

Oregon's 1949 Homecoming 35th Weekend Celebration

By Marjorie Bush

Oregon's Homecoming will be officially 35 years old this weekend, when once again the noise parade, signs, game, dance, and open houses transform the campus into a mecca for alumni and a haven from study for students in general.

It was back in 1914 that the first Homecoming was instigated by President Prince Lucien Campbell. Then on a rainy Eugene day, 100 alumni trekked back to their alma mater for the first "Alumni Day." Naturally alumni had visited their old school since its beginning, but 1914 marked the first organized effort to welcome them back.

1915 PROGRAM

In spite of its slow beginning, a day set aside for alumni rapidly gained interest, and in 1915 a real program greeted the returnees. There was a pajama parade and serpentine downtown. Johnson Hall was dedicated, and a campus luncheon was held between McClure and Friendly, which was then the men's dorm.

An old-time show with vaudeville stunts also greeted the returning alumni. Of course there has always been a big game Saturday afternoon, usually with Oregon State.

The Ducks became slogan-conscious in 1915. Another first in Homecoming history was set by the adoption of the slogan "Home to Meet 'Em, Back to Beat 'Em."

Traditions were coming into acceptance and Homecoming was one of the major days of the year, along with Junior Weekend.

OTHER TRADITIONS

The noise parade and bonfire began around 1916, the year Oregon played Pennsylvania in the Rose Bowl. Hello Walk and Oregon Seal traditions have been properly observed since the very first Homecomings.

Frosh men wearing green lids also became associated with Homecoming. The idea was originated by the class of '06 and in 1910 was made compulsory. Order of the "O" men are still enforcing it.

The freshmen play a big part in Homecoming. It's the frosh who must wear green lids and ribbons, build and guard the great bonfire, which ranges from 40 to 75 feet high, and serve as human brushes for the painting of the "O."

OUTSTANDING EVENTS

Homecoming settled into a pattern, but still a very exciting one. A noise parade, rally, campus luncheon, sign contest, game and dance became the outstanding events.

New ideas were infused occasionally. For example, one can see shreds of the present Sophomore Whiskerino in the senior men's 1923 "Mustache Race." The winner with "the bushiest, tickliest, more luxurious" was to win a glittering new safety razor.

Another innovation was the 1929 "Campus Crate Contest," with all decrepit vehicles competing. Judging was on basis of "the most typical campus car." Times do change!

March of the Order of the "O" around the field before the game is a custom started in 1920 which still continues today. Cardboard letter stunts were introduced for the first time in 1921. Saturday will see a revival of this in the flashcard tricks.

CLASSES DISMISSED

Another popular idea which did not become traditional occurred in 1937. Classes, with the exception of law school, were dismissed all day Friday, upon petition by the ASUO Council and Rally Board.

Ten years ago the Webfoots were looking to the past with "Remember When" being carried out for the motif. Now ten years later we are remembering the past but looking to the future, with "Oregon, Then, Now, and Tomorrow."

Openings Disclosed For Combat Team

Captain Junior F. Klein, head of the Army and Air Force Recruiting Station in Eugene, announced that the 14th Regimental Combat Team, stationed at Camp Carson, Colorado, has a number of openings for qualified men in direct assignments.

"Camp Carson, located seven miles south of Colorado Springs, is well known for such activities as skiing and mountain climbing," Captain Klein asserted.

"The region is famous as a winter sports playground and offers an abundance of big game hunting and trout fishing."

Applicants between 18 and 34 years of age should get in touch with the 14th Regimental Combat Team at the Eugene Armory, 7th and Oak streets.

WELCOME
ALUMS

❖
let's
Beat The
Beavers

❖
HILLS
SPORTSMAN'S
SUPPLY

Campus Quonset Huts Await New Buildings

Quonset huts are here to stay.

At least there is no immediate prospect of removing the huts, according to I. I. Wright, superintendent of the physical plant.

"Completion of the new Science Building is expected to relieve the classroom and laboratory shortages," he said, "but it will not be completed until the fall of 1951."

Meanwhile, the nine quonsets on the campus will continue to take up the slack.

Three of the huts serve as laboratories—one by McClure for chemistry, one by Deady for physics, and one near the Architecture building for biology.

The block of four quonsets between Commerce and Deady, and one in the vicinity of the ROTC barracks are used for classrooms.

"The Shack," housing Emerald offices will continue its present function until offices are available in the Erb Memorial Union building.

So the quonset huts, spawned by war, remain as reminders of that war and of the postwar boom in enrollment which made them necessary.

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