

+ EMERALD EDITORIALS +

Ribbons and Dunkings

An interesting point came up at the frosh assembly Monday night, a point that a lot of the campus is recognizing more and more as time goes on. This freshman class, the class of 1959, has got a lot of spunk.

Granted, it has been mis-directed at times, as evidenced by the raiding at Oregon State and the ill-conceived panty-raid of the women's dormitories. But we still can't overlook the fact that the frosh have come up with, and supported, a frosh rally squad; and that their participation in the frosh elections has exceeded the interest shown by any other freshman class for the last four years.

We think the class of '59 has somehow managed to get a grasp of a very intangible thing called "tradition"; a thing that has been a by-word at the "Country Club" since it was once a one-building establishment on the outskirts of Eugene in the roaring '80's.

"What good are traditions," the more skeptical students will say. "Isn't it just so much hog wash for the gung-ho activity hounds to content themselves with?"

We don't know how to answer that question, but we will say this: If a student places such a materialistic value on his college education, he's sure not getting his money's worth.

Take a look at the alums who return each year for the Homecoming. Are they coming down to the campus just to get away from the house for a day? No. They're coming back to take a look at the old campus, where they roamed in their college days, and where they stored away some of their most cherished memories.

They'll see some changes, and they'll give their usual criticisms about the lackadaisical attitude of the students. But there won't be many of them who don't listen to the rich tones of the carillon bells in the ultra-modern Student Union without getting a misty sensation in their eyes.

How strong is tradition? It's something you can't measure with a public opinion poll, and something you certainly can't put a dollar value on. But just let the alums get worked up about something, and you'll see the effect of tradition. You'll see it in support of the Millrace project, and you'll see it any other place the students want some help.

So, give a thought to this when you complain about wearing your green ribbon, or when you begin to criticize the Order of the

O for dunking every freshman woman. Even in this fast-stepping, quick paced college life of ours there's still time to go along with this tradition business. If you don't, we won't expect to see you back for Homecomings 10 years from now. And we won't expect you to go away from here feeling that your college adventure was worth your while.—(S.V.)

Admit the Facts

Another campus fraternity is in trouble. Members of the organization are doing their best to cover it up, but it is not hard to see that the main reason Phi Sigma Kappa men have moved out of their house is more because of financial difficulties than anything else.

We are well aware that this statement will raise all kinds of wrath on the part of the Phi Sigs and that the first thing they will do is deny that it is so. But, why not call a spade a spade?

We can see no reason why the fraternity should hesitate to admit that it is having financial trouble. We admired Pi Kappa Phi last spring when it came right out and revealed that its difficulty stemmed right from the Greek system inevitably of "survival of the fittest" and a "lack of pledging initiative."

Instead of coming right out and making this admission, the Phi Sigs are trying to hide their financial troubles by claiming that the reason they moved out of their house was so that it could be re-built and remodeled.

It is indeed nice that alums of the chapter have come to the aid of the house and are really "fixing the place up."

But, isn't it true that they are not only providing the funds for house improvement but are also giving the chapter the necessary funds so it can keep going? There is no disgrace in receiving aid, why not admit it?

—(B.R.)

Footnotes

Thursday must have been "culture" day this week. Representative Ellsworth and Charles Porter spoke in the Student Union and the Eugene-Springfield symphony was at Mac court. And this after an afternoon lecture by a noted nuclear scientist.

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For once, Oregon's freshman feminists must have gotten together. For the first time in recent years, the freshman class may have elected a woman representative.

Transfusion?



THE LOOKING GLASS

'Rebel' Has Meanest, Toughest Teen-agers

By Bob Davis
Emerald Columnist

Warner Brothers Studios has amassed the meanest, toughest, most confused teen-age problem children that one is ever likely to see in the latest of the juvenile delinquency pictures, "Rebel Without A Cause."

The movie can be accused of many faults which seem inherent in a motion picture of this type. The violence in overdone, the moral of the story is frequently thrown in your face, and the situations are often unnatural.

