

+ EMERALD EDITORIALS +

Spirit: A Beginning

The rally board has taken what may be the first step in a concerted program to revive sagging Oregon spirit to the point where people merely complain about it, instead of giving up in disgust.

The board Tuesday night decided to establish a freshmen rally squad, similar to the Rook rally squad at Oregon State. The squad would lead yells and attempt to stimulate interest in the frosh games, something that has been nearly nonexistent in the past two years.

Plans for the new squad aren't complete yet, but tentative arrangements call for a student to be selected from each of the freshman dorms, plus one from each freshman floor in Carson hall.

Rally Board Chairman Betty Anderson points out, quite logically, that one representative from each organization would be much more successful in stirring up interest than a few upperclassmen that the frosh didn't know personally.

One single influential person in each dorm could convince an immense number of people in that dorm that they should go see a freshman game. Such a system would be especially valuable in football season, when the frosh game isn't followed by a varsity contest that will attract a crowd.

Coupled with the fact, which we hope the rally board will publicize, that the freshman football team will play only one or two home games, those games should attract a large, and noisy, percentage of the freshman class.

The rally board does not expect to revive school spirit with a single master stroke. And

in Miss Anderson's words, they "don't want to bite off more than they can chew." It'll be a long process.

But where is a more logical place to start than with the freshmen, especially when you have a good program to offer them?

The board is looking farther ahead than this, however. In four years every class in the University would have had one of these squads when they first entered and, we hope, would have developed some sort of class consciousness from it.

And as Alumni Director Les Anderson said at the ASUO panel on student government a few weeks ago, the "breakdown of the class as a unit" may be one of the causes of student apathy on the campus.

The freshman rally squad is a beginning, it's not a cure-all, and it could fail without a lot of effort. But it's the best step that has been taken so far.—(G.R.)

Footnotes

Judges for campus events have received more than their share of criticism recently but we feel that the choice of so many co-winners does not reflect well on the judges. They are to decide the winners on a first, second and third basis. When five out of eight entrants can place, it ceases to be much of a contest.

* * *

The Emerald's traditional "Letter to the Gods" which ran Friday had its desired effect—well, almost. Despite the rain, the Canoe Fete and all of the other events came off, not quite as planned, but they were all held.

INTERPRETING THE NEWS

Eisenhower Faces Cram Session In Preparation for Big Four Meet

By J. M. ROBERTS
AP News Analyst

President Eisenhower is going to have to do a lot of homework in the next several weeks if he goes to meet Bulganin.

Every effort will be made in Washington to make him a walking State Department. He will be briefed and briefed, and then briefed some more, on all of the things which have gone on in relations with Russia over the years.

The President sounded Wednesday as though he rather expected the top-level discussions to be confined to broad general issues, with any decisions to re-

volve around areas in which the chiefs of state agree there is a possibility the foreign ministers can get together.

The Russian record, however, suggests that the President better be ready himself with a lot of detail.

One of the greatest troubles at Yalta lay in the fact that President Roosevelt, while equipped with a vast array of State Department intelligence memoranda accompanied by advice, chose to work primarily on the broad general line of establishing a cooperative position, first with regard to the Japanese war, and then with regard to postwar problems.

Stalin, on the other hand, had a whole batch of definite postwar objectives, and by obfuscation set himself up to attain them. The Americans learned something from that experience about the way Russians use words like "democracy" and "freedom."

In many ways Eisenhower's task will be easier than Roosevelt's, because he will know definitely that he is dealing with an enemy.

Plenty of people told Roosevelt that, too, but he believed he could prevent it from proving true.

One thing Eisenhower may have to do is go back over the road on which Roosevelt stumbled at Yalta—the matter of the fate of subjugated, Eastern European nations.

In any consideration of things which might ease the cold war there always lies in the background the fact that the United States can't just pull out of Europe and leave the satellites in slavery. It would undermine her position throughout the world.

When President Truman went to Potsdam the chief matters of concern were procedural—how the Big Three of those days would carry out their administration of conquered territories. A detail was overlooked then which later enabled the Russians to set up their Berlin blockade and create a situation which barely skirted war.

Such inherent dangers are well known to Eisenhower and his advisers. America knows her world political lessons much better than she did ten years ago. The task and responsibility now faced by the President, however, remains monumental.

Letters to the Editor

Good Luck !!

Emerald Editor:

Thursday afternoon in Carson Lounge, locked in casual combat with a vigorous violator, I was confronted by a noble fellow in glasses and an army ROTC outfit.

"You're not supposed to be inside of this building. Get Out!"

"I'm trying to, man, but this tiger here won't cooperate." I tugged my booty toward the aquatic orgy that raged on the lawn outside.

