

## Our Aim is Improvement

The Emerald today is the first to be published by a new staff which will guide the campus daily through the remainder of this term and all of next fall term. But with the exception of several news and editorial typographical and emphasis changes, The Emerald probably will not appear much different from the product that has been hitting fraternity front porches all year.

Our major hopes for change are in the direction of overall improvement — the "rising above the mediocre and conventional," as Joseph Pulitzer said, with the aim of better service to the University community.

This improvement cannot come overnight, and we are the first to recognize it; at first there may be a few more than the usual unfortunate slips in type, due to new personnel and different methods. But our aim is still improvement.

The Emerald is and will be more than a "house organ" for the University of Oregon. We intend to continue use of the prized and respected right to criticize all that is within the area affected by the University community. For us, there will be no "sacred cows."

Our basis for news and editorial em-

phasis is that of the place of the University and the relative position of people, events, organizations and ideas. Our judgments in these areas will be revealed in detail as we progress and will be as objective as we know how to make them. We fully realize the fact that this leaves us open for criticism — as it does any newspaper — but we appreciate it as we appreciate our privilege to criticize.

But our criticism will be limited to our editorial page, and our news pages will be devoted strictly to news coverage as objectively as our staff can report it. Our service to the University reader in this area will be improved by expanded use of photographic coverage, better use of world and regional wire service facilities available to us and more complete coverage of all campus and campus-related events. To us, the student activity mill is not necessarily the important part of the day's news.

In all of this aim for improvement we realize there are limitations of personnel, experience and funds which will not permit immediate and complete fulfillment of our plans. But our aim is still service — improved service — to the entire University community.

+ + +

## A Change or Two

The change-over on The Emerald staff is most evident on the editorial page. The difference in type and makeup and the dropping of initials from the editorials are not, however, changes for the sake of change.

The new headline type you see on this page is called Garamond, and through its use we hope to set the page apart and lend it a little dignity (with, of course, a dash of slapstick now and then.)

We feel that initials on editorials are unnecessary, and, indeed, a way of hedging on the responsibility for the editorial. The editor must, by the nature of his office, shoulder the responsibility for opinions expressed here, but the source of every editorial that appears on this page is the Emerald Editorial Board (names appear in the masthead). It is in Editorial Board meeting that The Emerald's stand on various issues is hammered out, and the individual who is assigned to report that stand with an editorial is, actually, unimportant.

Signatures DO appear on the daily columns. These columns do not necessarily reflect the opinion of the editorial board, and arguments should be directed at their authors.

The new editorial page has also changed its attitude towards letters to the editor. We welcome and encourage letters on any and all subjects, but we must ask, with space restrictions in mind, that writers limit themselves to 300 words and discuss only one subject per letter. The Emerald reserves the right to withhold or edit any letters which we feel are too long or are irrelevant.

Likewise, we will exercise editorial judgment when we receive more than one letter which states the same view of the

same subject. Lastly, we will not become a battleground for the settlement of personal differences. Letters which do nothing but call other letter-writers names (or call anybody names, for that matter) will be relegated to the waste basket, and we will urge the authors to remove their quarrel to the field of honor.

## The Big Push

ASUO President Darrel Brittsan's tree-sitting stunt today kicks off the stretch drive for student-donated funds to assure a faster-flowing, sanitary Millrace, possibly as early as next fall term. With "only" \$3,000 needed to complete a student pledge of \$10,000, the dream of restoration may soon become a reality.

These final funds, which are expected to come largely in donated fees, will fulfill the quota set by student campaigners earlier this year. The University's Development Fund will be paying the balance of the University's share of the estimated cost of the restoration.

A city council vote set May 13 is expected to authorize the issuance of bonds for the city's share in the restoration project. Installation of pumping stations, dredging of the 'Race's bottom and repair of bulkheads are included in present plans.

We're sympathetic with student protests that all past donations have done little to produce a fully-restored Millrace recreation area. But we're equally confident that this final drive will show the community that the student body itself is willing to work for a goal, in this beneficial to students and townspeople alike.

Little more can be said about the values of a "healthy" Millrace. We can only echo previous comments on this page and express our belief that this final effort will lead directly to the 'Race restoration so long desired.



