

The Coaching Situation; Oregon's Gridiron Future Depends Upon Activities Board's Decision

Shields—For Succession to the Throne

THERE are too many reasons pointing towards Gene Shields as the best man for the head football coach position to warrant the University's going afield to make its choice.

When all the limitations of finance, time, and personnel are considered, the field for the choice has been greatly narrowed. The amount and the setup which Oregon can offer is not sufficient to entice a man of proven Coast or other first-rate conference capacity to the job. No matter what the choice, Oregon, as other schools, must gamble in selecting a gridiron tutor—and because it is limited to men who are on the upward path or want to be on the upward path, the University must throw its none-too-large "bread" upon the water and expect to find few really promising men taking the bait.

A process of elimination leaves Shields head and shoulders above the remaining men in the field. There is only one candidate on the list with "major league" football experience. And football in the Far Western conference, the Northwest conference, and the Oshkosh Valley Grocers' conference is as far removed from Coast conference football as college baseball is from the brand in which the American and National leagues indulge.

NINE years at Oregon in the Coast association as a scout and assistant coach—and a good one—have given Shields an asset of primary importance which the rest of the men available do not have. For this reason alone Oregon will be indulging in less of a gamble if it puts its money on its own horse.

In a sense, the selection of Shields is the only possible answer the athletic activities board can find to its present problem. To bring in an outsider would mean the revamping of the entire coaching staff—which means paying the salaries of two sets of coaches for the next six months while one set works. This could be avoided in the occasion of an outside choice only if the members of the present staff would be willing to hold their positions under the new regime and only if the new man would be willing to tackle the job without the presence on that staff of a single man who had worked with him and knew exactly what he was trying to do.

THESE reasons, along with the success of promoted line coaches at Stanford and California, the fact that Shields has earned the position through years of loyal service under three head coaches, and the argument Gene knows the weak points of Oregon position as the smallest school in the conference with attendant financial limitations, have been most generally advanced by those favoring Shields for the job.

Arriving at the Oregon line coach as the best man by a process of elimination or as the best possible choice under the circumstances are means of amassing a terrific body of evidence in his favor.

But they are not fair to Candidate Shields. For Candidate Shields is not merely the best bit of tutorial flotsam tossed Oregon's way by the tides of football fortune.

He is a capable, intelligent, and personable man—a fine football player from an Oregon football family while in college and one of the most successful line coaches in the nation today in point of players developed and of success of lines when material available is considered.

He can stand on his merits in this or any other group of "first flight" coaches—and, if fortune smiles and circumstances are propitious, his success as a line coach indicates he may soon be promoted into the "championship flight" through this or some other position.

IT is important to be able to say, "He's had nine years of experience" but it is far more important to consider what Shields has done with those years during which he has been on the University payroll.

The University catalogue says: "Alfred Eugene Shields, M.S., Instructor in Physical Education; Assistant Athletic Coach—B. S. (1925) M. S. (1934), Oregon. Instructor and Assistant Coach (1929-), Oregon."

No one will deny the records show that Shields has produced great lines from not-always-strong material and has brought numerous individuals to their greatest possible effectiveness and some to stardom.

But still more important, he has served those years and has always been tremendously respected and liked by his men—among the men he has tutored Gene has many friends. On the campus he has been equally well received and seems to have at his disposal a great deal of the facility for making friends with students which has made Bill Hayward the beloved tradition that he is.

THERE has been some opposition to Shields but it has not, apparently, arisen on the campus. The varsity football coaching staff and especially Mike Mikulak, himself mentioned as a prospect, have been enthusiastic in their support of Shields, and has indicated its desire to work under him.

The criticisms have not been well founded. The most often heard is that the appointment of Shields would mean the continuance of Oregon football as in the past.

What continuance there would be if Shields were named would be to the advantage of the team. He would retain some of the basic features of the present system. But, as assistant coach, Shields has not always been in agreement with the methods used by his superiors, although loyal to them.

Shields has indicated that Oregon would play a different type of football under his tutelage. Practice habits and hours would be revamped. The tempo of Oregon's game would be speeded up by the curtailment of use of such things as the huddle. Emphasis would be placed on better morale on the bench and better quarterbacking and morale in the field.

A football coach has many off-the-field duties. It has been said that Oregon's present line coach doesn't have complete alumni support. This also might be an advantage. In the past Oregon has swept coaches into office with tremendous displays of enthusiasm—and out of office when disappointment and reaction came. Gene would be starting with a healthier psychology if he took the all-important position under an aura of slight skepticism rather than of bursting enthusiasm. And alumni support has not always heralded coaching success in the past.

