

+ EMERALD EDITORIALS + Comedy Team Scores

Military Ball

In 1953 the student affairs committee threw out the Military Ball for three reasons:

1. Winter term social calendar was extremely crowded.
2. Military Ball had a record of losses (\$250 last dance).
3. The committee felt there were too many similar social events.

But the student affairs committee only rules on all-campus dances, so this year, the Military Ball is back in the ring disguised as a departmental dance (It's compared to the Beaux Arts Ball). How all-campus can you get? More than 1000 Oregon males are enrolled in the ROTC program. Add 1000 dates and you've got, potentially, one of the biggest dances of the year.

We can see no justification for re-introducing this social corpse. The situation has not changed. The Oregon social calendar is still overcrowded; there are still too many dances winter term, and for all practical purposes, this is still an all-campus dance. The only difference is that the Scabbard and Blade and the Air Command Squad would get stuck for any deficit instead of the student body.

It is our guess that had the military realized the difficulties involved, they would never have attempted to re-introduce this dance. Sure, it's easy to vision enthusiastically a lovely, beaming Little Colonel marching misty-eyed beneath a gleaming array of crossed sabers; it's pleasant to contemplate a "visiting dignitary" making presentations in an impressive ballroom draped with colorful bunting and bedecked of military insignia.

It's a pretty picture, but who's going to build the palace? The men. The same men who have been running themselves frazzled through an activity-choked winter term. The same men who, on the last free weekend before finals, would probably like to be cleaning up their outside assignments in preparation for the big push.

These are the men who are going to be asked to fill in the ranks on the ticket, band, chaperone, program, entertainment, clean-up, decoration and Little Colonel selection committees.

And then there's the big question—How are you going to get people to the dance once it is organized? The military says a good promotion job will solve this problem.

Well, it's going to take an awful good promotion job to sell this campus on another dance. This is the campus that has already, winter term, been wooed by the Senior Ball, the Heart Hop, the Frosh Sno-ball, a Lemon-Orange Squeeze, Fish-bowl mixers most every Friday night, plus three or four weekends of house dances.

At Dartmouth they have an all-military beer bust. This you might sell, but another dance?

But don't just take our word for it. We suggest the military poll its students. See how they feel toward a Military Ball on the last free weekend of the term in light of the work it involves, the money it will cost and the time it will take.

It's not a pleasant task to give up something after starting it. We ask the military to seriously weigh the good and the bad aspects of the proposed Military Ball. We ask them to give up the Ball for the positive good of this campus.—(D.L.)

In Current Hit Film

By Len Calvert
Emerald Columnist

The "don't pronounce it, see it" movie has finally come to Eugene with enough laughs to make even the soberest person smile.

"Phffft," the sound of a marriage breaking up and trying to pull itself back together, exploded across the Heilig screen in a burst of laughter Saturday night.

Judy Holliday has once more proved that as a comedienne she's one of the screen's all-time greats. As the wife who got a divorce and then decided she didn't want it after all, Miss Holliday gives one of the top performances of her career.

"Phffft" may also prove that the team of Holliday and Lemmon, her long-suffering husband in this vehicle, are here to stay with American movie-goers. Lemmon more than holds his own against the Comedy Queen.

Over and above the fine performances turned in by the "Phffft" cast shines the sharp dialogue from the pen of George

Axelrod, author of the current Broadway success and soon-to-be-movie "The Seven Year Itch." His many well-turned phrases said at just the right moments are glittering spots in the celluloid epic.

We particularly enjoyed his lines satirizing Reno divorces. Of particular note was his Nevada lawyer who tells Miss Holliday that "I always cry at divorces."

Old stand-by Jack Carson also appears mugging his way through as a middle-aged wolf who prefers girls young enough to be his daughter. Instead of his usual repulsive self, Carson turns in a good job in this picture.

Newcomer Kim Novak, one of the hottest things in the movies, is also there displaying her wares. In "Phffft," her second movie, Miss Novak plays the part of an affectionate college-age girl.

Some of the funniest scenes in the movie are when Lemmon tries to make love to Miss Novak without enjoying it.

Another outstanding scene in the crazy mambo which Miss Holliday and Lemmon do. The scene is one of the funniest dance sequences we have seen in recent movies.

"Phffft" stacks up as one of the top-ranking comedies of recent time. A thoroughly enjoyable movie, the sharp dialogue, and good acting add up to a well-spent two hours.

This is the season that everyone is picking their "ten best movies" for 1954. We happened to see the New York Times selection the other day and thought them worth repeating. On the "best" list of the Times were such films as "The Glenn Miller Story," "Seven Brides for Seven Brothers," "Genevieve," "Romeo and Juliet," "On the Waterfront," "Country Girl" and "Knock on Wood."

Letters...

