

Laughter in Darkness

New Type of Teen-Age Record Party Brings Comic Strips To Blind Children

By HAROLD SHEEHAN
Newspaper Enterprise Assn.
The world of the blind is often an oppressive, humorless territory from which there is no vacation—except in the imagination. Feeding the imagination of blind children is the job taken on by a group of students at Paterson's

Eastside High School. The means: newspaper comic strips, a feature which is a daily highlight in the lives of millions of sighted persons. Joseph T. Frank, director of student activities and himself blind for six years, outlined the unique project: "The kids wanted to do

something different for the community, to help some group in a way they had never been helped before.

"So, we came up with Operation Comic Strip."

As a result, about 50 teenagers gather regularly around a recording machine at the school. There they dramatize on tape such favorite comics as "Major Hoople," "Out Our Way," "Sweetie Pie," "Captain Easy" and "Morty Meele." Sound effects and pre-recorded lead-in and background music round out the dramatization. Operation Comic Strip has continued even through the summer—the teen-agers forsaking trips to the nearby beaches and parks to be present each Tuesday and Thursday.

Director Frank, who lost his sight through illness, explained that a completed reel of taped comic strips runs for 50 minutes, but each tape requires four hours of rehearsal time. Serialized comics are recorded once each month to give four weekly episodes onto one tape.

Frank, who knows only too well the great gulf which separates the blind person from the sighted person, cautions his "actors" to make up in sound for what these blind children can't see.

"All visual expressions have to be brought out through your voice," Frank tells his volunteers. "You have to make your voice denote excitement, fear or whatever emotion the comic strip calls for."

The taped comics are distributed to Paterson's School No. 2, where blind and handicapped children are taught, and to the New Jersey Camp for the Blind, at Marcella.

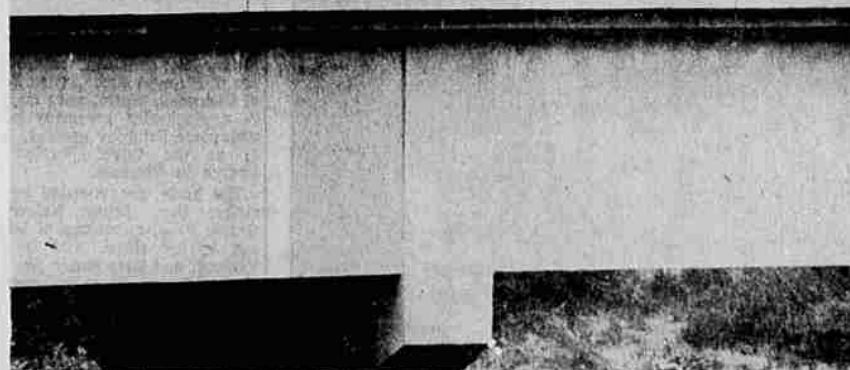
"Until Operation Comic Strip came along," said Joseph Farrell, principal of School No. 2, "there was no known source from which to obtain dramatizations of comics. The tapes were a welcome addition to the recreational program of our Braille students."

Operation Comic Strip has drawn the attention of the White House and the Department of Health, Education and Welfare. Now Frank hopes to interest other schools or service groups throughout the country in similar projects.

A spirit of quiet satisfaction, tempered with humility, has gripped the pupils working on the project. This satisfaction is constantly bolstered by the receipt of letters from the beneficiaries of Operation Comic Strip.

Such as a letter from a youngster at the Marcella Camp for the Blind, who signed his name simply "Gordon."

"Thank you for the tapes. I liked the comics. Some of the comics are funny. We listen to the tapes on Friday. Even your practice tape was good. Tell the children I like the tapes very much." The letter was carefully typed on a raised-dot Braille typewriter.



PREPARED to make their first appearance of the 1962-1963 musical season before delegates to the Oregon PTA Convention are members of the Roseburg High School A Cappella Choir. The Choir is scheduled to open the Thursday convention session with a 15-minute program. Pictured here on the new Washington Avenue bridge span, the 70-piece group looks forward to another busy and performance-filled year. (Photo by Bob Leber)

CG Examinations Set For February

The 87th annual examination for admission to the U.S. Coast Guard Academy at New London, Connecticut, described by President Kennedy as "second to none of its sister academies" will be held February 18 and 19, 1963 in over 150 cities of the United States, its possessions and selected cities abroad.

