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the ORACLE

VOLUME 8, NUMBER 19

ORAL ROBERTS UNIVERSITY, TULSA, OKLAHOMA

MARCH 16, 1973

Titans face formidable foe North Carolina at tourney

For the second consecutive year, the ORU Titans have been invited to participate in the National Invitation Tournament at Madison Square Garden in New York. The Titans' first-round opponent tomorrow night will be the 11th-ranked Tar Heels of North Carolina.

The expected phone call came 2 weeks ago after the Titans were snubbed by the NCAA Selection Committee for Oklahoma City University. Coach Ken Trickey expressed his pleasure with the bid by saying that he felt the team would fare better in this year's tournament because we have the size and experience that we lacked last year. "We didn't have a big man and St. John's beat us on the boards. With David Vaughn and Greg McDougald we're much stronger this year," emphasized Trickey.

North Carolina will represent

as formidable a foe as ORU has faced all year. The Tar Heels are entering the tournament as Atlantic Coast Conference runner-ups because they suffered a 54-52 upset loss at the hands of Wake Forest in the conference playoffs. UNC sports a 22-7 record but five of the losses were picked up in conference play, which indicates the ferocity of competition in the ACC.

The ORU-North Carolina battle will be the feature game of tomorrow night's doubleheader with Massachusetts and Missouri clashing in the opener. Other teams in the strongest NIT field ever are: Notre Dame, Southern California, American University, Louisville, New Mexico, Virginia Tech, Fairfield, Marshall (remember them?), Rutgers, Minnesota, Manhattan, and Alabama.

The University has decided to

pull out all the stops for this year's tournament by not only sending the cheerleading squad but also the 37-member Titan Pep Band directed by Bill Shellenbarger.

"The band has worked hard and they're excited about this trip," said Shellenbarger. One unidentified ace trombone player summed up the feeling of the entire band, "We're going to play!"

There's no doubt that the basketball team feels the same way. Coach Trickey has been assured by Richie Fuqua that he will be in top form. For those of you students who are less-confident fans, Coach Trickey feels that the entire Titan attitude is summed up in one statement by forward Eddie Woods.

"We were embarrassed last year and I don't intend to let it happen again."

Funding for academic addition depends upon Congress action

Additional academic space for Oral Roberts University depends on Congress appropriating funds for an interest-subsidy loan program in the U.S. Department of Health, Education and Welfare.

The fate of federal funds for a \$4.5-million annex to the Learning Resources Center "hangs in the balance" of budget disputes between President Nixon and Congress, said Dr. Carl Hamilton last Wednesday.

ORU is seeking a \$3.8-million interest-subsidy grant for the a three-story annex, one of three additions proposed in the University's long-range plan for the center.

The annex would allow the

university to expand its enrollment from the projected 2,000 full-time undergraduate students this fall to 2,500 when the center opens in the fall of 1975.

"We will not know the status until Congress and the President sort out their funding priorities," said Hamilton.

The proposal calls for about \$700,000 in local funds. Hamilton said no decision has been made on whether that money would be raised through a local fund-raising effort.

Long-range plans call for the three annexes to be joined by covered walkways.

No construction dates have been set for the other two additions to the center.

On the first annex, "We're looking for construction to start sometime in the early spring or summer of 1974," Hamilton said.

The building is designed for additional classroom space, but is also under consideration for use as a library.

The federal application has already won favorable review from the Indian board of the Indian Nations Council of Governments, the regional planning agency for this area.

If the grant is approved by the federal government, the government would then subsidize interest rates so the University would pay no more than 3 percent interest on the 30-year pay-back.



University officials are seeking \$3.8 million in federal funds for this three-story annex to the Learning Resources Center. If the University should receive the loan, construction on the building would begin

in 1974 and would be completed for the 1975 fall semester. The \$4.5 million annex will be located just south of the LRC and will house a library or additional classrooms.



STECHEK & HOROWITZ, duo-piano team, has won critical acclaim at concerts across America and around the world. They will appear in concert tomorrow at 8 p.m. in Mabey Center. Each a keyboard master in his own right, they have played together since 1951. While on tour they travel with two perfectly matched concert grand pianos in a unique "music van."

Nixon's budget eliminates NDSL and EOG loans

University funds for loans and grants will be reduced drastically for the '72-'73 school year, according to John McKinney, financial aid director.

The reason for the reduction is that President Nixon's budget provides zero dollars for the Educational Opportunity Grant (EOG) and the National Direct Student Loan (NDSL).

"We will have only \$50,000 in loans and grant money, compared to over \$200,000 for last year. With only one fourth as much money, the loans and grants will definitely be harder to get," said McKinney.

"If Congress accepts Nixon's new proposal for student loans, the Basic Educational Opportunity Grant (BEOG) will go into effect for the fall 1973 semester; however, the timetable for the new program is very uncertain and may not be in effect by this fall," continued McKinney.