TWO generations of coaches have either ignored or alienated student interest in the team and Oregon has suffered heavily as a consequence. With the errors of three predecessors before him and because he recognizes the fact that the team belongs to the student body, Shields is more than willing to have football join the movement to bring student interest back to the campus.

Realizing the difficulty of the University's position in sports—lack of funds force us to a comparatively amateur status—and the fact that the coast conference is a tough league, students have never gone wild-eyed and rabid with demands that the team win. They have asked, however, for a team that can go out on the field and play determined, intelligent, and planned football.

There seems every possibility that Shields would produce just that kind of a team.

It's the Studious Student Who Pays

THE University library has always been proud of the record number of books which it loans each term to students. Yet last term it inaugurated a practice which hampers students in their use of books, even though designed to keep the maximum number of books available.

That practice, an extension of the old policy of charging two cents daily for overdue circulation volumes, is the imposition of a five-cents-daily fine on books held out past the date due.

The increase in the fine was designed to stimulate readers to return books on time so that they will be available for use by others. Books not in demand are fined at the same rate as those for which someone is waiting.

IN theory, the increased fine seems sound.

But actually upper division and graduate students who are likely to have checked out a large number of books for a month are rudely awakened about 5 days after the books were due with a notice stating that they have 10 books out and are now indebted to the library to the extent of \$2.50.

Now, these excessive fines are unfair to students writing papers and using large num-

bers of books for other projects—and if the student has forgotten the books are overdue, five cents a day is no better reminder than two cents a day.

If the library is going to continue its policy of heavy fines, it should do one of two things: the five-cent fines should not start until the notices that the books are over-due have been mailed and been given time to arrive, a two-cent fine being used during this period; or notices should be mailed before the deadline is passed to tell the student that books which he has will be due on a certain date.

GRANTED that the bigger fine might cause the student to discover some means of his own to jog his memory, the five-cent fine won't bring the books in much faster. Better we should find some more equitable method of paying for the new library.

P. S.—Editor's note: Latest information is to the effect that the five-cent fine is established by state law—but if the state wants to be difficult, that doesn't prevent the library from adopting the second suggestion and sending the "warnings" out in advance.

SIDE SHOW

Edited by . . .

Bill Cummings, Campus
Paul Deutschmann, National

Student opinion seems lacking in a matter which is of great importance to the students of Oregon—the coaching situation. While President Boyer and the University athletic board are painstakingly going over the signals in their own official huddle, why shouldn't the students take action of some sort to pave the way for the officials in making a choice?

If the members of the ASUO were to express their opinion—by vote, by petition, or by delegation—that opinion would probably carry considerable weight in the selection of Oregon's next football coach. Student opinion, culminating in actual agitation, was a major factor in the retirement of Coach Prink Callison. When dissatisfied, members of the ASUO were eager to express themselves; yet no one has taken any steps to help the officials pick a new coach.

Members of the athletic board, as well as President Boy-

er and Anse Cornell, would more than welcome any suggestions from the students. The problem they face is not an easy one, and pleasing the student body is one of the most important things they must take into consideration.

It is largely student opinion that has given Gene Shields the edge in the race to date. As a member of the coaching staff, Shields is popular among athletes and other students, and this popularity has no doubt given the officials visions of the old-fashioned Oregon spirit—wild-eyed p a j a m a parades, torch-light rallies, and a genuinely enthusiastic student body backing its coach as well as its team. Shields' popularity, at least as an assistant coach, has already been established, and therein lies his superiority over other candidates who are being considered.

The possibility of signing a big-name coach from an eastern

or southern college is wiped out by Oregon's starvation salary and one-year contract plan, so the best the University can do is to try to pick a man who will start from scratch and build a name for himself and Oregon while on the job.

It is true that an outside coach, such as Eric Waldorf of Jefferson, would draw material to Oregon much better than a local man, such as Shields. Waldorf is a big fish in the pond of Portland high school football, but a risk as far as college football is concerned. Yet if he were on the Oregon coaching staff, he would draw much of Portland's annual crop of football material.

The ideal solution would be to boost Shields into the head coach job—on a one-year contract basis—and to obtain Waldorf as an assistant coach. Then Oregon would have a familiar, popular head coach, and an assistant who would draw badly-needed new material.

Campus Calendar

Opening a new term's service the University infirmary saw 17 patients occupying its wards yesterday. Confined students were: Jane Haig, Peggy Peebler, Florence Sanders, Jean Gulovson, Pat Temple, "Smoky" Whitfield, Dick Terpening, Howard Overbeck, Charles Frazee, Bruce Giesy, Frances Gray, Ronald Quaffe, Robert Fulton, Erling Jacobsen, Kenneth Waggover, Del Bjork, Ruth Reasor.

