

# Veteran of 38 Years, 'O' is Often Odd Colors

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where it was burned amid much ceremony."

As is natural in college life, Oregon's rival school was blamed almost every year for painting the "O" and not without cause. The student paper lamented the actions of "OAC ruffians who despoil the color of the 'O'."

The first recorded violation appeared in 1911, prior to a UO-OAC football game. A mixture of tar and orange paint was applied and the unlucky Oregon frosh "worked mightily" to restore the "natural" color.

### Job Well Done

Evidently the freshmen did their job too well. On University day of the following year, freshman on-

lookers were "urged to participate" as the juniors were repainting the sacred letter.

Perhaps class funds were low that year, for the first involuntary freshman painting found the underclassmen acting as human paint brushes. The result evidently was satisfactory, for freshmen have been doing the painting ever since.

As many an alum will testify, the method of applying the paint has seldom varied. A paddle-wielding upperclassman pours the paint and a freshman spreads it by sliding down the face of the oval. Thus, a tradition was born.

From 1913 to 1919 little mention was made of the black letter O. Tradition was revived after the war and it was again painted and

guarded by the frosh. A 1920 Emerald lauds the freshman for repelling attacks by "the rowdy Beavers from Silo Tech."

### Lettermen Paint

In 1922 only freshman numeral winners were allowed to paint. Three years later, control and supervision of the concrete letter was turned over to Order of O members. The lettermen have remained in charge since that date.

There followed 12 years of relative peace, marred only by occasional outbursts of UO-OSC rivalry and isolated cases of "O" painting. 1937, the year of the great riot, has been forgotten by few Eugeneans and fewer students. The "O" changed color four times during the fateful weekend of October 22 to 25. Oregon State left the gridiron victorious but not until a minor riot took place after the game.

The following Monday, reports from a Junction City outpost

warned of an impending mechanized invasion by 287 OSC cars. Battle lines were formed but part of the 1500 invaders succeeded in reaching the butte and the lemon letter was painted an embarrassing orange.

The Staters were chased from the campus by fire hoses. Classrooms emptied as loyal Oregon fans dunked the intruders in the once very wet millrace. As fast as they could be transported, luckless Beavers were forced to repaint the "O." There were no brushes used that day.

The "O" was sadly neglected during the second world war years. Infrequent daubings by University co-eds helped maintain the honor of the block letter. In 1946, the Order of the O again took over its duties as guardians of the symbol.

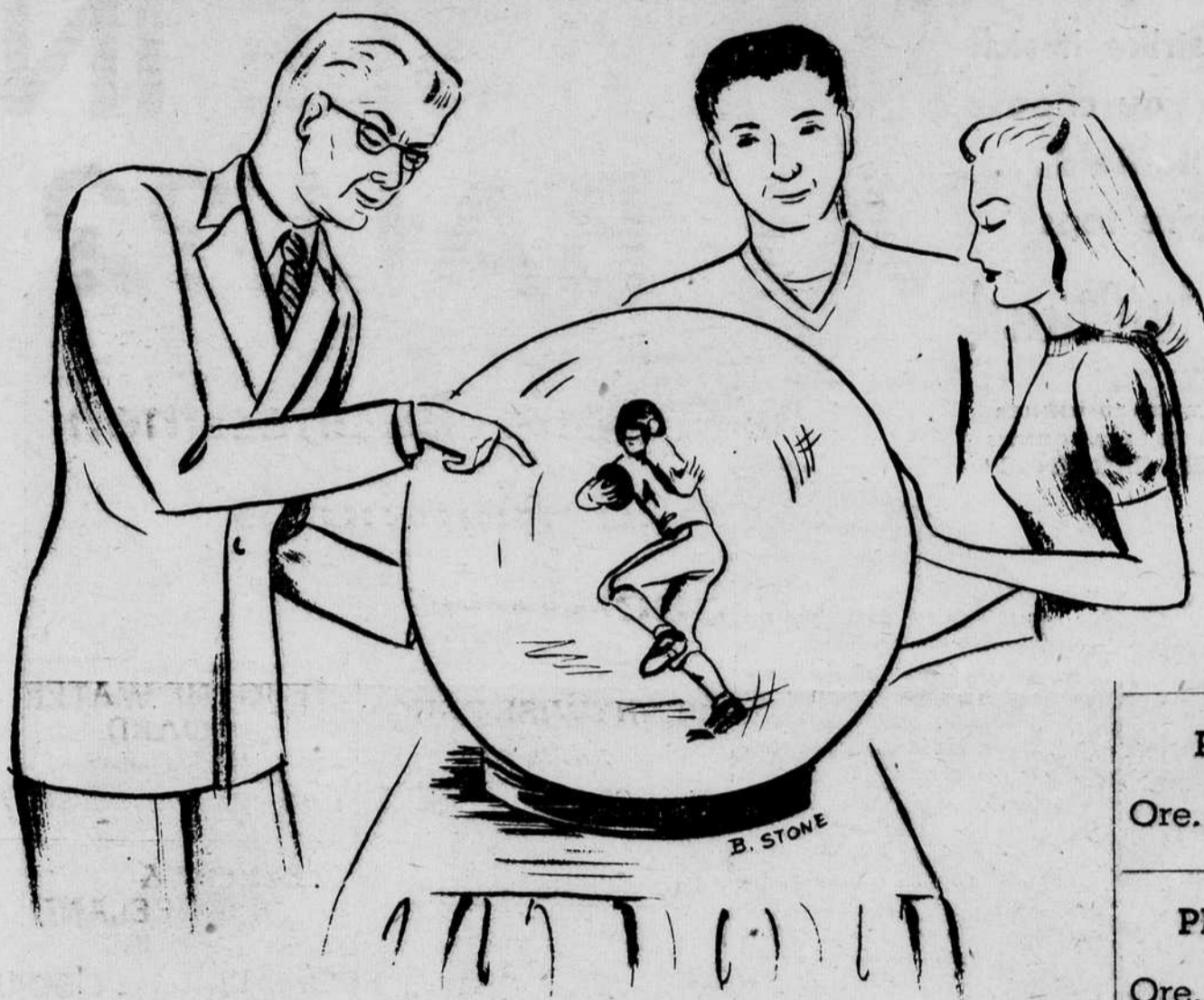
For 40 years the concrete "O" has withstood combined assaults by time, the weather, and the ir-

