

Oregon Daily



EMERALD

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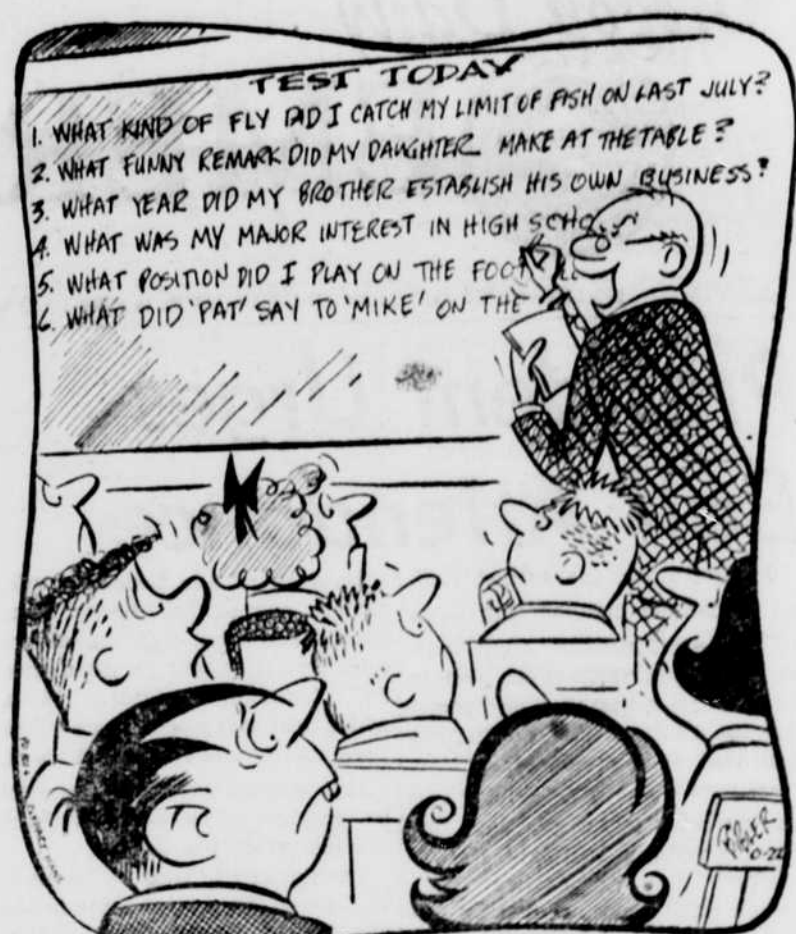
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The Happy Wanderer



Considered Again: Deferred Rushing

The possibility of deferring future men's rush weeks until winter term will soon become an issue with Inter-fraternity Council. Since rushing and resulting pledging has such an impact upon most of the campus, the alternatives should be of interest to those outside of IFC.

Considerable sentiment existed last year among fraternity presidents for such a change. After considerable study and debate, however, the idea was rejected.

There was a feeling that delaying rushing until winter term would reduce the number of pledges, even among those who make their grades. It would automatically eliminate anyone without a 2.0 GPA.

Because of this, most of the smaller houses opposed the suggestion. Larger houses, with fewer financial worries, generally favored the idea. It was agreed by nearly all that when enrollment increased enough to erase worries about filling houses (then averaging 65 per cent of capacity) that winter term rush would be desirable.

There is much to be said on both sides.

Many feel that freshmen should be given a term to get adjusted to college life before taking on added fraternity burdens. And, it was argued by many, the delay would give both rushee and fraternity time to look each other over, thus resulting in wiser

pledging for both. And fraternities would then be rushing only those who had proved themselves gradewise.

But the majority of the fraternity presidents felt the negative factors outweighed the advantages. Primarily they were concerned about perhaps pledging fewer men. But they also feared the prospect of a whole term of rushing. The time and expense involved would be tremendous. At some colleges there are strictly enforced rushing rules to prevent this, but regulations have never been very effective here. And if they were, it would eliminate the advantage of getting better acquainted with the men.

And so rush week was held fall term again this year.

That the decision was made by IFC was in itself significant. Since much more is involved than the welfare of fraternities, the administration is very decent to leave this up to IFC.

IFC has a Rushweek Revision committee which is now studying a winter term rush proposal. It has written to other schools for ideas, and will soon make its findings known to the fraternity body.

When this decision is made by IFC, the whole campus will have a right to know what is decided and why. It is a matter of vital concern to the whole campus community.

Crossing the Threshold

That we are on the edge of an era of space travel we had known for some time; that we'll be in it before the year is out is something that we realized only after hearing Arthur C. Clarke's lecture in the University assembly Tuesday.

Already, said Mr. Clarke, rockets have been test-fired 650 miles above the earth; within a year, a man-made satellite will be rotating around the planet and the Army will have test-fired an Intercontinental Ballistics Missile, capable of traveling 5,000 miles and attaining velocities up to 20 times the speed of sound.

