

Debate Coach Optimistic as Season Begins

By DAVE BUTLER
Emerald Staff Writer

A coach that prefers the word "forensics" to the word "debate," a team of 40 students, and a past record of 80 percent wins to live up to, make up this year's University debate squad.

W. Scott Nobles, veteran forensics coach, propped his feet on his desk in the small room at the end of the second floor of Villard Hall, glanced at two trophies "too big to fit" in the already overflowing forensics trophy case, and commented on this year's team and schedule. "We have some outstanding debaters returning from previous years, but there is plenty of room for more—especially freshman, sophomores, or inexperienced debaters."

Outstanding Returns

However, this lack of depth in the junior division did not keep Nobles from beaming when the subject of those "outstanding returning debaters" came up. He mentioned several in the men's division including three-year men Gordon Zimmerman and George Austin. Also mentioned were Bill Lawrence, Mike Salvesson and Steve Jamison. The women's division included Marolyn Elle, Judy Sims, JoAnn Johnson, Judy Eberhardt, Dorothy Ghent, Cheryl Smith and Lil Rebhun.

He expressed optimism that, with the aid of these experienced debaters, Oregon will live up to its reputation as one of the best debate, or forensics, schools on the west coast. And here is how the reputation reads: defending champion of two northwest annual tournaments, winner last year of all sweepstakes tourna-

ments in the northwest except one Oregon placed second), invited all five years to the Air Force National Debate Tournament, constant returnee to the national tournament held at West Point, 17th place national finisher last year and a win-less record of over 80 percent wins.

Practice . . . Criticism

To establish and maintain this record requires much practice and much more criticism. To help him in the chores of coaching, Nobles has two graduate assistants, Lucy Melhuish and Gary Keele, who represented Oregon two years ago in the national tournament. These assistants help Nobles in evaluation of the squad and substitute for him when he cannot be present. For, besides being forensics coach, Nobles also carries a full load of teaching.

He teaches graduate courses in classical and American oratory, rhetorical criticism, and undergraduate courses in argumentation, persuasion, and discussion, and fundamentals in speech.

Debate Issue

Speech students, oddly enough, make up only about one-fourth of the team. The rest of the members come from almost every field on campus—mostly from the Social Sciences and Pre-Law.

Another interesting point is the selection of the debate question. After a panel of experts decide on five questions, they distribute them around the country to be voted on. Each coach votes on his choice and the question is decided. This year's question is, "Resolved that the federal government should establish a national program of public works for the unemployed."

This question will be argued in all tournaments Oregon at-

tends. The schedule of those tournaments is a practice match at Seattle Pacific College, Oct. 16-17; tournaments at Pacific University, Oct. 23-24; a junior division only debate at Centralia College, Oct. 30-31 (Oregon is defending champion); senior division only debate at Columbia Valley-Washington State tourney, Nov. 6-7.

University of Oregon Tournament (invitations have been sent to schools in Washington, California, Nevada and Idaho),

Nov. 13-14; the Western Regional Tournament at Pocatello, Ida., Nov. 26-27-28 (Oregon is defending champion); and the Air Force National Debate Tournament with the top 36 teams in the country, Dec. 2-3-4.

\$100 Engraving

Winter and spring term tournaments will include some at Stanford, University of Redlands (Calif.), Xavier in Ohio and Nevada and Linfield.

As a fly settled on one of the two-foot gold trophies, ("It cost

us \$100 a year just for engraving,"), Nobles ended by saying, "While we have a very good senior division, we have fewer experienced freshmen and sophomores this year than we normally have. Any student who is interested in a program that requires research, critical thinking, and a rewarding kind of work is encouraged to join us. No previous experience is necessary, and all you have to do is see me or come to our meetings every Tuesday night at 7:30 in Villard Hall."

UO Class of '65 Hears Speakers

By JOHN DAY
Emerald Staff Writer

The first senior class meeting, held Monday night in the SU ballroom featured speakers from the University Placement Service and the Alumni Association.

Senior class president Steve Walsh began the meeting with an announcement from the Graduate Requirement Service, advising all students to drop in to the Service's office in Emerald Hall and check to see if all hour and University requirements have been met for graduation.

He then introduced William Landers, senior class advisor and alumni director, who discussed the Alumni Association. Landers advised seniors to go to the alumni office in Susan Campbell Hall to fill out the questionnaire, which automatically puts them on the "Old Oregon" mailing list.

Eugene Dils of the University Placement Service then spoke on the role of his office in getting prospective employers and employees together. "We do not place anyone," he remarked. The placement service only helps the graduate to "sell himself."

Dils emphasized the importance of filing with his office early to improve the chances of obtaining suitable employment. The placement service operates free of charge to facilitate finding jobs for students. The University feels that this is an integral part of the program of education.

An announcement was also made that the Drakes, senior men's honorary spirit group, and the Decoys, senior women's spirit honorary, are still reviewing petitions for membership. Petitions may be picked up on the third floor of the SU.

The financial report, given by Walsh, revealed an excess of \$600 in the treasury. These funds can be used for any purpose the seniors want, and president Walsh has asked for suggestions for its use.

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