Under the new proposal, every college student will be eli-

gible for \$1,400 a year (if Congress appropriates enough money to fully fund the program). The BEOG will be administered by the commercial banks.

According to McKinney, \$1,400 minus family contribution equals the level of eligibility, but the maximum any student can receive is one-half of his total cost for attending the institution of his choice.

The NDSL program will have a limited amount of money available this fall at each school with the program. This money will come from collections from students who have had the loan in past years.

"Congress could get up in arms against Nixon's new proposal, but that would take much time," said McKinney. "The best thing for students to do is write their congressmen and thank them for the NDSL and EOG loans that were available in the past."

Tribute to the American Black Woman

Sociologists refer to the American black woman as dominating her domain and making what they call a "matriarchal home." Even though she has faced many chilly winds of adversity, she still maintains a tremendous capacity for loving; therefore a tremendous capacity for suffering. She was often deserted by mate, institution, and even this nation, but she still stands firm on a solid rock just as she did in 1619 when the first slave ship landed in America.

Slavery was an evil and cruel system, and the black woman was caught up in it. It taught her to take over and lead to heal the wounds and injuries it created. She had to make the most of life when her men and boys were literally stolen from her. The faith she possessed made the family strong, and it also made the incubator for the newborn movement for liberation, pride, self-respect, and strong ambitions of the black man today.

Tribute is due her, for she stood by her family during all the storms of the ages. She gave them love and guidance. She was the real glue that held the family together and was often referred

to as the backbone of her race. She has had to live without the luxuries of life and was allowed only bare necessities but she found richer pleasures in God. She trusts and leans on Him and talks to Him about the smallest affairs of her life.

Today is a brand-new day for her and her family. She can now stand behind her man as he moves out to become the hero of this age. Even though changes have taken place in the American system that cause life to be a bit sweeter to her, she will remain a strong apostle of God. She is encouraged, for God is yet standing by her side and helping her. "Not that I speak in respect of want: for I have learned that in whatsoever state I am, therewith to be content. I know both how to be abased, and I know how to abound; everywhere and in all things I am instructed both to be full and to be hungry, both to abound and to suffer need." Phillipians 4:11,12.

There is one thing for sure, she will never give up, simply because she truly does trust God and she is a Black Woman.

Joyce Sumner

EDC offers education scholarship

The Educational Development Corporation is awarding a scholarship to an outstanding senior man or woman (class of 1974) who is pursuing elementary, K-12, or secondary certification and plans to make teaching on this level his or her career. This scholarship is for 1 year and covers rooms, board, and tuition. Academic standing, professional potential, spiritual commitment and commitment to the aims and purposes of the University will be considered in determining the outstanding individual. Other factors being equal, financial need will be a determining factor.

Interested students may pick up an application form in the Department of Education office. All applications must be turned in by March 20.

How about me, Mr. Banker?

If President Nixon's proposed loan and grant program goes through, it might be wise for students seeking money to transfer to the University of Hanoi or Haiphong to share some of the dollars the President hopes to pump in to Vietnam.

Last summer Congress passed and Nixon signed a bill creating what will be called Basic Opportunity Grants (BOG's). The BOG law states that the National Direct Student Loans (NDSL's) and Educational Opportunity Grants (EOG's) must be funded before the BOG program can become operable. But Mr. Nixon has ignored the very law he signed by refusing to fund the NDSL's and EOG's.

Next year, with loans available from the school drastically reduced, students will be forced to borrow money from commercial banks. Hometown commercial banks will become the primary source of financial-aid funds.

However, ORU students may find more trouble tapping these hometown-bank sources than most college students since 75 percent of the student body is from out of state.

For many, the reason will be an "identity crisis." Should you turn to Tulsa banks where you probably have little or no credit reference, or your former hometown bank where your parents probably have some type of financial standing? At your hometown bank, the banker will naturally be giving priority to in-state college students.

If you need a loan next semester we suggest that you immediately line up a bank. If you don't know your banker, isn't it about time you did?

Drama review

'Androcles' a roaring success

by liz jenkins

A purple lion, depicted by the redoubtable Alma Golder, was the meat of **Androcles and the Lion**. She and Androcles, superbly portrayed by Larry Morbitt, danced their way into every heart.

Although the production lagged in spots, it did have some really sharp moments. Action of the play revolved around a group of Christians on their way to martyrdom, who appeared as raving madmen and tittering nincompoops.

Graceful Judy Gleason portrayed Lavinia, the Christian woman who at first had no doubts of her faith, but faltered after viewing the devotion of her fellow prisoners.

The "handsome" captain who challenged Lavinia's Christianity was played by Bob Butcher. Even though he'd fallen hopelessly in love with Lavinia, he decided that educated men have neither belief in, nor need for a god.