"Turn that girl loose and get out of this building!"

I stopped to look at the be-glassed knight in tan armor. "Wait a minute, fellow, Lettermen can grab Junior Weekend violators off the first floor of Carson. Rules say we can."

"I don't believe so. I don't be-

lieve you're a letterman, either."

The afternoon of cold water and wet flesh had aroused my battling blood; I dropped my squirming morsel and turned to the boy in brown: "I lettered in wrestling, general, and it looks like I'm going to have to prove it." Oh, I was real Brando!

"Don't — you — dare lay a hand on me!" he bit the words off like chewing on a crisp stalk of rhubarb. Then, just when I thought we were going to lock horns, he turned and headed to the Carson phone to call "Ray."

Taking my heel from the throat of the fallen frosh female, I asked "Hey, who is that guy, anyhow?"

"That," she smiled as though she had ochre in her mouth, "is Brad Blaine, assistant dean of men."

Guuuuud Luck!

Ken Kesey



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On Campus with Max Shulman

(Author of "Barefoot Boy With Cheek," etc.)

THE GREAT CAP and GOWN CONTROVERSY

The cap and gown season is upon us, and with it comes the perennial question: which side of the cap should the tassel hang on?

This is an argument that arises every year to roil the academic world, and it is, alas, no closer to solution today than it was in 1604 when Fred Tassel invented the troublesome ornament.

Fred Tassel, incidentally, never made a penny from his invention. The sad fact is he never took out a patent on it. This tragic oversight becomes understandable, however, when one considers that patents were not invented till 1851 by Fred Patent, himself a pitiable figure. A compulsive handwasher, he died in his fourteenth year, leaving behind a wife and five spotless children.

But I digress. We were discussing which side of the cap the tassel should hang on.

For many years the universally accepted practice was to hang the tassel over the front of the cap. This practice was abandoned in 1942 when the entire graduating class of Northwestern University, blinded by tassels hanging in their eyes, made a wrong turn during commencement exercises and ended up at the Great Lakes Training Center where, all unwitting, they were inducted into the Navy for five year hitches.

There is one school of thought—large and growing daily larger—which holds that the tassel should be worn on the same side you carry your Philip Morris cigarettes. Thus a quick glance will show you where your Philip Morris are and save much time and fumbling.

This makes a good deal of sense because when one wants a Philip Morris, one wants one with a minimum of delay. One does not relish being kept, even for a second, from the clean, delicate flavor of Philip Morris, so artfully blended, so subtly concocted to please the keen and alert taste buds of young smokers. One chafes at any obstacle, however small, that is put in the way of enjoying this most edifying of cigarettes, so pleasing to the perceptive palate. Here, in king size or regular, at prices that do no violence to the slimmest of budgets, is a firm white cylinder of balm and pure, abiding content.

There is another group, small but vocal, that insists the tassel should hang over the back of the cap. The tassel, they say, is a symbol like the bullfighter's pigtail, signifying honor and courage.

They are wrong. Bullfighters wear pigtails for only one reason: to keep the backs of their necks warm. Do you have any idea what a draft a bull makes when he rushes past you? A plenty big one, you may be sure.

In fact, upper respiratory infections, contracted in the wake of passing bulls, are the largest single cause of bullring fatalities. I have this interesting statistic from the Bullfighters Mutual Life Insurance Company of Hartford, Connecticut, one of the few insurance companies in Hartford, Connecticut, which writes insurance exclusively for bullfighters. Incidentally, Hartford, the insurance capital of America, is a most interesting city and well worth a visit if you are ever in New England, as northeastern United States is, for some reason, called. Hartford can be reached by bus, train, plane, and the Humboldt Current. Try to make your visit in spring, when the actuaries are in bloom.

But I digress. We were talking about what side to wear the tassel on. An ingenious solution to this troubling problem was proposed a few years ago by Fred Sigafos, perhaps better known as "The Quoit King of Delaware." An early forbear of Mr. Sigafos, Humboldt Sigafos (who later invented the current which bears his name) was granted a monopoly by King George III on all quoits manufactured in Delaware. Somehow the royal appointment was never rescinded and from that day to this, every quoit made in Delaware has been a Sigafos Quoit.

Well, sir, Fred Sigafos once suggested that an equitable settlement to the great tassel controversy would be to starch the tassels so they stood upright and hung on no side of the cap at all. Mr. Sigafos was, of course, only seeking to broaden his market, because after graduation, what can you do with an upright tassel but hurl quoits at it?

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The makers of PHILIP MORRIS who bring you this column make no recommendation about what side to hang the tassel on. But with cigarettes they say: Stay on the gentle, tasty, vintage side — with PHILIP MORRIS, of course.

oregon Daily EMERALD

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