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Kerans, Day file lawsuit against state

By Doug Nash
Of the Emerald

Two legislators lashed out at Oregon's governor and attorney general Monday, criticizing them for the state's handling of a \$32 million sex discrimination lawsuit.

House Speaker Grattan Kerans and Sen. L.B. Day both reacted angrily to an April 26 letter by Gov. Vic Atiyeh, in which the governor refused to reveal the state's legal cost in Penk vs. State Board of Higher Education. The discrimination suit is brought on behalf of the 2,200 female faculty members who have taught in Oregon's colleges and universities since 1979.

But Kerans and Day have brought a lawsuit of their own, charging that the

state must disclose the cost of retaining the Philadelphia law firm Morgan, Lewis & Bockius to help the state prepare its defense for Penk.

In his letter to Chancellor Bud Davis, Atiyeh said disclosing the cost information could "significantly hamper" the state's cause in the Penk case.

"In my layman's view, it would be unconscionable to require the state to lay all of its cards face up on the table before the parties begin the sensitive process of assessing the strengths and weaknesses of one another's case and searching for some common ground for compromise," Atiyeh wrote.

In legal matters, Atiyeh said, the Oregon Public Meetings Law only re-

quires a public body to disclose its records after the litigation has been completed.

But Kerans and Day disagree. A personnel services contract law, designed by Day in 1981, requires state agencies to be held accountable for public service contracts such as the one made with the Philadelphia firm, the legislators say.

"They're totally and completely off point," Kerans says of Atiyeh and Frohnmayer. "All L.B. and I have done is say meet the terms of the law."

In addition, Kerans says the Public Meetings Law does not apply in this case because the contract with the Philadelphia firm will not be entered as litigation in the Penk trial.

"The fact of the matter is that he

(Atiyeh) doesn't have a leg to stand on," Kerans says. "This contract will never be entered into the evidence of that trial. Therefore, his citation of the Public Meetings Law has no merit at all."

Both Day and Kerans say they are certain the courts will rule in their favor. And both are angered by the actions of Atiyeh and Frohnmayer.

"It's an insulting letter," Day says, adding that Frohnmayer has been "childish through this whole thing."

"I have not asked them to lay any cards on the table," Kerans says, reacting to Atiyeh's letter. "It's all smoke. They are engaged in some kind of a public relations assault on me and Sen. Day."

Day and Kerans filed their suit about two weeks ago.

Herstory not history

The 1984 Women's Symposium, a "celebration of women's wholistic perspective," sponsored a herstory parade Monday in memory of the nation's foremothers. Participants dressed as their favorite heroines and marched from the Bookstore to the EMU Courtyard, ending with a commemorative rally.

The Symposium will continue throughout the week, focusing on aspects of the women's movement throughout time and in countries all over the world. Today's theme is politics.

Here is a complete schedule:

Women in Politics Internationally, 10 a.m., Forum Room

Politics of Upward Mobility, 11:30 a.m., 108 EMU

Noon Gig, "Girls Like Us," Courtyard

Feminization of poverty, noon, Forum Room

Grassroots Organizing, 12:30, 101 EMU

Gender Gap, 1:30 p.m., 108 EMU

Women & Alternative Media in Mexico, 2 p.m., Forum Room

Sex Discrimination & the Law, 3 p.m., 108 EMU

Aunt Sam wants you: Women taking hold of public offices, 4 p.m. EMU Forum

Nuclear Annihilation will trivialize Feminism, 4:30 p.m., 101 EMU

Issues '84, 7 p.m., Dad's Room

Photo by Kirk Hirota



Matassa chosen 1984-85 Emerald editor

By Michael Doke
Of the Emerald

Michele Matassa will be the 1984-85 editor of the *Oregon Daily Emerald*, the Emerald board of directors announced Monday night.

Matassa, the associate editor for community coverage, shares editorial responsibility beginning today, and will take over completely June 4.

"I want to continue the watchdog role of the newspaper," Matassa said. "We will have more issue-oriented and in-depth articles. We will let the University administration and the student government know the *Emerald* is watching them with a regard to students' interests," she said.

Matassa said the experience she gained as this year's community editor has helped her understand how people off-campus see the student paper. She is determined to bridge the gap between campus and community.

"The community views us as a student publication; I want them to see the

Emerald as another valid medium in Eugene," she said.

"We're not a bad publication, it's just that we are not seen by much of the community," she said.

Improving the graphic design of the paper — and building on the magazine format of the entertainment supplement — are ways of getting the community involved with the *Emerald*, Matassa said.

She will replace the assistant news editor position with another University beat editor to give students better coverage of the University. She will consolidate the responsibilities of the assistant news editor position under the news editor, she said.

"With another beat position the paper can cover the areas that haven't been covered," Matassa said. She says she hopes to provide better analyses of news about the University's budget, financial aid, Oregon Hall and the student health center.

Matassa has worked at the *Emerald* for three years and has been politics editor

as well as community editor. A junior in journalism who graduated from Roseburg High School, Matassa has also worked for the paper's advertising department.

1983-84 *Emerald* editor Debbie Howlett sees the appointment of Matassa as "continuing in the tradition of the newspaper." Not only will Matassa continue on the traditions, she will expand on them, Howlett said.

"My big concern this year was the student vote — that's why we put the *Emerald* on the ballot," she said. "Michele shares this concern."

"There will be an entirely new staff on the *Emerald* next year," Howlett said. "It will be an entirely new paper."

Matassa said she wants the *Emerald* staff to build the consensus that the paper is serving the students.

"I want a qualified staff and I plan on getting one," she said.

"I'm determined that students realize that everything we write in the paper is written for them."



Michele Matassa