

The FORENSIC

of Pi Kappa Delta

MAY 1980



The FORENSIC of Pi Kappa Delta

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The President's Message . . .

Roger Hufford



On Selecting Debate Topics

Many of our Chapters have two or three "representatives" on the Topic Selection Committee. Judging from my own experience, three years on the Committee, few of you have ever written to express your wishes. If your college, or your coach, is a member of the American Forensic Association, you have the AFA representative as "your" representative. If your college, or coach, belongs to the Speech Communication Association, there is another representative, in addition to the Pi Kappa Delta representative.

The "philosophy of Pi Kappa Delta" is operationally expressed through the reward system we employ at the national tournament. It is therefore a part of our philosophy to promote forensic programs that offer both debate and individual events, since we give sweepstakes points for both. In recent years the number of events

offered has increased steadily, so that must be part of our philosophy, too. And we give "participation" points for every college that takes part in any event, as part of our philosophy is to encourage participation by all, not just the tournament winners.

The smallest events at our nationals in St. Louis were the three divisions of debate. Apparently we had not organized debate attractively enough to appeal to the majority of our chapters. Should chapters that do not debate have to pay the bill so those who do? My own answer has been that Pi Kappa Delta has a responsibility to organize debate competition at our national tournament that will attract a majority of chapters to take part. In St. Louis, our membership voted to add a CEDA division to Lincoln-Douglas, traditional, and cross-exam, and we hope you will find one or more of the offerings appealing.

CEDA and "On-Topic" debate are well organized nationally, and will be widely available next year, whether

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COVER: Penny Romans holds the Sweepstakes Trophy won by her William Jewell College Forensic Team at the Quad-Province Tournament at Buena Vista College.

Secretary's Page . . .

Theodore O.H. Karl



As the school year 1979-80 draws to a close, this office is reminded that it is time for us to check on those who are seniors and graduating, and transfer their records to the alumni file. We congratulate all of you on this great achievement. We are sorry to see you leave the active participation in the undergraduate activities of the Fraternity, but by the same token we hope that in a very few years we will be seeing many of you as coaches and directors of forensics. We hope it will be possible for you to continue to be a part of Pi Kappa Delta, either as the sponsor of a present chapter, sponsor of a new chapter on a campus where there is presently no chapter, or as a member of an alumni chapter. We wish to thank you for your efforts and interest in and for Pi Kappa Delta.

To the membership and particularly to the sponsors, we must give a warning. Many of the new memberships coming in this year have been

accompanied by fees of only ten dollars. **The membership fee remains at fifteen dollars.** Many have misunderstood President Hufford's proposal. The chapter will be given credit in the form of rebates of credit, to be applied on registration fees at the convention in 1981. Failing to send in the correct fee delays the issuing of cards and increases the time and expense of postage required to bill for the additional fee.

It is never too late to send in the chapter fee of \$15.00. If you have overlooked this item, please send it in now so that it might be included in this year's financial report. There are several chapters who have not paid as yet, and it will save us from billing for two years next fall.

The office has a request of the outgoing province officers. The constitution of Pi Kappa Delta requires that the Province Governor be responsible for sending this office a copy of the minutes of the Province

(Continued, page 16)

REPORTS FROM RELIABLE SOURCES

Gatlinburg Chosen for 1981 Convention

The National Council of Pi Kappa Delta has selected Gatlinburg, Tennessee, as the site for the 1981 National Convention. The dates for the convention have not been finalized at this time, but April 1-4, 1981, is being given strong consideration.

Three sites within the Province of the Southeast were considered: Panama City Beach, Florida; Virginia Beach, Virginia; and Gatlinburg, Tennessee. Each was evaluated for its costs and convenience for member schools attending, travel for member schools, adequacy of facilities, and convenience for chapters of the host province.

The River Terrace Motel, a fully-equipped convention facility submitted a bid to provide rooms for participants at rates as low as \$8.00 per day with four per room and a guarantee of ninety-five rooms. They also assured the Council of sufficient meeting rooms and banquet facilities. The River Terrace is within easy walking distance of shopping areas, cafes, and "fast-food" facilities.

