

# Eller 'an honorable person who loves his country'

By Kim Holman

"I believe the press was really fascinated by the difference of Enten's actions compared with the noisy protesters we're used to," Vernard Eller said of his son, Enten, who was convicted of a felony for not registering for the draft.

Eller, an ordained minister and professor of religion at the University of LaVerne in California, told his son's story Monday at First Plymouth Congregational Church in Lincoln.

Eller said Enten, who wouldn't register because of his religious convictions, received a lot of publicity because of the way he's handled it.

The Selective Service estimates that 570,000 draft-age men have not registered as required by law. Eller is one of the 160 men whose name was forwarded to the U.S. Justice Department for prosecution. Like Enten, most of those 160 are self-reporters, people who have written to the Selective Service to explain why they

refused to register.

Not only did Enten report himself, he made himself available to the government at all times, Eller said.

"Enten also offered to give two or more years of service (without pay) if the government would allow him to serve in a non-military way. (Enten has been assigned two years of public service at a veterans administration hospital in Roanoke, Va., after he completes his schooling at Bridgewater College).

"Enten is not guilty of being disrespectful or abusive toward authority or in any way unpatriotic," Eller said. "At the trial, both the prosecution and the judge said Enten is an honorable person who loves his country and is concerned for its people."

Eller also said he believes Enten has been more of an embarrassment to government officials because he has not given them a chance to fight him.

"If you get tough with the government," he said, "that's what they'll do with you and Enten just hasn't given them that chance."

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Jan. 9	4:00 p.m.	Western Kentucky at North Carolina-Charlotte (L)
10	9:00 p.m.	Georgetown at Syracuse (L)
11	10:00 p.m.	Vanderbilt at Alabama (L)
12	7:00 p.m.	Minnesota at Michigan (L)
12	9:00 p.m.	Virginia at North Carolina State (TD 8:00 p.m.)
13	10:30 p.m.	Colorado at Kansas State (TD 8:00 p.m.)
15	11:00 p.m.	Clemson at Wake Forest (L)
15	2:00 p.m.	Notre Dame at Marquette (L)
15	6:00 p.m.	Old Dominion at James Madison (L)
15	8:00 p.m.	Wisconsin at Michigan (L)
15	10:00 p.m.	Oregon State at UCLA (L)
16	4:00 p.m.	Jacksonville at Alabama-Birmingham (L)
17	7:00 p.m.	Virginia at Georgia Tech (L)
17	9:00 p.m.	Syracuse at Boston College (TD 7:00 p.m.)
18	8:00 p.m.	Alabama at Tennessee (L)
18	10:30 p.m.	Nebraska at Iowa State (TD 8:00 p.m.)
19	7:00 p.m.	Illinois at Purdue (L)
19	9:00 p.m.	North Carolina State at North Carolina (TD 8:00 p.m.)
21	8:00 p.m.	Dayton at DePaul (L)
22	3:30 p.m.	Duke at North Carolina (L)
22	8:00 p.m.	Northwestern at Minnesota (L)
22	4:00 p.m.	Virginia Commonwealth at South Alabama (L)
24	7:00 p.m.	Villanova at St. John's (L)
24	9:00 p.m.	Georgia Tech at Clemson (TD 8:00 p.m.)
25	8:00 p.m.	Georgia at Florida (L)
26	7:00 p.m.	Indiana at Northwestern (L)
27	7:00 p.m.	North Carolina at Wake Forest (L)
28	12:00 a.m.	Oklahoma State at Oklahoma (TD 1/27 8:00 p.m.)
29	12:00 p.m.	Georgia Tech at North Carolina (L)
29	6:00 p.m.	Old Dominion at South Florida (L)
29	8:00 p.m.	Purdue at Michigan State (L)
31	7:00 p.m.	Georgetown at Villanova (L)
31	9:00 p.m.	St. Joseph's at DePaul (TD 9:00 p.m.)

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