...to the Editor

Misrepresented

Emerald Editor:

The meeting which was held last January 5, to study the possibility of a campus literary magazine was formed merely for organizational purposes. Material for the magazine was discussed, however, nothing was suggested to be presented to the publications board as the Emerald apparently believed. This led to an editorial last Friday which was a poor representation of the material we have so far accumulated pertaining to our project.

Elliot Carlson
Ardon Milkes

Letters to the Editor

Clarification

Emerald Editor:

As president of the University of Oregon chapter of the NAACP, I wish to clarify certain points regarding your front page story of last Friday which described a panel discussion at a public meeting sponsored by this organization last Thursday evening, and, by doing so, clear up any misconceptions that may have arisen from this report of the forum.

The incompleteness and inaccuracies of the report that was printed tended to distort it in the interests of sensationalism to a degree that reflects unjustly on the members of the panel and on our organization which sponsored it. I call attention to the following points:

1. The headline, "Panel Blasts UO Activities," was not only inflammatory in the worst tradition of journalism, but it was absolutely false. The facts, which I should be glad to have checked by the panel members and a poll of those attending, are these: First of all, the subject of the discussion was "The Role of the American University in Making Democracy Work." There was criticism of American colleges in general on the part of Mr. Bisno on the grounds that prevailing tendencies are to restrict student freedoms and exert more paternalistic controls than is compatible with education for democracy. However, he specifically stated that he was not referring to the University of Oregon, and none of his examples were taken from this university. He gave examples from the University of Wisconsin and the University of California where he has been a student.

However, in the question period, Mr. DuShane took exception to the exclusion from the University of Oregon from

the discussion and stated that in regard to the criticisms of American colleges, with which he expressed general agreement, the University of Oregon ranks well toward the ideal end of a scale of student freedom and self government. He cited examples to support this position.

Mr. Bisno did not disagree with this, but asked two questions: (1) Granting the forms of student government and student membership on faculty committees, do students in fact exercise these rights or are they over-awed by the faculty and administrative members? It must be remembered that this question, again, was directed at universities in general and not toward the University of Oregon. Mr. DuShane believed that they did, indeed exercise their rights. (2) To what extent do student groups have the right to organize and be recognized on this campus even though they might represent unpopular ideologies. "For example," he said, "Do you believe the present Student Affairs committee would recognize a branch of 'The Associated Anarchists of the World' (a purely hypothetical organization) or a union of student workers seeking to bargain collectively?" Mr. DuShane believed that it would. Mr. Tope pointed out that the NAACP, itself, had been recognized on this campus only after faculty action to overrule the Student Affairs committee.

2. The characterization of the discussion as "heated" is, in my judgment, an exaggeration. I believe that it was amicable and rational throughout and that tempers did not flare nor temperatures rise. That there were differing points of view expressed and direct questions and response among panel members rather than merely formal speeches made the discussion lively and interesting. I believe

the term "heated" was as unjustified as the "Blasts UO Activities" in the headline.

3. In the interests of developing a "heated" controversy between Mr. Bisno and Mr. DuShane, the very significant contribution to the panel by Mr. Tope was completely ignored by the Emerald.

4. The final paragraph furnishes an example of the unjust distortion which appeared in the Emerald article: "Bisno, however, despite DuShane's defenses, felt, etc." The implication that Mr. Bisno had "blasted" at the University of Oregon and that Mr. DuShane stoutly defended it is implied in this wording. It is, however, a false inference, as the above material indicates, (point one). Actually Mr. Bisno said certain things are characteristic of American universities and colleges. Mr. DuShane was saying that this doesn't apply to the University of Oregon and that we are better than most colleges and universities so far as the practice of democracy is concerned.

I think the panel discussion was an intelligent, honest discussion on a high intellectual plane of a very important topic. It was in no sense an ill-tempered exchange of accusation and defense, as your story implies. The discussion was not of this university, but of universities generally. The University of Oregon was brought into the discussion only during the question period and I believe what was said about it on the part of the panel members supported the position that though we, like others, are not ideal, we are freer than many universities of the characteristics which were criticized as not conducive to education for democracy.

Lawrence T. Schwartz
President, Oregon Chapter, NAACP

Sense of Importance



"He told me he was guard for the team—do you suppose he meant the equipment?"



The Oregon Daily Emerald is published five days a week during the school year except examination and vacation periods, by the Student Publications Board of the University of Oregon. Entered as second class matter at the post office, Eugene, Oregon. Subscription rates: \$5 per school year; \$2 a term.

Opinions expressed on the editorial pages are those of the writer and do not pretend to represent the opinions of the ASUO or the University. Unsigned editorials are written by the editor; initialed editorials by members of the editorial board.

JOE GARDNER, Editor
JEAN SANDINE, Business Manager
DICK LEWIS, JACKIE WARDELL, Associate Editors