

With Little Regret

The Pacific Coast Conference, which has produced top-flight competition in many sports, is on the brink of disaster because of misunderstandings about one sport.

UCLA, USC and California, angered at penalties inflicted on them by the conference and worried that they may no longer be able to compete against "big-time" football teams, want to end their association with the PCC.

Their removal from the conference would, admittedly, hurt Oregon at the football box-offices. But Oregon—as well as most of the nation's colleges and universities—must sooner or later face up to a bad situation which has gotten worse. The principles of amateurism are rapidly fading from the picture in inter-collegiate athletics, and with them is going the purpose of combining athletics with higher education.

The malcontents would not accept, we're sure, conference rules which increase the payment a college student may receive for playing football. Even if this peace offering were extended, it would no longer gratify the singed egos in the south. For most of the PCC teams do not fill the stadium on Saturday afternoon half as well as the "big-timers" do.

Boxoffice "gate" and nation-wide recognition have become more important to these schools than honor and sportsmanship. And it is only with a feeling of regret that so many years of fine competition in many sports should be ended for so poor a reason that we say farewell to the Bruins, the Bears and the Trojans.

Blank Check

In answer to the letter from the Oregon Students' Party co-chairman which appears on this page, The Emerald would like to reiterate its stand on the amendment which goes before the voters tomorrow.

The Emerald is not against constitutional conventions. And assuming that such a convention were necessary, we would not quarrel with OSP's method of initiating the idea. Although no provision is made in the constitution for the drawing up of a new document, the amendment process is probably as good as any.

But such an amendment, in keeping with the importance of its objective, should be written as carefully and clearly as possible. This amendment is not clear on many important points, and its intentions are

not made clear. They have not been made clear, we might add, by further statements from the OSP.

We still have no real conception of the purpose of a new constitution. We hear nothing but nebulous statements that the present constitution is "faulty" and "unsatisfactory."

How the "interest living groups" (an unsatisfactory phrase if there ever was one) are supposed to choose their delegates is left to a magical process that fails to take into consideration an all-important fact: It would be next to impossible to organize—let alone elect a delegate from—such all-inclusive "groups" as "off-campus" and "Amazon housing."

And we still feel that the "present constitution remaining in effect until that date" phrase could be interpreted as an enabling clause—allowing the new constitution to go into effect without student approval. In effect, we'd be signing a blank check.

These points more than demonstrate the inadvisability of allowing the amendment to pass. The Emerald urges a "no" vote in Wednesday's constitutional amendment election.

An Honor

(The following editorial is reprinted from the Eugene Register-Guard of Monday, Dec. 2.)

Getting bawled out can be an honor—if you're right. A lot depends upon who's doing the bawling out, who is getting told off and for what.

Take the University of Oregon, for example. It is one of a select list of American colleges and universities which, the AP says, was "rapped" in a report prepared for National Interfraternity Conference. Oregon's trouble, the report complained, is that, as a university, it will not permit fraternities on its campus to discriminate because of race, religion, color of skin, color of eyes or anything like that. Lewis and Clark and the University of Washington were in the same select company.

Discrimination, of course, will exist. The brothers will go on black-balling certain young men for wrong reasons. But such action will not be the stated policy of the university. And to us that indicates that the university understands the meaning of "fraternity" better than the fraternity committee which prepared the report.



"HE DON'T LOOK LIKE MUCH COACH— BUT YOU SHOULD SEE EDDIE HERE GO UP AFTER THOSE REBOUNDS."

William Cook

New Yell King Should Have Executive Ability, Respect

A new yell king will be chosen by the ASUO senate Thursday evening. He will begin his duties after the Rose Bowl game and hold office until the end of the 1958 football season.

The senate tried once, on November 21, to pick a new yell king. The senate, however, decided to postpone its selection until December 5 to permit senators' feelings on the matter to cool and to allow more candidates to petition for the office.

The yell king is the designated leader of students in their relations with varsity athletics. The necessity for choosing an able and conscientious man for this job is obvious.

Varsity athletics have become significant in American colleges and universities. Whether the emphasis placed on collegiate athletics is good or bad is open to question. But the existence and popularity of varsity athletics is one of the facts of modern life to be, for purposes here, accepted.

The participants in varsity athletics include only a small minority of the total student body. Popular opinion holds that the non-participating students can—by cheering and in other ways developing that nebulous quality called "school spirit"—inspire their team to victory.

These popular assumptions (held by people both inside and outside the university community) require a quality rally program for the University's reputation, if for no other reason.

Large numbers of non-University people are attending Oregon's games and even larger numbers are watching (in the case of football) by television. The quality of, and the attitudes displayed by, Oregon's rally activities help form their attitudes toward the school.

When, for example, someone unfamiliar with the University watches an Oregon game (as many across the nation will do

on New Year's Day), he forms an opinion of the school, based on the performance of the team and on the rally activities (spontaneous and planned). This opinion is then easily extended to include the whole of the University's program and its student body.

An opinion formed in this fashion is, admittedly, not sound. Yet this opinion-forming process does take place. Varsity athletics and rally activities are all that many people see of Oregon. They have little else on which to make a judgement.

The yell king, as chairman of the rally board, is responsible for all rally activities. He is responsible for promoting sportsmanship and maintaining order among students at games. He is responsible for channelling student spirit to "inspire the team" and to provoke favorable attitudes toward the University.

The yell king's most apparent function—leading yells at games—is not his most important job. Organizing and co-ordinating rally activities through the rally board, yell dukes and

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LETTERS TO THE EDITOR

Emerald Editor:

I just finished reading the column by Mr. Cook (Nov. 26)—or maybe Mr. "Half Baked"—would be a better name.

At best his comments about the yell king were nothing more than picking out a scape goat, and at the worst they were a slice at student morale. I, for one, did not see anything so terrible about the yells at Saturday's game, but if they were really "wicked," why were they repeated in the paper?

As for squelching any post-game battles, instead of criticism, Stables should be congratulated for the fine job of keeping the students in the stands. If Mr. Cook would have looked, he would have seen that ninety-five per cent of the kids did stay in their seats.

I am really glad that the OSC yell king was so outstanding but if Mr. Cook wants to eulogize the OSC rally squad, why doesn't he move over to Oregon State and write for their paper?

Mr. Cook should be worried about the problem of picking next term's yell king, not to end what he calls "... the string of poor yell kings," but to find one that measures up to our present yell king's ability, leadership and quality.

Mr. Cook should go back to the Brown junior high he talks about.

Larry Quinn
Sr. in BA

Emerald Editor:

In reply to the editorial which appeared in the Nov. 27 edition of the Emerald I would like to comment on the writer's apparent misunderstanding of the amendment to be voted on on Dec. 4.

The writer states that the Oregon Students' Party has predicted the outcome of the Constitutional Convention. The OSP wants to see a representative group of the Student Body draw up a constitution that will clear up the ambiguous and

confusing parts of the present constitution, the parts that the ASUO has been trying to amend for four years.

The writer asks, "And who will decide—the ASUO president or the interest living group?" The interest living groups are stated in the amendment and it will be up to them to choose their representatives any way they see fit. As for deciding the ASUO president, this is not to be an election of ASUO officers; it is to be an election of representatives for the purpose of drawing up a constitution.

The writer also makes reference to a Greek-Independent split. People group together with like interests. To choose a representative from each group will be to choose a fair representation of the student body. There is no intention of promoting a split of any kind on this campus. These representatives will be working together

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