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quired only to appear at an informal reception with the committee.

"We're try to give the judges an opportunity to see them as they are — try to avoid the Miss America syndrome and that kind of stuff," Super says. "Traditional looks and beauty would not carry much weight at all."

And in picking the winners — Senior Diane Summers, Junior Sara Lynne Wong, Junior Mark Makler and Senior Grant Robinson — the committee viewed appearance at only its face value, Super adds.

"I want someone who's intelligent and who can show that in the way they act and speak."

Judging what goes past the gams is a step in the right direction, at least, according to Joan Acker, director of the University's newly-formed Center for the Study of Women in Society.

"I think it's very symbolic of a desire to have a more sex-equal world and I think it's great," Acker says.

But symbolic is the key word here, she adds.

"It's much easier to change the

homecoming court than to change the occupational opportunities for women and the division of labor in the home. But I don't want to discount the value of symbolic efforts."

In the big picture, nonsexist homecoming courts do not stack up well against substantive results, Acker contends. Those results appear much slower in coming.

"There are some slight indications of change and even the ability to talk about it is a tremendous difference," she says. "But it is still true that women's wages have not improved overall to men's."

The new ambassadors will be on hand Monday to help kick off the festivities at a homecoming luncheon. Minus the stereotypes. Ironically, though, what may be necessary to finally eliminate sexism is the elimination of the kickoff itself, Acker says.

"When we get rid of football I think we really will have made progress. That game as well as boxing symbolizes the male stereotype. Get out there and kill, right? I'm just a voice crying in the wilderness, but that's what I think they should do."



Photo by Dave Kao

The University's 1983 Student Ambassadors from the left are Mark Makler, Jill Summers, Sara Wong and Grant Robinson.

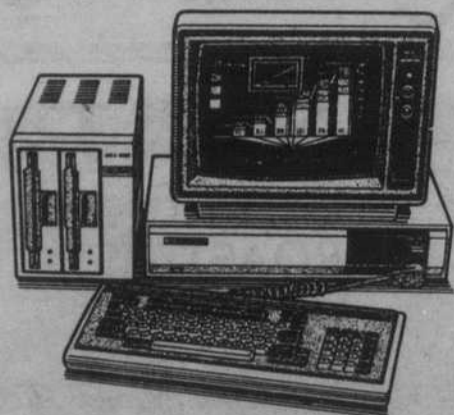
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