

OREGON *Daily* EMERALD

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Published daily during the college year except Sundays, Mondays, and holidays and final exam periods by the Associated Students, University of Oregon.
Entered as second-class matter at the postoffice, Eugene, Oregon.

A Sunny Reign. . .

Queen Pat rules over the happiest Junior Weekend Oregon has had in the last five years.

When the campus sang of Queen Ellie in 1942, the forces of war already had closed around the ivy-covered walls. When students paraded in the Mardi Gras last year, the echoes of marching feet sounded in their minds.

But this year the shadow is gone. Queen Pat's subjects are numbered in the thousands. Her cares are numbered only by the weather man.

And if the traditionalists and the anti-traditionalists can agree that a dunking is better than a drenching Oregon rain, her realm will be free of discord.

Hail Queen Pat I! May her short reign be sunny.

Weekend Winners . . .

Oregon's sons and daughters are celebrating the new arrivals—the visiting Oregon Mothers.

Although the moms are sharing the spotlight with Queen Pat, they're also sharing all the activities of Junior Weekend as members of the Oregon family. While the weekend is far from typical, it is a merry-go-round of events to be enjoyed by the moms and their student sons and daughters together.

Oregon welcomes the moms to the "State Fair." They're all blue-ribbon winners.

Telling the Editor

About Hacking . . .

In answer to a letter to the editor in Tuesday's Emerald concerning the traditional hacking of all persons violating certain traditions of Junior Week, I would like to express my opinion.

Traditions are a very vital part of college life. Without them a college is lacking something of considerable importance so far as campus life is concerned.

I believe that the 15 signers of the article in Tuesday's Emerald had every right to say what they did. After all, they did help to preserve this country and the things it stands for. I do not, however, agree with them.

It is my opinion that a little of what I call fun is highly important in so far as college social life is concerned. No one is anxious to get hacked, but with a little presence of mind no one really needs to be. If the tradition was doing any real harm I would definitely be against it. The tradition under discussion is not going to do any person any permanent damage, and if they are sports enough to laugh it off it can do them some good in that they will get the reputation of being good sports.

—Chuck Herring.

About Regimentation . . .

The author of "A Tout's Report," not content with his usual waste of newsprint, wrote a letter to the Emerald regarding the status of veterans on the campus.

From his letter I learned an amazing thing, that I had fought

in Germany to make the world safe for the wielders of the paddle. Please forgive me for not knowing my own mind, but I always had the idea that I fought so that anyone could say or do anything so long as it did not harm any other person or society.

Yes, it may seem strange, but I would much rather "swell with pride and speak of the horrors" of Buchenwald and of the shadows of the men we liberated there, than go into ecstasy over the fact that I could be hacked for not obeying some adolescent tradition. In Germany we tried to elevate the dignity of man, here it is being degraded. I'll admit, however, that we have here only a bush league group of sadists.

Perhaps the "15 old men" did not represent the student veterans as Mr. Lau infers, but I think that they do. The veterans here are opposed to any kind of regimentation. As an example of this one need look back only to the basketball games of last term. While the ceds screeched to a deafening crescendo at the slightest whim of the yell king, the men were conspicuous by their silence. Most veterans are tired of being pushed around by senseless rules and traditions. I don't see how any one who has been in the service can take any more of them.

Mr. Lau, a freshman, wants to return to "prewar standards." What does he mean by this phrase? Does he want to go back to the "country club" era? Does he want to get back to the old time political

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From Oratorical Display to 'State Fair' . . . Evolution of Oregon's Junior Weekend

By Dorothy Kienholz

"As I sit and dream at evening Of those days now past and gone. . ."

This year, returning veterans and alumni will find many changes in the University of Oregon's annual Junior Weekend.

The picturesque canoe fete has been converted to a float parade which will travel down Willamette street and up Thirteenth to the campus Saturday afternoon.

Last winter's flood destroyed part of the race walls and crushed student hopes for reviving the canoe fete.

"And I think of all the old friends Whose memories to me return, I can see them all in fancy As they were in days of yore. . ."

In order to appreciate the significance of Junior Weekend, one must return "to those days now past and gone" when students here at Oregon struggled strenuously over class colors.

In the Beginning

The year 1890 marks the beginning of the traditional Weekend, at that time sedately called the Junior Exhibitions. Professor Luella Carson initiated Junior Day so that juniors would have preliminary preparation for the oratorical contest which commencement had become after the Failing-Beekman prize was inaugurated.

Consequently, Junior Day was enlivened only by the presentation of a music and oratorical program.

Soon, however, the day became the occasion of a great free-for-all between sophomores and juniors.

Flag Waving

Wily junior's conceived the idea of adopting a flag of junior colors with the class numerals upon it. Hidden until Junior Day, it was fastened to the end of a pole and flown triumphantly from a window in the northwest tower of Villard hall. The struggle centered around the class attempt to fly the banner and show the sophomores their lowly status.

Tactics of warfare became more complex. Under the driving force of necessity, ingenious devices were hatched up by juniors, only to be outdone by more ingenious sophomore schemes.

Professor Straub was asked to hide the flag one year, and it was because of his protection that the junior class had a flag to raise when Junior Day arrived.

Flag-Pole Sitters

During the presidency of Dr. Chapman, a flag-pole was erected near the location of the present staff. Walter B. Dillard, Eugene county clerk in 1944, and two other juniors, spent the night before the traditional day in a large covered wooden box, which was hoisted halfway up the pole. With a hose, food and water, they guarded the flag and its staff from possible attack.

