

Not at Thanksgiving

Thanksgiving vacation and Homecoming on the same weekend? Ridiculous. It must be a nasty rumor started by some crank. Everyone knows Thanksgiving is only a slightly better time than Christmas vacation. Why, if Homecoming were at Thanksgiving, students would have to return from vacation early, if indeed, in some cases, they could go anywhere at all. Since freshmen could not live in the dorms over the vacation, they would have to live in motels (forbidden by University regulations) and the University surely wouldn't want that.

ANOTHER reason we're so sure Homecoming won't be at Thanksgiving is that the two people most directly in charge of Homecoming, acting alumni director Bill Landers and Soph class president Dennis Lynch, have both agreed that this is not the best time. The people who are spreading this terrible rumor say that Thanksgiving was chosen because it is at that date that we play OSC, or OSU, as the case may be. The only alternative to that is the San Jose State game Oct. 21, which, rumor says, the committee felt could not be a big enough drawing card for alums to make the trip.

THE THEORY, supposedly, is that Homecoming is an alumni show, and that students just set it up. This, of course is the rankest nonsense, since the bonfire, rally, and varsity show are mainly for students. Some say that the football game is the only reason alums come down, but we maintain that they come back to see their old friends and that a game is only a minor attraction. Friends will be the same no matter who plays the football game.

IF THE OSC game is such a red-hot drawing card (and it might not be if our team and their team play only mediocre games next season) then maybe the alums will come down anyway. They probably won't want to, though. They might have other commitments at Thanksgiving, like family reunions and things like that. Maybe they wouldn't come to Homecoming for the same reason, if Homecoming were at Thanksgiving, that is.

But of course, this is all just a nasty rumor. It just has to be. Nobody would plan Homecoming at Thanksgiving. Would they?

Good System with Two Faults

Pacific Telephone-Northwest operates an extension system for the University designed to serve the communication needs of the University and its students. Except for two minor deficiencies, the extension service has been doing a fine job. But the system, as a whole, works so well, and the faults are so minor, we wonder why they are allowed to continue.

THE FIRST complaint is that operators are unable to provide changes of number for students who have moved since fall term. At present when one tries to find the number of anyone who has moved since fall term, he is referred to the fall term Piggers' Guide, which is somewhat less than helpful. If the operator does not recommend the Piggers' Guide, he advises checking with the registrar's office. Just for laughs we tried that once, and they told us we'd have to come over in person. Too bad if you call after 5 p.m.

IF THE UNIVERSITY would give a list of the changed telephone numbers to the operators at the beginning of each term, the system could perform more smoothly.

This could be done immediately after registration each term, and the extension system people have even requested it. Why it hasn't been done is anybody's guess.

THE SECOND complaint is the frustrating experience of dialing a dormitory between 9 and 11 p.m. and somehow getting in touch with six or eight different people all at once. The reason for this, according to the telephone exchange supervisor, is a deficiency in the equipment. Another cause for crossing lines is students who dial "9" and then dial "0" in the hopes of reaching the city operator. Unfortunately, all this does is throw a trouble switch at the University switchboard, and the lines will be snarled until the student hangs up.

BUT THE MAIN FAULT is in the equipment deficiency, which the staff of the extension system admit quite openly. Since the Pacific Telephone Northwest operates the extension system for the University, it should be the responsibility of the University to request that the equipment trouble be cleared up.

Why this hasn't been done is anybody's guess.

Letters to the Editor

A PHONY LETTER

Dear Emerald Editor: I really think that Thanksgiving is

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a really dumb time to have Homecoming. We students do not get a chance to go home and see our parents very often and if Homecoming was at Thanksgiving then we'd get cheated out of going home even then. I think it is only right that you shouldn't have other holidays and staff interfering with Homecoming, after all it's not something you have every day. If those guys in the athletic department want to have Homecoming when we play the Beavers, then why can't they change the Oregon State game over to another weekend. I really think the whole thing is really dumb.

Juanita Greenback,
Freshman.

