

Baseball president to speak

By George Beres

For the Emerald

Commencement has a new venue at Oregon this June.

The site is Autzen Stadium.

But, considering the unique identity of the commencement speaker, Howe Field might have been the more appropriate location.

The speaker is A. Bartlett Giamatti, a former president of Yale University who today is president of baseball's National League. Howe Field was the home of Oregon baseball, when Oregon still had a baseball team. But the sport was discontinued several years ago in an economy measure. So now Howe Field — with new dimensions, including an outfield fence that cuts halfway through the old baseball pasture — is home to the women's softball team.

As Giamatti will see at Autzen, the sports setting in Oregon is consistent with the beauty of the environment. Fir trees create a jagged horizon to the south. On a clear day, one can see the white-capped peaks of the Sisters Range to the east.

Howe Field always was a cozy, intimate place to watch a baseball tossed and batted across the diamond's geometry. It has the same coziness for the underhanded deliveries from a softball pitcher. But one of the sources of its intimacy — its limited seating capacity — would have made it an impossible commencement site, especially with the record attendance likely to be at Autzen, June 14.

The playing of "Pomp and Circumstance" may once again attract family and friends of graduates. But it's the novelty of a speaker from baseball's "senior circuit" that figures to draw an attendance suited to the expanded seating capacity of the football stadium.

This won't be Oregon's first contact with the Eli of Yale in



A. Bartlett Giamatti

an athletic context. It was at Yale, years before Giamatti's arrival there, that Howard "Hobby" Hobson, one of the legendary names of Oregon sport, concluded his distinguished coaching career in baseball and basketball. It was Hobson's 1939 Oregon team, the "Tall Firs," that won the first NCAA basketball tournament ever played.

While Giamatti's baseball identity may be what draws the curious to commencement, his selection as speaker was based on scholarly merit.

When the invitation first was extended, he was president of one of the nation's most prestigious universities, Yale. Conflicts prevented him from accepting the first invitation. Then, soon after a subsequent invitation for 1987 was accepted, he left the responsibilities of academia for those

of administering a baseball league that had come into being the same year as the University, 1876.

His departure from the cloistered halls for the dugouts of baseball won't diminish his scholarly credentials for the commencement duties. When he began his eight years as Yale president in 1978, he was known as a scholar of Renaissance literature. He had held the John Hay Whitney Professorship in English and Comparative Literature, and was director of the Humanities Division when named Yale president.

His Ivy League orientation was strengthened by three years of teaching Italian at Princeton.

So how significant a shift of career gears was it to become head of the nation's prominent

Turn to Giamatti, Page 24B



HAVE YOU HEARD?

OLD FRIENDS

is moving!

Beginning June, find us at
1022 Willamette!

Thanks for your years of campus patronage.



GRADUATION FLOWERS



FRESH FLOWER ARRANGEMENTS FROM \$10⁰⁰ SHOWN \$20⁰⁰

- HAND-TIED BOKAYS \$5⁹⁵
- FLOWERS BY THE STEM
- DAISIES — \$1⁵⁰ BUNCH
- CORSAGES

LOCAL DELIVERY AND OUT-OF-TOWN WIRE SERVICE
PARKING ON OUR BRICK COURTYARD, ON THE ALLEY OR ON 14TH ST.



RAINYDAY FLORIST

1375 PEARL ST. 485-8153

C O P I E S

3¢

All Day Every Day

Mon.-Fri.
8:30-8:00pm
Sat. 10-6pm

Print America
519 E. 13th
485-1940

Looking for a place to live?

Check the ODE Classifieds



TOMORROW'S TECHNOLOGY AT YOUR TOUCH

For Graduates Everywhere

THE WRITE STUFF

A Smith Corona Production



The perfect gift for graduation.
XD 6500 Electronic Typewriter with Spell-Right™ Dictionary

- Spell-Right™ electronic dictionary checks spelling of 50,000 words.
- Word-Right™ Autospell... displays correctly spelled alternatives for you to choose.
- WordEraser™ removes an entire word with one tap of a key.
- Other features include auto center, 16 character display, 7,000 character editable memory.

• New and used typewriters starting from \$99.95

Henderson's
GREAT WEST BUSINESS MACHINES
• 1415 West 7th • Eugene, Oregon 97402 • 360-484-1888 •

THE BIG SPILL



A university offers steps to opportunity and success; it also offers a social setting that can lead you off the edge.

Centering your college career around drugs or alcohol can lead to wasted time, money, friendships, education, health and saddest of all, a wasted life.

If you or a friend have a possible problem or even a question, professional experience and skill are only a phone call away.

Calling or meeting with someone who can answer your questions will either ease your mind or be the first logical step in solving a difficult problem. Whichever one it is, it can only help.

For confidential help at no cost, ask for John or Lois at Serenity Lane (only 2 blocks from campus).

687-1110 616 E. 16th — corner of 16th and Patterson



SERENITY LANE
TREATMENT CENTER
FOR ALCOHOL & DRUG ABUSE
PRIVATE, NOT FOR PROFIT