Robert Galloway rivaled the speed of sound as he flashed from one end of the set to the other in his portrayal of Spintho, a Christian who seemed more like a demoniac. At the last moment, Spintho, who had often raided the abominable Roman temples, decided to sacrifice his free trip to heaven as a martyr for "one more good time." Instead of escaping his fate, however, he infuriated the menagerie keeper, Beth Smithers, by bolting into the lion's cage where he was immediately devoured.

A peel of laughter rose from the audience as Mick McCabe appeared as a genteel patrician named Lentulus. Ferrovius, the Christian strong man with a raging temper, was played by Brian Brunett. A champion of the faith, Ferrovius believed he had converted yet another Roman heathen by way of a "heart-to-heart talk" when Lentulus swooned from fear. Ferrovius suffered the most horrible of martyrdoms—the sacrifice of his soul when he slayed the imperial

gladiators and accepted a position with the Pretorian guard to save the lives of his fellow Christians.

Dennis Whaley was the emperor. When this god-man of Rome embraced as a brother that despicable, garlic-flavored Greek tailor Androcles, he proved for all time that when one is faced with certain death, humility easily displaces one's pride.

Androcles proved to be the epitome of meek Christianity. Going to any length to avoid offending man or beast, he even agreed to offer incense so as not to offend editor James Fitts, but only if it could be done in private so as not to offend his Christian brothers. In the end it was Androcles who stood loyal to his faith and was thrown to the lions. But because of previous kindness toward a certain suffering lion, he was saved from a savage death and even set free to

lead a life of peace with his beloved "liony-piony."

An outstanding performance by Sandi Martin as Androcles's quarrelsome wife Megaera helped to prepare the audience for the various moods and ideals expressed by Shaw throughout the play.

Lavinia best expressed Shaw's views on religion in general with her attitude that a person's choice of religious sect is less significant than the fact that he believes in something beyond himself.

What is left to be said about **Androcles and the Lion** after one says that Alma Golder's Shakesperian-type set design was not short of perfection; that Sandi Martin produced her usual brilliant array of costumes, especially the lion's; that the acting was on the whole well done; and that the director, Lisa Johnson, is to be congratulated? What indeed is left?

Letters

Dear editor,

I was delighted to read in your last issue that the sick trays had been healed. It was definitely news to me.

Just before spring break my roommate suffered a terrible bout with the flu. I literally wore myself out chasing down people to give me notes for getting sick trays, as I had to have a new one for every meal. What was most depressing, however, was the fact that when I presented the magic note to Saga employees I was handed five cups in which I was to put hot cereal and fruit juices that I couldn't seem to find during the dinner hour. The most nutritious foods that I could find which may have been "neglected in the past" were an occasional cup of vegetable soup, ice cream, or cottage cheese.

The liquid diet was adequate nourishment for my sick room-

mate for the first few days. However, after five days her nausea and fever subsided and she was left weak and in dire need of solid food. I was told by one Saga employee that I could requisition for a square meal for my starving roommate who was still too weak to walk to the cafeteria. Sad to say this was on a weekend and I couldn't seem to find the proper channels to take any such action.

It is indeed sad that all too often policies run from one extreme to another. If in truth sick trays have been healed, why was my roommate's recovery retarded because she was denied solid food?

EDITOR'S NOTE: According to Mrs. Inbody's office, the sick tray policy is still in the process of being healed. Girls needing sick tray passes may obtain them from their RC's or Joyce Shields and Cheryl Cuney.

the ORACLE

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Redoubtable Alma Golder, the purple lion, headed the 24-member cast of the renovated fable.



Androcles and the lion

Menagerie keeper Beth Smithers (center picture) choscs Androcles (Larry Morbitt) to be thrown to the lions to please the Roman spectators.



Roman captain Bob Butcher found it hard to understand why Lavinia (Judy Gleason) so stubbornly refused to sacrifice to the gods.

Not all early Christians were mild-mannered. Ferrovius (Brian Burnett) grabs for Roman editor James Fitts. Looking on are Judy Gleason, Larry Morbitt and gladiators Mark Henderson and Jerry Landers.