RIGHT AND WRONG

To the Editor:

In regard to the recent article, "The Strange Silence Among the GOP" it is the opinion of Messrs. Phillips and Russell that some part of the Ken-

nedy administration has flubbed with regard to the Cuban and Laos affairs. Some people seem to think that whenever there are two sides to an issue and one side is right and the other is wrong, when in actuality both sides may be right, or both may be wrong. In actuality both sides of any issue usually incorporate some right and some wrong tenets in their policy. As specifically regards the Cuban question, it was the old story of jets and tanks, U.S. small arms. Anyone could guess the outcome had he paid heed to the Hungarian revolution. What do Messrs. Phillips and Russell suggest that Kennedy do. He could send the U.S. troops and easily take Cuba but is Cuba worth training the brand of "Bully" associated with our country. Unfortunately sentiment doesn't carry the same authority as tanks.

Carl E. Mellor,
Grad in physics.

The Best of Bibler



Keith Powell

The Jazz Festival: Considering, Reconsidering

By KEITH POWELL
Emerald News Editor

On April 6 the ASUO Senate voted to approve the now-languishing Student Union board sponsored three-day jazz festival by a vote of 13 to 16.

On April 20, the Emerald published an editorial angrily announcing that \$6,000 was too much money to be spent on a project which might not be financially successful during its first year.

ON THE same evening the ASUO Senate, never noted for its firmness of mind (i.e. the 5-month USNSA fiasco), withdrew its support of the festival.

The ASUO Senate is not so powerful that its disapproval may scuttle a SU board project so easily, but all board special attractions carrying a price tag over \$1,000 must be underwritten by the University's Budget Board. Aiding by the Senate is not expected to help the cause of the jazz festival before the Budget Board one whit.

WHETHER or not the editorial influenced the Senate vote is a moot point, but the editorial must be challenged, even if somewhat belatedly, because (1) it was written by one member of the editorial board without the discussion of the full board; (2) it contained factual errors; (3) the editorial took a highly superficial approach to the problem, and (4) the editorial seemed to take the position that the safe way is the only way.

Although the occasional device of capitalizing all the letters in the word 'jazz' was so gauche as to be almost charming, one cannot overlook the damage the editorial seems to have done to the cause of the jazz festival.

FIRST of all the factual errors: The editorial said that the Junior Prom lost \$1,800 and the Sophomore Swing "very close" to that amount because of jazz artists Andre Previn and Shelley Mann, who played, incidentally, only for a pre-dance concert not for the dance.

Si Ellingson, SU director, said May 11 that the Swing lost only \$975 and the Junior Prom only \$1,000. This may be a minor point but it is indicative of the seeming lack of in-

vestigation or serious interest in the festival.

INCIDENTALLY, Si Ellingson said that "losses would have been even larger" if jazz artists hadn't been brought in. In fact, even "top" popular artists "with a much more varied appeal" couldn't make a success of such antiquities as the big campus dances, which are considerably less popular than in past years except for Homecoming.

The editorial also failed to suggest that a pre-dance concert is hardly the occasion to schedule jazz artists who demand more concentration than people psyched up to dance are willing to give out.

THE JAZZ festival is a gamble, of course, no one denies it. And, ironically, the kind of festival what can be a financial success, is the kind that needs the breadth and the big names that the Emerald and Senate oppose because of cost.

About half of the income from the Festival would have to come from outside the Eugene area. This problem could be hoped with in great measure by scheduling it during the spring or easter vacations of the semester schools on the coast.

AND IT is only with big names and a program of depth that these students are going to be attracted to, and this is said with no sarcasm intended, the hinterlands of Eugene.

The editorial seemed disturbed because some student monies may be lost. However, but here again the matter was not looked into very deeply.

The Student Union Board will sponsor next year as it has in years past, several other special attractions, besides the jazz festival. The editorial's strident cry for more "popular" entertainers will be gratified here — and help absorb whatever losses the jazz festival might have the first two times out.

Ellingson says that with careful selection by the SU board popular artists can be obtained who will, if not completely absorb, will go a long way towards absorbing whatever losses the festival might incur.

But more disturbing than the errors and the superficiality of the editorial is the attitude also seemingly shared by the Sen-

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