Appointments as Cadet, United States Coast Guard, are made solely on the basis of competitive examination and prospective adaptability to military life. There are no Congressional appointments or geographical quotas.

An information booklet and application forms for entering the U.S. Coast Guard Academy may be obtained by writing the Commandant (PTP-2), U.S. Coast Guard, Washington 25, D.C. The completed application forms must be returned by January 10, 1963.

Canyonville Students Arise Early For Class

Nineteen Canyonville High School pupils have enrolled in the Latin class newly added to the school's curriculum, according to Supt. Norman York.

This wouldn't be especially unusual except that in order to take this course, the class has to meet at 7:30 a.m., reports Mrs. R. E. Proctor, correspondent.

OSU Announces New Pupil Individual Program Plans

Two special periods of counseling and testing have been arranged for new students entering Oregon State University this fall to assure individual attention for the increasing numbers of new freshmen and transfer students.

The program for new students started Sept. 12 and will run through Sept. 20 and 21 when registration is scheduled. Classes will start Sept. 24.

Placement tests will be given twice for entering students who have not taken them earlier. Results of the tests, which cover scholastic aptitude, English composition, and mathematics, help advisers place students in proper levels of work in various subject fields.

Additional periods for letting students plan class schedules with faculty advisers are planned Sept. 14, 15 and 19.

The extended program provides time for each student to be given individual help and attention even though the OSU enrollment will be at an all-time high this fall, Dean Poling pointed out.

All new students will be expected to attend a general assembly Sept. 19 at 8 a.m. (DST) in the Coliseum. Campus tours are planned that day also along with ad-

vising conferences.

On Sept. 20, the traditional New Student Convocation will be held at which new students recite the Oregon State Creed—a pledge of devotion and high performance to the institution. An OSU "Mom," Mrs. Martin Blakely of Portland, a long-time alumni leader, will be the speaker.

Churches of Corvallis will hold their welcome parties the night of Sept. 21. OSU's first football game of the year is scheduled Sept. 22 against Iowa State in Portland.

'Pygmalion' First Oakland Drama Play

Oakland High School has announced that its first drama production of the year, "Pygmalion," will be given Nov. 15 and 16 at 8 p.m. in the high school auditorium. Pygmalion will begin a season of plays which will include the "Diary of Anne Frank," "Night Must Fall," "Androcles and The Lion" and an experimental children's show.

Sharon Cole, senior, and Pacific University drama award winner, will play the role of Liza Doolittle. Doug Kellum has been assigned to the role of Henry Higgins and Richard Hoppe will portray Colonel Pickering.

Other cast members include Diane Peterson, Carol McCollough, Eric Swallow, Mary Etta Alley, Dorothea Shepherd, Patsy Hunter, Kerney Manley, Jo Ann Gardner, Bill Fredericks, Jim Crager, Jill Lytle, Susan Monet, Joyce Terry, Gail Fennell, Arlena Karlenger, Donna Karlenger, Kathy Stearns, Cathy Curran, Marilyn Budd, Joan Archer, Bruce Stuve, Teddy Germond, Marty Hakanson, Tom Fugate and Rosa Vara.

Barbara Pichett is in charge of costuming and Barbara Dodson will serve as stage manager.

County Graduates Get OSU Two-Thirds Tuition

Seven Douglas County area students have been awarded partial-tuition scholarships for the coming school year at Oregon State University.

They were among those selected for State Scholarships, given to help top Oregon students in their university studies and administered by the State Scholarship Committee. The study grants pay \$66 a quarter, two-thirds of the term's tuition and fees.

Students receiving scholarships include Joan Donnelly, Carolyn Kay Edwards, Nancy Grass, Isaac R. Olsen, and Elizabeth L. Yonck, Roseburg; Margaret L. Moody, Camas Valley and John W. Newlin, Winston.

Walt Edmonds Working On McMinnville Paper

Walt Edmonds, Jr., son of Mr. and Mrs. Walt Edmonds, Sr., of Roseburg has been named to the sports staff of the McMinnville News-Register.