The Gatlinburg location will allow more chapters to travel by car than either of the other two. It is less accessible by air. However, Knoxville, Tenn., is nearby and provides full air travel facilities. Pi Kappa Delta will be able to charter bus transportation from the airport to Gatlinburg for \$8.00 per person.

Communications from member schools of the Province of the Southwest appeared to favor Gatlinburg. The host chapter has not been selected at this time but will be determined sometime this summer.

Support for CIDD Restored

President Roger Hufford indicates that Pi Kappa Delta has restored its share of funding for the Committee on Intercollegiate Discussion and Debate. In a letter to National Council members dated March 31, 1980, Hufford wrote, "I am satisfied that Tom's (G. Thomas Goodnight, Chairman) assurances indicate that the Committee wants to be responsive to the member constituencies."

In other correspondence Hufford indicated that the topic selection committee has agreed to place the off-topic section back on the ballot for the coming year. He also asked H. Francis Short, Pittsburg, Kansas, State U., to resume membership as PKD representative on the Committee on Intercollegiate Discussion and Debate.

Professor Short has agreed to do so. In his response to Hufford he stated, "If you and the Council wish me to continue as PKD representative to CIDD, my resignation is hereby withdrawn, as you requested. My desire is to do that which is best for the fraternity. As a member of the committee I will try to represent PKD to the best of my ability . . ."

PLU Dedicates New Theo. Karl Radio Studios

It seems appropriate that new studios at KPLU-FM, Pacific Lutheran University, were dedicated Friday (March 28), in honor of a man long known as "the voice of PLU."

Theodore O.H. Karl, retired chairman of PLU Department of Communication Arts, was honored during a dedication ceremony at the

newly renovated facility in Eastvold Auditorium.

The evening also marked the official station change to 100,000 watts of power and a 19-hour broadcast day. Now the most powerful non-commercial station north of San Francisco, KPLU-FM offers a format of classical music, jazz, news and public affairs.

Karl, who retired two years ago after 32 years on the PLU faculty, was one of PLU's best-known professors. In addition to serving as university parliamentarian and grand marshal, he was a narrator for countless music and drama events.

As a long-time forensics teacher and coach, he developed the public speaking skills of hundreds of PLU students, including the university president, Dr. William O. Rieke.

A 1953 PLU graduate, Rieke was a champion debater as an undergraduate. "Any achievements I have attained are closely related to something I learned from Karl—the ability to speak coherently and cogently on short notice," Rieke said.

Karl has served for the past five years as secretary-treasurer of the national Pi Kappa Delta speech honorary. He is a past president of the national PKD as well as the Washington State Speech Association.

Karl might well be considered the founder of KPLU-FM. During the late '40s and early '50s he taught students how to produce radio programs on primitive wire recorders.

When Eastvold Auditorium was built in 1951, he insisted on construction of a radio-television studio, though KPLU-FM was still years in the future. Karl was serving as head of the communication arts department when the station first went on the air with 10 watts of power in 1966 and increased 40,000 watts in 1972.

Three of his former students have

been instrumental in the station's operation and growth for the past 15 years. Paul Steen, now of San Diego, spearheaded the initial operation in 1966-67. He is a 1954 PLU graduate. Judd Doughty '55 has been in charge since. The chief engineer during the station's entire history has been David Christian, a '59 alumnus.

KPLU-FM now broadcasts from a new 420-foot tower near Port Orchard.

Muhlenberg Joins PKD

Muhlenberg College, Allentown, Pennsylvania, has been approved for membership in Pi Kappa Delta. Tony Allison, Chairman of the Charter and Standards Committee, announced on April 3, 1980 that the National Council and the Province of the Colonies had voted to accept Muhlenberg's petition.

Chapter Sponsor is Doctor Christopher Joyner. The Muhlenberg Pi Chapter was installed at the Province of the Colonies Tournament and Convention held in York, Pennsylvania in April of this year.

