

Mercer Cluster FEATURES • SPORTS • SOCIETY • THE ARTS

SPRING MUSICAL 'OKLAHOMA' SET FOR MERCER, LAST WEEK IN APRIL

Oklahoma, the popular musical by Rogers and Hammerstein, will be presented here by the Mercer Players and Music Department during the last week of the month. Rehearsals are directed by Drama Coach Linda Schuler and Jack Jones of the Music Department.

The Musical, based on Lynn Riggs' "Green Grow the Lilacs," deals with lovers, cowmen, farmers, and the villainous Jud Fry in turn-of-the-century Oklahoma Territory.

Playing the lead roles, Curly and Laurey, are Bruce Powers and Stiles Allen. Sandy Harrison plays Aunt Eller, Gary Sikes is Will, Peggy Malott is Ado Annie Carnes, while Bill Osteen plays Jud.

Beverly Williams plays Gertie Cummings while the part of Ali Hakim is handled by Ramon Beatty. Bill McIntosh plays Andrew Carnes, Bill Dayton takes the role of Cord Elam, and Lee O'Brien plays Ike Skidmore.

Toni Vissage, Lyn Wheeler, and Margret King play secondary female roles.

The chorus includes Quinette Douglas, Jackie Knox, Mattie Stevens, Anne Johnson and Pat Otwell (Sopranos); Rocky Davis, Carey Pitts and Jim Newsome (Tenors); Corliass Martin and Phyllis Gammon (Altos); and Ed Stone, David Marsden, Butch Willis, and Charles Wright (Basses).

"It's very much a costume play. It's also a prop play," Miss Schuler commented. It will boast one of the most elaborate sets to appear on the Mercer stage in some time. "It will be a drop-and-wing set with trees on all sides, and at least two major back drops" the drama coach said. Miss Schuler also encourages anyone who can to come help paint the sets.

Freshman Mike Day is assistant director while Toni Vissage is designer of the backdrops.

Jack Jones directs the orchestra assembled for the performance, in addition to working with the choir. Solo work is being directed by the Music Department's Kieth Turpin. Choreography is being directed by Mrs. Gladys Laskey.

The production is being sponsored by the Speech and Drama Department, headed by Dr. Helen Thornton, and the Music Department headed by Dr. Arthur Rich, who is also in charge of publicity.

Rehearsals are being held every night except Sunday. "I've never worked with a group which has as much spirit as this one has," Miss Schuler said.



Mercer Players rehearse dances for "Oklahoma," under the direction of Mrs. Gladys Laskey.

The Social Set

By Sara June McRae

Spring means many things to Mercer's social groups, installation of officers, spring weekends, Campus Sing, Greek Week, open houses, and most of all—Romance. The beginning of Spring quarter marks the opening of the season when a young greek's mind turns to thoughts of lavalliers, pins, and rings.

The latest Phi Mu fad is getting lavalliered. Suzi Stone and Nancy Smith are lavalliered to Phi Delta Theta's Ronnie Jackson and SAE's Hugh Rader. Linda Walton is lavalliered to Sigma Nu Henry Harris. Phi Mu Theo Meier is now pinned to Jimmy Bracewell. MICA Gayle Bennett is pinned to MIMA Ernie Ferrel.

Wedding bells will be ringing all summer long for the Alpha Gama. The latest sisters to become engaged are Suzanne Mitchell, to Tommy Parrish, and Lucy Greene, to Mike Holloway.

Spring quarter has meant honors for the independents. MICA Carole Proctor is the new state YWA vice president. Linda Smith is one of the four delegates from Georgia attending the National 4-H

Conference in Washington, D. C. MICA also has pledged four new micettes, Karen Drye, Jane Fletcher, Sue Roberts, and Cheryl Hickman.

The Mercer Independent Co-eds' Association will have a tea in their suite Sunday afternoon, April 11, 4:30-5:30, honoring Mrs. Rufus C. Harris, Mrs. Garland F. Taylor, Mrs. William T. Haywood, Mrs. Thomas Trimble, Mrs. Robert Otto and MICA's new adviser, Dr. Jean Hendricks.

"The tea is being planned to introduce the wives of top university administrative personnel to MICA and Micette members," according to Jackie Cain, MICA president.

Mercer Lambda Chi Alphas started the quarter with a Founders Day Banquet with the alumni as their guests. Alumnus Maynard Poythress was the speaker. Extensive rushing led to the pledging of six men into the chapter. They are Larry Freeman, Roswell; Jim Ogden, Inverness, Fla.; Don Pearce, Lincoln; David Ratley, Carnesville; Tommy Ward, Macon; and Bill Wehunt, Sumter, S. C.

Army R.O.T.C. Will Offer Scholarships Next Year

The Department of Army next Fall will offer a limited number of competitive two and four-year college scholarships for Mercer students enrolled in the new Army ROTC program. Beginning in September, the Army will pay specially selected students \$50 per month plus tuition, textbooks and laboratory fees. Payment of \$50 per month will be made from the date the scholarship begins until graduation, to include the summer months except the six-week summer training camp where the student will be paid \$120.00 per months plus transportation.