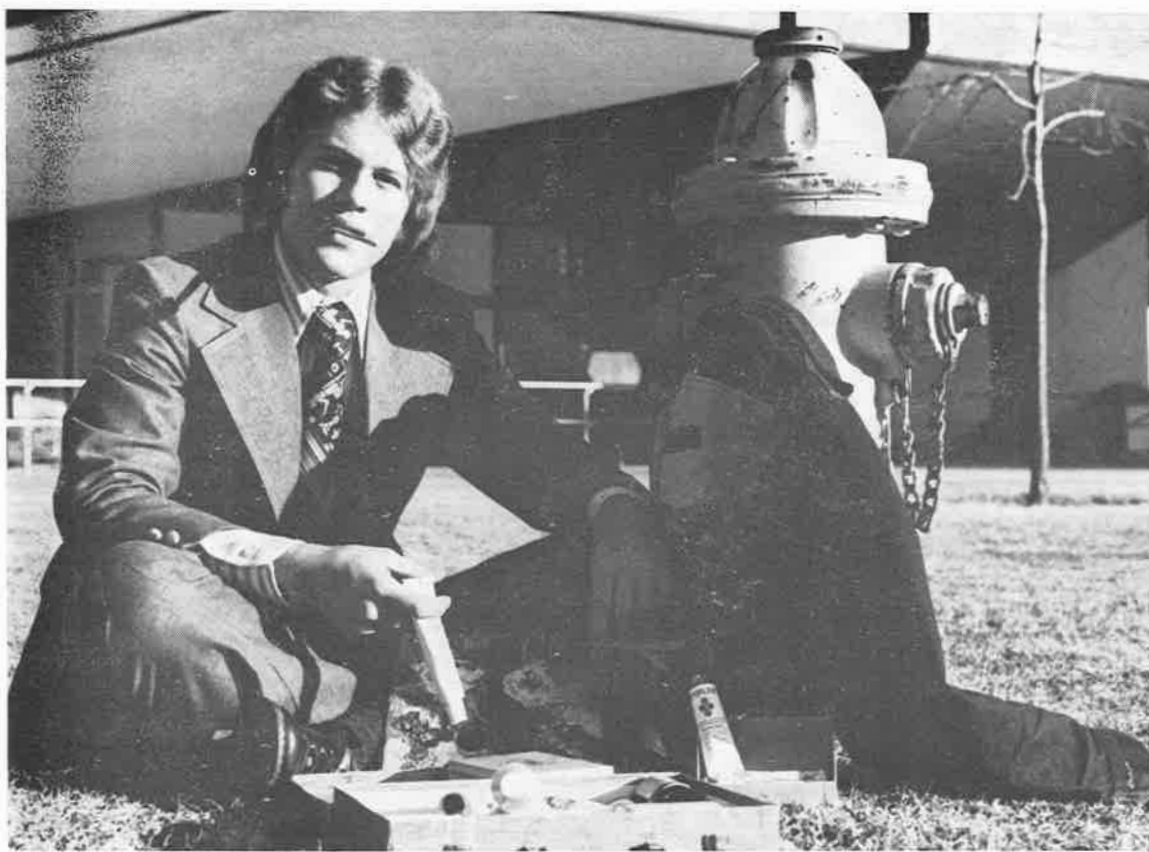


For playgoers the communication arts department's presentation of "Androcles and the Lion" did not fall into any classifications to which they were usually accustomed.

The play was definitely deeper than any renovated fable. Romping action, earnest fun, and biting satire were all presented on the same plane and at the same moment: so the playgoer had to keep on the alert to separate the different elements.

With largest cast of any drama production given at ORU, the play revolves around the Roman persecution of early Christians.

George Bernard Shaw, author of the play, points out that during this period of early Christianity, a martyr was thrown to the lions not because he was a Christian, but because he was a crank: an unusual sort of person. Multitudes of people, quite as civilized and amiable as we, crowded to see the lions tear him apart, just as they now crowd the lion-house in the Zoo at feeding time. It wasn't because the Romans really cared two pence about Christ, but because they wanted to see a curious and exciting spectacle.



Longing for the days of "plain 'ole, good 'ole contemporary modern art, with a very finished style"? Charlie Reeves' Senior Art Show will be on display in the Fireside Room on March 18-22 from 5 to 9

p.m. "Basic realism and abstract mixed together" constitutes Charlie's acrylic paintings, pen and ink, wood-cut prints, and commercial art. Charlie refers to his style, as "funky art."

Figlet's Finds

Bubbles, bugged bars, burgers

Are you wondering what happened on campus while you were home for spring break? Everything was just wunaful, wunaful!

Yes, 70-year-old Lawrence Welk and his Champagne Music Makers (minus the bubble machine) polkaed their way into Mabee Center and set a record attendance of 10,752. Maybe the Titans could take a few lessons from Lawrence, incorporate a few waltz steps with their fast break, and I'll bet we'd have standing room only next year in the ORU corral.

By the way, Lawrence Welk played for my aunt's wedding, but back in those days his orchestra consisted of two musicians, Lawrence and his accordion. That's Figlet's believe-it-or-not for the week!

* * *

My roommate at Braxton Hall during vacation, Leola Walters, sat reading my favorite newspaper, the **National Observer**.

"Look here, it says that often you may find bugs and their eggs on candy bars. They come when the candy is waiting on the warehouse shelves before shipping it to the stores," Leola told me. "That's nice", I mumbled, not really listening. Who cares about bugs in chocolate bars?

Then I went shopping on Saturday, had a hankering for something sweet, and bought a candy bar. Just before I got into the car, and was ready to pop the candy into my mouth, Leola's statement came back to me, and I looked at it more closely.

