

Publisher plans lawsuit over magazine removal

Lane County Commissioners Rogers, Roberts to be named as defendants

By Don Peters
Emerald Associate Editor

The removal of an environmental magazine from a Lane County Courthouse information booth last May has again raised controversy.

Lane County Commissioners Jack Roberts and Bill Rogers are co-defendants in a \$50,000 lawsuit that may be brought by the publisher of the magazine *Forest Voice*.

A letter from the attorney of Tim Hermach, executive director of the Native Forest Council, describes how Rogers and Roberts "violated the First Amendment rights of (Hermach), his organization and of persons who picked up

copies of *Forest Voice* at that place from time to time."

The letter, dated Oct. 18, asks both commissioners to sign an apology to Hermach and the Native Forest Council, and to pay a \$2,500 settlement. If the commissioners sign, Hermach will drop the threatened suit. If Rogers and Roberts refuse, the suit will be filed Oct. 29, the letter said.

"They called us radical preservationists," Hermach said. "They called our literature obscene. They slanted people against us."

After public outcry last May, the county commissioners voted 3-2 (Rogers and Roberts dissenting) to create a "free speech" rack at the courthouse

for publications such as *Forest Voice* and the timber industry magazine *Timber!* Only government-produced literature is now available in the information booth.

"Basically, this comes from something I thought we got resolved a long time ago," Roberts said in a phone interview Monday. "I'm a little surprised he wants to make an issue of it, but that's his right."

Hermach said the free speech rack was an inadequate solution to the problem.

"It was never resolved," Hermach said. "(Rogers and Roberts) haven't retracted anything, and even if they had, the free speech rack isn't a viable solution. We were waiting to

see what would happen. If they had made a good faith effort to apologize, we could have bent a little and let it ride."

Hermach said the free speech rack "is off in the corner" of the courthouse, and the magazines have to be removed every Friday at 3 p.m. and put back Monday morning.

"It's not just an inconvenience, it's harassment," he said. "Roberts is just doing the bidding of the timber industry and ignoring the Constitution."

Roberts said the information booth was never intended as a public forum, and never should have been treated as one.

Roberts said he would not sign the letter, and Hermach



Jack Roberts

said he didn't expect either of the commissioners to comply. Rogers was unavailable for comment.



The Saga Continues
WEDNESDAY NIGHT
at

TRACK TOWN PIZZA

Get a medium (12")
One-Ingredient
Pizza for ONLY...
(Just ask for the Special)

\$5.95
(Add 1 Ingredient .70)

Why settle for less...
than the **BEST!?!?**

FREE DELIVERY
(Limited delivery area)

484-2799
1809 Franklin Blvd.



TKE

Who???

TAU KAPPA EPSILON

Who???

WORLD'S LARGEST FRATERNITY

Mon. Oct. 22, 5:30pm **PIZZA NIGHT**

Where? 707 E. 17th (Across from Hilyard St. Market)

Wed. Oct. 24, 9:00pm **Wed. NIGHT FIESTA**

Where? 707 E. 17th

Sat. Oct. 27th
CRUSH THE CARDINAL TAILGATER

Where? Where else? Autzen Stadium

For more information Please call the Teke Hotline
at 343-7086. Ask for Kirk, Jay or Derek

SAM'S TO GO Sandwiches



26 Delicious submarine sandwiches
Fresh baked bread
6 foot party sandwich
beer - wine

"WHERE A SANDWICH IS
A COMPLETE MEAL"

804 E. 12th (12th & Alder) 343-1141

35¢ OFF
Sm. sandwich
exp. 10/31/90

50¢ OFF
Med. sandwich
exp. 10/31/90