COMMUNITY

Defense witnesses testify at Horton trial

By Brian Bloch **Emerald Reporter**

Several defense witnesses testified Wednesday on behalf of Derek Horton, a former Oregon football defensive back. who is on trial for first degree sexual abuse of a female University student.

Horton, who also testified Wednesday during the second day of the trial. admitted having intercourse with the woman after a fraternity party on Jan. 5, but maintained the incident was initiated by the woman and occurred entirely with her consent.

He said the woman never told him to stop or asked him to take her home

Under cross-examination by defense attorney Kenneth Morrow, the woman said she had not given consent to either Horton or his then 16-year-old cousin, who is facing similar charges in juvenile court.

The woman said during the ride back to her dorm from Horton's apartment she was ' scared. I felt they had done something I didn't want done to me," she said.

Another female University student who was the woman's roommate at the time of the incident testified that the woman returned home after the incident "... frantic, crying, shaking, a complete mess.

The roommate, who was the final witness for the prosecution, also testified that she overheard part of a phone conversation between the woman and her boyfriend on the night of the incident.

"I heard her crying. I heard her say 'he made me, he made ' she said. me.'

Morrow introduced testimony from Horton's aunt and San Franciscorape counselor, Alze Roberts, who said she called the woman out of concern shortly after the incident.

Roberts, who admitted that she did not identify herself as a relative of Horton's, said the woman told her she was drunk. couldn't remember anything about the incident and was not going to press charges.

Theresa Scholz, a registered nurse and member of Sacred Heart Hospital's sexual assault team, said she interviewed the woman on the early morning of Jan. 6.

Although Scholz said she could not recall exactly what

incident "she was saying take me home." struggling and crying

Three more defense witnesses, including Oregon defensive back Daryl Singleton. former Oregon defensive back Daryl Reed and Horton's cousin. corroborated Horton's testimony describing the woman's suggestive dancing at the party prior to the incident and her initiation of the conversation between Horton and her

In addition. Horton's cousin testified that the woman did not resist intercourse with him, never said she wanted to go home and "... made statements that led me to believe she wanted to continue.'

conversation " with the woman, indicated that during the

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Initiatives give Oregonians a voice

By Rene DeCair Emerald Reporter

What do you do if you are fed up with the throw-away packaging on consumer products. or you feel that abortion should be made a crime?

What if you find that casting a vote every two to four years does not give satisfactory results?

If you are an action-minded Oregonian - as are the sponsors of eight of the 11 ballot meas-ures on the Nov. 6 ballot - you collect signatures in an attempt to put your cause to the voters in a ballot initiative.

'When our representatives don't do a good job of representing the state ... especially in the area of morality, then thank God for the initiative," said Bill Bennett, communications director for the Oregon Citizens Alliance. OCA is sponsoring Measure 8, a measure that would restrict abortions.

In the upcoming election, voters will have the opportunity to participate in a long history

of registering their opinions on issues brought forth by their peers.

Since 1902, when Oregon became the first state to implement an initiative process, ap-proximately 300 initiatives have gone before the voters. In the past ten years almost half of the 32 initiatives presented were passed.

Moreover, Oregon has been very successful in its use of the initiative process, according to a recent study by California State University at Chico. The study determined that of the 23 states using some type of initiative action, Oregon uses it more than any state except California

Although the initiative process used to be referred to nationally as the "Oregon system" because of the state's establishment of it, not everyone is convinced that the ballot initiative is the answer to citizen discontent.

The Oregonian quoted Norma Paulus, state superintendent of public instruction, in a July 5 article as saying, "The initiative process was

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was said during the interview. she referred to her report of the conversation during her testimony, contradicting some specifics of the woman's earlier testimony concerning the incident.

Eugene Police officer Jeffery Roth, who also interviewed the woman at Sacred Heart Hospital early Jan. 6, testified that he too could not remember his conversation with her. Referring to his report, written after the interview. Roth said it did indicate some discrepancies between the woman's testimony and what he wrote in his report.

However, Roth testified that his notes, "taken during the **Oregon Daily Emerald**

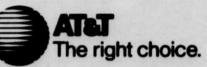
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