



1957 Ivy Day Court

May Queen Crowning, Sing Fest, Ivy Planting Highlight Ivy Day, 1957

"Who will reign as queen of the May? Who will bear the ivy?" these were the words that were heard as the many students and parents awaited the entrance of the 1957 Ivy Day Court.

The day which was cool but sunny failed to alter the enthusiasm of wide-eyed freshmen, interested sophomores, fingernail-biting juniors and bored, seemingly so, seniors.

May Queen, Mary K. James, ascended the throne to reign over her court and the day's festivities, which included the fraternity and sorority sings, tackling of Innocents, and masking of Mortar Boards. Queen Mary was surrounded by a court of women who were considered outstanding in campus activities, a crownearer, and two flower girls. Women in the court were maid-of-honor, Mary Keys; and seniors, Ellen Jacobson, Mary Sue Berbek, Polly Downs, and Kay Christensen.

Junior attendants were Mary Huston, Helen Gourlay, Barbara Britten, Norma Wolf, Kay Krueger, and Dianna Sawvell.

Dorothy Beechner, Judy Chapman, Sally Flanagan, Terry Mitchem, and Georgann Humphrey were sophomore court attendants.

Karen Schuster and Mary Ann Verba were the freshman pages. Leaders of the Ivy Chain were Betty Branch, Emily Hemphill, Janet Kuska, Barbara Rystrom, Charlotte Benson, and Judy Bost. These women were senior women, who were attired in white.

Daisy chain leaders were Mary DeMars, Janis Davidson, Marie Gerdes, Ann Olson, Sandra Kadlack, and Nancy Salter Keene. These women were junior, sophomore, and freshmen, who were dressed in pastels.

Sam Ellis, outgoing president of Innocents, and Virginia Hudson, outgoing president of Mortar Board, planted the ivy, following the presentation of the court. The women's sing climaxed the morning's celebrations and the men's sing started the afternoon activities. Delta Delta Delta won the first place honors in the women's sing for the third consecutive year. Chi Omega was second and Kappa Alpha Theta placed third. Sigma Alpha Epsilon won the first place in the fraternity sing. Theta Xi placed second and third place went to SIGMA Chi.

Mary James, who was earlier crowned Queen, received the Senior Women's Scholarship Cup pre-

sealed by Mortar Board. Jere McGaffey was presented the senior men's cup for scholarship by the Innocents. The cups are presented to the two seniors maintaining the highest scholastic average during their four years.

Farmhouse Fraternity was the recipient for the third consecutive year of the first place trophy presented by Innocents on the basis of scholarship and activities. Theta Xi was second and in third place was Delta Upsilon.

Kappa Kappa Gamma won the scholarship-aactivities trophy presented by Mortar Board. Second place went to Delta Delta Delta and third to Gamma Phi Beta.

The Interfraternity Council Scholarship improvement trophy was won by Theta Xi, while the Council pledge class scholarship trophy was won for the second year in a row by Farmhouse.

Ivy Day has not always been Ivy Day. Nor was there a May Queen. Ivy Day, one of the oldest traditions of the University, began in 1898 as Senior Class Day.

The spring festivities were first called Ivy Day in 1901, when seniors marched to the south side of the old University Hall and sang the school song. After the senior class president turned over the ivy trowel to the junior class president, the senior dance was held.

Two years later, 13 Innocents were tackled, and 16 senior women did a May Pole Dance to make Ivy Day an even bigger occasion.

In 1905, the Order of the Black Masque, the local chapter of Mortar Board, was founded. The masking of outstanding junior women added more excitement to Ivy Day.

Ivy and Daisy chains were added in 1910. Fifty girls carried the chains around the campus. The first May Queen was crowned in 1912.

In 1918 a large flag of 1403 stars was presented to the University in honor of college men in the armed services. Ivy from Doughboys was planted.

When the war was over, the Lord of the May was presented on Ivy Day but this presentation was soon discontinued.

Mortar Board, Innocent Honoraries Tap, Tackle

Chosen on the basis of leadership, scholarship and service to the University are the black-masked Mortar Boards and the red-hooded Innocents, the honorary societies for outstanding senior men and women of the University.

As the 1956-57 retiring Mortar Boards moved mysteriously through the Ivy day throng with their black, gold-trimmed robes, one by one the seventeen new members were masked. Leading the Black Masque Chapter of Mortar Board will be Karen Dryden. Bobbie Holt, vice president; Sally Carter, secretary; Sharon Hall, treasurer; Marilyn Heck, historian, and Bev Buck, editor will assist Karen in their duties as officers. Completing the new Mortar Board roster are Joanne Bender, Evonne Einspahr, Marian Elder, Charlene Ferguson, Sue Hinkle, Joan Heusner, Sara Hubka, Barbara Sharp, Jan Shrader, Carol Smith and Marilyn Wachter.

With determined looks and force-

ful lunges the red-robed thirteen Innocents tackled their successors. First to hit the ground was the new president, Bill Spilker. Others assuming officers' duties are Gordon Warner, vice president; Art Weaver, secretary; Bob Schuyler, treasurer, and Dick Hagemeyer, sergeant-at-arms. Others wearing the red "13" badges are Glenn Anderson, Morgan Holmes, John Kinnier, Dave Mossman, Jack Pollock, Don Smidt, Ed Stroller and Bob Wiemer. Dr. A. C. Breckenridge, dean of faculties and Professor of Political Science, was tapped as an honorary member. He was named dean in October, 1955.

The Black Masque Chapter of Nebraska was founded in May, 1905. Since its founding Mortar Board has attempted to recognize and encourage college leadership, service and high scholarship. Among its activities are a style show for all women students. Among the door prizes were dresses and cashmere sweaters.



INNOCENTS practice tackling in preparation for the Ivy Day festivities—a big day for the red-hooded men.



SEVERAL BOYS practice up for the three-legged race which is held on Spring Day, another big event during Ivy Day Week-end. See page 8 for story.