Two-year scholarships will be awarded to selected students completing the second year of the four-year Army ROTC Program. Four-year plans are available to those entering college for the first time.

After graduation and completion of their ROTC studies, the scholarship students must accept a reserve or regular commission as a 2nd Lieutenant and serve at least four years on active duty with the Army.

Application for the scholarships must be made during April and postmarked not later than May 1, 1965. Students wishing to apply for the two-year plan should contact Mercer PMS Lt. Col. Robert L. Pitts.

Col. Pitts anticipates that "competition at Mercer will be exceedingly keen, due to the limited allocations for scholarships by the Department of Army."

The two-year applicants must be under 23 years of age on June 30, 1965, and be a cadet in good standing in the second year of his Army ROTC training.

Detailed instructions and application forms for the two-year plan may be obtained from Col. Pitts.

Individuals interested in the four-year plan may obtain information by contacting Commanding General, Third U. S. Army, ATTN: AJAGT-R, Fort McPherson, Ga.

Whoever thinks of going to bed before twelve o'clock, sir, is a scoundrel.

Samuel Johnson

Important Schedule Released For Tests

The following test schedule was released by the Mercer Testing and Guidance Center for all students involved:

FRIDAY—April 9th: Institutional CEEB (SAT and ACH.) 8:30 AM, 205 Penfield Hall

SATURDAY—April 10th: Law School Admission Test 8:30 AM, 205 Penfield Hall (pre-registration necessary)

MONDAY—April 12th: Senior Departmental Tests 1:30 PM, 3rd Floor, Humanities Bldg.

TUESDAY—April 13th: Graduate Tests for Admission to Mercer University Graduate Program 8:30 AM, 205 Penfield Hall

WEDNESDAY—April 14th: Graduate Comprehensive Test for Students completing M.Ed. re-

quirements 1:30 PM, 205 Penfield Hall

THURSDAY—April 15th: Teacher Education Examination for Seniors in Teacher Program 8:30 AM, 205 Penfield Hall

SATURDAY—April 17th: Merit System Examinations for State of Georgia (pre-registration necessary) 8:30 AM, 205 Penfield Hall

TUESDAY—April 20th: Teacher Screening Examinations for all students entering the Teacher Program 3:00 PM, 205 Penfield Hall

SATURDAY—April 25th: Graduate Record Examinations—NATIONAL PROGRAM for students applying to colleges other than Mercer. 8:30 AM, 205 Penfield Hall (pre-registration necessary)

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CAFETERIA DEFENDED

Letter to the Editor . . .

In the last issue of the Cluster you criticized the cafeteria for going off the honor system and again forcing students to have meal tickets or not eat. There are several fallacies in your editorial that need to be corrected.

First is your statement about the honor system. Mercer's students do not seem to have any honor outside the classrooms. Each year the cafeteria has to buy almost a thousand dollars of silver, plus a large number of glasses, merely to replace that stolen during the last year. Some honor!

Your second fallacy was your accusation that the cafeteria staff had made the decision. The staff prepares and serves the meals; they do not make executive decisions. The decision was made by the administration. If you are going to criticize, you should have the facts.

Finally, you seemed to disagree with the decision. It certainly is inconvenient to have to return to the room to get a meal ticket (I had to do it several times last year), but the students would not accept their good fortune winter quarter; they took advantage of the situation. Many quit carrying their meal tickets and sign every meal. The lists have to be checked each day, and it's awful inconvenient to have to check a large number of names that didn't even bother to worry about meal tickets. They also ran into the problem of dishonesty. Off-campus students were going through and signing the name of an on-campus student, who was going through the other line with his meal ticket. For these reasons, the administration made their decision.

Perhaps if the students would try proving their honor system, the administration would re-consider their decision at a later date. I also suggest that the Cluster check its facts before criticising.

Charles Lewis

Your point is well taken that student thefts and other violations of the spirit of the Honor System make it difficult to think in terms of student honor outside of the classroom. Your point that we should have referred to the cafeteria administration instead of cafeteria staff is also good.

However, we think that the number of off-campus people cheating by means of the list was not sufficient to balance the bad feeling engendered by the list's removal; we think that those too lazy to carry meal tickets should be sufficiently identifiable to be handled privately rather than holding the vast bulk of the student body, which had been acting in accordance with the spirit of the list, responsible.

We also think that whatever authorities were responsible for the return to the 'no ticket, no food, no excuses acceptable' system could have averted much bad feeling, and perhaps directed student opinion on the matter along more constructive lines if they had simply posted a notice, beside the checking point, explaining WHY, instead of giving the impression that it was being done purely to inconvenience the student body, which, however incorrect it may be, is largely the impression given.

—Editor