

# Lanker, Weller overcome egos to attain success in media

By GREG WASSON  
and JOHN BROWN  
Of the Emerald

Presentations by Pulitzer Prize-winners Brian Lanker and George Weller highlighted the 49th Annual Oregon High School Press Conference. The two day conference began Friday in the Erb Memorial Union.

Speaking to a sell-out crowd of over 200 in the EMU ballroom Friday night George Weller advised future foreign correspondents to forsake the steady climb up the ranks in a newspaper.

ment in Rome and a beach house outside of Naples.

But overseas reporting can also be costly and it was this aspect that he stressed. He pointed out a foreign correspondent is absent from the U.S. at the prime of his creative life and is distant from the power struggles that often determine future promotions.

Weller acknowledged the immense personal satisfactions that reporting of foreign events can bring but cautioned students "not to let the Ego Party get too expensive."

In conversation after the

the EMU ballroom audience.

Lanker, director of photography for the *Eugene Register-Guard*, won a Pulitzer Prize in 1973. His works have appeared in many national publications.

"It's very important to understand the people next door to us, our neighbors, to understand our community," Lanker said. "It's really a matter of looking, looking at the keys in peoples life."

Lanker warned the would-be photographers in the audience, "You've got to be ready for the important moment. You have to

**"It doesn't matter one damn bit what you did yesterday — what matters is what you do tomorrow."**

He suggested instead that the reporter travel to his area of interest and then entice a newspaper to use him there by filing good copy.

Weller listed "adventure, travel and distance from one's editor" as some of the positive aspects of overseas reporting. Foreign reporting has been good to Weller, rewarding him with a Pulitzer Prize in 1943, an apart-

speech Mr. Weller recommended the Middle East as the ideal place for a beginning reporter to start. He currently covers the Middle East for the New York Times.

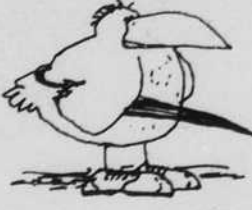
"Early in my career I was on an ego trip. I didn't want any words on my photo pages. Now I like to

get the words on there. A newspaper is a marriage of words and photographs," Lanker told

be thinking all the time."

Lanker's comments were accompanied by a slide show of his work. He closed with two series of photos set to music, and left his audience with this bit of advice.

"It doesn't matter one damn bit what you did yesterday — what matters is what you do tomorrow."




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