

OSA: legal beefs handled at no cost

Got a legal beef but no bucks? Pre-paid legal services are available to all students registered at the University, with the help of Charles Spinner, attorney from the ASUO Office of Student Advocacy (OSA), who was hired by the student body.

The OSA offers students advice and/or assistance on a wide variety of legal problems: landlord tenant disputes, criminal matters (misdemeanors), uncontested divorces, civil actions (personal injury) and consumer complaints, wills, guardianships, property contracts, student conduct code violations, taxes and others.

"There are some cases which OSA cannot handle," says Spinner. "These include civil actions brought by one student against another student, felonies and contested civil cases in which it appears that the case will go to trial." However, he says, legal advice and referral is offered on these matters.

OSA cannot do contracts for private businesses for private profit, but "here again legal advice is offered," Spinner says.

OSA is divided into three divisions: a

Legal Services Division, a Legal Research Division and a Student Defender Division. All three are coordinated by OSA Director Don Chalmers, an administrative assistant, a special projects assistant and three work-study office assistants.

The Legal Services Division provides out-of-court legal counseling, and is headed by Spinner.

The Legal Research Division is comprised of three third-year law students, and is designed to work on systematic problems that face groups of students or the general

student body.

The Student Defender Division is made up of three third-year law students, who defend students charged with student conduct code violations and students charged with criminal offenses in the Lane County Courts.

Spinner urges students having legal difficulties to come in to the office as soon as possible to avoid any unnecessary legal complications.

The OSA is located in Room 16D, on the ground floor of the EMU.

Dobre Folk Ensemble like a good yahoo

"Dobre" is Czechoslovakian for "good times." The University Dobre Folk Ensemble provides a good time for everyone who watches them dance, says Jerry Duke, ensemble advisor and University dance professor.

The word, dobre, as well as the dance troupe, "portrays a good feeling, kind of like a yahoo," says Duke. The troupe, sponsored through the dance department and the ASUO, performs throughout the northwest every year, particularly in elementary schools.

They will dance Thursday at 10 a.m. at Howard Elementary, 700 Howard St.

Duke says performing for elementary age children is important "because it gives kids ideas

about other countries, the costumes, geography and culture. Sometimes we explain why they dance differently in different countries."

Duke continues, saying, because "men have a strong role in folk dance," it gives grade school boys a more positive view of dancing. "It's not just a bunch of guys flitting around on their toes."

Every year the dances are a little different he says, and they represent "practically all European countries and Mexico. The emphasis this year is on Rumanian, Polish, Soviet/Georgian, Bulgarian and Irish" dances.

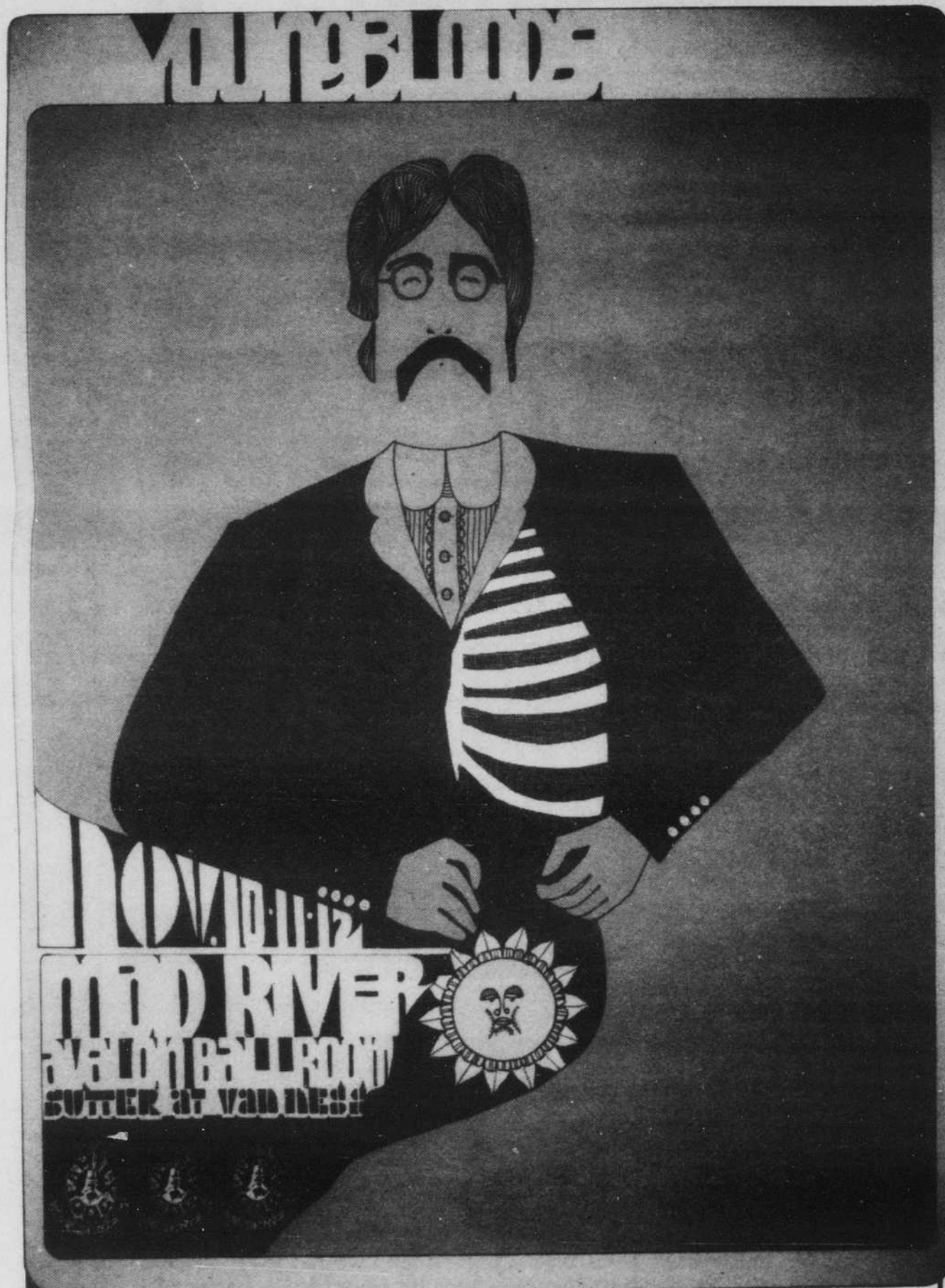
Duke says the "music combined with the movement" in the Soviet/Georgian dance literally "jerks you out of your seat." The dance suite opens with "a woman's dance. They glide across the floor, like they're wearing

skates." The men then come out to do a Georgian "pyrrhic dance used to train soldiers. They dance on the knuckles of their toes. It's designed to put terror in the hearts of the enemy," says Duke.

Many of the dances come from ancient land fertility and seasonal rituals, like the Polish dance, which celebrates the winter solstice, says Duke.

The majority of the dances are from other countries, yet the United States contributes a dance to the program, the Appalachian "clog dance." Duke says the clog dance is the forerunner of tap dancing and originates from the British Isles, Africa and a European stamp dance.

"Twelve dedicated people" make up the dance group, and they make their own costumes from ideas they get from books. The troupe will also perform at Dance '78, to be held in March.



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