



Shannon Watts poses for the new University of Oregon Women's calendar. Photo by Mark Pynes

Model students

By Cort Fernald
Of the Emerald

A nagging breeze is tangling the multicolored balloons model Molly Scopal holds.

Daniel DeGrange holds a sheet of white cardboard over his head to reflect light onto Scopal's face and eliminate any shadows.

Freelance photographer Mark Pynes hunches over his camera, moves in close and starts shooting. "If you just keep doing that," he says.

Dane Claussen, a hand in his pocket, stands a little to the side offering suggestions on angles.

This photo session, part of a calendar of University women, started as an idea last spring when DeGrange, a political science senior, saw an Arizona State calendar on his girlfriend's wall. He shared the idea with Claussen, who said "sounds great, let's do it."

"We ended up advertising for models about the same time as the men's calendar," says Claussen, a journalism senior. "The men's calendar and the women's calendar are different projects. We've never even met the people doing that."

"The shooting is just about done," adds Claussen.

The next step is to design and paste up the calendar, which is financed by Claussen and DeGrange. Then they will have the calendar printed.

The \$6 calendar will be available by the end of Spring term.

This is the second photo session for Scopal, a business junior and member of Kappa Kappa Gamma sorority. In the other session she posed in a garden behind a store on 13th Avenue and in a tree. Although

Scopal doesn't have aspirations of becoming a professional model, she has a portfolio and does some work for a Eugene agency.

They decide to change location.

"I was thinking about something like laying in the grass, being playful," suggests Claussen.

They cross the street to the physical education field and find a spot without too much sun or too much shade. Scopal, still holding the bunch of balloons, tries different poses while Pynes shoots.

"I'd like to try something different," he says.

"What about . . . ?" Scopal moves.

"Yeah, I like that," Pynes says.

The communication between the photographer and the model becomes a series of rapid clipped sentences as they exchange ideas.

Scopal was one of 30 models who answered a classified ad in the Emerald in September. After a screening process, 12 models were selected.

Why are Claussen and DeGrange putting together the women's calendar? The money and "fun" notwithstanding, both say the experience has been rewarding in other ways.

"The entrepreneur spirit," says DeGrange. "It's something I can enjoy because it's educational."

"The overall experience," Claussen says. "And seeing a project of this magnitude from beginning to end."

After shooting two rolls of film, they decide to try some shots on the Millrace in a canoe. Scopal, wearing a red-and-blue bikini, sits in the front of the canoe as Pynes kneels in the middle, his automatic winder clicking a quick cadence.

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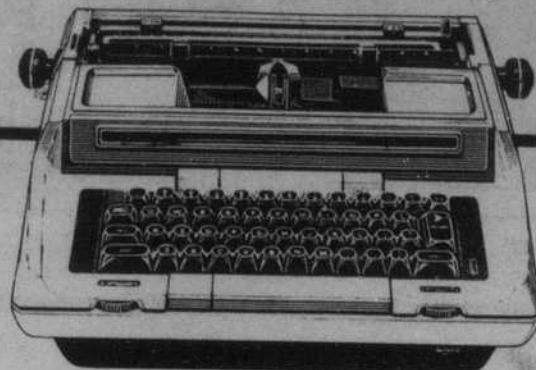
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