

# Inactivity needs revision, not activities, says Horn

Ed Note: Robert Horn, professor of English, was awarded the Friar's Scroll Saturday night as their choice for outstanding professor. As the keynote speaker for this year's AWS Honor's Assembly, he maintained that activities are valuable to the campus. Here are some of his observations on activities, students and athletics.

By ROBERT D. HORN

I am mildly bothered. Bothered by the recent depreciatory comments on "activities." Does this mean someone didn't get a cup, pin, or certificate? I thought there were enough for everyone. At any rate I know where you can buy them for reasonable prices.

But that doesn't mean you can buy activity. Aren't publications activity? And debating? And student body office-holding? Or even studying? It's inactivity that bothers me. I suppose we've got plenty of that. If you don't want to do what the other fellow's doing—that's activity in a bad sense. You can be just as inactive in not sharing the life of the University, even sports, as you can in not even trying to find out how to get into the library. Inactivity is bad; just mental, moral, social, and physical nothin'.

### Mysties wanted

To be sure, some activities are more important and constructive than others, particularly my activities! Since I've never got the answer, I've always assumed that Mystie-selling isn't on the Heifetz level. If I suggest that I've understood that they are sold to celebrate Be-Unkind-to-Your-Stomach Week, I may be betraying raw ignorance.

I've never eaten (I'm assuming they are eaten) a Mystie. I want to live. To me they look like the orphaned apples from a railway-station vending machine, embalmed in a mixture of linoleum paste and crankcase oil. But still I don't see why selling them should not merit points. After all, one of the basic dividends of collegiate education is instruction in the Art of Survival. Eaten or left alone, to come through Mystie Week alive means that the student has made some progress.

### Fete valuable

Then there's the complaint that much of the work on Canoe Fete floats is partly drudgery. Is anything that's really worth doing not about 90 per cent drudgery? Where else do students (men and women together) produce anything as breath-taking as that tremendous blue and white saell for Gold Beach? Who will ever forget that stupendous dinosaur, chewing on his fireball, and then going up in flames of glory?

Sure sports are an activity. I am worried here, having recently seen a machine for serving tennis balls. When they get one to return 'em too, what a pipe course that will be. But I'm not

worried about the value of what I saw Messers Otis, Grelle, Edstrom, Miller, and company doing last Saturday. Coach Bill Bowerman does worry me. All he did was sit and watch, except for occasionally doing easy sums in arithmetic with a pencil. Still I must admit it is a real thrill to know that somehow his boys turn out to be among the best athletes in the world. Am I supposed to be ashamed about that?

### Athletics re-pay

I've had athletes in class, from Iron Mike Mikulak, now a general in our armies in a position of enormous responsibility, to Bill Dellinger, and George Shaw, to Erika Schmoll (dance). I haven't found out yet that they are the worse for it. And please tell me where there is any activity or non-activity that demands such personal cleanliness, sound health, such a clear head and eye, such a readiness to give yourself, as these so-called physical activities.

Okay, you answer, you want more activities, more and more—and more, is that it? Certainly not. I don't want more, nor less. I just look at the activity, what it does to the activator, and what it contributes to your dandy little community. I haven't an atom of assurance that if we abolished sports, publications, student government, or even queen contests, that there would be any more students studying.

### Needs evaluation

Students are young, aren't they? All except the tired-out, inactive types, the kind that look like candidates for the Used Car Lot. But then what about all those little frittering activities. Well I agree that probably some might be forgotten, or probably that more people should help carry the load. Nevertheless that's the way it is in your own hometown. A small percentage are in there pitching when you have to raise funds for the needy, put on a public event or do anything that everybody thinks ought to be done but that it would be nice to let anybody else do.

### Emphasis placed on results

I mentioned football. If I ever  
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# Campus Merry-go-Round

By ARLENE SAUNDERS  
Women's News Editor

## Alpha Phi

The engagement of Mimi Goldsmith, senior in English education, to Bill Miller was announced May 17, at the Alpha Phi house.

The centerpiece was a blue, white and silver floral arrangement around blue candles in silver candelabras. Miller, a 1958 graduate, is presently a DuPont advertising agent. The wedding is planned for July, 1960.

## Alpha Xi Delta

The names of Carol Hollister and Neal Campbell were printed on napkins and matches, distributed as favors at the engagement announcement, May 16.

Miss Hollister is a junior in business administration and her fiance is a junior art major. The wedding date has been set for next spring.

## Delta Delta Delta

Dottie Quinn, senior in business education, announced her engagement to Jerry Ramsey, Theta Chi senior in English, May 15, at an after-hours party.

Pansy rings with the couple's picture inside were given as favors. Both Mrs. Quinn and Mrs. Ramsey were present for the announcement. The couple is planning an August wedding.

## Gamma Phi Beta

A candle decorated with pink rosebuds and bearing the SAE pin of Pete Givas was passed by Karlene Quinstad, May 4.

Miss Quinstad is a junior in education. Givas is a junior architecture major.

## Kappa Kappa Gamma

Eleanor Johnson, senior in business, announced her engagement to Bob Dickson, Alpha Tau Omega senior economics major, April 19.

The theme, "April Showers," was carried out in favors of pink and white parasols. Pink angel hair, cherry blossoms, and parasols filled with roses made up the center piece. The wedding date has been set for September 12, after which the couple will go to Lackland Air Force Base in San Antonio, Texas.

## Smith Hall

A pink candle decorated with lilies of the valley and carnations was passed May 11, by Wanda Horodyski to announce her engagement to Pete McKee, a math major from Beaverton. He is graduating this year from Portland State.

Miss Horodyski, a junior transfer from Portland State, is a retail major and will attend school in California where the couple will live after their September wedding.

## University House

Susan Huh, senior in art education, has announced her engagement to Young Coo Lee, a Tau Kappa Epsilon who is presently doing graduate work at Columbia in International law. A June wedding is planned.



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