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Peterson Notes Success

by Jay Schmidt

Sunday night the University Singers returned to Oral Roberts University from an eight-day Midwest tour. "It was highly successful in every way," commented Dr. Jesse Peterson, Director.

The 24-voice choir left January 31 for their first program, at the First Assembly of God, Granite City, Illinois. Accompanying the group were Larry Dalton, pianist; Sharon Griffin, pianist and viola soloist; Gary Pollard, Ron Metcalf and Denny Winkel, trumpet trio; Ruth Merrill, in charge of lighting; and Tom Ivey, technician. Mrs. Gene Elstad accompanied the group during the first half of the tour, and Mr. Charles Ramsey, Jr., the second.

A wide variety of sacred music characterized their presentation. Beginning with classical selections, the program continued with spirituals, folk and gospel songs, including Ralph Carmichael arrangements, and concluded with "You'll Never Walk Alone."

Last week's trip was the first lengthy tour made by an ORU choir. The itinerary included the Open Bible Church, Rockford, Illinois; Moline Gospel Temple, Moline, Illinois; First Church of the Open Bible, Des Moines, Iowa; Assembly of God, Lincoln, Nebraska; Berean Baptist Church, Kansas City, Missouri; Youth for Christ Rally, Kansas City, Kansas; and Evangel Temple, First Assembly of God, Kansas City, Missouri.

"What impressed me most, commented Cory Nickerson, "was that we worked together toward a common goal and showed that a Christian can be top-notch and not mediocre."

Dr. Peterson, who was officially awarded a Doctorate of Musical Arts from the University of Missouri, Kansas City, January 28, remarked, "I have traveled for fifteen years with musical groups, and I cannot remember a more successful tour."

Swick Receives Dark Award

Charles Swick, a freshman at Oral Roberts University, was recently awarded a radio and television scholarship.

A telecommunications major, Charles Swick was given the award by Dr. Paul Skillinghaus, ORU vice president for academic affairs. Dr. Skillinghaus said: "Charles has demonstrated a high level of scholarship and promise in the field of communications."

Although Charles Swick is pursuing a career in radio and television, "Dark" himself, a successful radio- TV advertiser, decided to offer the annual scholarship after visiting ORU and seeing the school's technological facilities.

Laurine Hager, Speech Department chair, who is one of the students of the award, commented: "I am very pleased with this award. It means a great deal to me and I plan to work hard to fulfill the expectations of the award."

Dr. Messick Resigns as Dean of Academic Affairs

by Darlene Ulrich

Thursday, February 1, marked another milestone in the history of Oral Roberts University, as it paid tribute to Dr. J. D. Messick, who has resigned after two and one half years of active service. The ceremony was climax ed by the induction of Dr. Carl H. Hamilton as Dean of Academic Affairs.

Concerning the present status of Oral Roberts University, Dr. Messick emphasized the need for an increasingly scholarly atmosphere. He outlined the curriculum development and listed the advantages of educational media, level work, and independent research, as well as a well-diversified library.

In closing, Dr. Messick remarked, "We do not have a Utopia. The school is not large enough for every instructor to teach only his own specialty . . . but we have done well. We have a foundation philosophically and academically of greatness. It will require understanding, patience, work, time, and dedicated trust in God to achieve the ultimate goal, but we are on the way."

ATTENTION

There will be a reception for Dr. Messick on February 6 between 6:30 and 8:30 p.m. in the Timko-Burton Lounge. All students, faculty members, and friends are invited to attend.

Dates to Remember

February 8—Chapel conducted by President Roberts. He will make himself available at this time for questions asked by the students.

February 16-18 — Crusade in Tampa, Florida.
Letters to the Editor

A letter to the editor in the December 11, 1967 issue of The Oracle suggested, in essence, the abandonment of "superficial standards of 'Holy' dress, etc.," and a substitution of "loving one another in Christ."

I agree with the writers that holiness is a matter of the heart which cannot be legislated. The standards of dress suggested by the administration must then be considered as given for reasons other than "make one holy." They are in my opinion motivated by this same Christian love to which the article referred. Christ said "If you love me, keep my commandments." Paraphrased some of these things are:

Do not offend the weak (Matt. 18:6-7), see also Paul's comment (I Cor. 8:11-13).

Love your neighbor as yourself (Mark 12:31).