Little shivers chased up and down my spine as I watched three long black bugs crawl over the candy. I wrapped them back up, ran to the store, and said, "Sir, I would like to return this candy bar, please." He started to say, "What's wr...", gasped, threw the candy away, and handed me another bar.

"I'm not hungry now," I told him firmly. He unwrapped it, and insisted that I take it. I checked it over, then promptly ate the whole bar.

What is it they say? Once you've had a scare, you must plunge in to rid yourself of the old fear. Otherwise, you may never touch another candy bar in your whole life!—Then again, that wouldn't be "all" bad!

* * *

I hope you didn't miss Alma Golder as the purple-padded animal in **Androcles and the Lion**. It was an excellent performance, but did you realize that "Androcles" was the second play Alma ever saw, and since then she has wanted to play the lion's part?

"It's a 15-year-old dream come true," drama-destined Alma smiled. Let's hear three roars for Alma and the rest of the A and the L cast...and the fact that dreams still come true.

* * *

Vacation for some of us was helping on the filming of the half-hour Sunday programs—watching Richard, Patti, Oral, and the World Action Singers work hard.

Several of us stood and held cue cards, trying to stay out of the way of the cameras, cables, W.A. Singers as they ran on stage—it was so much fun! On one particularly fast medley, cameraman I put me in my place. "Would you not run by so fast with those cue cards?" he asked. "You're shaking my camera."

Guess which campus spot several of the NBC men liked best? The ORU bookstore! They left for California in ORU windbreakers, and I for one hated to see them go.

There's no business like show business, especially here at ORU where it all ties in with God's business!

* * *

So what else was vacation on campus? Vacation was eating in the snack bar—hamburgers, French fries, French fries, and more hamburgers until Puerto Rican-born Jeanette Mejia told me, "I'm sure at the end of the week I will have a shape just like a hamburger!" Several of us decided we would violently "do away" with the first person who came back to school and complained about Saga food. Nutritionists have found that a hamburger, malt, and French fries have a lot of vitamins, but a little variety never hurt anyone, right?

Welcome back, students. And yum—welcome back, Saga! We missed you!

Student teachers to meet Thursday

Prospective student teachers for spring of 1974 will meet Thursday, March 22 at 11 a.m. in LRC 236. Requests for Student Teacher Placement must be completed before April 1 if you expect to student teach next spring.

Any student who anticipates student teaching in the fall of 1973 and who has not completed an application for Student Teacher Placement should attend this meeting.



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InterAct II debates use of contraceptives

Last night the Communication Arts department sponsored an open debate on the question concerning whether or not contraceptives should be made available to minors without parental consent. InterAct II beginning at 7:00, lasted exactly 1 hour. It was held in Timko-Barton Hall.

Steve Stockley began the debate, with his presentation of the affirmative side. Stockley argued that contraceptives may cut down on unwanted pregnancies and that no one can legislate morality. He believed that we must be able to give way to newer standards.

Don Minyard retorted with

the negative side, saying an easy access to contraceptives would increase sexual permissiveness and tear down the family unit by ignoring parental authority.

After these opening speeches the debate continued as participants commented on the different sides of the issue. Dennis Sprouse served as moderator.

The majority of participants favored the use of contraceptives.

Don Minyard explained the purpose of InterAct II is "not merely a debate between two speakers, but a chance for students to get involved in formulating and expressing their opinions.

Concert choir receives warm welcome in South

Southern hospitality, good food, and a glorious spiritual union are the fond memories collected by 48 Concert Choir members who returned to campus Sunday after a week-long tour of parts of the South. They will present their tour program Sunday afternoon at 4 p.m. in Timko-Barton Hall.

The singers found themselves very welcomed and respected at each stop. Police escorts and television and newspaper reporters greeted them in Florence, Ala., where they were given the key to the city and in return presented the Alabamians the key to Tulsa. Varied programs, including classical, popular, and spiritual numbers, received hearty responses from "packed out" churches and enthusiastic school assemblies. "One couple that heard us in Memphis even went to Nashville so they could hear us again," said Becky Fields, "and many commented that their opinion of us had changed."

When asked about the trip,

junior voice major Jan Schleter said with a glow, "It was the greatest spiritual thing I've ever been on!" Other choir members chorused "Amen!" and chattered eagerly about the tremendous spiritual union of the singers on the trip.

"It wasn't just a physical tour," continued Jan, "but a real union together. The Lord came down upon us throughout the whole tour. The more unified we were as a group, the better each concert was."

The bus ride was a real sharing time as choir members opened up and shared with each other. No one expected such a great spiritual union within the group, but all returned glowing with experiences they had. Some singers received the Baptism of the Holy Spirit.

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Coach Peace looks to golf champions

There is one big goal in the mind of Coach Myron Peace and his golfers this year as they launch the spring golf campaign:

To be outstanding enough to win a berth in the NCAA championships to be held just 75 miles away at Oklahoma State University.

