

Session: Death penalty cases argued on campus

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to by the treaty. To remedy this oversight, Groom advocated suppression of statements Reyes-Camarena made without benefit of this counsel. The state argued that this was not an appropriate remedy.

"Suppression isn't the [established] remedy for violation of the treaty," said State Attorney Robert B. Rocklin.

The second assignment of er-

ror Groom presented was against the constitutionality of the death penalty itself. The cases the Supreme Court hears are important because they are not only applicable to the individual cases they concern, but they also become precedents that future cases are argued upon. This case is important because it will define the way the Oregon Supreme Court interprets the death penalty statute as laid out by the legislature.

"I am arguing that the present

death penalty scheme is unconstitutional," Groom said. "There needs to be a central storage point for who gets the death penalty."

Justice Van Hoomissen responded with another question.

"What's our authority to tell the legislature how to do business unless we tell them that what they've done is unconstitutional?" he asked, after considerable debate on the subject.

Justice Gillette stated that to find the death penalty unconstitutional,

What's our authority to tell the legislature how to do business unless we tell them that what they've done is unconstitutional?

George Van Hoomissen
Supreme Court Justice

there would need to be some federal basis for it. The point was also raised by Justice Van Hoomissen that there is a big difference in the way the death penalty is assigned from county to county. One District Attorney may ask for it when another may not.

"How can it be," Justice Van Hoomissen asked, "that one person from Lane County kills five people and gets life in prison, while one from Douglas County kills one and gets death? How can that be permissible?"

Following discussion related to the second case, Chief Justice Carson invited questions from the audience. The first was in regard to what happens after the court hears arguments such as those presented today.

Justice Leeson explained that after the Supreme Court hears oral arguments in a case, one Justice is assigned to write a draft of conclusion agreeable to all the Justices.

"These cases are not resolved quickly," said Justice Leeson. "The

last word will be a written word and not a spoken word." She explained that the justices work toward consensus, but it is extremely difficult to come up with a written decision that all members of the court will agree to.

"When it's reduced to writing, therein lies the problem," she said. "However, I do admire the extent to which my colleagues strive for consensus."

Concerning today's case, if the court rules that there were errors

made in Reyes-Camarena's trial, the death sentence could be vacated and the trial remanded to a trial court for further action. This is similar to the automatic review of sentence of death that the court ruled on earlier this month, *State v. Dayton LeRoy Rogers*.

The Supreme Court regularly visits high schools to raise awareness about what the court does by hearing arguments there — but this year they were invited to Clackamas thanks in part to faculty member Linda Durham, wife of Supreme Court Justice Robert (Skip) D. Durham.

"The justices visit schools so students have an opportunity to see the court in action rather than just read about it in a text book," Linda Durham said.

She added that being a justice involves research into cases that uses up much of her husband's free time, including nights and weekends.

Following hearing of the cases, the justices had lunch in the community center and were joined by several students, faculty members and administrators.



Attorneys Janet A. Metcalf (Left), and Kathleen M. Correll (Right) argue the case of *State vs. Brownhill* in front of the Oregon Supreme Court (above) Tuesday.

PHOTOS BY MIKE POLLOCK

5th Annual Environmental Week

Friday May 19th

• Reduce, Reuse, and Recycle Rummage Sale hosted by Phi Theta Kappa in the Community Center. 9 a.m.-3 p.m.

Saturday May 20th

• Newell Creek Watershed Volunteer Project sponsored by Phi Theta Kappa & HEEL.

• Native Plant Sale @ John Inskeep Environmental Learning Center.

Monday May 22nd

• Native American Drum Entrance 11 a.m.

• Ron Tonkin Electric Bikes

• ELC Tours

Band: High Desert Surf

Tuesday May 23rd

• NW Steelheaders

• Metro Composting Workshop

Band: You Sink My Battleship!

For more info. about Environmental week contact Ken Eshelman at 657-6958 ext. 2245.

Wednesday May 24th

• HEEL Bar-B-Que 11 a.m.-1p.m.

• Life for a Life Presentation CC 127 11:30a.m.-12 p.m.

• Ron Tonkin Electric Bikes

• ELC Tours

Band: W.W.W.D. Jazz Ensemble

Thursday May 25th

• Hawk Haven Special Presentation, Sky-light Dining Room 11 a.m.-12 p.m.

Band: Mainstream Jazz

Friday May 26th

• Lost Forest Field Trip Life Sciences Department

• Pacific Green Party

• Environmental Fun & Games for Kids @ELC

Band: The Sugar Daddies

Saturday May 27th

• Native American Pow-Wow Randall Gym 12-7p.m.

• Channel Light Band @ Community Center Courtyard 12p.m.-1p.m.



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