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Frog turns himself in, officials say 'not yet'

By Dan Eisler
Emerald Contributor

A Eugene man, known to most students only as Frog, can't legally sell his joke books on city sidewalks.

He also can't get himself arrested for it, as he found out last Thursday when he tried to turn himself in.

David Henry Miller, who sells joke books locally, went to Eugene Municipal Court Nov. 14 to notify officials he couldn't pay the fine — his fifth — imposed against him last month for violating a city ordinance prohibiting sidewalk vendors from selling anything besides flowers, food, beverages or balloons.

"I tried to get myself arrested but they wouldn't take me," Miller said Wednesday, as he peddled his joke books on E. 13th Avenue, where he said he does his best business and also has received his tickets.

Miller said he went to Municipal Court Nov. 14 to tell officials he didn't have any money to pay the fine and to turn himself in, "just to get it out of the way. I can't pay the fine and wouldn't if I had it anyway."

Then he was told he couldn't turn himself in that day, but there would be a warrant for his arrest on Monday. Miller called the Municipal Court Monday and was told it would be ready Tuesday.

"I rode by a cop today (Wednesday)," Miller said. "He said hello but he didn't arrest me."

As Miller said this, Eugene policeman Ken Saxon, who has ticketed Miller in the past for violating the ordinance, came by and asked him if the warrant was ready.

Miller told Saxon what had happened, and that the warrant has to be processed and signed by a judge.

Saxon said even after a judge signs a warrant, it takes three to four days for further processing. Then he left.

In the meantime, Miller said he's planning to call the Eugene City Council and tell them he's outraged about the hassles he's endured "for trying to make an honest living."

Miller has vowed to appeal his fines for violating the ordinance. Attorney Rebecca Davis is donating her services to handle the District Court appeals and attorney George Kelly is donating his services to handle Miller's appeal to the Oregon Court of Appeals.

Both Kelly and the city's attorneys have filed briefs with the Court of Appeals and will argue the case early next year, Kelly said.

The tickets violated Miller's rights under the equal protection clause in Article I, Section 20 of the Oregon Constitution, which prohibits passing laws granting any citizen or group of citizens special privileges not applicable to everyone else, Kelly said.

The law also violates Miller's right to free speech and to equal protection under the First and 14th Amendments to the U.S. Constitution, respectively, Kelly said.

The Eugene law firm of Harrang, Long, Watkinson, Arnold & Laird, under contract to handle cases for the city, had the discretionary choice to drop the case when it first lost at the Municipal Court level, Kelly said.

Although the city decided to appeal, the city is not singling Miller out, but defending its ability to regulate city sidewalks, said Kevin

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Photo by Jeff Paslay

Democratic candidate Harry Lonsdale hopes to beat out challenger Les AuCoin and oust Sen. Bob Packwood for a seat in Congress to stop what he calls the corruption of government.

Lonsdale seeks 'level playing field'

By Gerrit Koeppling
Emerald Reporter

Students got an early taste of the upcoming primary race between Democratic Senate challengers Les AuCoin and Harry Lonsdale.

Both are fighting for a chance to run for Bob Packwood's Senate seat in the 1992 general election. Lonsdale discussed his stands on key issues and laid out his anti-incumbency platform in the Ben Linder Room Thursday.

Lonsdale said he was running so he could stop what he called the corruption of government. "With the Keating five, the bounced checks, the perks and the national debt, I felt I had to do something," he said.

Lonsdale said that with the large sums of

money the political action committees give, members of Congress are able to buy their own re-elections by outspending their opponents. "If we had a level playing field, we'd turn congress over in a minute," Lonsdale said.

The corruption and the influence lobbyists and PACs have over Congress angers many people, Lonsdale said. "Voter resentment is at an all-time high, so I have a good chance of winning."

Lonsdale, who claims to have never accepted any PAC money, said the only way he could lose would be if he was massively outspent by either AuCoin or Packwood. He stressed his campaign was going to be grass-

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Tune in

For Americans, the 1960s are remembered for great music, great drugs and lots of violence. But many people — including '60s activists and '90s activists — believe public fascination with the era that "won't go away," goes beyond the music and the assassinations.

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Bear trap

The Oregon men's basketball team will get its first sample of a hostile crowd tonight when the Ducks take on the Grizzlies of Montana tonight in Missoula.

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Americans still fascinated by Kennedy's death

By Daralyn Trappe
Emerald Associate Editor

It was one of those moments in history that makes an impact on everyone. It was one of those events that serves as a reference point in life for those who were alive to remember it. And it is a chapter in American history that continues to be rewritten and revised.

Twenty-eight years ago today, on an early Dallas afternoon, President John Kennedy was shot and killed. For many, the questions raised immediately thereafter — who killed the president and why — remain unanswered.

From the moment Lee Harvey Oswald was arrested and charged with the assassination, a flood of ever-growing theories

has evolved as to whether he was really responsible, and if so, if he acted alone.

President Lyndon Johnson authorized the Warren Commission, headed by then-Supreme Court Justice Earl Warren, to investigate the shooting. In September 1964, the Commission concluded that Oswald had acted alone.

While these findings are supported by some, they are also disputed by those who believe other forces were at work. A 1988 *New York Times* poll showed only 13 percent of Americans accept the commission's conclusion. Nearly two-thirds support some sort of conspiracy theory.

Fascination continues

Priscilla Southwell, associate



Archive photo

John Fitzgerald Kennedy has been dead for 28 years but that hasn't stopped Americans from constructing theories about exactly who assassinated him.

professor of political science at the University, said the fascination with Kennedy's life and death is inevitable.

"Because he was only in office less than three years, he was still in the honeymoon pe-

riod when he died," she said. "The aura of Camelot never had died, it never had a chance to diminish."

Kennedy's administration is

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