Obey them that have the rule over you (Heb. 13:17). This is also Paul's comment.

This is an Interdenominational Christian Charismatic Educational Institution. By definition then, many of our brothers and sisters in Christ here on this campus have different Christian code of conduct. These codes have been implanted in their consciousness as a result of their communion with God and their religious training. Since all students have indicated that they are Christian we must proceed on the assumption that they are therefore desiring to do the will of God in this matter. If we follow that line of reasoning, and we take Christ's words to be the will of God, we then reach the conclusion that we must modify our behavior, in what has been agreed are small things relatively speaking, to avoid offending fellow Christians both on and off this campus.

In addition to considering the Christian community we must also "effectively communicate" Jesus Christ to the world in terms which it can understand." Some of the highest standards for Christ's conduct in the world are those standards existing in the minds of non-Christians. These non-Christians continually seek to excuse themselves and their conduct by comparing the conduct of Christians against this hypothetical standard which they hold. I believe that it was for this reason that we were admonished in the scripture to avoid the very appearance of evil.

We must be careful in trying to separate non-saving Christian principles from the full implication of the Christian actions which should follow those principles, so that we may avoid the accusation of James when he said "Show me your faith without works I will shew you my faith by my works."Modified Christian conduct and skill should not be made out of themselves holiness, but are a result of our holy concern for our neighbor's salvation (non-Christian). We must do better than this to the extent that we are willing, in Paul's terms. To become all things to all people that we might be effective communicators.

Robert E. Feller

AMS President Speaks Out

By Joe Lapointe

We are filled with a great deal of more growing pains. Are they natural pain that accompany a growing situation? Many people say that they are pains of a process in which the school must grow in its way to maturity. I do not agree. I believe many of our problems are unnecessary and self-inflicted.

Because many of us continue to refuse to accept the Code of Honor as a way of life. The Code cannot stand when it is interpreted as a rigid set of conservative rules set forth only to be obeyed in letter and not in spirit. Let me use an example.

During a recent investigation held by the Men's J Board, a particular individual was being questioned because his name had been mentioned in another testimony. When asked if he had knowledge of others engaged in wrong acts, he replied with some forward, yes! When asked to divulge their names, he refused and raised as a defense the fact that he had spoken to the instructors and told them they should cease their activities. The individual showed knowledge of these activities for over six weeks, but waited until three days before his hearing to approach the guilty parties.

Are we really so what many people believe of us? I believe that we are a professional group of dedicated young people! I think not, at least, not yet.

Basketball Royalty with Co-Captain Marty Wallace Crowned Queen

The crowning of Marty Walters, Oral Roberts University's 1968 Basketball Queen, took place on January 13. The ceremony followed the ORU vs. Oklahoma Christian College game. Dance Show, ORU's queen for 1967, announced the new queen, and Mul Reed, co-captain of the team, crowned Marty and presented her with a dozen long stemmed red roses.

Marty was chosen by the basketball team from a group of five finalists.

Coming from Portland, Oregon, Marty is an elementary education major. She participates in the Pep Club, Le Cirque France, and the Powerlift Planned by Bill Teshnak

Coach John Johnson, head of the weightlifting program at ORU, recently announced the first weightlifting program here at ORU; recently announced by Coach Johnson was the first Annual Powerlift Weightlifting Championship of ORU to be held on Friday, February 9, 1968 at 6:30 p.m. in the ORU gym. Weigh in will be between 5:30 and 6:30 p.m.

Mr. Johnson also said that official AAU weightlifting rules will be strictly enforced. Johnson is the meet director and will have as judges some of the outstanding lifters in Oklahoma. Competition will be in the Bench Press, Knee Bends, and Dead Lift categories.

Trophies will be given as awards for the first, second, and third place finishers based on the total of the three lifts. These awards will be based on the Hoffman Formula of judging.

Coaches or athletes registering between 10 and 20 boys to enter the competition.

Checklist:

1. All entries must be registered by March 15.
2. Entries are limited to four individuals per school.
3. Entry fee is $1.00 per entry, payable in advance.

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Letters to the Editor: The Editor welcomes all letters to the Editor on any subject. Letters must be signed, names will be withheld upon request.

Submit to Editor Marcia Lucas, Room 25 or Room 20, Tinkham-Burton Building.