## Church League To Hold Meeting

The Eugene Church Athletic association will hold a meeting at 7:45 p.m. Tuesday at the "Y" Community Center in the library room. The purpose of this meeting is to further discuss plans for the coming basketball season.

All teams that expect to enter the church league should have a representative at this meeting. Plans for practice schedules will be discussed.

reverent. An estimated 120 coats of variously colored paint have been splashed on its surface. Recent efforts at retinting, attributed to the infidels from the north, prove nothing but the Staters' persistency. As long as freshmen and yellow paint exist, the "O" will remain the symbol of Oregon spirit.



## The Students See-----

<b>OREGON DAILY EMERALD</b> Ore. 19      OSC 13	<b>SIGMA KAPPA</b> Ore. 14      OSC 7	<b>SIGMA PHI EPSILON</b> Ore. 26      OSC 7	<b>DELTA DELTA DELTA</b> Ore. 14      OSC 13	<b>KAPPA SIGMA</b> Ore. 26      OSC 13
<b>DELTA TAU DELTA</b> Ore. 20      OSC 7	<b>THETA CHI</b> Ore. 21      OSC 7	<b>ALPHA DELTA PI</b> Ore. 13      OSC 7	<b>BETA THETA PI</b> Ore. 20      OSC 7	<b>DELTA GAMMA</b> Ore. 20      OSC 7
<b>SIGMA NU</b> Ore. 27      OSC 7	<b>ALPHA OMICRON PI</b> Ore. 13      OSC 12	<b>SIGMA ALPHA MU</b> Ore. 27      OSC 7	<b>CHI OMEGA</b> Ore. 13      OSC 7	<b>DELTA UPSILON</b> Ore. 20      OSC 7
<b>ALPHA CHI OMEGA</b> Ore. 20      OSC 7	<b>CHI PSI</b> Ore. 20      OSC 7	<b>DELTA ZETA</b> Ore. 20      OSC 6	<b>SIGMA CHI</b> Ore. 19      OSC 7	<b>ALPHA GAMMA DELTA</b> Ore. 14      OSC 13
<b>PHI DELTA THETA</b> Ore. 20      OSC 6	<b>KAPPA ALPHA THETA</b> Ore. 13      OSC 7	<b>CAMPBELL CLUB</b> Ore. 20      OSC 7	<b>ZETA TAU ALPHA</b> Ore. 21      OSC 13	<b>PHI GAMMA DELTA</b> Ore. 21      OSC 6
		<b>PHI KAPPA PSI</b> Ore. 40      OSC 7	<b>KAPPA KAPPA GAMMA</b> Ore. 19      OSC 7	<b>PHI SIGMA KAPPA</b> Ore. 21      OSC 6
		<b>PI BETA PHI</b> Ore. 14      OSC 6	<b>LAMBDA CHI ALPHA</b> Ore. 19      OSC 7	
		<b>PI KAPPA PHI</b> Ore. 26      OSC 19	<b>ALPHA PHI</b> Ore. 14      OSC 7	
			<b>SIGMA DELTA CHI</b> Ore. 34      OSC 6	
			<b>GAMMA ALPHA CHI</b> Ore. 47      OSC 12	