However, before they were able to raise their flag the next morning, sophomores captured the hose and showered the junior stronghold. This persuasive weapon forced the juniors to accept temporarily a lower station in life as they made a hasty retreat via the pole.

Spirit vs. Classes

The class spirit which flourished so mightily on Junior Day interfered with college work. Less than half the students enrolled attended classes. It was this state of affairs which induced President Campbell to make Junior Weekend a real holiday and to replace destructive activity with constructive work.

Instead of painting class signs on buildings, demolishing property, and tormenting each other, the entire student body worked on campus projects, such as making paths, paving walks, building and repairing buildings, and dredging

and clearing the millrace. This scheme was inaugurated in 1903 under the name of "University Day." The work accomplished that day was the tearing down and burning of the fence that formerly enclosed the entire campus.

In its new form, Junior Day appealed to all classes. The girls' share in the work was an all-campus dinner served in the evening between Friendly and McClure. After completing their assigned tasks, the boys entertained the girls by forming a serpentine and exhibiting their "rah rah" spirit.

Ladylike Applause

A May, 1912, Emerald relates, "These inspiring college yells (Oregon Oskiwow Wow and Rah, Rah, Rah, Oregon) called forth vehement applause from the women of the University who may approve but not participate in such outbursts of college feeling."

The inscription, "University Day," on several of the walks which surround Deady hall, stands as evidence of the origin of Oregon's famous weekend, which became Junior Weekend officially in 1908.

Passing the Buck

Painting the "O" on Skinner's Butte became a junior class task in 1908, but mighty juniors usually drafted freshmen for the manual labor while they tyrannically supervised the job.

In 1911, the first "Canoe Carnival" as it was called, was held. James Mott, late congressman from Oregon, presented a fiery campaign which won the queen's crown for Ruth Gibson. The entire carnival and queen's reign was brought to a hasty close by cold winds and rain.

The Canoe fete became a regular weekend feature after 1913. The original floats were single canoes decorated with streamers, lights, and flowers. Gradually several canoes were lashed together, and were finally replaced by the prewar barge type float.

Theme Selection

The juniors added the theme which centered the weekend around

one main idea such as "Alice in Wonderland" or "Melody in Spring" or this year's "State Fair." Prizes were offered for the best floats, and houses paired-off for competition.

Some alumni will remember the year when a float called "Statue of Liberty," came floating gracefully down the race. The strong current got the best of the swimmers guiding the barge, and the lovely Goddess of Liberty executed a beautiful swan dive in front of the grandstand.

Burlesque Version

Some will remember how the sun shone hot on the bleachers crowded with mamas and papas and their University children, gathered to witness the 1939 burlesque canoe fete which displayed a discontinuous stream of horsplay, dunking, and contests—the prize-winning entry, a takeoff on a Venetian gondola, gaily bedecked with crepe paper, which overturned after it passed the grandstand; the float which consisted of a satire on famous men with Mussolini and Hitler playing checkers in front, with F.D.R. yelling "my friends" in typical Rooseveltian manner on the back of the float, and the canoe races.

Sports events superseded the work party in 1914. Other weekend features were dramatic club plays and the Prom, which always ended festivities.

Added Attractions

Later additions were the traditional terrace dance, the all-campus song contest, the sunlight serenade, the mothers' luncheon and the frosh-soph tug o'war.

In the reconstruction of Highway 99 through Eugene, the University and state highway department have drawn plans for a beautiful "plaza" and amphitheater in front of the Dads' gates, to be used as the center for weekend activities. The rough excavation has already been done to create a lake in front of the Anchorage and gives hope for the possible return to "the good old days" when the water still ran deep and cold past the Anchorage.

Way Back When . . .

Six-Foot Poles Kept Oregon Couples Distant

By Trudi Kernis and Dottie Habel
Thirty Years Ago

The new 400-page Oregoniana came out, dedicated to William L. Hayward. Main decorative idea throughout the book was the University flower, the chrysanthemum. Dean Collins, '10, wrote "On the Mill Race" especially for the book.

"Never in the history of University politics have the students shown so much 'zaz' in an election as they did yesterday in the annual choosing of student body officers. Never before has such a large percentage of voters turned out to the polls in 'Old' Villard to take part in student body affairs." That was 30 years ago.

What about 1946? "Cubby Hole" was the name attached to the room where "cubs and scoops, geniuses and would-be's assemble to write and rewrite the stuff that is peddled out to the Emerald readers." Only one dissenter to the idea was heard, the complaint being that it sounded too "comfy" and that it wouldn't be long before "aesthetic professors and moony lovers" would call it their own.

Notice included in an Emerald shoe ad: "The two very attractive and businesslike young ladies who secured this ad promised that it would

bring in most of the young ladies and all of the men for shoes. Help them to deliver the goods."

Twenty Years Ago

"God of the Sea Rovers" was the winning artistic float in the canoe fete of Junior Weekend. Kappa Omicron and Sigma Pi Tau entered the float, which depicted hoary Vikings before the god. First prize for humorous floats went to Alpha Xi Delta and Kappa Sigma, for "Noah's Ark." The ark was filled with strange animal noises, Noah steered the boat with an automobile steering wheel, and on sides of the ark were signs, such as "Post No Williams," "Four Out of Every Five Have It," "Two Can Live Cheaper Than One." On the tail lantern, unlighted, was a sign reading, "The Light That Failed."

A report from a student committee outlining the scholastic situation at Oregon made recommendations for a freshman college distinct from the major University. The freshmen would be given to understand their insignificance as members of the social community. Through the process of well-organized traditions they would be brought to realize the limitations of their abilities and capabilities. Each year the

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