopardy of being moved off-campus and losing its principal source of funds. And University Pres. Paul Olum is willing to sacrifice this program rather than antagonize

### OURS

private business interests.

At a June state Board of Higher Education meeting Olum proposed the PNRC (and its Environmental Law Clinic) be disassociated from the University. Olum's reasoning is that the on-going program is viewed by the community as attacking the lumber industry. His statement as to who in the community sees PNRC in such a light, has never been adequately explained. Though the "community" testifying against PNRC at the board meeting consisted of representatives of Evergreen Forest Products of Idaho, Western Council of Lumber Production and Industrial Workers, an attorney for Eugene's Aaron Jones, Northwest Food Processors Association and the Oregon Cattlemen's Association.

What has earned PNRC this antagonism? PNRC appealed an environmental impact statement concerning the south fork of the Salmon River, and investigated the General Services Administration's non-use of recycled paper as required by law. Two worthwhile projects that angered private business.

Law students express a fear that if PNRC is moved off-campus, its principal funder — the National Wildlife Federation — will withdraw support. Some 70 percent of the center's support is from NWF, without that money operation of the center will be severely curtailed. The law students see Olum's actual purpose is to cater to the whims of private business and close PNRC.

The law students back this with a memo written by Richard Seibert, acting vice president of the National Association of Manufacturers. Seibert

states that the association is "extremely concerned" by environmental groups at state-supported law schools (the University is specifically cited). He decries the fact environmental groups such as PNRC "further social and preservationist goals."

Add to this Seneca Sawmill owner Aaron Jones' dangling a \$250,000 pledge toward a new basketball arena with the tacit stipulation that PNRC be moved off-campus.

Richard Hill, acting University provost, says "this University is not for sale."

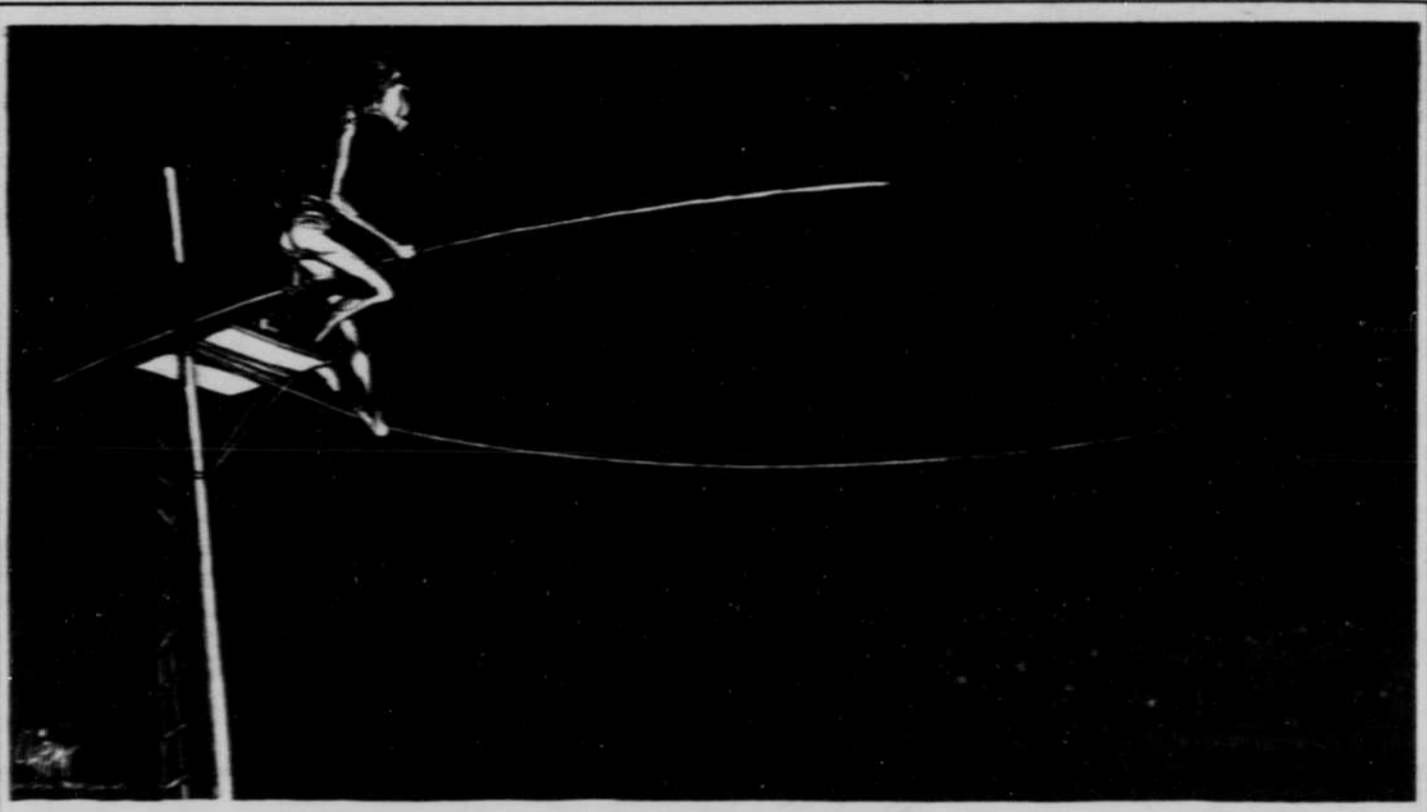
Perhaps not for sale, but apparently it is for rent. The University's PNRC is one of only four such environmental law programs in the nation. The program not only benefits law students with prac-

tical experience, it also benefits the University by attracting students interested in studying environmental law.