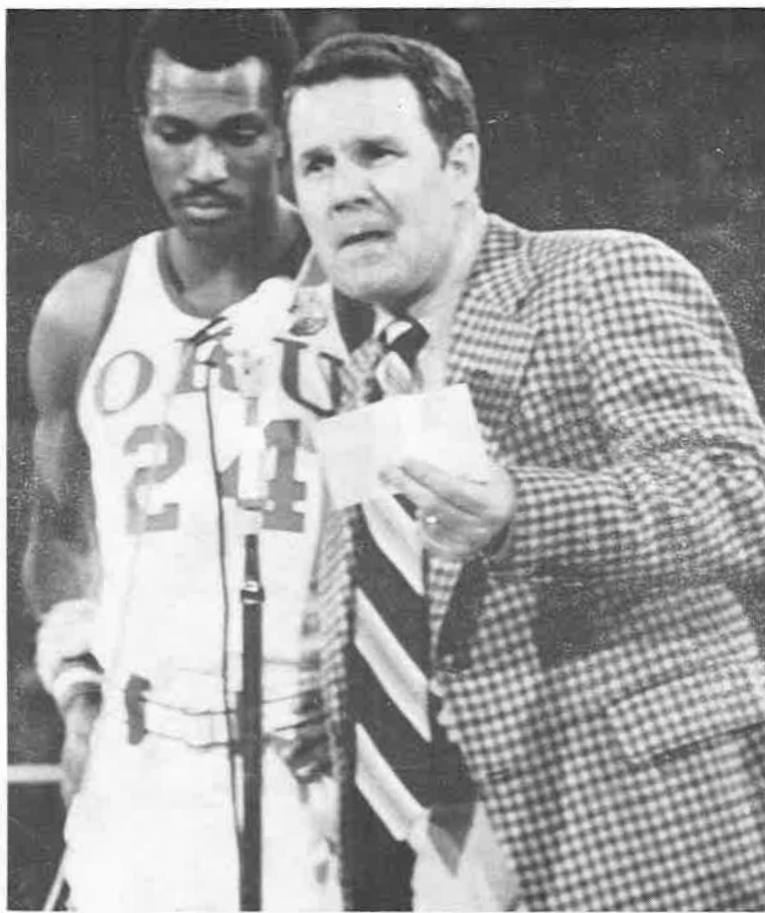
There is no doubt in Peace's mind that the Titan linksters are good enough to win that spot, what with Dave (Big Boy) Barr, the Kelowna, B. C., better, returning.

Barr, a junior who has been the No. 1 golfer for ORU both as a freshman and a sophomore, won a spot in the NCAA individual competition last year. But ORU has not competed in any team championships.

Gone is Dave's steady Canadian teammate, Ted Gellett, but Peace has imported even more golfers from north of the border. One is Bob Laing, of Prince George, B. C., a member of the Canadian Junior team champions of British Columbia. Another is David Donaldson of North Vancouver, B. C., who has won several junior honors in his homeland.

Also back are regulars Jim Hall, Mike Webb, Jim Fowler, etc.

Barr, who was named to the Canadian national team which finished eighth in the World Cup championship, twice won the



Before the Pan American game Richard Fuqua listens as Coach Ken Trickey announces the retirement of Fuqua's jersey (24). Although ORU won the game, Fuqua fell short of achieving his 3,000 point college career goal. He may reach that goal tomorrow night when the Titans battle the Tar Heels of North Carolina at the NIT tournament in New York.

Tulsa District fourball title with Gellert.

He was the leading player on last year's 14-2 team, Peace's third straight winning crew, which tied Oklahoma State's powerful crew in the Great Plains Invitational at Wichita before losing in a playoff, and finished second to OSU in the Tulsa Invitational.

Peace feels that the Titans will

be even stronger than last year, and he has put together a schedule which includes only a sprinkling of dual matches but is heavily loaded with tournament activity to get the team ready for the NCAA tourney.

The big event of the regular season is April 3-6 when the Titans will join several U. S. college teams playing in the St. Andrews Invitational in Scotland. The team members are working hard to pay their way to New York, where the tournament sponsors provide transportation to Scotland.

This is one of seven tournaments on the schedule.

Titan talk . . .

by vickie morgan

Late in the morning of March 5 the Titans of Oral Roberts University were extended a bid to the National Invitational Tournament. Later that same day the ORU cagers easily defeated the Athletes in Action Chargers from Phoenix, Arizona, 106-80.

The Titans were passed over by the NCAA and their at large berth but for the second year straight were invited to the NIT. With the size the Titans have added since last season, they are expected to get past the second round in which they were stopped last year by St. John.

In the ORU-AIA game the leading scorers were Greg MacDougald with 24 points for the Titans and ex-ORU cager Sam McCamey put in 24 for the Chargers.