School of the Ozarks Joins Pi Kappa

The new School of the Ozarks Pi Kappa Delta chapter was officially installed by Dr. Tom Harte, Past-President of PKD, at the Quad-Province Tournament held on the campus of Buena Vista College in Storm Lake, Iowa. Assisting in the installation were Derald Harris, Director of Forensics at Central Missouri State College, and Penny Romans, Director of Forensics at William Jewell College and now Governor of the Province of the Missouri. The School of the Ozarks chapter was named Missouri Phi.

Points of View . . .

Quo Vadis - Pi Kappa Delta ??

Long time Pi Kappa Deltans can recall when the toughest logistical problem facing forensic directors and their students concerned which festival/tournament to attend on a particular weekend, or how to split the squad so that competition at two or three sites on the same weekend might be possible, or how many cars would be available for next week's trip.

Today's forensic directors already are, or soon will be, struggling with questions such as which festival or tournament they can afford to attend this **semester**, or how the administration and/or student government can be persuaded to help fund the forensic budget for one more year, or even — how the administration can be convinced to fund the department of speech communication for one more year.

To suggest, as have recent articles in **The Forensic**, that the basic problem is energy related and that our worry might be "spot shortages of fuel" is to over simplify or even fantasize to a dangerous degree. Our forensic crisis is only one small ramification of a whole system of crises — crises of the national or international economy, of foreign relations, of public confidence in government and in higher education, and of public willingness to fund any activity which hasn't been sold to them as "basic." Trite as the expression may have become, it **is** time for each of us, individually and fraternally, to bite the proverbial bullet, and to start biting without delay.

The first and most vital bite, for an organization such as ours, would

seem to be to suspend, at least for the foreseeable future, national conventions and tournaments. While this will seem to many of you to be sheer heresy, we would remind you that many of us are talking not of convenience but of survival. To discuss a round trip of three or four thousand miles, consuming a week's time, seems almost ludicrous to many of us. Admittedly, and commendably, the National Council is attempting by Band-aid methods to patch up and preserve the national event, pruning the number of days and the registration fees, etc., but the result is that we offer less and less to fewer and fewer of us, and the process still is doomed to ultimate bankruptcy and abandonment. Why not suspend this extravagance of our own volition, rather than holding its hand through a slow, painful death?

A reasonable question to consider, before taking such drastic action, undoubtedly would be what benefits would irreplaceably be lost? True, we'd be suspending a tradition of over sixty years duration. And, yes, we would miss the socializing and fellowship of our biennial get-togethers. However, when considered realistically, even these advantages probably are exaggerated. Under prevailing conditions, where students participation in forensic activities often is limited to not more than two years, due to employment-oriented curricular pursuits, few students would attend more than one national convention, and probably a majority of student members would attend none at all. Furthermore, it is doubtful that those who

do attend are able to establish a genuine affiliation with a national organization whose member chapters are in a constant state of flux. Thus, considering the financial constraints which limit attendance at the national convention and the concurrent difficulties of maintaining a spirit of national cohesiveness and fraternity through the convention medium, it is time we investigate other alternatives to preserve the nature and the value of the national fraternity of Pi Kappa Delta.

Furthermore, we are not convinced that forensic participation is any more instructive, educational, or even rewarding when it takes place at a national meeting than when it occurs at regional, state, local, or even campus levels, especially when local level events afford the opportunity to interact with a live audience. Our member schools should have the option of deciding at what level their participation emphasis is to be and how their shrinking forensic budget is to be expended, without jeopardizing their status in our organization. Every benefit which we attribute to forensic participation, to "the art of persuasion, beautiful and just," is just as attainable in a program pitched at campus or local or state level as at the national level.

If we strengthen and make optimal use of **The Forensic**, our fraternal business affairs and even our maintenance of acquaintanceships might be almost as effectively accomplished. At the same time, we would be relieved of the tedious, unpleasant task of placing an ever increasing number of chapters on probation, or of revoking the charters of numerous long time member schools. It may well be that a considerable number of those schools which seem apathetic about loss of

charter may do so because they realize they simply can not plan to attend national or even province meetings. For the good of the order, our thrust should be toward retaining as many schools as possible in Pi Kappa Delta.

