

By foot, paddle, pedal relayers battle course

After completing the first leg of the third annual Mazzi's Race for the Fettuccine, hardysouls or their teammates braved the chilly waters of the Willamette in the

quest for first place. John Platt of Eugene won the event, while the rest of the field was consoled by the prizes: a fettuccine dinner and a T-shirt.

By DAGMAR OBEREIGNER
Of the Emerald

The early morning crowd gathered in front of Mazzi's restaurant. Runners of all ages in rainbow-colored warm-up suits, their teammates, friends and families all turned out for the event — the Third Annual Mazzi's Race for the Fettuccine.

Despite the cold wind and clouds, spirits were high. Two men clad in long-johns with Batman insignia, flannel capes and goggles were drinking beer for inspiration amid the usual pre-race confusion and searching for teammates.

Sixty-nine teams entered the competition. Many were dedicated runners and

bicyclists, some trained especially for the event. There were seven categories (women's, mixed, individual, family, recreational, racing and unlimited), each starting at a different time.

For the participants in the individual category, this was a sort of mini-decathlon. The first leg of the race was a five-mile run from Mazzi's to Alton Baker Park, the second a 13-mile canoe or kayak trip down the Willamette to Christianson Boat Landing and the third leg bicycling 28 miles to Dixie School on the south edge of Corvallis — a total of 46 miles.

All participants got a T-shirt and a fettuccine dinner for their efforts.

One mixed-team member remarked,

laughing, "We're just goin' for the T-shirts. We heard about the race and said, 'far out, let's do it.'"

At 10 a.m., with a burst of energy, the women and individuals started the running portion. The markings along the streets were unclear and too few, and some runners went off course, losing precious time.

Meanwhile, team members were anxiously awaiting them by the river, sounding like Sandmen from "Logan's Run" as cries of "Runner!" were heard when each came around the bend.

As the boaters took off, the massive convoy of cars filled with teammates and bicycles raced on to Christianson Landing.

There the few lone kayakers arrived to cheers and applause, running dripping wet to their bicycles. Then the teams started to come in, and badges were hurriedly passed to waiting teammates, who began the bike trip to Corvallis.

The first person to finish was John Platt, racing class, with a time of 3 hours, 37 minutes and 9 seconds.

One by one they began arriving, with pain-filled exclamations uttered through gritted teeth. "It sure was fun," one said before collapsing on the grass. Most were staggering off bikes stiff-legged and sore in their posteriors; a few were limping. They all looked exhausted but were beaming triumphantly.

Photo by F.H.A.T. Axmacher

'Fijis' regain fraternity status

By JOCK HATFIELD
Of the Emerald

They came in suits, they came in dresses, and, over creamed cubed chicken, they discussed the Good Greek days, both old and new.

It was a dinner symbolic of what most Greeks there would term "The return of the fraternity."

In 1968 when the University was shedding fraternities like strippers shed clothes in a hot room, Phi Gamma Delta was one of those to go under. It officially popped back Saturday after two years of wallowing in the obsequious "colony" designation.

"Dear Lord," began the benediction, "Thank you for allowing the return of this fraternity ... and help make these young men a credit to the Christian religion, amen."

Out in the audience, third gen-

eration "Fiji" members sat under the proud gazes of their Fiji fathers and Fiji grandfathers.

Young Fijis, from as far away as British Columbia, looked on in awe as the older Fiji's recalled their experiences. "Why is fraternity life important?" State Senator Vic Atiyeh asked. "The answer lies in emotion — we cannot dissect emotion."

To some, a Fiji might sound like something you wash the windows with, but to these men it meant something special. Emotion. Ahhhh. To the tune of "O Christmas Tree" they sang in fine robust voices: "When college songs and college lays ... Are faded with their maker's days."

In 1975, with the money left over from the 1968 sale of their first house, the Phi Gamma Deltas purchased a new house at 1810 Alder St. For the past two years,

they have been designated only as a "colony." Saturday morning most of the fraternity's 33 members were officially initiated into the organization.

"We've been on probation for the last two years," said Pete Grey, a new Fiji. "We're glad to be back."

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