

## VANS

Continued from Page 1

Minnis said his concern about state liability extends not only to students traveling to peace conferences, but to any out-of-state travel. He said Oregon has a \$500,000 liability, but a vehicle accident in another state could bring a higher liability.

Dave White, a State Motor Pool administrator, said people authorized to drive a state vehicle assume some liability in case of accidents.

"If that person was injured through their own fault, that person assumes liability," he said.

However, in a case of negligence involving death or injury to passengers, White said the state often becomes liable.

"If the state has said, 'You can use this state van for a state purpose,' and a passenger is injured, the state most likely has some liability," he said.

White said the state is paying medical bills for the four student passengers who were injured in the Nevada accident.

"We have not determined the extent of liability, but we have determined some liability," he said.

Minnis has also expressed concern about reports of state vans showing up outside casinos and being used for student trips home over spring break, but White said this generally does not carry liability risk for the state.

"If the student was very clearly not using the van for a state purpose, like if they were given use of a van to go to Ashland for the Shakespearean Festival, and instead they go skiing in Klamath Falls, the state probably has no liability," he said.

Criticism of the San Francisco trip by Minnis and other legislators prompted a review of policies allowing university students to use state-owned vehicles. The current policies allow individual agencies within state government, such as the University, to determine what constitutes legitimate use of a state vehicle.

After the Nevada accident, University officials said they would not re-examine their policy regarding state vehicle use, unleashing even more criticism from legislators.

"Frankly, it's my opinion that this represents unbridled arrogance on the part of the University of Oregon," Minnis said in a speech to the state House of Representatives.

"I think the University ought to at least reconsider their position and ought to take a look at their policies that are resulting in the death of a student and injuries while driving a state-owned vehicle," he said.

"It also underscores a significant problem we have in the budgeting process here, when the University of Oregon and other higher education entities have not come under the scrutiny of the Ways and Means committee to the degree that I think they should," he said.

Minnis said the biggest abuses of state van use come from the University and other schools in the state system.

The General Government Subcommittee of Ways and Means is trying to decide whether state agencies should have access to newer and better cars, Minnis said, but members are disturbed that universities are loaning the vehicles out, or at least allowing them to be used by student groups for out-of-state war protests.

Minnis, who is chairman of the General Government subcommittee, has encouraged the state Department of General Services, the department that oversees operation of the State Motor Pool, to rethink its policies regarding student van use.

"I have the ability to raise a stink about it if they don't tighten down on it," he said. "I can go into their budget and make a note requiring them to do so."

## BLAIR

Continued from Page 1

empty and we're not doing our job 100 percent," said Blair, whose solutions will begin with a shift in staff responsibilities.

Varying from what has been done in previous years, Blair will keep the politics beat in case the Legislature meets for a special session. "Ballot Measure 5 is an editor's dream and will fill pages," he said. "I want to make sure we're watching it closely."

Gerry Gazlay, a member of the board of the directors, said he was impressed with Blair's ideas, structural changes and his commitment during the past four years.

Another board member, Richard Rofsky, said he would like to see Blair build staff morale and communication between all departments.

Blair added a caution to all readers of the *Emerald*.

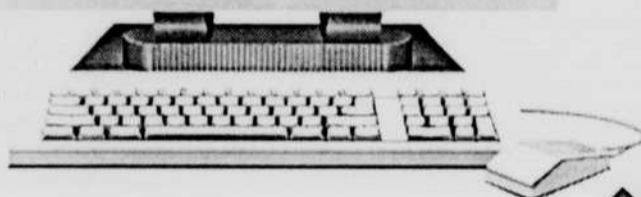
"You are never going to see a perfect *Emerald*," he said. "Students make mistakes and learn from them, but the changes I am making will screen out a lot of the mistakes before they reach the readers."

Oregon Daily Emerald

The Microcomputer Support Lab presents

# Pacific Northwest Computer Roadshow

Apple • IBM • NeXT  
Clarix • Aldus  
Microsoft • Lotus  
Supra • and others...



- ◆ Presentations
- ◆ Product exhibits
- ◆ Prizes
- ◆ Vendor Representatives

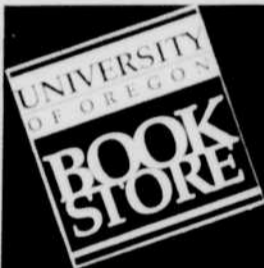
COMING  
SOON!

currently touring campuses throughout the Willamette Valley

April 24, 1991 • 11am - 4pm • EMU Ballroom



**Stretch** your dollars  
by using coupons from  
the Oregon Daily Emerald.



## Faces of the Bookstore

### JIM WILLIAMS

**POSITION:** General Manager since 1976

**YEARS WITH STORE:** Student worker 1966-68. Assistant Manager from 1972

**HOBBIES:** Fly tying, running, catch & release fly fishing

**MOTIVATION:** I sincerely enjoy the journey of life

**GREATEST ACHIEVEMENT:** Helping save a river from being unnecessarily dammed

**MOST UNIQUE ACTIVITY:** Organizing environmental concerts with Mason Williams

**LAST BOOK READ:** *Lead, follow, or get out of the Way*, Jim Lundy

**ORGANIZATIONS:** Oregon Trout, Environmental Concerns Task Force, McKenzie Fly Fishers, Westminster Presbyterian.

**FAMILY:** Wife of 22 years, Bonnie, two daughters, Debbie and Shelly

**PERSONAL SKETCH:** Over-achiever, positive thinker, spiritually centered

**FAVORITE JUNK FOOD:** French Fries