NYA checks may still be called for at window 2, on the second floor of Johnson hall, announced University Paymaster E. C. Tuttle.

Reservations must be made for the Pi Lambda Theta banquet to be held Saturday evening at 7 at the Anchorage, after the initiation. Call Helen Emery, 531.

Seniors must turn in their activities blanks by Wednesday, January 12 at the educational activities office. The deadline had previously been December 15. The blanks may be gotten either at the co-op or at the activities office.

All athletes who received word to appear at Kennell-Ellis to have their pictures taken for the Oregon, are requested to do so at once, Wayne Harbert said yesterday.

There will be a social swim in Gerlinger pool Friday night from 7:30 to 9.

'Ah! Wilderness' Cast Prepares to Open at Theater

Members of the cast of "Ah! Wilderness," forthcoming production of the University theater resumed intensive rehearsals Monday night under the direction of Mrs. Ottilie Turnbull Seybolt.

Iris Franzen has replaced Mary Elizabeth McCarty in the role of Mildred, the irritating little sister of the Miller family. Pat Taylor is now playing the part of Nora, the Miller's maid, formerly taken by Miss Franzen.

The play will open the fourth week of this term as the cast is taking two weeks longer than originally planned in order to do justice to O'Neill's great play.

Cameras Prohibited From Art Museum

Have you ever tried to take a camera through the doors of the Oriental Art museum? You had better not try it, for a guard is stationed at the door to stop any such attempts.

"Cameras are not only prohibited here, but in museums all over the world," said Mrs. G. B. Warner, director. This is done to guard against the possibility of photos being taken of the exhibits to be used for commercial purposes. When more money is allotted by the University, the museum will have post cards printed of the exhibits which will be sold, Mrs. Warner said.

A restricted budget has also limited the opening hours of the museum because of the expense involved in the upkeep and guarding of the exhibits, many of which are valuable works of art.

At present the museum is open to the public every Wednesday, Thursday and Sunday afternoons except during exam weeks, University holidays and vacations, but in the future if the budget is increased, the hours will be lengthened, said Mrs. Warner.

Mrs. Warner said that the museum will be open this afternoon during Dad's day weekend from 1:30 to 3:30 to offer the dads the opportunity of viewing the various exhibits.

Delta Upsilon Meet Is Scheduled Here

A provincial conference of the Northwest Delta Upsilon chapters will be held at the Oregon chapter February 4 and 5.

Oregon State, Washington university, Washington State, British Columbia, and Alberta will be represented by two delegates each. An undetermined number of members from Oregon State and the other chapters will be present besides the delegates, according to Ken Ely, local house president.

The conference is an annual event, last year's meeting was at the University of Washington.

CALLING ALL STUDENTS . . .

interested in a fine new Overcoat.

