

South of the Border?

**Unwise Decision**

The Inter-fraternity Council has finally demonstrated that, if nothing else, it is capable of arriving at a decision. After hemming and hawing for nearly a year on the question of deferred rush, IFC Thursday night gave the plan a resounding defeat—and in doing so it may have set the stage for outside influences to step in.

IFC was standing on the edge of a swimming pool, testing the water with one toe. The water was fine, but IFC apparently just didn't want to go swimming.

Ray Hawk, dean of men and advisor to the council, pointed out that deferred rush is a nation-wide trend and will come eventually, but IFC members seemingly felt that their groups were not yet ready for it.

A two-man committee was appointed to investigate the plan again, but this move was obviously only a sop to Hawk and the minority of house presidents who favor deferred rush. A previous committee returned a hearty recommendation for the plan last fall—and several of its members had been against deferred rush when they started the investigation in the spring. What this new committee decides will probably carry less weight than did the first.

IFC now faces the problem of what to do about the pressure that will undoubtedly be brought to bear on it from the administration, parent groups and alumni. The pressure won't be pleasant, and it won't get any better as the years pass.

Also, IFC had better set about indoctrinating next year's potential members. They might make the mistake of agreeing with their committee.

**Pasadena Dividends**

Oregon's fine performance in the Rose Bowl is starting to pay dividends already. Athletic director Leo Harris' announcement that he has scheduled Ohio's announcement that the 1961 Ducks is undoubtedly a direct result of the nation-wide interest that Len Casanova's eleven stirred up at Pasadena.

And OSU isn't the only "name" school the Ducks will be playing in the years to come. Next season, for example, Oregon meets Oklahoma and Miami University—both have been powers of the grid world for many years. The Air Force Academy is on the schedule for 1959, by which time the Falcons should be producing top teams. Another Big Ten power, Michigan, is on tap for 1960.

We heartily endorse the athletic department's selection of opponents. Top teams on the schedule will make the University's position much stronger when it comes time to try to patch the Pacific Coast Conference back together.

But we sincerely hope that Oregon-the-national-power will not lose sight of the ideals which have characterized Oregon-the-conference-watchdog. Winning against these "big-time" teams should not become so important that we can wink at the same violations of athletic ethics for which we have condemned other schools.

**Webfoot Comeback**

A victory over the University of Washington was just what the Oregon basketball team needed. After a pre-conference record of seven wins and one loss, the Webfoots dropped three games in a row to tough California schools. Saturday's victory over the Huskies was a real team victory and ended the shooting slump which had plagued Coach Steve Belko's crew in its

three previous Pacific Coast Conference losses.

The Webfoots played Washington like few PCC teams have done. They didn't concentrate all their efforts on the Husky All-American candidate Doug Smart, but virtually stopped the rest of the team cold and effectively blocked the big center from controlling the rebounds.

As a result Smart scored 27 points but Oregon won the game 57-53 for the first victory over Washington by a Northern Division club since 1955. It was a big step in the improvement plans of Belko and his Webfoot basketball team.

There's still a big job ahead of them. Next weekend, for instance, they move north to meet Washington State and Idaho. The Cougars, which Oregon meets on Friday night at Pullman, is not a strong team but is capable of giving any team trouble. The Vandals, the Webfoot's opponent next Saturday night at Moscow, have been a big surprise in the conference. Winner in four of six conference battles, Idaho boasts the PCC's leading scorer in guard Gary Simmons.

The victory over Washington was only Oregon's first in PCC play, but it was a comeback start. Already the eight victories racked up by the Ducks this year are twice as many as the 1956-57 team made all season.

**Dads Or Snow?**

The Emerald has often commented on the paradoxical character of winter term at the University; that is, we've said that now is the time to make grades, if the number of week-long and long weekend activities permit.

This tends to be an overstatement, in that a comparison of this term to the one just past finds fall a winner, activity-wise. But we must plead a current case: when we do have an activity weekend this term, need we have two activities?

The weekend in question is February 8-9, which will feature the annual Dad's Weekend festivities on campus and the Inter-collegiate Winter Carnival at Mt. Hood.

The Winter Carnival is not, of course, an exclusive Oregon production. But it is expected to attract a major share of University ski (and lodge-ski) enthusiasts to the snow country. Naturally, a Queen contest has been included.

Meanwhile, visiting dads will be kept busy here in Eugene, with the usual round of luncheons, tours, dinners and entertainment planned.

For a while, circumstances would have forced the Weekend to do without its usual chief attraction—a Saturday night basketball game. This year's game, with Idaho, was to be televised and thus played in the afternoon.

But NBC may have saved the day for harried weekend chairmen by announcing their suspension of the Pacific Coast Conference basketball series on TV. We assume that the game will now be switched to the normal evening time.

The merits of the Dads' Weekend supercede those of the Winter Carnival, if only because of the number of people involved. But might not some more far-sighted scheduling have been arranged? We admit that such a feat might be difficult, but our examination of the term schedule shows only house dances, the Frosh Snowball and basketball games on weekend slates.

At any rate, a word of reminder is in order. Decisions should be made quickly whether to plan a mountain trip or to invite Dad down for the weekend. At this point, we'll have to make the best of a bad situation.



"I'M ONLY A JUNIOR—HEY, YOU WITH TH' BOOKS—! WHERE'S TH' LIBRARY?"

*William Cook*

**Big-Time College Athletics Have No Place In University**

After Oregon's Rose Bowl success in January, it appears that the University is now, once and for all, committed to big-time inter-collegiate athletics, particularly in football. The athletic department has signed some of the "biggest names" in football to play Oregon during the next few years.



This gives rise to the natural question of whether such big-time athletics have any place at Oregon, or at any good university. How can athletic teams—for all practical purposes professional athletic teams—be justified as contributing any academic values to an educational institution?

The traditional arguments in support of inter-collegiate athletics are many and varied: Teams build character, spirit and sportsmanship. Participation in athletics provides needed physical exercise. Team members often achieve high scholarship. Good athletic teams build a school's name and so attract good students.

**The values of character, spirit and sportsmanship supposedly developed by inter-collegiate athletics quickly disappear when they are set in the context of "winning at any cost" which has characterized modern college athletics. These values could be more easily realized if athletics were handled as recreation — on an intra-mural basis, for example — where the corrupting pressure to win would not be so overpowering.**

Oregon has been acclaimed for scoring a "victory" in the Rose Bowl without actually winning on the scoreboard. Len Casanova is a hero because he coached that team.

But when Casanova's teams were on the short end of the score for several games running, the talk on campus was strongly to replace him. After a particularly disastrous loss to Stanford in 1956, Casanova was hung in effigy by students. This hardly seems like the promotion of sportsmanship or character

or spirit on a very permanent basis.

That team members get plenty of exercise is unquestioned. They could, however, receive the same physical conditioning in any of several other ways without subjecting themselves to inter-collegiate athletics.

The fact that a few college athletes achieve high scholastic records really proves nothing about college athletics. The athlete who does make high grades made them in spite of, not because of, his participation in athletics. If he hadn't turned out, he might have fared even better scholastically.

The argument that good, winning athletic teams build a school's name and so attract good students is not very plausible. A good university's reputation is on a sounder base than that.

Any potential student who picks a school to attend on the basis of its athletic teams is not likely to be much of an asset to the school—unless, of course, he

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