

Coednaps, Rally Fire Insurance Mark Past SJS Homecomings

By ROBERT TAYLOR

Homecoming 1959—what does it mean?

In 1948 it meant the first celebration of its kind on State's campus.

In 1950 it meant a bonfire insured for a million dollars by Lloyd's of London.

In 1953 it meant the "entertainment" of two College of Pacific girls in one of State's sorority houses.

The whole thing began back in 1948 after the college's Spardi Gras came under fire for being a "drunken brawl."

"There was a tremendous void in the college," said Ed Mosher, chairman of the first two homecoming celebrations, this week. The committee wanted something traditional which would lure alumni back to the campus and help the relations between the college and the downtown merchants, he said.

In the first year, 1948, the giant parade consisted of a marching alumni group, the college band and a conga line holding up the parade. A few floats joined the parade, a "surprise" to the planners, Mosher said. The Spartans even won the game, trouncing St. Mary's 40-13.

REPLACED SPARDI GRAS

In 1949 Spardi Gras, the college's spring carnival, was discontinued. It was a "disgrace to the college," then-president T. W. MacQuarrie declared.

In place of Spardi Gras came an even bigger Homecoming, with 32 floats and prizes for the best ones. The festivities didn't help

the Golden Raiders, though. They lost to COP, their rivals since 1899, 45-7.

The problem of amateur arsonists became acute, and in 1950 the college insured the bonfire with Lloyd's of London for one million dollars, the Spartan Daily reported.

The "sure thing" didn't quite come off, though, and the bonfire was not burned before the scheduled time. The Spartans didn't collect their million.

The 1950 Homecoming queen was the first to be chosen by the students (In 1948, for instance, she was chosen by a reporter, a newscaster, and that year's Miss California).

In 1951 fraternities and sororities were still decorating the fronts of their houses for Homecoming. Although the rain faded some crepe paper and ran some colors into the siding, the decorations were successful. Kappa Alpha won with its three high boxes of soap on its front lawn and the slogan: "Suds the Tigers."

The '51 bonfire burned long before the rally.

By 1952 the Homecoming celebration was on a "grand scale," according to one student that year. The parade drew an estimated 20,000. There was even a flagpole sifter at the Sigma Alpha Epsilon house. The rally was "a rah-rah affair with no entertainment," the chairman said.

The '52 bonfire burned the Halloween night before the rally.

'COEDNAP' IN '53

The coednap of 1953 kept that year's Homecoming alive. Two COP song girls were "entertained" by the women of Delta Gamma sorority. Stanley C. Benz, now dean of students, said at the time that "the girls did not want to go back to COP. They wanted to stay here until after the game because they had been treated so well."

That year's rivalry between State and COP got off to a smashing start when some Pacific students painted the inner quad red and took the bell, game trophy between the schools, SJS held

that year. But COP got its licking on the football field, 7-6.

The parade, insured for \$450,000, followed the Ancient Order of Scots down First street.

The '53 bonfire burned the morning before the rally.

In 1954 State beat Stanford for the first time in the century.

That year saw the injury of an SJS student who was hit by a car carrying students (supposedly from Stanford) who had just lit the bonfire. Nearly 200 University of Santa Clara men had tried the same stunt that morning.

Finally, in 1955, a cordon of students and two policemen and a radio car managed to keep pyrotechnics OUT of the wood pile. The bonfire went off on schedule.

About 3500 attended the Coronation Ball that year, and Kappa Tau—Kappa Kappa Gamma's "Put the Tiger on Ice" won the float sweepstakes.

The 1956 parade was themed "A Century of Spartan Sports," and the Independent Housing Association took the sweepstakes trophy. SJS lost to Denver and the College set a record by lighting the bonfire on schedule for two years in a row.

BONFIRE SAVED

In 1957 the bonfire again went

off on schedule. The rally saw a troupe from COP (including its famous Rubber Band) entertain Spartans and Homecoming Queen Dorothy Fairburn.

That year's parade of 25 floats drew an estimated 45,000 people, and an alumni dance following the game was attended by about 2500. Incidentally, State lost to COP that year. Again.

Zounds! The bonfire was attacked again last year. That time about 20 percent of the wood pile was destroyed the night before the rally, but the log cabin—like structure was rebuilt in time.

Last year special permission had to be received from the San Jose City Council to have the parade at 5 p.m., as merchants (and city law) didn't approve of closing shop a half hour early.

The Spartans reversed a trend and won the game.

Homecoming 1959—what does it mean?

As the eleventh Homecoming weekend descends, the question is not: will we win the game? but: will that damned bonfire come off on schedule?

Close the isolation booth door, please, and answer the question in thirty seconds.

Revelries Chooses Script for May Performance

A script by Bruce Reeves and John Papson, "Innocence and Insouciance" has been chosen for the 1960 edition of Spartan Revelries, it was announced yesterday by Diane Hunt, Revelries board chairman.

The script will be used in the May musical.

The story concerns a small town girl who wins a talent contest and travels to New York, where a producer falls in love with her.

Miss Hunt said Revelries Board is looking for persons interested in technical positions for the show, including director, choreographer and composer. Applications may be left in Dr. Theodore Balgooyen's office, SD112.