Edmonds will assist veteran sports editor Paul Durham. His main duty will be reporting on Yamhill county's seven major high schools.

The Roseburg man will be a sophomore at Linfield college this fall and assistant editor of the Linfield Review, college newspaper. This summer Edmonds has done part time high school sports reporting for the Roseburg News-Review.

Eugene Concert Series Membership Now Open

Memberships for the Eugene University Civic Music Association may be obtained from Mrs. Paul B. Hult of Dillard or Mrs. W. L. Heup in Roseburg at 612 NE Polk St.

Memberships are for at least six concerts during the 1962-63 season. One performance, Helen Hayes and Maurice Evans in an evening of theater, entitled, "As We Like It," has already been contracted. Under the policy of the association no tickets to individual concerts are available and no memberships are sold after the close of the drive on Sept. 29, according to Mrs. Heup.

Today's Youth

RHS Grads On Lewis & Clark Foreign Tour

Douglas Green and Donna Sims, both Lewis and Clark freshmen from Roseburg, are finding out what life in a foreign country is like as they begin their first week as members of the school's first group of students participating in the new independent study program overseas. Green is in Chile and Miss Sims is in Japan. Green and the students heading for Latin America traveled to El Paso by bus and continued on to Mexico City by train. He completed the last lap of his journey with a flight to Santiago, Chile. He will be making his home-stay in Concepcion and conducting his independent study in Valparaiso. He is the son of Mr. and Mrs. William D. Green. Miss Sims and 42 other students left San Francisco aboard the S.S. President Cleveland and spent one day in Hawaii before continuing on to Japan. She will be making her family home-stay in Ashiya and studying in Tokyo. She is the daughter of Mr. Roy O. Sims.

OSU Freshmen Eye Honors Program

More than 100 entering freshmen are expected to participate in the School of Science Honors Program this coming school year at Oregon State University.

The Honors Program was started three years ago to "enrich educational opportunities for the more able students and to recognize scholarly achievement." The number of students in the program has increased markedly each year.

Under the program, students are enrolled in honors sections in various science departments; do extra work such as special readings, research and seminars; and take some special classes during their four college years. At graduation, they receive diplomas that indicate honors in their specific fields.

To be eligible for the honors program, an entering freshman must have ranked in the top 29 per cent of his or her graduating class, have all A or B grades in science and mathematics courses, and have the recommendation of the high school principal or science teacher.

Sophomores and juniors may apply for the honors program if their grades are above a B average and if they want to pursue the stepped-up study program that lets students go "faster and farther" in their college work. If the extra study load of the honors program proves too demanding, students may withdraw from the program at any time and resume their normal course schedules, Dr. Anderson explained. Students are expected to maintain an overall grade average of B to continue in the program.

PU Enrolled Students Set All Time Record

The largest freshman class to enter Pacific University in a decade arrived on campus last Sunday, September 9, announced Charles E. Trombley, director of admissions.

Over 300 freshmen arrived Sunday for the start of a five day orientation program. New students come from 27 American states and eleven foreign countries.

University officials expect the enrollment to exceed 900 students this year, which will be the largest enrollment in a decade for Pacific University.



ROBERT CARRICO, 18 graduate of Roseburg High School is shown here with his Grand Champion Lincoln Female when he exhibited in the Future Farmers of America section at the Oregon State Fair this year. He also won awards for the Champion Ram and Champion Ewe Lamb classes in Lincoln sheep. Robert is the son of Mrs. Helen Carrico, Rt. 1, Roseburg. His vocational agriculture instructor is Curt Loewen.



Measuring the audience

The performer who is more interested in the size of the audience than in the number of curtain calls spends most of his time looking for work.

The successful performer recognizes that only effective efforts build responsive audiences. He seeks applause.

The same might be said for newspaper editors.

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The News-Review

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Newcomers To State Swell Rolls At Riddle

Enrollment has climbed slowly at the Riddle schools since opening day, reports correspondent Erma Best. Total enrollment is currently listed at 633, including 474 at the elementary school and 159 at the high school.

Of the seven students new to the high school this year, six are from surrounding areas and one from Idaho.

At the elementary school the increase of 12 since opening day includes local late enrollees and one each from North Carolina and Colorado.