

ARCHIVES

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computer and then explain the historical context in relation to present time as efficiently as a futuristic android.

He's quick to share his knowledge.

For example, he said, there are themes that run through the years. One, he said, is of poverty. The University never has enough money. The other, he has observed, is student action.

The issues of the times change, he said, but students' rallying for the progressive cause of the day has remained a constant.

"You people haven't changed," he says authoritatively. "The issues for the students in the 1920s were on the front burner" just as they are today.

But, he said, the ROTC has consistently been viewed negatively throughout the years.

"ROTC has never been popular on this campus," Richard said. Then, doing what he's good at, he spins fact with analysis. "But we've produced more generals than any other ROTC unit in the United States."

Richard points out that "his" archive is a little different than other universities' archives. It is, he said, more resemblant of a museum.

In one file cabinet is a drawer labeled, "Personalities A-Cn." One of the manila folders inside reads, "Louise Bryant." Bryant was a student radical who graduated in 1908.

After actor Warren Beatty called in the late 1970s to gather information on her life for the movie *Reds*, Richard said he made a file for her. Diane Keaton played her in the movie.

The movie later prompted *Ms. Magazine* to call Richard to research Bryant's life further. The magazine later published an article asking, "Did Diane Keaton Give Us the Real Louise Bryant? What 'Reds' Didn't Tell You."

There's the "tidbits" drawers that contain files such as one with information on every black student athlete ever to play for the University.

One file contains all the names of all the student presidents. It notes the first females — elected in 1944 and again in 1945 when there was a shortage of men during World War II.

The next female to serve as ASUO president wasn't for another 32 years until 1977. She was also the first black president. The first Latino, in the file indicates, was elected in 1979.

But the archives in Fenton Hall is the archives open to the public. There is even more stuff that people can't see stored in basements in other buildings on campus.

Ask Richard, "Like what?" Baseball uniforms from 1928, he says. "All wool."



The University archives is also home to a collection of various sporting trophies earned over the years by Ducks. Photo by Jeff Paslay

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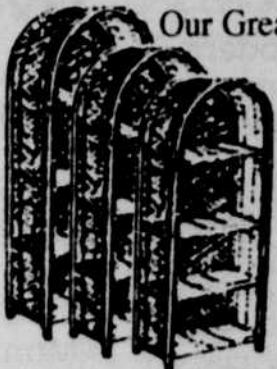
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