Since the last issue of the *Oracle* the Titans were defeated by Southwest Louisiana, 103-89, and then defeated Pan American University for the second time this season. Before the Pan American game the seniors on the team were recognized and the jersey of Richard Fuqua (24) was retired.

Team captures second in computer business game

Oral Roberts University's business game team was the second-place winner in the first Oklahoma Christian College Intercollegiate Business Executive Simulation game. Oklahoma Baptist University captured first place in the competition.

Results of the 3-month competition, which was conducted by OCC business students, were announced at a banquet Feb. 24. ORU was one of seven Oklahoma colleges and universities that participated in the game.

The ORU team competed with Central State University, Oklahoma Baptist University, Bethany Nazarene College, Oklahoma City University, the University of Oklahoma, and Southwestern State College.

Student participants included Clinton Spuoks, Angela Pritchard, John McCutchen, Tim Thompson, Daryl Davis, and Kim Pike.

During the game, each business team took over a hypothetical firm, researched the industry by studying annual reports from actual companies and made decisions for its firm based on prices, advertising, sales, the stock market, and other variables. The team's weekly decision was fed into a computer which was programmed with a model economy.

The results of that decision (profit or loss and other changes) were mailed back to the team for consideration on the next decision.

The length of the game was comparable in real life to a span of 2 years with four quarters in each year.

The ORU business team, which was advised by Dr. Robert E. Feller, always stayed close behind the leader, OBU, and in the closing quarters, almost captured the lead in profits.

John McCutchen, the president of ORU's team, stated, "If we would have had just another year of competition, we might have very easily taken first since we were developing a strong plant."

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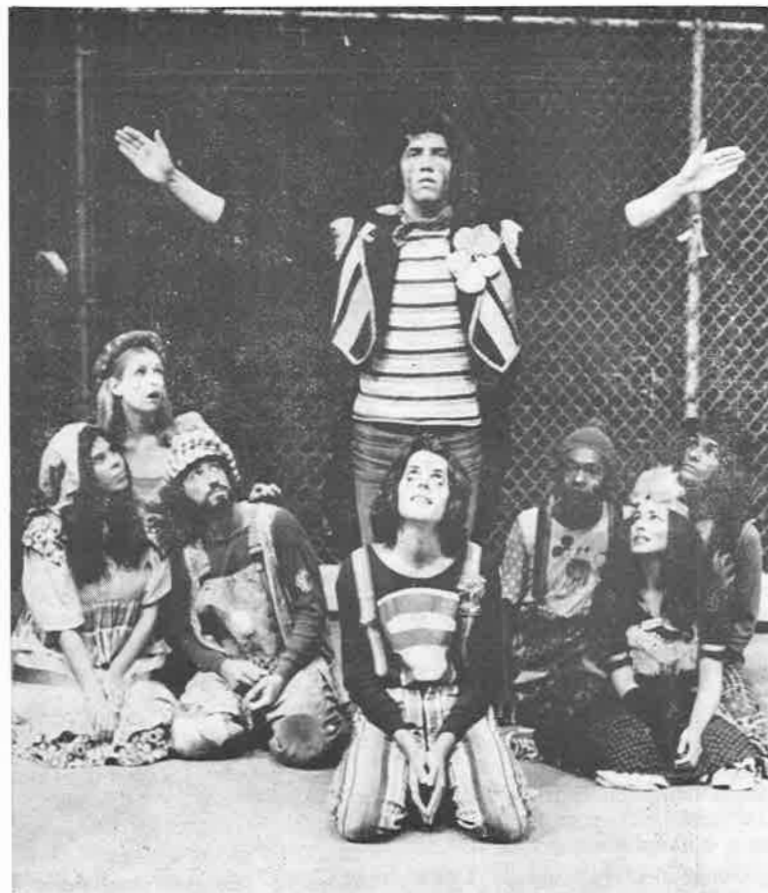
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"Turn Back, O Man," entreats Susan Morse in a song from "Godspell," the hit musical based on the Gospel according to St. Matthew. The play won the Drama Desk and the National Theatre Arts Conference Awards, and the 1971 Grammy Award.



Michael Hoyt, who plays the double role of John the Baptist and Judas, stands above Jeremy Sage, who portrays Jesus in the production. They, along with the other members of the touring company, performed in Mabee Center Sunday before two sellout crowds.

Godspell: sacred or sacrilegious?

For the 4,600 Tulsans who attended either the afternoon or evening performance of "Godspell," the musical was more than just rock theater.

What it was, was an adaptation of the Gospel of St. Matthew, with no plot, a rockband that let you hear the vocals, and a group of actors who had an exquisite time singing and dancing on an almost-bare stage.

The cast of "Godspell" was dressed as clowns—Felliniesque in their happy grotesqueness. The set, perhaps a baker's dozen props and a three-sided chain-link fence, defined the playing area in a simple, effective manner.

