

Jury summons proves to be 'trying' experience

Students: If you receive a jury summons and think you can be excused on the grounds of student status, you've got another thing coming.

The dreaded summons I received from Lane County District Court caused no headaches until my first petition on those grounds immediately was denied. This was something new, as I had been excused because of school twice before. What to do next required some thinking.

A phone call to the jury clerk, whose name was Lucy

Reporter's notebook by Dennis Fernandes

Michaud, informed me that students were no longer exempt from this duty to society. Things were getting difficult.

I could double the strength of my argument by telling the truth — that I had a full-time job in addition to school. Or I could take the easy way out and lie. Say I had moved out of the area or something.

My conscience got the best of me, maybe because of the proximity of election day, and I decided to at least fulfill my duties to democracy by telling the truth, the whole truth and nothing but the truth. Certainly the judge would understand the situation.

I called the jury clerk again and explained the situation. She seemed to think my chances were good if my employer wrote a note.

Fat chance.

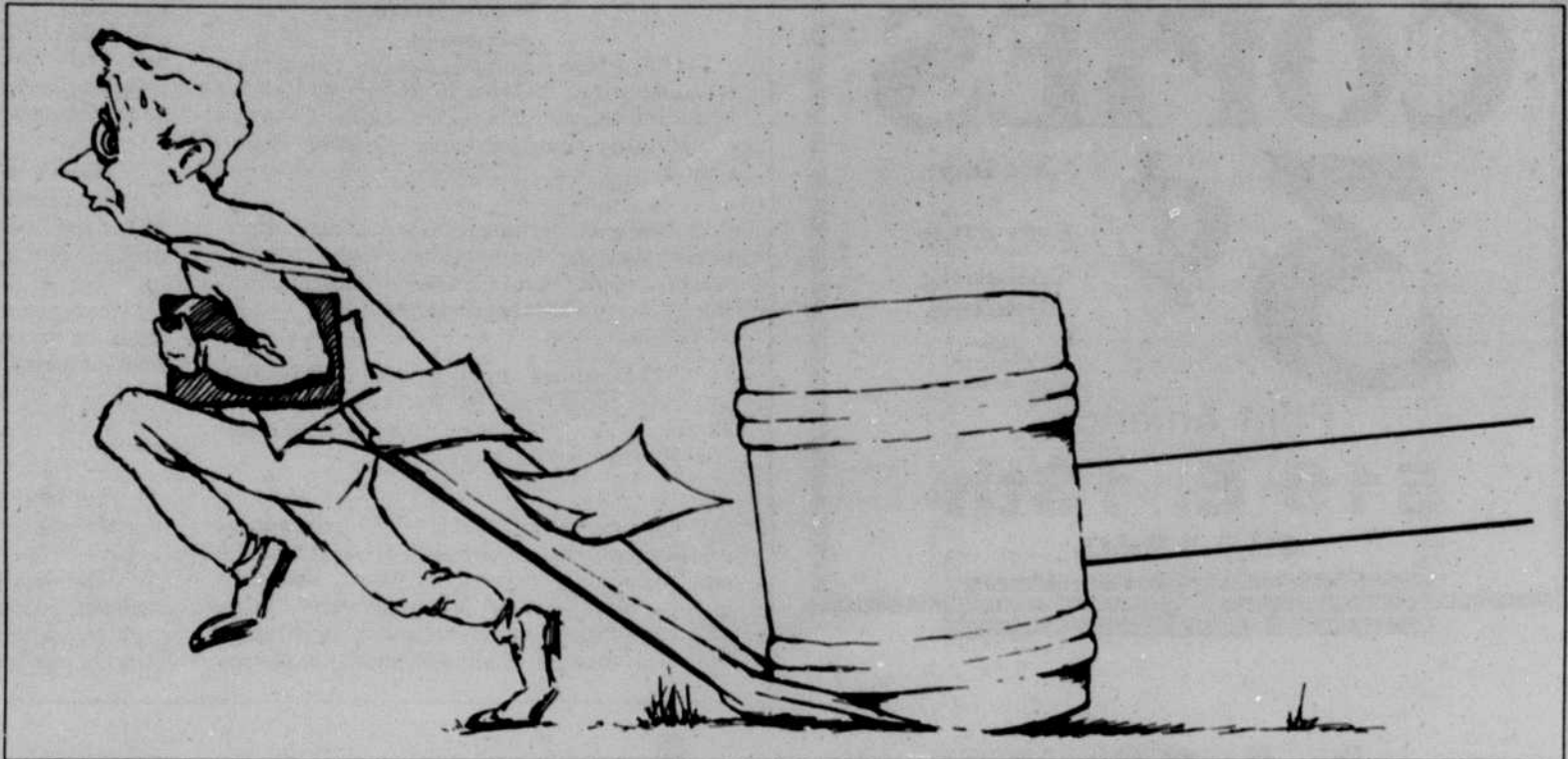
Rejected once again, I became both furious and frantic. If I got called the day of a midterm, or had an important assignment at work... I also wanted to take a four-day weekend this month.

The bottom line was that I was to report for juror orientation the following Monday. A third phone call to my least-favorite jury clerk produced an argument and a suggestion: Come to the orientation to personally plead my case to a judge. Have more specific evidence, such as work hours and the need to work for financial reasons, she said.

She was accustomed to this dilemma, as I later learned. Out of 485 selections per month for the District Court (Circuit Court follows the same procedures), Michaud said, an estimated 60 percent apply for deferral or excusal.

Still not wanting to have anything to do with the matter, I reluctantly agreed. I went to my employer for yet another "Dear Judge" note, which brought back memories of Mom's

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Graphic by Lorraine Rath

Oregon Mac Expo '86

November 13, 3:30 pm, EMU Ballroom

Who is Guy Kawasaki?

"And so, hey, let a thousand flowers bloom. My job is to be a gardener. It's a thousand flowers, and they can bloom any way, any color, any fashion they want, 'cause there's always a market for some flower."*

Guy Kawasaki describes himself as "one of the last bastions of irreverence at Apple." He is Apple's manager of Software Product Management. If they had a head cheerleader he'd probably be that, too. His responsibilities include overseeing the Evangelism Group, which works to insure the plentiful supply of Software for Apple's machines. On Nov. 13 at 3:30 Guy will be discussing the unique evangelism program, its underlying philosophy, future product directions for the company and its unusual relationship with the third-party community.*
Excerpts from Microtimes, May 1986, "Apple Opens Up", by Mary Eisenhart and Paul Hoffman

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