We can thank a competent cast and some good script writing for overshadowing these defects and making "Rebel Without A Cause" cause of considerable movie enjoyment and instruction. The tragedy of kids with nothing to do is something for all to think about.

The late James Dean is again cast as a youth confused by an imperfect father. In this case the father, admirably suited to the talents of Jim Backus, is a jovial fellow whose back bone has been crushed by a tyrannical wife.

Dean's characterization of Jim Stark, a high school student who is forced into violent and senseless acts of courage to prove that he is not "chick-

en" is as sensitive as it is realistic. He needs parental advice to help him decide whether it is wise to prove his courage and honor in a stupidly dangerous stunt. His father is too weak to give him the advice, so he decides to go ahead. The act results in a death and other complications which are not resolved until the neurotic youngsters can relieve their repressions through all sorts of chain rattling and gun play.

Many students will recognize the dark-complected hoodlum Crunch as Frank Mazzola, a freshman here in 1954 who forsook a college education for the footlights of Hollywood and a \$500 a week contract.

To watch the last performance of James Dean, a highly competent actor who had an unlimited future, would alone be well worth the price of admission. The picture will stand on other merits as well.

Jim Stark's family is beautifully portrayed in a way that all can see that juvenile problems usually are a product of juvenile parents. We just wonder, however, how many problems lead to the type of violent activity shown in most pictures dealing with delinquent youth. Perhaps the wilderness and serenity of Oregon does not provide the ideal perspective.

Letters to the Editor

Emerald Editor:

For some years I have heard people say that there is not the "old Oregon spirit" on the campus anymore. I have wondered myself whether or not the real spirit is here. I would like the students to know that I am now fully one hundred per cent convinced. There is real spirit and lots of it, too. The demonstration of the "white shirt" section at the Idaho game convinced me that there is as much, if not more, hustle here on the campus than at any period in which I have been in contact with the University. I do think that it needs a little organization and guidance, but I know that it is really here.

During the next week we will have plenty of opportunity to prove that the "Oregon Spirit" is great. Starting Monday we will be in Homecoming week. There will always be a few confirmed skeptics who will think that we are all wrong and who have to be shown. Well, now is the time to show 'em.

Already I have seen far more enthusiasm and action by the Homecoming committee than

my own committee had when I was a student. They are determined to make this the best Homecoming ever. You might as well give in and help because they will keep after you. The rally board and everyone connected with the organization of school spirit are going all out as you will see this week. All in all everything looks great.

There is just one small problem. If the noise parade is not successful or if the variety show is not sensational or if the dance draws less than 2,000 couples (none of this is going to happen, but I need a hypothesis to make my point) there is still one sure way to make the Homecoming a success for all. That one way is to BEAT THE BEAVERS. If we win the game everyone will have a fine time. Now the problem is how can we be sure that we will win? Cas and his staff would like the answer to that one too. But I have a theory. I think that for some years the students as well as the OSC team have been the reasons that they have been so successful against us. Their students have worked themselves into such a fever that they carried their enthusi-

asm right onto the field and to the team.

Well, now it is our turn. Starting Monday let's get ready to BEAT THE BEAVERS. Everybody get BEAVER FEVER. We know our team can beat them, but let's get set to out yell, out spirit and out hustle their students. We can help our own team play better if we join this Beaver campaign right with them. Make everyone conscious of it. Start Monday this way. Not good morning or Hello—but—Hi, BEAT THE BEAVERS!!! Hi Joe, BEAT THE BEAVERS. Good morning Professor, BEAT the BEAVERS. That's the start. From then on follow the lead of the rally squad and yell leaders. Welcome the team back from Palo Alto this Sunday and then really build up that spirit Monday and on through the week until Saturday. That is THE DAY. That's the day we BEAT THOSE BEAVERS and that is the day we prove to one and all that there is more OREGON SPIRIT here now than ever before. How about it? BEAT THE BEAVERS.

Bass Dyer
Alumni Secretary

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