

OCA's third party doomed to failure

Once again, the OCA has shown its true colors. Led by power-hungry Lon Mabon, the OCA has left the Oregon Republican Party after realizing its attempts to set the party's agenda were failing. Mabon and company were not interested in being team-players and helping Republicans win elections. Rather, they were interested only in seeing the furthering of their own ultra-conservative agenda.

Oregon Republicans should be overjoyed that this destructive, minority element has been removed from the party. Not that all is well. Should Mabon successfully organize his proposed American Heritage Party, it is likely that the AHP will enter Al Mobley into the November senatorial election.

Mobley, for those who don't recall, was the OCA sponsored candidate who cost then Attorney General Dave Frohmeyer the gubernatorial election, splitting the Republican vote and sending Barbara Roberts to the state's highest office with only a plurality.

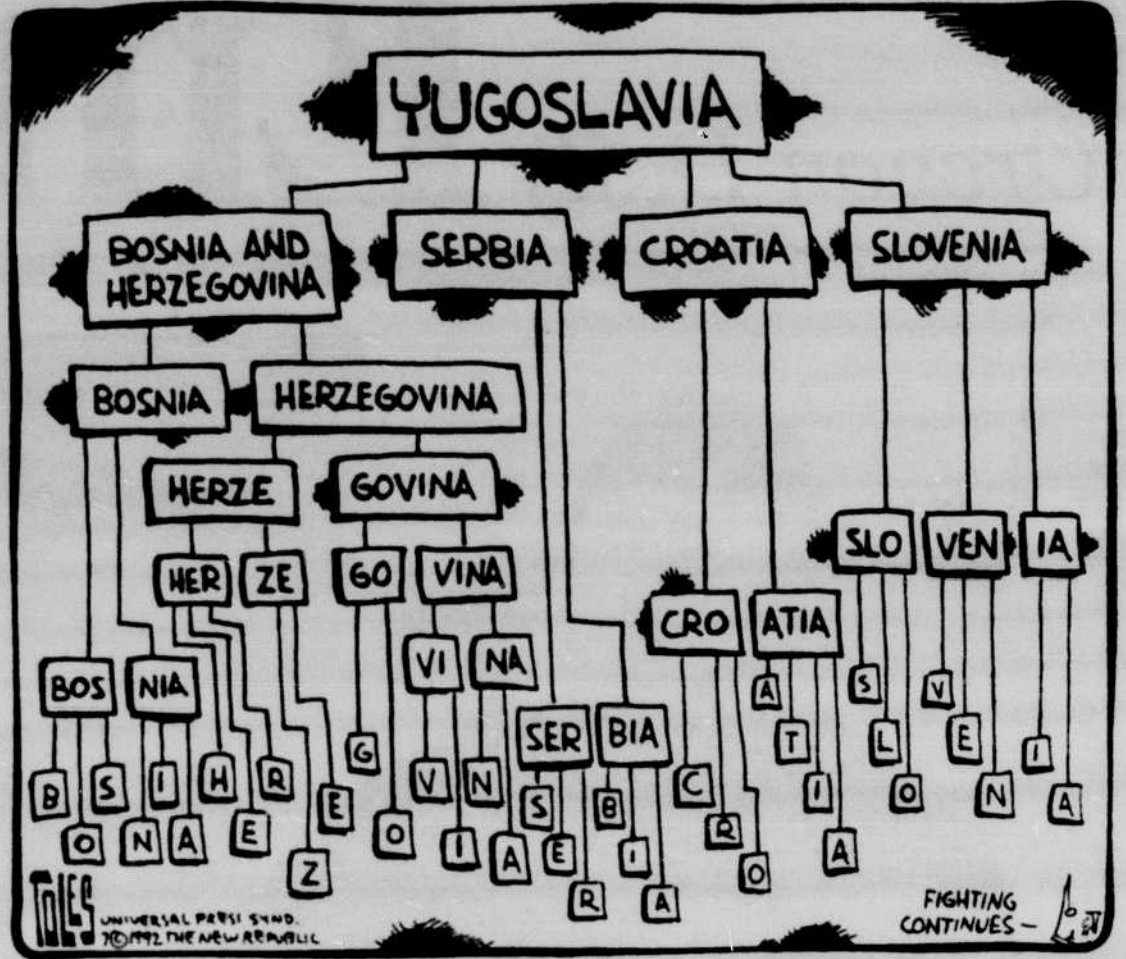
For Sen. Bob Packwood, Oregon's Republican senator running for reelection, Mobley's candidacy could mean trouble. If enough Republicans follow the OCA and support Mobley, the election could be handed to Democratic challenger Les Aucoin.

The wisdom and logic that led Mabon and the OCA to drop the only source of power and access to mainstream politics is unclear. Apparently, the OCA's success in Springfield, with the passage of Measure 20-08, has gone to its collective head. The chances of an OCA-sponsored candidate winning a major political office are slim and none. And slim just went out the door.

