

Anatomy of a Convention

GOP Model Convention Offers Students A Lesson in American Politics

Although there is nothing particularly glamorous or exciting about the procedural groundwork presently being laid for the Young Republican Model Convention, students should not overlook the fact that the convention itself could be one of the most colorful and exciting events to hit the University campus in a number of years. The YRs hope to capture much of the enthusiasm of the Republican National Convention. There will be delegations from every state in the Union (staffed by representatives of living organizations) as well as placards, parades and speeches. And it is the first model convention to be held at the University since 1952.

It would be difficult to find a better year or a better setting for a mock GOP convention. The State of Oregon's unique primary law assures the presence of every legitimate candidate's name on the spring primary ballot and a number of Republican hopefuls are planning active campaigns here. It is probable that the major candidates themselves or their representatives

will be present for the mock convention. Barry Goldwater, Nelson Rockefeller and Margaret Chase Smith all plan vigorous campaigns in Oregon and it is likely that they will make campus appearances during the spring.

The mock convention planned for April 24 and 25 offers a unique educational opportunity to learn, not only how candidates are nominated for the presidency and vice presidency, but also how platforms are developed. It ought to arouse considerable interest in political matters on the campus. As an educational experience the mock convention might well be viewed as a preview to the summer GOP and Democratic National Conventions and a chance for the student body to become fully grounded in the procedures used at national conventions.

We are hopeful that students, regardless of their political preference, will lend support to the GOP Model Convention. It should be a program in political education that will reflect credit upon the University.

Living Groups and Civil Rights

Reaction to the ASUO Civil Rights Week and voter registration fund drive in some quarters of the campus has been anything but positive. The negative reaction by some individuals and living organizations seems to stem from a reservoir of misinformation. The purpose of the week is to stimulate interest in civil rights with particular emphasis on the problems in the backward state of Mississippi. The decision of the ASUO Senate to endorse the week and fund drive is a vote of confidence for the dignity and worth of every human being and underlines the right of every American citizen to exercise the vote. The ASUO Senate's decision rejects the succinct Southern slogan: "If you're black, stay back."

But what of the nature of the fund drive and the program it will support? In a sense the program which will send college students from Oregon and several other universities to the South during the summer could be called a "domestic Peace Corps effort." The students will not be agitating, they will not be demonstrating. Their purpose in going to Mississippi is a positive humanitarian effort. They will be teaching illiterate Mississippi Negroes how to read and will give them instruction in the theories of democracy and constitutional interpretation. The students will endeavor to prepare Mississippi Negroes so that they can cast a ballot in the best American tradition. Some students will live with Negro families while others will operate community centers which will offer educational, cultural and recreational opportunities to underprivileged Mississippi Negroes. We do not believe that any student can oppose this program with honesty and good conscience.

The week and fund drive presents living

organizations with an opportunity to demonstrate concern for problems outside of the pleasant boundaries of the campus. Greek living organizations particularly have an opportunity to dispell the charges of discrimination and racism which they are occasionally confronted with. We are hopeful that both individuals and living organizations will respond enthusiastically to the ASUO Senate's Civil Rights Week and fund drive. It could offer vivid documentation to the belief of some that the University student body can exchanged with genuine concern for contemporary social problems.

Footnote

"The hell you will" or "over my dead body" are the typical reactions of many parents when they learn that their sons or daughters are interested in becoming Peace Corps volunteers. The Peace Corps Washington, D.C. information staff has recognized this problem and is attempting to combat it with an advertising campaign and brochures.

What the Corps wants to dispell is the image which some parents immediately conjure up with their young daughter living in a mud hut in a remote village fighting exotic tropical diseases. Parents are being informed that the Peace Corps experience can be an asset to one's career, that every volunteer is within a few hours of modern telecommunications systems, that there are Peace Corps doctors in every country which volunteers visit, and that if political strife necessitates it immediate evacuation facilities for volunteers are available.

