

70-Piece Symphony, 500 Voices Ready 'Messiah' For Performance December 5 in MacArthur Court

By WALLACE BENSON

Distant rumblings, high vibrant cadenzas and massive eight-part choruses issue from the many windows of the University music school as the Oregon Choral Union prepares for the biggest musical event of the school year.

Dean Theodore Kratt of the music school and D. W. Allton, assistant professor of organ and theory are taking one 70-piece symphony orchestra, several soloists, and one chorus of 500 student voices, and putting them together to produce Handel's "Messiah" Sunday, December 5, in McArthur Court.

George Frederick Handel composed this oratorio when his fortunes were at their lowest ebb. The common people of England loved him; but the aristocracy, the people upon whom he depended for financial support, hated him.

The reasons behind this hatred

lay in the court politics of the time. The Stuart kings had been replaced by the Hanovers, German kings who couldn't be bothered to learn the English language. This inspired a natural resentment in the populace. One of George II's bitterest opponents was his own son, the Prince of Wales.

King Likes Handel

Since George II had a great liking for Handel and his music, the Prince of Wales, out of hatred of his father, set out to ruin the great composer. He drew all the aristocracy to his side and boycotted the opera until "the foreigner," Handel, was driven from England.

Sinking deeper and deeper into debt, he was still undaunted. When his friend Jennings sent him the libretto of an oratorio composed of passages from the Bible depicting the life of Christ, he retired to his room and in 23 days, rarely eating or sleeping, he had completed the musical scoring for the entire work—"The Messiah." This prodigious feat has never been equalled, and probably never will.

The first performance of "The Messiah" was in Ireland; however, it was during its first English presentation that a tradition was set which persists even today.

George II, with several of his court attendants, was present. So impressed was he by the majesty of the work that, when the chorus ex-

ultantly burst into the Hallelujah Chorus, he rose to his feet and remained standing until the last "Hallelujah" had been sung. The audience, rose out of deference to their monarch.

Custom decrees that audiences stand to this day when the chorus swells: "Hallelujah. For the Lord God omnipotent reigneth."

These strains will echo over Eugene December 5 when the Choral Union presents its concert. Student body cards will be required for admission.

Campus Calendar

Tuesday

FRESHMAN INTERFRATERNITY COUNCIL meeting at 7 in the Phi Psi house.

YWCA SOPHOMORE COMMISSION meeting at noon in the bug-law.

DRAMA STUDIO meeting at 4 for students interested in working on costumes or makeup for the second production.

KWAMA meeting at 6:30. Call Ann Case for meeting place.

NEWMAN club meeting at 6:30 in Gerlinger annex.

PHI THETA meeting at 6:30 in the Alpha Pi house. Attendance is compulsory.

FRESHMAN NUMERAL WINNERS of last year are asked to meet at 7:15 in the Theta Chi house.

SKULL AND DAGGER meeting at 8 in the Side.

Wednesday

HOLY COMMUNION services at 7 a. m. in Gerlinger, sponsored by Canterbury club.

Thursday

YE TABBARD INN meeting at 7 p. m. in the Phi Kappa Psi house. All members should be present.

Oregana Schedules

Appointments with Kennell-Elis photographers will be kept today by Hendricks hall and Gamma Phi Beta members. Pictures taken will be used in the living organization section of the 1949 Oregana.

Schedule for the week includes: Susan Campbell hall—November 3.

Ann Judson house, Highland house, Zeta hall—November 5.

VA Reminds Vet Students Of Allowances

Student veterans who do not wish to draw subsistence allowances during winter vacation must notify the veterans administration's regional office at least 30 days before the end of the term, the VA reminded today.

For the Christmas period, veterans at the University of Oregon should have their requests in by November 15. Otherwise, leave time will be automatically granted and subsistence will be paid for the period between fall and winter terms, the VA explained.

Leave policy adopted a year ago allows subsistence to continue automatically for 15 days after the term ends. At most schools, the 45 days will cover the Christmas holiday.

Time for which payments are made after a term ends is charged against the veteran's educational entitlement. Some veterans prefer to sacrifice the leave pay, in order to use their entitlement for actual schooling.

Annual Orders Taken in Co-op

Orders for the 1949 Oregana will be taken in the Co-op Tuesday, Wednesday, and Thursday, according to members of the business staff. This arrangement has been made especially for non-affiliated students, but salesmen will accommodate any others.

A member of each living organization is also selling the books in his house, Olga Yevtich, business manager, said. The special sales are part of a campaign being conducted until November 13.

Partial payments of \$3 will be accepted with the remaining \$3 to be paid during winter term pre-registration or by January 15.

UW Ticket Sale

All students planning to see the Oregon-Washington game in Seattle November 6 must pick up their tickets at the University ticket office in McArthur court before the office closes at 4:30 today.

No tickets will be obtainable after that time, as the University of Washington must be informed as to the number of Oregon rosters to expect.

OSC Ticket Winners Chosen

By ANNE GOODMAN

First winner of a chance to attend the OSC game is Arthur S. Backlund, whose name was drawn by blindfolded Leo Harris, athletic director, last night at an AUSO executive council meeting.

Harris drew the first ten tickets out of a green, wooden box containing over 4000 of them with a bandana of Jean Swift, 2nd vice president, around his eyes.

The box was taken from the Co-op today, where students have been inserting tickets No. 33 from their athletic books since last Thursday.

The other 1440 names, drawn by members of the council last night will be posted together with the first ten, in the Co-op, library and McArthur court this Thursday, to remain until Saturday.

Eligible students may purchase their tickets starting next Monday at McArthur court. They are requested to bring their athletic books and registration cards so that card numbers can be checked with the athletic office files.

Continuing the list of the first ten winners, in the order of the drawing, are David A. Wheelless, Deneth Van Duyn, Laura Ruble, Dwayne Owens, Dorothy Wightman, Victon Malen, Larry Danielson, Berger L. Johnson, and George Winslow.

The tickets, which will sell for \$2 will admit students to a special Oregon rooting section at Corvallis on November 20.

Coach Explains Grid Puzzle

No apologies are offered by Head Line Coach Dick Miller for the showing the Oregon football squad made against St. Mary's Saturday.

Miller appeared in the absence of Coach Jim Aiken on the radio interview "Webfoot Huddle Time" last night by the University radio studios.

"I don't believe we have to apologize for the game," Miller said. "Naturally I believe we were down because it was the game after homecoming and it was a non-conference game. We were not as sharp as we could have been."

St. Mary's, he declared, was in much better shape than had been previously predicted.

"Joe Verducci, the St. Mary's coach, said after the game that they played a much better game against us than California," Miller added.

Head Scout Frank Zazula, who watched the University of Washington fall 20-0 at the hands of the Stanford Indians, said in the interview that "the score does not indicate the struggle. Washington could easily have made three touchdowns."

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