The songs were the kind that you exit whistling. "Day by Day," sung by an animated Raggedy-Ann Kate Draper, became the

show's theme—"Day by day, day by day, Oh dear Lord, three things I pray; To see Thee more clearly, Love Thee more dearly, Follow Thee more nearly, Day by Day."

"Godspell" was a celebration of life that, in its looseness and free-wheeling flow, spread joy.

However, more than just a handful felt the play spread a false joy with mockery of Jesus.

Some Christians considered the musical sacrilegious and blasphemous, and believed a Christians reaction to "Godspell" should have been the same reaction as to the Antichrist. Some even walked out, they were so sickened.

In a beginning scene, John the Baptist comes on the stage singing, "Prepare ye the way of the Lord." With a large brush and bucket of

water, he splashes everyone, amidst roars of laughter. One actor stands on his head and dips his foot into the bucket.

In the beginning of the second act, an actress, dressed like a prostitute, sings "Repent!" Then she walks among the audience making suggestive remarks to men, who laugh loudly.

Scenes such as these were common throughout the musical.

In an exclusive *Oracle* interview with the cast, only two professed to be Christians. Over half of the cast is Jewish.

"Every where we go, I run into Jesus people who tell me how the musical is sacrilegious," said cast member Sherry Landrum. "I wouldn't have taken a part in the musical if I thought it ridiculed my faith in God. But then

perhaps my Christian standards are not as high as other Christians. I believe God can use this musical any way he please."

"Godspell" is derived from "gud spell," or good news, and is the Chaucerian English word for Gospel. Whether or not one considers it sacred or sacrilegious, it is a financial success.

"Godspell" opened in the spring of 1971, at the peak of the "Jesus revival." Since then, the musical has been enjoying sold-out houses.

There are now "Godspell" companies playing in London, Paris, Sydney, Melbourne, and Toronto. Eight national companies are now touring the U.S.

"Godspell" is now in its second year at New York's Promendad Theatre where, along with "Man of La Mancha," it is one of New

York's two sold out musical attractions.

"The play is really meant to be performed for any audience of no more than 300," explained Jeremy Sage. "With a smaller audience, one gets the feeling of being a part of the play, instead of just an on looker."

"The audiences in Mabee Center were really cold. I thought perhaps the audience spent the first half hour trying to figure out how they should react to such romping, and clowning," said Sage.

If the Tulsa audiences were in truth all that cold at first, it was certainly overcome when the cast served the entire audience wine (grape juice) at the end of first act.

the ORACLE calendar

Music

SENIOR RECITAL: March 16, Loren Stephenson (trombone), 8 p.m., Timko-Barton Recital Hall.

DISTRICT MUSIC CONTEST: March 16, voice, March 17, instrumental, Timko-Barton Hall.

CULTURAL AFFAIRS PROGRAM: March 17, "Stecher and Horowitz," Duo-Piano Concert, 8 p.m., Mabee Center.

CHAMBER SINGERS CONCERT: March 18, 4 p.m., Timko-Barton Hall.

FACULTY RECITAL (TRIO): March 20, Don Robinson (violin), Ernest Erhardt (cello), and Andrzej Wasowski (piano), 8 p.m., Timko-Barton Hall.

WHEATON COLLEGE BAND: March 23, 8 p.m., Timko-Barton Hall.

Sports

BASEBALL: March 16, ORU vs. Kansas State, 1:30 p.m., ORU.

BASKETBALL: March 17, ORU vs. North Carolina, 8:30 p.m., Madison Square Garden, New York.

BASEBALL: March 17, ORU vs. Kansas State, 1:30 p.m., ORU.

BASEBALL: March 21, ORU vs. Tulsa, 7:00 p.m., Oiler Park.

TENNIS: March 23-24, ORU Team Tournament, NE Louisiana, NW Louisiana, Louisiana Tech, Millsaps, Central Missouri, SW Baptist, Southern Arkansas State, ORU.

Tests

UNDERGRADUATE RECORD EXAMS AND SENIOR TESTS: March 16-17, Aptitude, Advanced, and Area Tests, required for graduation, 8 a.m.-4:30 p.m. Friday, 9 a.m.-12 noon, Saturday. Only for seniors who have not taken the Undergraduate Record Exam or wish to retake it.

Etc.

CAMPUS MOVIE: March 16, "Guess Who's Coming to Dinner," 8 p.m., Zoppelt Auditorium.

DEADLINE FOR SCHOLARSHIP APPLICATIONS: March 20, Education Scholarship, see Education Department.

PROSPECTIVE STUDENT TEACHERS MEETING: March 22, LRC 236, 11:00 p.m.

SENIORS FILE PLACEMENT PAPERS: March 23, see Mr. McKinney.

CAMPUS MOVIE: March 23, "Barefoot in the Park," 8 p.m., Zoppelt Auditorium.

JUNIOR-SENIOR BANQUET: March 24, Entertainment by Roy Clark.