Letters to the Editor

Law Team Arrives

Emerald Editor:
Unfortunately the Emerald was eleven days late, on February 12 in reporting the latest arrival on the Oregon athletic scene—The Oregon Law School basketball team.

This delay was unfortunate. Had proper publicity been given sooner, the University community would be in wild anticipation waiting to see these men emerge from the hallowed halls

to seek victory on the basketball court. As it is, the frenzied excitement of all fans has been diminished.

The team won their season opener February 1 against the Portland Frosh 57-55 at the Memorial Coliseum in Portland, and this Friday, February 14, at 6 p.m. the law men make their debut in McArthur Court against the Oregon Frosh.

The Oregon Frosh should be

reminded that, "Justice conquers over all."

**Henry T. Courtney
2nd Year Law**

It Was Meant to Be

Emerald Editor:
In regard to Mr. Tonn's letter "why beards?" If God had intended man to be clean shaven he would not have put hair on his face.

**Mark Gorrell
Bearded Student**

Herblock



Half Slave And Half Free

Letters to the Editor

Praises Play

Emerald Editor:

I wanted to put on record my guess that the opening here of "The Maze," a play which Howard Richardson adapted from the French work of David Guerdon, "La Buanderie," will turn out to be a great event not only in the development of the theatre but in the slow painful maturation of mankind.

The play has a peculiar history. The French version was produced in Paris several years ago, and as is the case in the theatre so often, the director, Nicolas Bataille, insisted on many cuts and changes in the text. When the play was sold for a New York production last season, Richardson was invited to make the English version. He based his adaptation upon the original text by Guerdon, not the version that reached the Paris stage. The New York producer, however, decided to bring over the Paris director. The result? The play was again cut and changed in the identical manner, and a blurred carbon copy of the Paris production reached the New York stage.

For the production of "The Maze" in the Pocket Playhouse (Feb. 13, 14, 15, 21, 22, at 8 p.m.) Richardson has returned to the version which Guerdon and he had wanted, and it was presented before a stunned audience for the recent Drama Conference. None of its reviewers, so far as I know, has received its full impact. This for three reasons:

First, it is such racously good theater that it doesn't need to have any profound meaning at all. Possibly it will be produced for a generation or two as a good play before it is recognized as a great one.

Secondly, it is "uncommonly provocative" as the New York Times said it was, and offers a number of meanings. For example, does it approve ("I could teach them about love.") or indict Christianity ("Why does he only have save us. Why doesn't he finish the job")?

Thirdly, its message (as I get it) is of the sort that we block out if we can, for it invades our self-concept. We don't welcome being told, "Don't you see what you are doing?", much less can we bear, "You could do otherwise." (Ah, that unbearable line: "You could do the hardest thing of all. You could live with chapped hands.") For I think Richardson grabs his audience by the collar of its ravaged sensibilities and says to mankind: You will do anything with your saviors (those persons in your history and those elements in your psychic life which

can bring you sanity)—you will hide, despise, fear, deny them, or you will exploit them, put them in gold cages, exult, glorify, worship them and in the end destroy them—anything except accept them and let them live.

Richardson may be misunderstood here as seriously as the poet in "Pale Fire," but at least I have opened the discussion. I hope everyone will go to this outrageously funny play and see if they agree with me that from it our sick race could absorb a healing potion, and that these stains, like those at the close of the play "will not be removed for a long, long time."

**Phyllis Kerns,
Graduate, Philosophy.**

Explain Co-op Advice

Emerald Editor:

"There is only one thing worse than being talked about," said Oscar Wilde, "and that is not being talked about." For this reason alone, yesterday's editorial was welcome. There's nothing like a pile of rubble on a bleak empty site for evoking states of anxiety about what the new Co-op Store will look like. However, we wish to correct certain ideas expressed in that editorial about a student competition. No professor described his students as being "too idealistic," and, as to the statement, (Continued on page 3)

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