Bals, Raglans and D. B. Wraps

\$15.50 - \$26.50

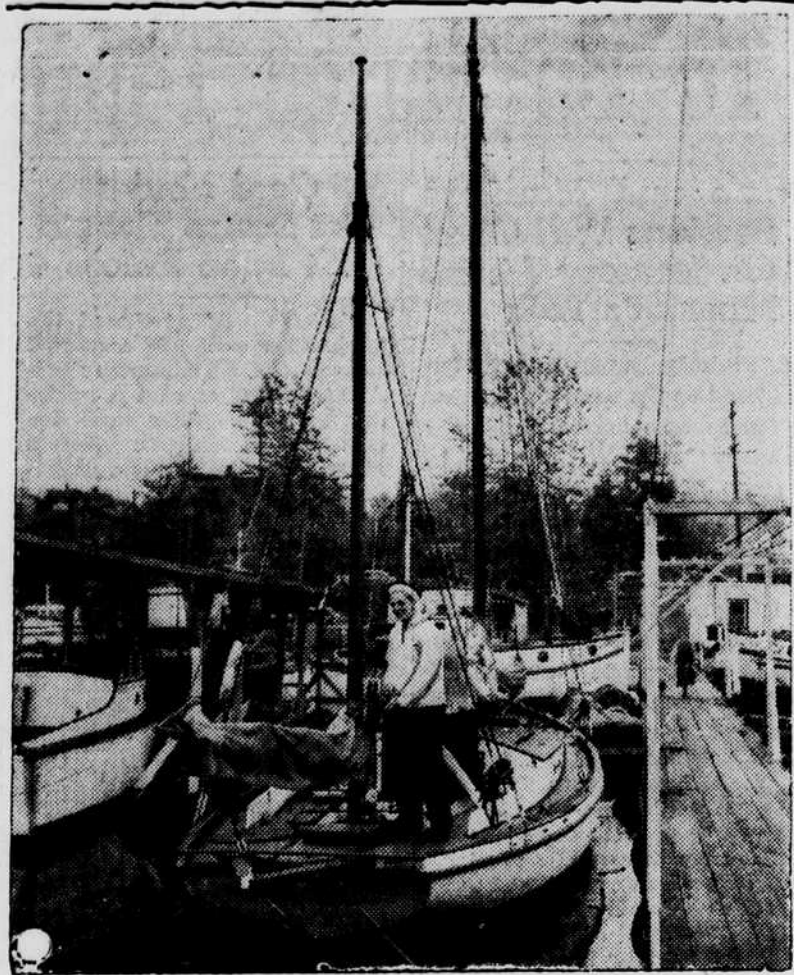
ROBERTSON'S

64 E. Broadway

Next to Chase Gardens

Eugene

Boat House



A University of Washington student uses this boat, moored in Puget Sound, for his house. Water and electricity connections give him the conveniences of home.

Eugene's Own Store
WASHBURN'S
M. MORRAN & WASHBURN
Phone 2700

We will make for
a small charge

Couch Covers and Curtains

You select from our stock the materials you desire and we will make them up for you as you desire.

There is an excellent selection of fabrics in all prices—new patterns and colorings. See them today. Third floor.

DUDLEY FIELD SHOP
IS WASHBURN'S ON THE CAMPUS

Special ...

for Friday and Saturday

Large Angel Food Cake,

White or custard 49c

Oatmeal Bread, loaf 13c

Soft-rising bread 15c

ELLIOTT'S GROCERY

13th & Patterson

Phone 95

These merchants
made possible the
prizes given with
your winter term
ASUO cards

The Pit
Williams
Gordons
DeNeffes
Hadleys
Taylors
Hellig Theater
College Side
Hoffman Jewelry
Preston and Hales
Dudley Field Shop
Sigwart Electric
Elliott's Barber Shop
Medoland Creamery

We owe them our support.

Oregon Emerald

LEROY MATTINGLY, Editor

WALTER R. VERNSTROM, Manager

LLOYD TUPLING, Managing Editor

Associate Editors: Paul Deutschmann, Clare Igloe.

The Oregon Daily Emerald, official student publication of the University of Oregon, published daily during the college year except Sundays, Mondays, holidays and final examination periods. Entered as second-class mail matter at the postoffice, Eugene, Oregon.

Editorial Board: Darrel Ellis, Bill Peace, Margaret Ray, Edwin Robbins, Al Dickhart, Kenneth Kirtley, Bernadine Bowman.

Pi Lambda Theta To Initiate Pledges Saturday Evening

Pi Lambda Theta, women's national education honorary, will hold initiation of members Saturday evening in alumni hall in Gerlinger, and will hold a joint banquet with Phi Delta Kappa, men's national education honorary, immediately afterward at the Anchorage.

The initiation will be at 6:15 p. m., and the banquet will be at 7. Members of the school of education faculty and their wives will be special guests at the banquet, at which Dr. J. F. Cramer, superintendent of Eugene schools, will speak on the Australian school system.

New members of Pi Lambda Theta are: Mildred Schwartz, Beverly Young, Marie Ring Erickson,

Marguerite Kelly, Marcia Steinhauer, Edythe Farr, Marian Fuller, Janet Felt, Margaret Earl, and Edith Clarke.

50 Theta Chis to Meet on Campus

Fifty delegates from the northwest's five Theta Chi chapters will meet at the Oregon house January 21, 22, and 23 for the annual district fraternity convention.

Representatives from Montana, Washington State, Washington University, and Oregon State chapters will attend. A program of business discussions and social events is being planned by Bill Vermillion, president of the local chapter.

The Washington State group was host to the convention in 1937.

Send the Emerald home to Dad

YMCA to Provide Faculty Speakers For Living Houses

A fireside forum will be sponsored by the YMCA this term, according to Francis Beck, executive secretary. It will offer the fraternities and other living organizations speakers from members of the faculty who will be available for talks and discussions on topics of general interest.

The YMCA is also planning to aid in the campus peace program. It will work with the peace committee called by the YWCA. The peace program will be an extended program and will develop in all departments in the University.

There is also a possibility of arranging a Sunday vespers service in conjunction with the YWCA, as another phase of the term's program.