PNRC's value to the University, value to the environment, and value to the students is self-evident.

Olum has yet to make a decision whether or not PNRC will be allowed to remain on campus. Law students believe the longer he puts off a decision the greater the chances NWF will cancel program funding.

Whatever Olum's decision, the evidence indicts him as being too sensitive to business pressure to take a firm stand in favor of PNRC. He would rather sacrifice a valuable law program than dare incur the displeasure of business interests.



## Welcome back

Well, here we are again — just us and 17,000 of our most intimate friends. The "party" has begun, so ease your feet onto the rail and relax.

This year's Oregon Daily Emerald will have a mixture of the traditional and the innovative. We plan to introduce new columns, commentaries and an assortment of supplements for the sports and entertainment minded. Overall the look of the paper will continue its clarity of design and sharpness for photographs and graphics. The production values are still to produce the highest quality daily newspaper.

Readers will notice at once that the daily comic strip Peanuts has been replaced by Gary Trudeau's Doonesbury. This is a change our readers have long been requesting. So settle back with your morning coffee and enjoy Doonesbury.

Matt Meyer, features editor, will be inaugurating a bi-monthly (every other Wednesday) entertainment supplement entitled "distractions". Meyer describes "distractions" as an arts and entertainment magazine containing everything from ballet to rock and roll.

Alternating Wednesdays with "distractions" will be "Emerald sports" compiled by sports editor Steve Spatz. Spatz will also be writing a frequent sports column.

News editor Harry Esteve will be contributing a bi-monthly column which he describes as a balance of news and feature articles. It will be on alternative living — alternative media — "What people are doing with their lives," says Esteve.

Gabriel Boehmer, managing editor, will be writing a unique column entitled, the THREE o'CLOCK CLUB. Boehmer promises this will be unlike any other column. He will be writing about the unusual people and interesting occurrences in the campus community.

These changes will not affect the regular departments of the ODE that readers have come to enjoy. The "Opinions" section will continue to carry hard-hitting editorials and reader comments through the "Yours" letters section.

These changes will also not alter the attitude of the ODE toward its responsibility to bring the news to the University's student population. Being the finest newspaper possible remains our primary purpose.

It looks to be quite an interesting year ahead for us all. The "party" has indeed only just begun.

## yours

### Misuse of funds

I read, with alarm, that the State Treasurer and the Oregon Investment Council are proposing to participate, with Public Employees Retirement System funds, in a New York investment firm's buy out of Fred Meyer.

I question why the state is using retirement fund moneys to help buy a private retail company. What happens when other large or small retailers decide to merge, expand or need an infusion of capital just to stay afloat?

Mergers, take-overs and expansions all have been traditionally hailed as a free enterprise system working at its best. Such ventures, if attractive and viable, have always been able to attract private capital without seeking government funds. It should stay that way.

Additionally, as an owner and operator of a small business, I question the favoring of large over small businesses. Small businesses provide over 70 percent of all new jobs in Oregon; yet, several attempts this past Legislative session to establish a revolving development fund to assist business failed. The jobs and badly needed revenue generated by small business in Oregon stays in Oregon, as opposed to going to Eastern financiers.

I also wonder what state regulatory agencies will do when called upon to enforce rules and regulations, and the state owns or has substantial control of the company.

I urge other businesses to oppose such an investment

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### Immaturity

While I was distributing literature for Young Americans for Freedom at the Street Faire, members of the so-called Revolutionary Communist Youth Brigade displayed a remarkable lack of maturity.

For instance, while we were stating our views one RCYB member screamed, "People like you shouldn't be allowed to live." All we promote is a philosophy of individual dignity, representative government, and freedom from coercive powers — in whatever form they might exist. Of course, the RCYB supports the establishment of a repressive regime to force people into compliance with their dictates.

Most people prefer liberty over servitude. Communist ideology has never been popular with the majority and that's why leftists rely so heavily on force. Mao and Pol Pot (Cambodia's ex-dictator) murdered millions who disagreed with their policies. The RCYB advocates the same dogmatic and brutal system for America.

I also asked a RCYBer to look over our literature. She responded, "I don't read that bulls--t." Like cultists, these

young communists are so indoctrinated and brainwashed they refuse to ever view or consider opposing beliefs which fail to reinforce their stands. If in power, they wouldn't allow other people to read or express views differing from theirs.

Even though Communists preach hatred and destruction, I wouldn't advocate exterminating them. Unlike the RCYB, I, and the members of Young Americans for Freedom, support the Constitution, liberty, and the sanctity of life.

**Michael Cross**  
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### letters policy

The Emerald will accept and attempt to print all letters containing fair comment on issues, ideas and topics of interest to the University community.

The letters **must** be limited to 250 words, signed, and the identification of the writer must be verified when the letter is turned in to the Emerald offices, EMU 300.

The Emerald reserves the right to edit any letter for length, style or content. Publication of letters is dependent upon the space available.