In short, we propose that national convention/tournaments be suspended, that we conduct our fraternal business via the mails and **The Forensic**, and, if budgets permit, that we alternate state-wide festival/tournaments with the biennial province-wide events. If even the province-wide events become impractical, as they already have for some chapters, then let us vow to maintain our programs at regional, state and local levels. Let us concentrate on maximum degree attainment by our students and work with pride toward strong local chapters of Pi Kappa Delta.

**Phil McFarland
Gordon Owen**

New Mexico Alpha Chapter,
New Mexico State University

Ward suggests Forensic Changes for the Eighties

My crystal ball is cloudy with respect to the direction forensics **will** take in the 1980's, but I do have some thoughts about the course which I think forensics in general, and Pi Kappa Delta forensics in particular, **should** follow in the future. Like most of my colleagues, I am both a forensics director and a coach, so my concern is divided between the practical considerations of running a program and those factors which contribute to making forensics a worthwhile activity for my students. My suggestions, then, for the future—for that is really what they are, rather than predictions—are offered with both of

those considerations in mind.

I suspect that the biggest problem for those of us running forensics programs during the 1980's will continue to be financial. My budget was reduced last fall—after the school year had begun—because of an unanticipated decline in the college's enrollment, despite the fact that costs have increased substantially since last year.

One obvious suggestion is to hold more tournaments closer to home, but even this is difficult. My area of western Pennsylvania is within seventy-five miles of urban areas with combined populations of about five million people and with fifty or so colleges and universities, yet only a handful of these schools have active forensics teams and only four, based on the **JAF**A calendar, sponsored debate and/or individual events tournaments during the current year. Perhaps a period of educational retrenchment is the wrong time to suggest that we should encourage other schools either to reinvigorate moribund forensics programs or to establish new ones, but I do believe that having more schools closer together with active teams is one way of dealing with the budget crunch.

A second suggestion, specifically for schools located in geographic areas in which several forensics teams now exist, is that a larger number of local or league tournaments or forensics festivals be held. Such events could be conducted in one day for teams within easy driving distance, and at virtually no expense or inconvenience to host schools other than being able to provide a few classrooms in which to hold rounds. Coaches can certainly judge for themselves without hiring others to do it for them, and there is no need for expensive awards to be presented. Oral critiques might even be substituted for points and ranks, creating an atmosphere that is more

informal, less competition-oriented, and, in the best tradition of Pi Kappa Delta forensics, more clearly focused on the value to be derived from public speaking participation and appreciation. Of course, there must be a certain number of schools with forensics teams within reasonable proximity of each other for such a proposal as this to be feasible.

Finally, the 1980's might be a good time to cure ourselves of a collective case of "trophy madness," thus saving money and reducing the unhealthy competitiveness which unrestrained trophy-hunting fosters. There is no question that awards have their place in forensics: students do need evidence of their accomplishments, and forensics directors sometimes need full trophy cases in order to convince administrators of the continued viability of their programs. But this does not alter the fact that fewer and less expensive awards could be substituted for some of the extravagant hardware now dispensed at a large number of tournaments. This is a way in which teams might get maximum benefit from their money while retaining the value of the forensics experience for students.

The chief value of forensics for students is in participation; as a result, it is a function of the forensics director to involve as many students as possible as often as possible in the activities of the program. And it is the fear of losing even a small part of the potential student participation in the future that causes me to believe that now, at the beginning of the 1980's, is the appropriate time to anticipate—realistically—what lies ahead of us and to begin preparing for it.

Dr. Jay A. Ward
Director of Forensics
Thiel College
Pennsylvania, Mu

Grace Walsh Wins Encomiums at Retirement Banquet

It was Gracie's night, Saturday, May 10, 1980 at the University of Wisconsin-Eau Claire. Professor Grace Walsh, Director of Forensics since 1944, retired from that position effective at the end of the spring term. Hundreds of her friends and students returned to laud her as she ended that career.

