

OREGON *Daily* EMERALD

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Stay In Your Own Backyard

There is a current note of discontent present among undergraduates who enter a university with the purpose of majoring in liberal arts and who find to their amazement that any intensive study of the American field of literature is not to be found in the curriculum. For those students, also, whose interests lie elsewhere but who are anxious to attain a discriminatory and comprehensive knowledge of their own country's literature, the situation is deplorable.

The glib answer offered to any queries about this departmental indifference towards the native literature, usually maintains that it is only an offshoot of the main body of English literature or that the United States has reached literary maturity too late and has not produced any figures to equal a Shakespeare, a Spenser, or a Milton. Also that the variety of themes treated by the English literature is longer and richer than the meager offerings of the American.

The root of the difficulty lies for the most part in the attitude of professors of English literature and is expressed in the policies of English departments and of organized scholarships in this country. A typical staff of an English department might be found upon this campus which roughly divides its study of literature into the following divisions: approximately six or seven instructors in composition; two on Old and Middle English, one on the Renaissance period, one on the 18th century, one for the 19th century period, one for modern literature, and a remaining one for the entire field of American literature.

This is not an unusual classification and probably contains more than the average number of courses concerned with American literature. However it is an extraordinary state of affairs, and it is only because everyone is accustomed to it that we do not see just how extraordinary it is. It is undeniable that English literature is superior and richer and that ten centuries of literary history require more time and space for study than do three. However, this does not necessitate the reduction of American literature to the minor and insignificant place which it now holds and which it does not deserve.

The graduation the other year at this University of an English major who had taken her thesis and conference in American literature rather than English caused a flurry of surprise and some scorn among the liberal arts majors. However, that student has acquired a knowledge which few other graduates are able to boast of. She has a knowledge of her native literature, which professors of literature in the United States are permitted to be scandalously ignorant of and which helps to hold this country up to European contempt.

It is time changes in the English curriculum were made for the better education of American students.

Give 'Em The Axe . . .

Recently, members of the rally squad were asked why they didn't allot more of their number to the boy's rooting section. The answer was simply that the boys refused to yell. Since tonight's game is something we all have been looking forward to, we feel there is no need to urge the male element of the student body to contribute their vocal power to the yells, but we are passing on the remark just in case. If the letter printed in yesterday's Emerald is any indication, we predict that the men will come out of their lethargy and really show Oregon State how to yell.

* * * *

The boys' section will remain across the floor from the girls', despite suggestions to the contrary. To put the two alongside would mean not only a fire hazard from covering up the doors, but also would seat the boys in a less advantageous place for viewing the game.

IF A BUDDY MEET A BUDDY-

By JEANNE WILTSHIRE

This week's news of Oregon servicemen includes Jerry F. Battles, Delta Tau Delta, who has been promoted from an ensign to a lieutenant (j.g.) in the navy air corps. Lt. Battles is on duty in the Pacific at present.

Robert Henderson, former student here, recently was commissioned a marine second lieutenant at Quantico, Virginia.

He is undergoing advanced officer training at Quantico, preparatory to being assigned to a specialist school or combat unit. While on the campus, Lt. Henderson majored in foreign trade and was a member of Skull and Dagger and Sigma Phi Epsilon.

Alvin J. Brown, U. of O. graduate, was recently promoted to the rank of captain, it was announced by 15th army air force headquarters. A bombardier with a heavy bomber crew, Capt. Brown is stationed in Italy with a veteran B-24 Liberator squadron that has flown more than 175 long range bombing assaults against key industrial and transportation facilities throughout central and southern Europe.

Kelly Goes to Air Group

He was commissioned on August 26, 1943, upon completion of advanced bombing training at Midland, Texas, and he was stationed at Tonopah, Nevada, prior to his assignment to combat duty in the Mediterranean theater of operations.

Second Lt. Harold L. Kelly, former student, has recently been assigned to a veteran troop carrier group of the twelfth air force. His group has been awarded the war department unit citation for distinguished service in the China-Burma-India theater of operations, and also played an important part in the invasions of North Africa, Sicily, Italy, and Southern France. Assignments of the group include dropping paratroops, towing gliders, evacuating wounded and carrying supplies up to the front lines.

Robert (Bob) L. Tramp, Sigma Chi, is a B-29 gunner at present stationed on Saipan. Sergeant Tramp went over Tokyo during a recent raid.

Huestis in Paris

Ralph Huestis, Chi Psi, is stationed in a hospital in Paris, France. Private Huestis, of the medical corps, wrote that his outfit is using a former school building as a hospital and the old chemistry laboratory has been converted into a hospital laboratory for its present use.

Private First Class Gerald Huestis is now in his junior year in the University of Oregon Medical school in Portland. Both he and his brother, Ralph Huestis, were active as swimming champs on the Oregon campus.