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Service 'Degrades,' 'Embitters' Young Men

EDITOR: Your editorial of Nov. 2 ("No Middle Road") made vivid to me how ironical societies sometimes become.

California's new anti-hazing law declares that "any act that injures, degrades, or disgraces" a student is punishable by a fine and/or imprisonment.

This I think is a good law, yet this very thing which California finds punishable by imprisonment is looked upon as a "builder of men" by our national government and the people.

It seems to me the humiliation one suffers in our armed services is often of the same degree, if not greater, as that involved in the hazing that prompted the California Legislature. The former is "good" for our young men — it makes them "grow up" — while the latter is condemned.

The armed services make men bitter against life and people. Does hazing do this?

In order to serve their country men must be made to surrender all their self respect; all of that rebellious spirit that in the past has transformed our society?

Despite the good our armed services have done for some people, I protest this duality of values.

GARY WATSON
ASB 5723

'Small Percentage Represents Students'

EDITOR: If what Sam Obregon says about college training is true, then SJS certainly is not training its students to be "effective citizens."

Last Monday, out of idle curiosity, I went to a Junior Class meeting. Twenty-two students, including myself, were in attendance. Again out of curiosity, I wondered what percentage of all juniors the meeting represented. After the meeting I went to the Administration Building.

The IBM Room of the Registrar's Office gave its best estimate

of 2487 registered juniors. Let's say there are approximately 2200 juniors.

It also is possible that I went to a class meeting when few felt like attending. Even so, I am willing to say that only 1 per cent or less of the juniors represent the entire Junior Class in student government and social activities.

Furthermore, I am willing to venture that 100 students or less represent the entire student body of 13,000 or more in student government. The percentage here is less than eight-tenths of 1 per cent.

It seems that Sam's words don't really mean much, except he has said all that we would like to believe true.

JOHN HAWS
ASB 11260

'Change U. N. Charter Or Deny China Seat'

EDITOR: Re J.H.A.'s editorial of Wednesday, "Recognize Red China": Red China definitely should not be admitted to the United Nations. The Preamble of the U.N. Charter states, "We, the peoples of the United Nations, determined . . . to reaffirm faith in fundamental human rights, in the dignity and worth of the human person . . . and for these ends—to ensure . . . that armed force shall not be used, save in the common interest . . . have resolved to combine our efforts to accomplish these aims."

Furthermore, Chapter II, Membership, states: "Membership in the U.N. is open to . . . all other (besides the original signers) peace-loving states which accept

Art . Music . Drama

Delevoryas Gives String Orchestra Recital Sunday At Santa Clara U.

John Delevoryas, assistant professor of music, will present a recital at 3 p.m. Sunday in the de Saisset Art Gallery of the University of Santa Clara. The recital will be free and open to the public.

Delevoryas performed at the gallery a year ago. Since that time he has appeared with Arthur Fiedler and the San Francisco Symphony and has collaborated with violinist Henry Temianka in two sonata recitals at the University of Santa Clara.

Delevoryas graduated from the Julliard School of Music, where he taught piano six years. He has performed in various community music series, on national radio and television, and has been soloist with several orchestras.

Sunday's program includes Bach's "Prelude and Fugue No. 1 in C Major" from the "Well-Tempered Clavichord"; Beethoven's "Sonata No. 17 in D minor, Opus 31, No. 2;" Schubert's "Moments Musicaux, Opus 94;" and Chopin's "Sonata No. 3 in B minor, Opus 58."

Local Show Entry

Miss Anna Ballarian, assistant professor of art, has three entries in the 33rd annual art show of the San Francisco Women Artists. Miss Ballarian has a mosaic, a printed fabric, and a watercolor at the exhibit, which is in the San Francisco Museum of Art.

Joint Art Exhibit

A joint art exhibit by a SJS art instructor and a graduate student will be shown beginning Sunday in the Friendship Room of Pioneer Savings and Loan in Willow Glen.

The works are by Kenneth W. Auvil, instructor in art, and Ray Oeschger, graduate student in art.

A reception opening the exhibit will be held Sunday afternoon from 2 to 4:30. The reception will be open to the public.

3 Prize Winners

Three SJS art faculty members were awarded prizes in the

Asian Art Show

"Collectors' Choice," outstanding exhibition of Far Eastern art, has been held over through Sunday at the M. H. de Young Memorial Museum.

The exhibit consists of 150 classic expressions of Chinese, Japanese and Korean art and is the largest ever assembled from Bay Area art collectors.

Approximately 100 Chinese art works are being shown. These include pieces of sculpture, including one from the Lung-Men caves, porcelains, and paintings dating from prehistoric times to the 18th century.

The exhibition shows many examples of Shang and Chou dynasty bronzes; T'ang dynasty figurines; Han and Sung dynasty pottery; and glazed porcelains from the K'ang Hsi and Ch'ien Lung periods of the Ch'ing dynasty.

An art exhibit by Joan Tan is being shown through Nov. 11 at the Palo Alto YMCA, 3412 Ross Rd. The oriental works will be on view from 9 a.m. to 5 p.m. and from 7:30 to 9:30 p.m. weekdays.

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