

Action to establish . . .

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Immediately after the University location had been established at Eugene, subscription lists were circulated to raise money and were supplemented by other money-making projects such as Fourth of July balls, strawberry festivals, sociables, and even a program by the American Burlesque Opera Troop.

Excavation for the first edifice of the new state university Deady Hall, was begun on May 7, 1873. The building proceeded slowly due to insufficient funds. Forty-six canvassers were appointed in March, 1875. The results fell far below expectations. Finally in desperation the board of regents planned for paid canvassers:

"Should they (the paid canvassers fail to obtain the required amount, we must give the enterprise up as hopeless and will say to those having claims against us as officers of the Union University Association, take the building and make what is due you out of it.

Eugene Guard, May 1, 1875
Soon after this appeal, the farmers in the Eugene area agreed to donate wheat and other goods to the university.

However this wasn't sufficient, and frequently Judge Walton approached pay day with an empty pocket. Leaving his law office, he wandered through the countryside adjacent to Eugene asking for donations, frequently returning with a calf, a few pigs, or boxes of apples, which he turned in to T. G. Hendricks manager of the general store. Hendricks always managed to convert the farm products into cash. The campaign had been long drawn out, many friends had lost hope; it was only the unshakable resolution of a few leaders which finally carried the project through to success.

Citizens rescue college

Finally, at the end of February, 1876, the first floor of Deady Hall was completed. The acceptance of the building, however, still hung in the fire owing to the debts. Had it not been for W. J. J. Scott and J. E. Holt, two Eugene citizens who assumed the indebtedness, the college might have died a-borning.

The first struggle was over. The state accepted the building, the regents of the university adopted a complete set of rules, and the faculty was elected.

Judge Joshua Walton, by his persistent optimism, his willingness to solicit and collect small donations, and by his continuous advertisement of the school, was the most important benefactor of the university movement.

The original faculty consisted of John W. Johnson, president; Mark Bailey, Thomas Condon, Mrs. Mary Spiller, and Miss Mary Stone.

Opens October 16

The new institution started on its course in a simple and unostentatious manner. Professor Condon had arrived in July, 1876; President Johnson and the others of the staff in September. On October 16 the examination and classification of students began. Classes were soon organized, and instruction was under way without any sort of formal opening ceremonies. Students were slow in arriving, but at the end of the term there were 177 in attendance, of whom 80 were classified as being of college grade and 97 in the preparatory department — an excellent showing under the circumstances. The classification of students based on their studies was at first tentative, and it was not until 1880 that the curriculum assumed definite form.

Condon was well liked by all the students and was the prominent peacemaker in the internal affairs of the University because he hated all disputes.

A very pious man, Mark Bailey, was a leader of the theological conservatives in the school.

The preparatory instruction was in the hands of Mrs. Spiller, who had held a similar position at Pacific University. She was assisted by Miss Stone.

For two years the faculty was limited to five persons due to an unsatisfactory state of finances. In 1878 John Straub was chosen professor of Greek. He was a careful and exact teacher, insisting on the regular preparation of class assignments by his students.

Weekend events continue; Frost predicts . . .

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Skeet Manerud and Basil Williams are co-chairman of the event. Eighteen members of the team are expected to attend.

Also present at the banquet will be John Parsons, Eugene, who played in the 1916 Rose Bowl game.

Ella Fitzgerald, Bill De Souza and Monte Ballou and his Castle Jazz Band are the featured entertainers at tonight's Homecoming dance and concert. The Fitzgerald concert will begin at 7:30 in McArthur Court. The

dance, entitled "Expressions in Sound," will start at 9:30 p.m., with the bands performing alternately.

University religious groups will serve brunch Sunday morning at 9:30. Following dinner at the

living organizations, alumni are invited to attend an informal concert given by University music groups on the SU main steps at 2:30 p.m. Performing will be the University Singers and University Symphonic Brass Choir.

Betsy Lee . . .

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and two younger brothers. Her father was the former treasurer of the Territory of Hawaii.

Miss Lee danced with the Olsen and Johnson show from New York while she was in high school. She was president of the Stage Design Club and an officer in Punahou's student government.

Member of SU Board

While at Oregon, she has taught hula classes, been chairman of the SU talent committee, co-chairman of the AWS Variety show and chairman of the traditional Barbershop Quartet Contest held during Dad's Weekend. Currently, she is a member of the SU Board as the representative from the School of Architecture and Allied Arts.

Why did the almond-eyed beauty choose the University instead of some other college? Oregon, she said, has a great deal of influence in the Islands. There are many Hawaiians who have attended Oregon. "It is well represented," she added.

Miss Lee was chosen queen by student voting from five finalists. She received over half of the 1700 votes cast.

Karl Onthank to be honored . . .

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through his work as permanent secretary of the Oregon Mothers' and Dads' Clubs (organizations he helped found) and as a correspondent to alumni everywhere.

Although Onthank retired from his post as director of graduate placement and employment, he can still be found in the administrative office eager to help others (a quality that shines throughout his Oregon years.)

Concerning his half-century career in education, Onthank believes he could not have chosen better in advance. "It's been very gratifying to see young people engaged in a most satisfactory occupation — learning, growing, expanding, going out into the world to find their places. And to see them go out and do well is especially satisfying.

His plans for the future: besides visiting his daughters (who graduated from Oregon Phi Beta Kappa) and eight grandchildren, Onthank hopes to continue his work in conservation and alumni organizations, especially Friars.

"I'd like to write too," says Onthank, summing up his future plans. I have a great deal of material on Oregon history—intimate glimpses into the thoughts of our University presidents, for instance. In fact, I've got enough work laid out to last me until I'm a hundred, anyway."

From an uncertain freshman and a small campus to a successful man and thriving University, Onthank and Oregon go hand in hand. The future holds even greater expectations.

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main floor



DON Wouda
Don, a 6'4" soph from Vallejo, Calif., plays center for the Ducks



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