

A Precedent

ASUO President Neil Goldschmidt Initiates Another Progressive Step

Neil Goldschmidt will set what we hope becomes a precedent by giving a speech from the Free Speech Platform in front of the Student Union today.

Goldschmidt has brought several new concepts to Student Government as ASUO president this year. While there are those who feel that the value of the effects of what he has caused are debatable, we feel his ideas have stimulated student government to define the direction in which it is going.

His idea that the student body president should not guide every move of the ASUO Senate, his attempts to look beyond what has been the previous realm of student government at the University, and his efforts to involve students other than ASUO Senators in ASUO action, will, in our mind, be beneficial to this University in the long run.

However, as a mid-year evaluation, we find that student government has really accomplished very little so far this year. It has been unable to adjust to the lack of a president like Dan Williams who guided and directed almost every move from be-

hind the scenes. Goldschmidt, as he sometimes puts it, has "refused to be a wet-nurse to the senators." The result has so far been an inability of the senate to really accomplish anything.

We should qualify this by saying that the legislative lobby program seems to be progressing well, and that there is quite a bit of study taking place on such issues as fire insurance for students, student wages, and USNSA.

But the net result of the Senate's efforts so far this year has been almost nil.

Thus, when Goldschmidt says that he will, "be very critical of student government," he will not have to look far for areas of disappointment.

We hope that Goldschmidt's speech will set the tone for improvement in student government. But even more than this, we hope that the efforts of an ASUO president to present his ideas to the student body from the Free Speech Platform will be successful enough that other student leaders will be encouraged to do the same in the future.

Out of the Running

Oregon State University, motivated apparently by money and not by sport, has announced that its track team will not participate in the Oregon Indoor Invitational track meet which will be held in Portland, Jan. 26.

Sam Bell, the OSU track coach, has said that the Beavers want a financial interest in the meet or they won't enter. He was quoted as saying that he was willing to go 50-50 with the sponsors to share the profit or loss.

Mr. Bell was also quoted as saying that it was not in the best interests of Oregon State University to promote the University of Oregon by participating in the meet. He was referring to the fact that the sponsors of the event is the University of Oregon Alumni Association of Portland. Profit from the meet goes to grant-in-aid for University of Oregon athletes.

Bell also said that he didn't feel that his squad had anything to gain by entering. We thought that trackmen sometimes entered meets for the fun of it, that's the whole purpose of sport, or at least the original purpose. Now, they apparently have to make money, or gain something else, before they will make the effort.

Fortunately, Oregon State can stay away without damaging the meet's chances of success, for every other major school on the West Coast will probably participate. With the presence of Washington, Washington State, San Jose State, Stanford, UCLA, and USC—to say nothing of our NCAA National Champions—Oregon State might not have looked too well anyway.

Right now, by their own action, they look a little left out of the field—a poor place for a track team to be.



Letters to the Editor

Fine Scapegoat

Emerald Editor:

The Friday, January 4th Emerald had an editorial, "Tuition: An Old Story". It had this statement: "In an academic wasteland like Mississippi, limited facilities and high tuition rates in relation to standard of living make private wealth the prerequisite for higher education."

I cannot imagine where you got such information.

The facts are these: The only requirement for admission to a Mississippi college or university is graduation from high school. Expenses are books, supplies, and personal expenses. There is no tuition.

I will not comment on the quality of this education, except to say that education anywhere depends largely on our own efforts.

I am not concerned with your "facts", but with your attitude. For you, a Mississippi that does not exist makes a fine scapegoat. To one who understands, she is a tragedy.

The situation in Mississippi is bad. Twisted personal journalism by her friends and enemies both makes it worse.

Thank you.

Darnell Fulgham
4th year Architecture

Editor's Note: Although the University of Mississippi does not charge anything which is called tuition, it does charge a registration fee of \$135 a semester for in-state students and \$335 for out-of-state students, according to page 86 of the university's catalog.

The Mississippi that does exist also makes a fine scapegoat, but this does not detract from the tragedy of the state.

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Compliments to Fadeley

Lane County's Senator, Ed Fadeley, gives us some encouragement. In a recent interview by Dan Sellard in the Eugene Register-Guard, Fadeley had the following to say:

"I'll vote against many appropriation bills this session," he reports, "Such as increased money for the State Marine Board, the State Military Department and others. I just don't believe in growth just for growth's sake . . . Unless the agency is producing I won't support it . . ."

"I think the real major issue facing the Legislature is not just more money, more taxes, but the question of, 'is the quality of education in Oregon to be maintained?'"

"Thus, I will vote against appropriations which are designed just to make something bigger, hoping that the money saved will go to keeping this quality of education."

We are in hopes that voices like that of

Mr. Fadeley's will be heard loud and clear when the 1963 Oregon State Legislature convenes on January 14.

Footnote

We must give the Eugene Register-Guard credit for digging this comment about Corvallis and Oregon State out of the recent issue of Sports Illustrated in a story about Terry Baker.

"In an era when the celebrated college athlete is turned into a special kind of mercenary, living and competing in a culture apart from that of the ordinary undergraduate, it is fitting that Baker, a throwback to another epoch, should emerge from a bucolic campus deep in the forests of the Northwest where the simple verities of small-town American life are still held in high esteem."

Academic Retreat

This weekend, the first academic retreat will attempt to fulfill several needs. Among these are the needs for informal contact with faculty, for discussion of serious subjects not normally handled within the classroom, and for discussion by participants who can speak with a certain degree of authority in different fields.

Last fall, enthusiasm for the academic retreat was widespread; qualified applications far exceeded available openings. The question is, will the enthusiasm be sustained? Or, will it wither and die like the Oregon Union from lack of active, prepared participants?

We hope that those taking part will assume the responsibility that goes with the opportunity the retreat offers. They must arrive having read from the suggested reading list and ready to exchange and support their ideas. Without this kind of participant, the retreat will degenerate into a worthless trading of off-the-cuff platitudes. Much worse, at a time when budget problems, rising enrollments, and crowded classrooms threaten the academic life of the University, students will have failed to take full advantage of an opportunity to improve that academic life.