Dinner Date Spurs Coeds to Ticket Race

When it comes to men, some of the campus living organizations have what has been commonly described as the "eager" attitude.

Among sorority houses the scramble to be the first to subscribe 100 per cent to the purchase of tickets for the Heart Hop, Valentine dance, proved to be a neck-to-neck race with a dinner date with the King of Hearts and his knives as the award to the winner. Enthusiastic Alpha Omicron Pis turned in their money for the tickets before the tickets were in circulation, according to Hop Chairman Louise Fletcher. Alpha Gamma Delta and Sigma Kappa tied for second place and Pi Beta Phi ran a close third.

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Night Staff:
Robbieburr Warrens, night editor

Shhh . . .

By KIS AND TEL

In answer to numerous inquiries from chic chicks about the campus let us say that Bud "I Have King of Hearts potentialities" Rossum is not checking you this term because . . . and this is straight stuff . . .

1. You are not a towney.
2. He can't meet you after 1 a.m.
3. You "have nots" have not a green convertible.

Deep and deeper: The D.D.D. triangle (Don Dyer, Dotty Maddox, and Dodie Frideger) is interesting but complex. . . . It seems that there was a slight misunderstanding about last Saturday night's date. Careful Don . . .

Running a close second to Chuck Plum (A MUST IN EVERY GOSSIP COL.) is Keith Murphy. The boys are struggling to hold their lead in the campus-wide "date not less than 14 per week-end" campaign.

Confusion: Jack Boyken dating Pi Phi Erna Gawehn . . . Paul Smith dating Pi Phi Erna Gawehn . . . official returns.

What Erna wants—ten minutes with Smitty.

What Boyken wants—ten minutes with Erna.

What Smitty wants—ten minutes with Boyken.

Whim! Wham! Bill "Towney" Donaldson butting against blonde stone wall at Chiaramonte's.

We wish to thank Nancy Seals, Kay Schneider and Averil Foster for the kind consideration which they have shown the younger generation of today. Watch the campus newsstands for their joint publication "Progressive Education of the High School Youth."

"Snatches" by Mary Jane Simmons and Nancy Kellaher. Victim: one of the famed Kroder twins.

ALL ABOUT HOUSE DANCES: Saturday night is the loneliest night—and the darkest (or did you see the Alpha Chi den?)

Just to make doubly sure that THE NAME ORIN WEIR shall not pass from this printed page we hereby dedicated this allotted space to his memory . . . Thinking Pat? (Ed. note: we are referring to P. Percival who has been see dating, not only our illustrious friend Orin W., but another Orin, this latter lad, a virtuous Beaver.

Ode to Don Jackson:

Though fortune fails and friends forsake,

You'll never be the one to break . . . a date . . .

Love, Chi Omega . . .

Lane County Secretary Praises Campus Drive

A letter of appreciation for the interest and support given the 1945 Red Cross seal drive by U. of O. students has been received by Maryanne Hansen, chairman of the drive, from Mrs. Leda H. Freeland, executive secretary of the Lane County Public Health association.

Miss Hansen reported that \$304.82 was turned in on sales, which is an increase over last year's sales.

• Lost

FALL term. Blue and red Ever-sharp. Edie Newton, Oregona office.



LT. ROBERT HENDERSON Oregon Sig Ep, is now taking advanced officer training in Quantico, Virginia.

'Heaven' is 'In the Pink'

By JEAN LAWRENCE

To use Joe's favorite expression, "Heaven Can Wait" was "in the pink" last night in Gerlinger hall. Best crack of the evening was Mr. Jordan's corresponding remark "that is getting to be a most objectionable color!"

The spotlight jumped from Joe, to Mr. Jordan, to Max. Brooklynized John Moore circulated from heaven to earth on wings of some very good acting. Edward Lyons added experience, maturity, and celestial facial expression. Slap-happy Dale Frederick rioted any scene he was in.

Not the least of the laughs was supplied by Heavenly Messenger 7013, Shubert Fendrick pecking out "Swing Low Sweet Chariot" between murders. On the outer glow, but only because of fewer lines, were Anna Belle Davis and Cay Shea, who did an excellent job on very short notice.

Intimate style presentation calls for finer representation from actors than does the usual stage production, and this was well managed by the cast of "Heaven Can Wait."

Supporting cast includes: Lee Petrask, Raymond E. Beeson, Donald O'Connell, Janet Hicks, Richard Dahlstrom, Darrel Boone, Bette Johnson, Farrell Rust, Ann Parsons, Bette Johnson, Peggy Ziegler, Nancy Knight, Peggy Finnell, Estella Allen, and Kai Lo.

Tonight's showing of "Heaven Can Wait" for students and their guests only, will begin at 9:30 following the OSC-U. of O. basketball game.

DANCING

Every Saturday Night
9 'til 12
at the

EUGENE
HOTEL

with

ART HOLMAN
AND HIS
ORCHESTRA

in the
Persian Room