What the OCA has succeeded in proving is its ability to create divisions among Oregonians. Its "us v. them" mentality, bordering on paranoia, has divided the Republican Party, the citizens of Springfield, the gay and straight community and religious groups.

Oregon Republicans should take this opportunity to clear their name and publicly renounce the OCA and its destructive agenda. Tomorrows leaders must be flexible in their positions, rather than confined by rigid ideologies. For this reason, more than any other, the OCA and the American Heritage Party are doomed to fail.

Apparently the OCA's success in Springfield, with the passage of Measure 20-08, has gone to its collective head.



COMMENTARY

Plan would end hunger by 1995

By Bob Packwood

All of us are touched deeply when we see pictures of starving children in Africa, or in Central America. We're haunted by their eyes, and horrified by the statistics showing how many millions of children die.

We don't often enough stop to think about all of the children who go hungry here in the United States.

Recently a group of medical leaders, advocacy groups and others announced the Medford Declaration to End Hunger in the United States. This Declaration sets forth a plan to end childhood hunger by 1995, and to achieve economic self-reliance for most households by the year 2000. I've recently met with CEOs, and I'm pleased with the private sector involvement. I've long felt that a public/private effort is the way to solve this problem.

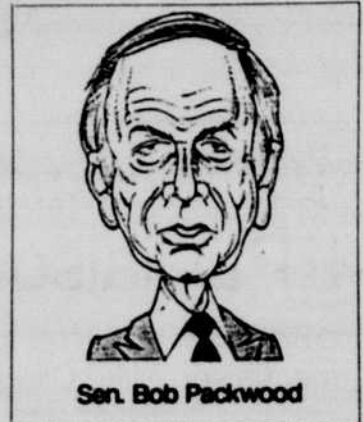
The Declaration suggests that by working with programs like the Women, Infants and Children program (WIC), food stamps, and school lunches, we can cut back on childhood hunger in the next two years. The Declaration also calls for expansion of Meals on Wheels, and better access to child care and job training programs. The endorsers of the Declaration also support the Mickey Leland Childhood Hunger Relief Act, a bill I co-sponsored earlier this year. That bill would expand

the food stamp program, providing assistance to low-income families and the working poor. The Mickey Leland bill especially helps children.

I do have one concern about the Mickey Leland bill; we need to find a way to fund these important programs that help our nation's children without driving up the deficit even further. In fact, the bill passed out of the Agriculture Committee on the condition that before the full Senate can consider it, we need to provide for the bill's funding. I'm now looking for a way to fund the bill, but believe me, I support what it aims to do and I won't give up until I find a way to take care of this very important bill.

In the meantime, many of us support this Declaration and we are willing to fight to make it a reality. We can reach every needy child with the school lunch and breakfast programs. We can start with the six million poor youngsters who often begin their day with no food. We can fully use the WIC program to help make sure poor mothers do not give birth to undernourished babies — helping four million more youngsters who are now at risk. Finally, we can expand the food stamps that help unemployed households make it through these tough times.

Today we have peace in this world. We have tried for so long to have a peaceful world,



Sen. Bob Packwood

we need to use this window of opportunity to achieve a new goal — the abolishment of hunger here at home. If we abolish hunger here at home, we can increase the competitiveness of our work force. If we abolish hunger here at home, we can have more productive, healthier young adults tomorrow. If we abolish hunger here at home, we can make a dent in crime in our cities.

Now is the time for us to act. These have been tough times for a lot of Oregonians. I want to do everything I can to help those Oregonians — and their families — in the coming year.

Doing something to help their children is the place to begin.

Sen. Bob Packwood (R-Ore.) is an incumbent seeking reelection to the U.S. Senate.

Oregon Daily Emerald
 P.O. BOX 359 EUGENE OREGON 97403

The Oregon Daily Emerald is published daily Monday through Friday during the school year and Tuesday and Thursday during the summer by the Oregon Daily Emerald Publishing Co. Inc., at the University of Oregon, Eugene, Oregon.

The Emerald operates independently of the University with offices at Suite 300 of the Erb Memorial Union and is a member of the Associated Press.

The Emerald is private property. The unlawful removal or use of papers is prosecutable by law.

Editor: Pat Malach
 Associate Editors: Tim Neff, Daralyn Trappe
 Graphics Editor: Jeff Paslay
 Editorial Editor: Martin Fisher
 Night Editor: Pat Malach

Desktop Technician: Todd Williams
 Advertising: Shawn Berven, Jane Irola, Gillen Oh, Sarah Quelman, Catherine Royle,
 Classified: Peggy McGinn, Manager
 Business: Kathy Carbone, Supervisor
 Production: Ingrid White, Production Coordinator, Stacy Mitchell, Jennifer Roland

General Manager: Judy Riedl
 Advertising Director: Bryan R. Coppedge
 Production Manager: Michele Ross

Newsroom: 348-5511
 Display Advertising: 348-3712
 Business Office: 348-5512
 Classified Advertising: 348-4343

