

Orange Juice

Opportunity for Achievement

A large portion of the University's brightest undergraduates are passing up a little-known program which was designed specifically for their benefit.

We have in mind the Bachelor Honors Program, for which the Honors Council has established the following aims: "a program which will extend our superior students, which will exploit their capabilities, and which will encourage them to develop the competence we want our better students to achieve."

Since its beginning in 1928, the Honors Program has never been overwhelmingly popular. Of course, it is automatically limited to top-flight students, and its academic demands have been necessarily rugged to insure that the goals listed above are pursued.

But Honors Council representatives on the Oregon faculty are convinced that their program can be profitably expanded to include many more students than, for instance, the 15 or so enrolled in it this year.

A general requirement-pattern for the Honors Program is difficult to describe because such requirements are mainly left up to the individual schools and departments. Usually, a student enrolls in the program at the beginning of his junior year, takes certain advanced courses which may include special honors classes and may be required to do supplementary work with his honors advisor. At the discretion of his department, the honors student may or may not be required to prepare a thesis—in fact, the only Honors Council regulation now is that he must take a final honors examination.

Requirements are fairly stiff and rightfully so: a 2.75 grade point average is required for admittance, and the honors scholar must maintain a 3.00 GPA while he is in the program.

In addition to the departmental honors program, a General Honors program has been offered in the past, requiring work in two or more fields.

What is the utility of such a program? Obviously, with its cousin, the Sophomore Honors system, the worth of Bachelor Honors lies in the work it requires, not in the gold-lettered suffix "With Honors" attached to the successful candidate's degree. This work presents a different and more challenging academic opportunity to the student who undertakes it. His capacities are more thoroughly exploited—capacities which may be otherwise lost in the shuffle of state-school mass education.

If the honors candidate is required to write a thesis (the departmental trend is away from this), such an assignment would seem to afford excellent training for later post-graduate degree-required theses which he will have to write.

The Bachelors Honor Program thus offers a unique opportunity for the outstanding Oregon undergraduate to extend his academic training beyond the level possible in a regular curriculum. That only 291 candidates have completed the program in 30 years (177 of these have been English majors), that a premium is being put on education above the BA and BS degrees, suggests that both the students and faculty of Oregon's departments had better consider Bachelor Honors and ask themselves: "What are we missing?"

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How Much Wood...?

February is a month of birthdays and celebrations, but the greatest of these is little noted and poorly celebrated. It comes early in the month, before most people have stopped writing January on checks and papers. It is not a national holiday, so few of us stop to consider its importance.

We are speaking of Groundhog Day, the second of February.

Groundhog day serves a double purpose. It is, first of all, a time for the anticipation of spring, a time for remembering that winter cannot last forever. It is also a time for paying tribute to that unsung hero of nature, the groundhog. The groundhog is a burrowing rodent, akin to the beaver. It is also called the woodchuck because, instead of building things out of wood as does its cousin the beaver, it throws the wood away and lives in a hole.

But the groundhog cares not a whit for his glory. He lives out his simple life in anonymity. Once a year he emerges from the ground; if he sees his shadow, he dives underground again, and we are in for six more weeks of winter. If he doesn't see his shadow he is just as likely to return to his hole, but this time the crocuses can be expected to bloom within the week.

Sunday is Groundhog Day. We trust that his day will be suitably honored by all.

Trophy Dash

The second in a series of three Chancellor Trophy basketball games gets underway tonight at McArthur Court when Steve Belko's Oregon Webfoots play host to Oregon State College. The visiting Beavers won the first game of the series 60-55 in a season opener at Mac Court. A victory tonight would give OSC the Chancellor Trophy

for the sixth time in succession since the cup was first awarded in 1953.

The Aggies have the guns to carry them all the way to the Pacific Coast Conference title but Oregon could provide a main obstacle. The Ducks have won nine of 14 games this season and seem to get better with age. Their two PCC victories over Washington and Washington State and their near triumph over Idaho last weekend showed that Belko's hoopers have come a long way since that opening-game defeat.

Slats Gill will bring a tall, accurate-shooting club from Corvallis. The Beavers have won 12 of 15 games and currently rest only one game behind first place in the conference standings. Oregon State's PCC record includes victories over UCLA and California, current conference leaders. Forward Dave Gambia and Ken Nanson will provide Mac Court fans with plenty of good basketball.

Belko will counter with high-scoring forward Charlie Franklin, who tallied 35 points against Idaho last Saturday. Center Hal Duffy will be Oregon's main rebounder. The Beaver hoopers may have trouble shaking Oregon's ball-hawking defender, guard Chuck Rask.

Oregon State has to be considered a favorite, but don't count the Webfoots out. They almost won the first meeting of the two clubs; they could well do it this time.

Footnotes

An evidently sports-loving history professor got carried away the other day: to wit, while describing the military exploits of Frederick the Great, "He won two battles and lost two, but still went to the Rose Bowl."

* * *

Latest definition of that graduate student's bane, the seminar: any non-political gathering where no food is served.



"IF YOU THINK YOU'RE HAVING TROUBLE DODGING HIS FEET — WAIT 'TIL HE TAKES YOU HOME."

James Marlow

United States, Soviet Union Agree to Cultural Exchanges

WASHINGTON (AP) — Life would be simpler and maybe safer if nations of people could act like individual people. For instance: in visiting one another.



This week the United States and the Soviet Union signed an agreement for exchanging visitors — delegations from industry, agriculture, the arts, and so on—but it took effort ever since 1955 to get around to it.

The idea started that year at the summit conference in Geneva. Some visits were exchanged. But in the fall of 1956 the Soviet Union crushed the Hungarian revolt and this country, on Dec. 3, 1956, called a halt to the exchange program.

State Department officials represented President Eisenhower as believing the program should not be resumed until the Soviet Union showed it believes in the right of neighboring countries to coexist under governments of their own choosing.

The Soviets haven't demonstrated any such thing. Nevertheless, the new exchange program was agreed to this week. In fact on April 12, 1957, the Eisenhower administration tentatively agreed to resume the program.

During this time some small exchanges were taking place. But the idea got a boost—or a needle—on June 2, 1957, when Nikita Khrushchev, Communist party boss, appeared on millions of American TV screens in a filmed interview made by the Columbia Broadcasting System the previous month.

Among other things Khrushchev called for wider exchange of cultural delegations. At his news conference June 5 Eisenhower rather brushed aside the Khrushchev performance.

But the Soviets followed up. On June 6 they sent their ambassador to Washington, Georgi N. Zarubin, to the State Department. He spent more than two hours there, urging expansion of cultural exchanges.

On June 24 this government

urged the U.S.S.R. to allow Soviet and American leaders to speak directly to each other's people in a series of uncensored radio and TV programs.

The State Department, in making this offer, acknowledged the timing was influenced partly by Khrushchev's appearance on TV here. The Soviets on July 26 proposed a conference with this country to get agreement on exchanges.

On Aug. 16 this government said it was willing to talk. On Oct. 28 Zarubin walked into the State Department with 52 proposals. The two main American suggestions turned out to be these: agreement by Moscow to stop jamming voices of American broadcasts in Russian, and regular exchange of uncensored radio-TV comments on world events.

The negotiations, which started with Zarubin's visit last October, were finally turned into the agreement signed Monday. The United States didn't get its two main requests. The Soviets didn't get all they wanted, either.

For example: the Soviets, who have jet airliners, wanted direct Moscow-New York air service, which would probably mean Soviet jets landing in this country twice a week. The Soviet proposal wasn't turned down flatly.

This country may agree to this when it has jet airliners in operation too.

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