

Oregon Daily EMERALD

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KEN NIEHANS, Business Manager

Let's Show Them ALL Sides

As the first impression of college life for many prospective students, Duck Preview is an event of prime importance to the visitors and their University hosts alike. Undoubtedly, most of the high school seniors headed our way will be here in search of a good time. They'll get it, with no small amount of help from their living organization hosts — anxious to create good opinions of themselves and their university.

But let's think realistically of the effects of such a weekend. Certainly it is vital to offer an advance look at campus life with entertainment and social angles stressed. But for what reason does a freshman come to college? Or to be super-realistic, why should a freshman come to college, a particular college? For an education based primarily on academic facilities. Fringe benefits to be found in social events and the like have a definite importance too, but must be kept in proper perspective.

Earlier this year a promotional venture managed by students (Greater Oregon) was launched with the aim of attracting more and better students to the University. Here's a real chance to follow up on any groundwork that may have been laid for succeeding years of entering classes. With the multi-activities of Duck Preview channeled in the right direction — presenting

ALL sides of the campus and its contents — the weekend can be of immense value.

A certain responsibility rests with the University students, who, we must assume, are mature enough to relate the real values they have found in their years here. To them will fall the burden of proof that the University of Oregon is an enjoyable place to obtain a college education. Naturally the visitors will realize that much extra-curricular activity goes with the "book learning," but added effort should be put forth to impress upon them the merits and advantages of the various schools and colleges on our campus.

We're in a recruiting battle, despite possibilities of limited enrollment in the near future. High school seniors nearing graduation need advice and guidance in making the right decision for their future, as we can all recall from a few years ago. A friendly manner, a helpful attitude and an intelligent outlook by the University student can be far more important to the potential freshman than a round of parties, picnics, shows, auctions and dances. We want to demonstrate to our visitors the sum total of the University. Only if they are informed fully can they make the decision best for their future and for ours. (A.J.)

A Block to Responsible Government

The ASUO committee established to investigate formally expressed racial discrimination in campus living organizations is meeting at least temporary defeat at every turn.

It hopes to learn which fraternities and sororities have exclusive clauses, and what the national organizations are doing to eliminate them. It also hopes to learn what "support," financial and otherwise, the University administration gives to discriminatory organizations — which if existent in considerable degree is believed illegal.

So far the committee has been thwarted on both counts. The Office of Student Affairs has refused to issue a written statement on what aid it has given until it has more time to study the matter. It is to be hoped there is no other reason for delay and that the administration will see fit to respect the desires of student government on this matter.

Neither has the committee obtained any information from the fraternities. Questionnaires have been prepared, but so far Interfraternity Council has not said that it would or would not cooperate.

The Emerald hopes IFC does not feel it has something to hide, for the facts in perspective aren't as damaging to the fraternity system as are the rumors which exist in the absence of facts.

About half of the fraternities still have written "white clauses" in their constitutions. Most of these will be removed within two years, because of the need to do so or else lose charters at Colorado, Wisconsin and Dartmouth (and this list will grow). Eliminating the clauses will not affect the

amount of actual discrimination which will exist in fraternities.

The attitudes of fraternity men are basically those of our society as a whole. Some are free of racial prejudice and some are not. We are all aware that in many cities white families sell their homes in a neighborhood as soon as Negroes obtain some of the property. Often there are "gentlemen's agreements" not to sell to Negroes. The Emerald views this as extremely unfortunate and irrational, but this is the way millions of Americans feel. This is also the way many fraternity men feel, although it is much less true of undergraduate members than of alumni members. Discrimination in fraternities we consider wrong; discrimination in society we consider wrong. Only time and education can change such attitudes, however.

The Emerald hopes IFC will see the matter in this light when it meets tonight to discuss the committee's questionnaires. It also hopes the Office of Student Affairs, with a "we have nothing to hide" attitude, will lay its cards on the table.

Aside from the desirability of this particular investigation, its success or failure will influence the prestige of student government. The ASUO Senate recommended such a study because it thought these facts should become public. Many would consider it somewhat arrogant if either IFC or Student Affairs refused to cooperate. Perhaps candidates for ASUO president, all of whom believe student government should be stronger, will have something to say on this matter.

Try to Laugh Off an F



"I ENJOY A CLASS MORE WHERE THE PROF HAS A SENSE OF HUMOR."

Swan Song

Greek-Independent Split Relaxed in Recent Years

By SAM VAHEY

Emerald Associate Editor

There are some members of sororities and fraternities on this campus who have superiority complexes; likewise, there are some independents who are very bitter.

But there is not the Greek-independent split that existed as recently as seven years ago. The reason, simply enough, is that there just isn't much difference between the two groups.

There are some students, admittedly, who have suffered social blows at being refused admittance to a Greek-letter organization. There are others, admittedly, who feel bitter because they didn't have enough money to get into one. But this is not the average independent.

The average independent is independent, not because he was refused, or because he didn't have enough money; but because he wants to be independent. He may disagree with the stress placed on social activities by most sororities and fraternities; and he may disapprove of their restrictive racial clauses. He is not, however, embittered at not being a Greek. He's happy as he is.

The independent is certainly just as good a student, (perhaps better if one is to survey the term grade lists) as his Greek friend. He may compensate for this by not taking as active a part in intramurals or activities, but these are just the values he sets.

They both sit in the same classes; they both go to the same all-campus dances; they both drive the same kind of cars; they both drink the same kind of beer; and they both wear the same kind of clothes.

For these reasons, campus politicians decided to do away with the Greek-independent split two years ago. Any political alignment based on living organization was purely superficial, so they thought. And rightly so.

Previously, however, there had been a real cleavage between the two groups. It may sound silly, but Greeks and independents just didn't mix socially. A Greek wouldn't date an independent.

This was in the time before

deferred living, however; and freshman could move right into a house without staying in a frosh dorm for a year.

Naturally, the Greek and non-Greek didn't ever get to meet each other; and there was not a feeling of understanding between the two. For some reason, each thought the other had completely different values, principles, and background. And these thoughts were passed down from year to year.

Now that everyone must live with everyone else for a year before going into a house, these misunderstandings have mostly vanished.

Both Greeks and independents have discovered that they are, first of all, students at the University of Oregon. Where they live makes little real difference in their acceptance of each other; and in society's acceptance of them.

Letters to the Editor

Emerald Editor:

Looks like KWAX has dealt a blow to the Oregon students' right to know. A news story in Tuesday's Emerald states that ASUO Presidential candidates "voiced nearly complete agreement on the issues" but that they "did not discuss racial and religious segregation" on Monday's KWAX Newsroom Forum "because of a station policy."

What is the station policy which prevents discussion of a hot issue of the campaign? What is the justification? How long has the policy existed?

I am informed that the Oregon Students Party candidate, Don Kalberer, did try to discuss that issue. Was this cut from the broadcast tape? Mr. Kalberer is not in "nearly complete agreement" with the other candidates on this issue. His views, therefore, would be important matters to consider in determining for whom to vote.

Why can't KWAX tell us what they are?

Edward N. Fadeley
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Student