Professor Walsh created a complete forensics program in the once small college. She inspired her young people to excellence in debate and in a wide range of individual speech events. For other coaches her approach became a model. And for all who competed against her squads, a win over an Eau Claire contestant was evidence of high accomplishments. In Pi Kappa Delta competition, Walsh-coached squads have been consistent winners of superior sweepstakes recognition.

At the Grace Walsh retirement banquet, the emphasis was focused on accomplishments beyond college competition. Those whose lives she has influenced returned to tell their stories and present the evidence that an excellent forensic program with an excellent coach brings benefits that may live on.

Roderick McPhee, a Walsh squad alumnus and President of Punahou School, Honolulu, Hawaii, Master of Ceremonies, set the tone for those who followed: "Our words will not change the image of Grace Walsh in the hearts of those who have known her. She has had a unique influence on each of us." And each person who spoke helped prove him true.

Mr. William Rodiger, a former forensic squad member at Chippewa Falls High School gave his impression



Roderick McPhee



William Rodiger



David Beckwith

of those earlier years: She did not force people to do well. She created an intellectual climate that nurtured excellence. Rodiger cited a Walsh maxim for her high schoolers: "Other people are not our friends until we are through competing!" He added this personal tribute: "Grace Walsh is

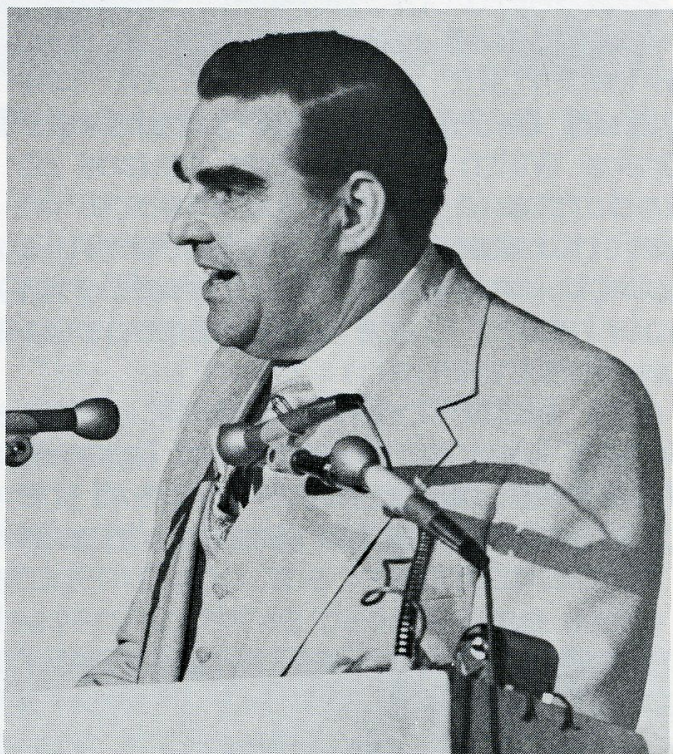


Clancy Imislund

a dear friend, an outstanding teacher, and an inspiration to many people, now and forever!"

Mr. David Beckwith, Milwaukee, Wisconsin, a former squad member at Wisconsin High School in Madison, told those assembled that you did succeed with Gracie Walsh. There was "a little bit of Vince Lombardi in her." In lauding Professor Walsh he said, "You made us debaters; but more than that, you touched our spirits."

Mr. Clancy Imislund, now of Los Angeles, spoke for the World War II student-veterans of the 1940's. Im-