All this, presumably, before the junior class has donned caps and gowns. And where do we go from here?

Well, if Mr. Clarke's predictions are borne out, we'll have an opportunity to test the moon for green cheese content before most of us have turned fifty. For

once those "platforms in space" are established, says the prominent British writer and scientist, it won't take us long to reach the moon.

Clarke outlined a fascinating future of building colonies on the moon and on Mars and of exploring the outer planets. As he concluded, "the age of exploration is just beginning."

There's only one pitfall that we can see for this most exciting future: it's the fact that the satellite and the ICBM, both necessary for achieving the conquest of space, are also just about as deadly a pair of weapons as you could name. Atomic missiles guided from a space station or sent at unthinkable speeds from continent to continent are frightful to think about.

They could end the Age of Civilization as well as the Age of Space Travel. (J.W.)

From the Squirrel Cage

Prexy Offers Explanation About 'What's Going On?'

By DARREL BRITTSAN
ASUO President

The ASUO Senate has recently received considerable criticism and, unfortunately, many of the faults which were pointed out were based on too little or wrong information. I would like to clear up some of the misconceptions which I have found existing.

First, a word of explanation about how the Senate interviews petitioners to fill vacancies. Each individual is brought before the Senate and questioned. From these interviews and the petitions the members of the Senate will form opinions as each applicant is brought before them.

After all have been interviewed, discussion is opened on any and all petitioners. Sometimes the discussion will involve all, sometimes only a few. If, in the opinion of any Senate member, one of the petitioners appears to have the needed qualifications to fill the position and could do so better than his competition, his name will certainly be discussed.

However, to discuss everyone just for the sake of saying that everyone was discussed is ridiculous and accomplishes nothing. Discussion is in no way limited by rule.

Also, there are no rules concerning applicants who fail to appear for their interviews. In years past people have been considered who failed to appear before the Senate. Not appearing was a disadvantage, but they weren't ruled out simply because they missed their interviews.

In a recent case an individual failed to appear before a screening committee. However, as she had appeared before the entire Senate on two previous occasions, this committee was able to evaluate her ability and rated it high. Thus, they presented to the Senate a list of petitioners which they felt were the most outstanding.

The Senate was aware that one of these individuals had not appeared, but realized that they weren't there to judge the merits of that, but to judge the person in terms of value to the Senate and the student body.

Since they did have a rational

and logical basis for feeling that she was of superior calibre, they, the entire Senate, voted her to fill the Senate vacancy.

In connection with this incident, someone has charged that the "ruling body is electing the ruling body." I hope that most of us realize that this is an invalid assumption. True, the Senate fills its own vacancies, but all other Senate members are elected by the entire student body in the Spring. Further, under the preferential system that we use, even the small minorities are able to, and do, place their candidates on the Senate.

I am sure that the people who feel the "ruling body is electing the ruling body" would hesitate when they realized that a campus-wide election would be necessary to fill the Senate vacancies every term if the Senate didn't fill its ranks itself.

The above statements are not trying to lead to a conclusion that the Senate is infallible. When they make mistakes no one feels worse about it than themselves, and, if possible, to correct the error, they would certainly do so.

The idea I want to express is that when circumstances of questionable nature arise, I would be very happy to discuss the situation with any interested party. I can be found every afternoon in the ASUO office and my door is always open.

Likewise the other Senate members would be willing to discuss any problems. Senate meetings are open to the public and the Emerald gives excellent coverage to these proceedings.

Thus, I feel that interested individuals have an excellent opportunity to acquaint themselves with "what's going on in student government."

Campus Capers

"Bring Hungarian students to our campus" was the cry of students at Brigham Young University as news of Hungary's fight for freedom came.

Cooperating in the drive are student government groups, local businessmen, the Daily Universe newspaper, service groups and many individual students.

— Letters to the Editor —

Emerald Editor:

The editorial in Monday's paper condemning the so-called compromise of University administrative officials with the freedom-fighters of Susan Campbell hall is to be commended.

It aptly points out that if the administration's prior position was in error as to 100 per cent of the damage costs it was also in error as to 50 per cent of it.

And, of course, the administration has admitted its own error by reducing the sum sought to be converted to the administration's

own use by one-half.

The editorial states that this is still not justice. I would like to be more specific. It is not justice because it violates a basic safeguard of freedom contained in the Fifth Amendment to the United States Constitution and made applicable to the states and state employers' official actions by the Fourteenth Amendment to the same document.

An individual person's property may not be taken without due process of law; or may property be taken even under

color of state authority without adequate compensation. So says our Constitution.

The money which each student deposits as a breakage "fee" is his and not the University's until that self-same person breaks something within the cognizance of the University.

Even that is not claimed here. Rather the money belonging to individual students is sought to be confiscated by arbitrary edict. Even the Nazi system of hostages, reprisals and fines

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