

No Time for Complacency

The highly successful launching of the first American earth satellite is a just cause for celebration in the free world. Besides the glamour, adventure and scientific value of the launching, the propaganda advantage which the Soviet Union has enjoyed with its two sputniks will now be somewhat diminished; the Russians will have less basis on which to claim they have taken over world intellectual and scientific leadership.

The success of Explorer should not, however, be taken as an indication that the United States has moved ahead of the Soviet Union in the development of earth satellites and long-range intercontinental missiles. It's a magnificent achievement to send a 30 pound satellite orbiting in space. But it's more difficult and impressive to loft an earlier satellite weighing more than 1,000 pounds. This the Russians have already done with Sputnik II.

Werner von Braun, chief of the Army ballistic missile agency's development operations, estimated after Explorer went up that we are still about five years behind the Russians in rocket and satellite development.

The tragic thing about our missile and satellite development programs is that while we have had enough scientists and technicians, administration decisions have hamstrung research and development programs. Earth satellites, space platforms and moon rockets were for a long time regarded in government circles in the same light as were "fantastic" devices such as aircraft at the turn of the century.

When the need for rocket development programs was finally realized—some years

later in this country than in the Soviet Union—inter-service rivalries and jealousies further slowed rocket research and development. Each military service wanted to control its own missile program and each wanted to have the biggest missiles in its own arsenal.

The now-lauded Army Jupiter-C is a good example of department of defense fumbling. The modified intermediate-range missile which carried our baby moon into its orbit had been tested successfully about two years ago. According to Army officials—and Friday's success tends to bear them out—the Jupiter-C could have been used to launch a satellite as long as two years ago.

But the administration, committed to a policy of not using military rockets in the International Geophysical Year studies, turned the satellite program over to the Navy. The Navy on a limited budget then developed the abortive Vanguard rocket specifically for satellite-launching.

The Jupiter-C was nearly ordered out of production last summer when Charles Wilson, then secretary of Defense, gave the Air Force Thor missile preference over the Army's Jupiter when the long-range missile priority was given to the Air Force.

The problems of which service shall do what with satellites and rockets are little closer to being solved now than in the past. Some hard thinking and planning on this problem is needed so that in the future the United States will not be caught with its prestige—or more important, its defenses—down.

We're still behind the Russians; Explorer should not be an excuse for complacency.



Dave Cass

Story of Ant and Ostrich Holds Moral for Moderns

This is the story of an ant and an ostrich. The story of their lives would be of little concern to us except that the fates that moved them contain a lesson which should be heeded by all.

Felix, the ant, and Goliath, the ostrich, lived in a typical suburban community. L. They had been next door neighbors for some years. But since Felix was poor and foreign, Goliath, for the most part, ignored him. That is, he tried to ignore him.

You see, Felix wasn't a candidate for the "Good Housekeeping" Neighbor of the Year award. Whenever Goliath turned his back he would find Felix scurrying home with his garden tools or the mushroom vintage he had placed in the shade to cool.

Even at these times, the most that Goliath would ever do would be to yell at the scamp, and resolve that the next morning he would start building a kerosene moat to keep his low-class neighbor on his own property. Actually, Goliath was really too lazy to chase after Felix and give him the upbraiding he deserved.

As a matter of fact, Goliath was too lazy to do much of anything. In his younger days he had chased over the countryside waving the banner of the Ostriches for Democratic Action organization, while preaching that subversive groups had spread nasty rumors about ostriches burying their heads when confronted with danger.

But then, a hat manufacturer had run off with his harem. This completely demoralized him; ostriches just aren't happy unless they can be polygamous. Now he was content to sprawl in front of his television set, watching the ostrich races, while sipping mushroom wine and munching on gooseberries. Or he would nap.

Once in a long while you might see him puttering around his garden, but this was only because he had read somewhere that sunshine was good for his feather mould.

On the other hand, Felix was all industry. He bustled around from morning till late at night, stealing things from Goliath and his other neighbors, erecting electric fences around his ill-gotten board, constructing burglar detection devices, and spreading gossip about the very un-American activities of his fine-feathered neighbor.