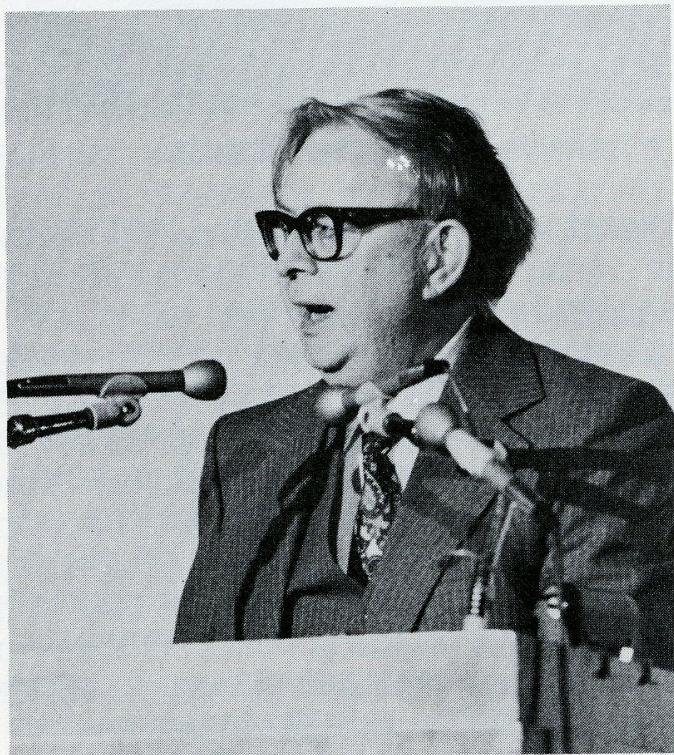
Charlie Bush

islund was a top college contestant in after-dinner speaking and he showed that skill. He said that "Gracie" used people from past squads to try to inspire other people. His reaction: "I never knew those guys. They were always off in some cloud . . ." They didn't make the difference. "We won because of the integrity and directness of our coach." Of his own forensic experience he said, "The greatest value . . . the greatest help . . . is that you have an automatic advantage in life because you know how to get up and talk. We

may not dazzle them with our brilliance, but we baffle them with 'B. S.'"

Mr. Charlie Bush, News Director for KSTP TV in Minneapolis, teamed with James Shaeffer and debated to that pinnacle of debate excellence, the final round of the National Tournament at West Point in 1959. In that round, more judges voted for the other team. Bush and Shaeffer placed second. Charlie remembered Grace Walsh's trade mark, her fur coat. "When I first saw Gracie, I thought she was being carried away by a herd of gerbils!" He also remembered her tendency to lose unimportant things. "All of her purses had feet!" Most important Grace Walsh helped her squads to understand that excellence in speech takes hard work. But there is something more: "It's a feeling in your heart!" Grace Walsh helped people find that.

Mr. Richard Duesterbeck, High School Forensic Coach from Durand, Wisconsin, hailed Grace Walsh as the chief reason for his success: "It was



Richard Duesterbeck



Mike Rindo

Grace Walsh who took a person with very limited ability; she worked with him . . . , polished him . . . , and took him to Northwestern University and came back with a champion!" She had advised him, "The greater the height you set your goal, the harder you must work to reach that goal." His assessment: "I found Gracie to be most unique. She has been patient, compassionate, and willing to learn."

Mr. Mike Rindo, an award winner in the national contest of the Interstate Oratorical Association, spoke for the 1970's: "Grace is a picture of patience." Her most valued quality: "She shared our victories and defeats . . . She was always with you!"

Dr. Leonard Haas, Chancellor of the University of Wisconsin-Eau Claire, remembered an incident in which Coach Walsh had left her travel money, all fives and tens, on top of the car as the squad started on a trip. It took the entire squad to retrieve the scattered cash. Dr. Haas lauded Professor Walsh for her forty-eight years as a teacher, all but one in the state of Wisconsin. "She has been a

major force in the class room." He quoted the letter which was sent to Grace when she was first hired: "We desire very much to have you on our faculty. I want you here to head the forensics program. With you on the faculty, Eau Claire will become a center for forensic activities in northwest Wisconsin." Haas noted her achievement far beyond that original prediction. "You have made it a center for regional and national leadership in forensics . . . The excellence of this University is in large part because of you."

Dr. Robert M. O'Neil, President of the University of Wisconsin System, remembered Grace Walsh as a critic-judge of his own contest debate years at Harvard University. He noted her careful analysis of the contest performance, with never an attack on the person. His personal tribute: "Part of what I am and where I am is attributable to you."