—SO PROF SNARF TOLD HIM TO GET THAT PAPER IN OR HE'D GET NO DIPLOMA

Dave Cass

## Student Government Failings Don't Reflect National Defects

(David C. Cass, whose first column appears here today, is a junior in economics. He has been a four-point student several times, and he is active in debate work. He has an inquiring mind and has no fear of criticizing or of criticism. —Ed.)

After the recent amendment election, further concern was expressed over an old problem in what has been amusingly called student government. (This election was highlighted by the proposal of the new and unique doctrine that an action conforms to the law if it suits merely the intent and not the letter or expressed meaning of the law. Roscoe Pound et al. had better beware.)

To some, this is a sign of a deep-seated social illness, and they would like us to compare it with the analogous problem in the more mature governmental systems in our country. To them, this seems to be the herald of degeneration in the American way of life.

**I would like to suggest that such fears are unfounded, that the realities of student government on this campus could illicit little more than a negative response from many people. For some, and I hope the majority, the benefits of a college education are considered to be more than the volume of crepe paper hung, or service honoraries achieved.**

For this group of students that cares little about activity points, the idea of student government, as constituted at Oregon, has little to offer. Of course such participation could be made mandatory by the inclusion of activity ratings with such mundane matters as test scores or attendance in the student's college record.

A similar system now in use in the Graduate School of Political Science seems to have achieved miraculous results. Unfortunately, at least in most instances, the faculty would veto such a proposal unqualifiedly.

Of course, the previous analysis doesn't deal directly with the question of why there is little interest, even in elections. Perhaps the answer lies in the contest of student government.

Examination of the issues of the last presidential campaign, mature only in the great ability of the candidates to fabricate issues, and of the monumental problems with which the Senate grapples, serves to stress the fact that student government here fails to deal with issues of real consequence to college life.

Some rather emphatic examples are such questions as: are freshman women weaned (the thumb-sucking test is a sure-fire criterion); whether we should have organized support, free love, or debauchery at athletic contests; whether and how a few discriminatory ogres should have an improved rushing asset; and whether discrimination is bad (opinion on the latter is divided between those who think it's bad and those who think it's not too good). It has even been suggested that the Senate might help Wynn Dahlgren decide whether to return his fraternity pin. That is, if he didn't do this long ago.

The few problems that could be dealt with to the benefit of all the students are never acted upon. Parking on the campus is one such chestnut. I have yet to see the Senate act on some problem relating to the "lesser" scholastic side of the college experience. (Of course, I haven't been around as long as some of the sages of student government: Sam Vahey, etc.)

**For instance, what attitude should we take toward entrance requirements and why? Until some changes are made in this direction there can be little hope of curing a justifiably apathy in student government.**

(The presidential election: certainly wasn't a turning point; I'm afraid that it was based on personalities and not issues. This type of interest is worse than none at all, although admittedly the candidates were much more interesting than the contrast and content of issues.)

The Oregon Daily Emerald is published five days a week during the school year, except during examinations and vacation periods, by the Student Publication Board of the University of Oregon. Entered as second class matter at the post office, Eugene, Oregon. Subscription rates: \$5 per school year, \$2 per term. Opinions expressed on the editorial page are those of The Emerald and do not pretend to represent the opinion of the ASUO or the University. CHARLES MITCHELMORE, Editor GARY CAPPS, Business Manager

## LETTERS TO THE EDITOR

Emerald Editor:

Mature college rule was preserved on this campus last week with the election of Jim Lynch for student body president and the defeat of the rabble-rousing, left-wing, publicity seeking OSP. Everyone is happy to know that the Greeks will control campus affairs for the next year, again giving us the ma-

ture, far-sighted student government that we want.

The election of Lynch was the answer of students who had no desire to see the campus run by a bunch of misfits who were bitter with the Greeks because they weren't of a high enough caliber to get into fraternities and sororities anyway.

The almost unanimous elec-

tion of Lynch and his ticket indicates the strong feeling against the ultra-phony campaign issues the OSP deemed necessary to use to offset the mediocracy of their candidates. The strongest feeling was against their very disingenuously using the old racial issue. As most of the OSP members are

(Continued on page 3)