Felix was intensely jealous of Goliath. Goliath had inherited a substantial estate, including some AT&T stock whose coupons kept him in gooseberries and mushroom wine, but Felix had inherited only himself. Even this was mortgaged by his bushy-mandibled African father to the queen of the hive.

Escaping one night while his owner was replenishing the community, he ever since had been pulling himself up by his antennae. Now that he had achieved some measure of position, although a nefarious reputation, his one aim in life had become to destroy his wealthy and indolent neighbor, who symbolized all that Felix hated and lacked. Felix had a

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OSC Repeat

For the second consecutive Tuesday Oregon State College will present the regular University assembly when OSC President A. L. Strand talks on "Public Philosophy as a Frame of Reference."

Strand's last appearance on the campus was at the December rally announcing the Rose Bowl bid. The OSC head told the cheering students that his school's team had given the Ducks "something to bounce

back from in the Rose Bowl."

What Strand plans to deal with in his Tuesday talk is not known specifically, but we suspect that he might touch on a current hot potato in state higher education—the matter of a liberal arts major for OSC.

Strand is regarded as an expert in the field of public policy. For that reason and because inter-institutional rivalry exists to the top-most echelons, we heartily recommend attendance.

LETTERS TO THE EDITOR

Emerald Editor:

In commenting on the recent article concerning absences of ASUO Senators, we wish to ask what the Senate does which warrants such valuable time of student leaders.

Judging from recent Senate actions, we can not see any real evidence of strong student government. Instead it looks to be a stamp for the administration.

It's no wonder that some of the Senators feel there are other more important activities.

Jared Ede
Jr. in Political
Science
Claude Hall
Soph. in Business
Administration
George Handlery
Freshman in
Political Science

Emerald Editor:

I would like to take this opportunity to thank the athletic department or whoever happens to be in charge of pricing basketball tickets for the reasonable fee which they are willing to charge my wife so she can attend basketball games with me.

It is true that at first I

thought the price of \$1.25 for a general admission ticket, with the privilege of sitting beside me, was a little high.

Living as we are on the GI Bill and part-time work it seemed rather a shame that I had to pay the same price for a ticket for my wife as a man working full-time, not attending college.

Then, however, I realized that the people who price tickets must have known that we are going to have a baby in April, and they thought we were trying to get two admissions for the price of one. This is of course unreasonable and not to be tolerated.

Then I thought of the football games, where wives got into the games for less, though the games last almost twice as long. Of course there you don't have the problem of paying for lights, as you do in a gymnasium, so I finally realized basketball expenses would be higher indoors. Tickets would undoubtedly be cheaper if the games were held out-of-doors in the afternoons.

Since basketball is my wife's favorite sport I even thought of listening to the radio, which is free, to follow the game in progress. Here we had only one

trouble. My wife is Japanese and she cannot understand English well enough to follow a radio broadcast at a slow pace, she certainly can't keep up with a basketball announcer.

Of course this is not the fault of the people pricing the tickets. The athletic department has to operate at a profit and with the past unsuccessful football season there is undoubtedly a shortage of funds.

It is for this reason, of course, that my wife has a pay full price for a ticket to the game. If the gymnasium is sold out for a basketball game my wife's ticket, sold for the 50 cents I had expected to pay, would cost the athletic department 75 cents in profits they could have gotten by selling it to someone else for \$1.25.

Multiply this 75 cents by the number of married students who might take their wives to the game if tickets cost less and you have quite a considerable sum of money.

I am happy to say that I am not going to cost the athletic department the extra revenue they would gain. In fact, I am going to help them earn more money.

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OREGON DAILY EMERALD

The Oregon Daily Emerald is published four times in September and five days a week during the school year, except during examination and vacation periods, by the Student Publications Board of the University of Oregon. Entered as second class matter at the post office, Eugene, Oregon. Subscription rates: \$5 per 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.

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