Friends and family added their tributes to Grace Walsh, exemplary teacher, coach, and friend. Robert Shaw of the City Council of Eau Claire

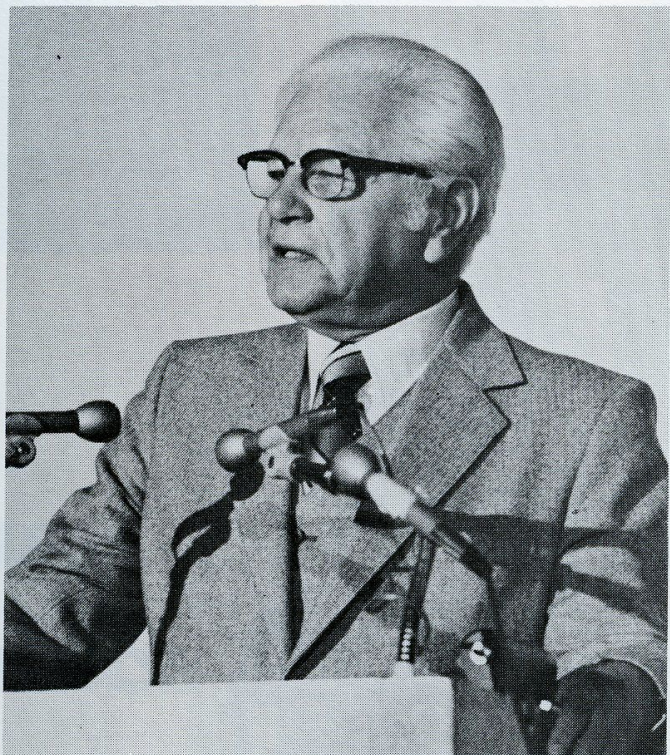


President Robert M. O'Neil

read the city's Commendation of Grace Walsh on the Occasion of Her Retirement.

The ultimate tribute to this staunch forensic coach came in a message from Governor Lee Sherman Dreyfus. His message cited the influence Grace Walsh has had on students and the contributions of leadership those people have given to Wisconsin. For such good reasons, he named Sunday, May 11, 1980, Grace Walsh Day in the State of Wisconsin.

It is the Grace Walshes in forensics who bring credit to us all. It is by records such as hers that all of us may be measured.



Chancellor Leonard Haas

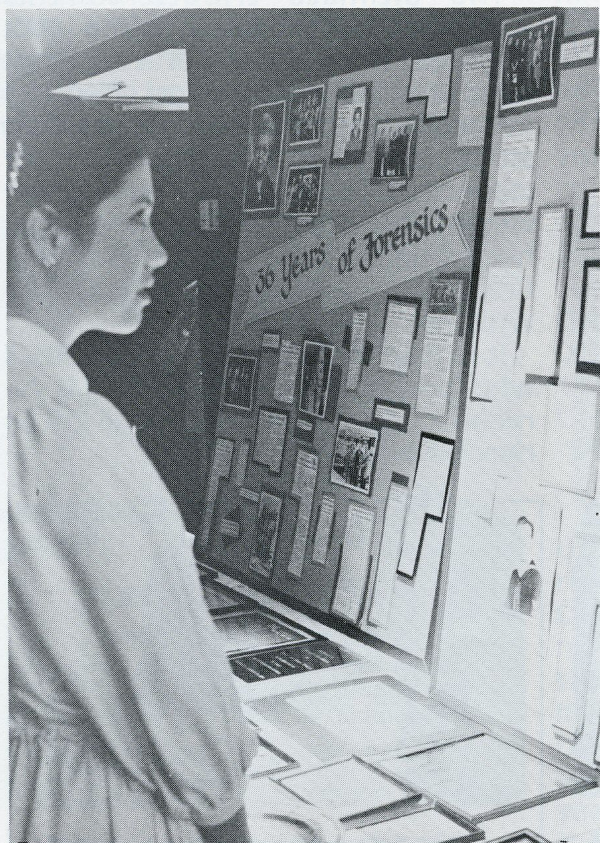
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36
YEARS

CONGRATULATIONS



OF
FORENSIC
EXCELLENCE