1950

Flickertail Follies, 1950

University of North Dakota

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THE

1950

Flickertail Follies

25th Anniversary

1925 1950
"All fraternities, sororities, residence halls and other campus organizations are urged to prepare a vaudeville act capable of taking part in an all University presentation, 'Flickertail Follies'..."—Dakota Student, Feb. 25, 1925.

From this journalistic acorn of 25 years ago grew the theatrical oak you're watching tonight—an extravaganza with a story which can only be sketched here.

Like many inspirations, Follies was born with a familiar "Why can't we do that?" Roy French, then head of UND's journalism department, and Undergraduates Armin F. Rohde and Charles Evans saw a show at the University of Indiana while they were attending the 1925 national Sigma Delta Chi convention in Indianapolis. They liked what they saw, brought the idea back, secured necessary approval, produced the show and it clicked. Follies number one in the old Orpheum theater was the birth of a tradition.

That tradition grew quickly. The following year Rohde's job as student manager went to Ralph Curry and the list of Follies' managers began. Curry retired in favor of Edward J. Pranta in 1927. From there, the show was managed by Roy Sallberg, 1928; Victor Rose, 1929; Donald Reinoehl, 1930; Joseph Carlin, 1931; John Fields, 1935; Robert Kunkel, 1936-37-38; Russell T. Aslesen, 1939; John McEnroe, 1940; Donald E. Dahl, 1941; Kenneth Carey, 1946-47; Thomas Smith, 1948; and Malcolm Goddard, 1949-50.

Anno Domini 1928 saw the start of a tradition within a tradition. That was the year Professor John E. Howard stepped into Follies' directorship. Since then, the University bandmaster's 22 years of service and experience have come to be counted on as a vital factor in making the show a success.

During one time or another Director Howard and the various student managers have staged the Follies on every adequate stage in Grand Forks. Besides the old Orpheum theater, which is now the Dakota theater, performances have been given in the Metropolitan Opera House (now a recreation center) and the City auditorium. In 1937, the show moved into the Central high school auditorium where it has been staged ever since.

But all wasn't just a matter of booming into a bigger and better show each year. Follies has had its share of hard luck. The great depression of 1932 caused the event's cancellation and attempts to revive it in 1933 and 1934 failed. World War II forced it out again from 1942 to 1945. A scarlet fever epidemic in 1929 almost wrecked rehearsal schedules and it was feared the show would fold. That didn't happen, but illness and uncertain North Dakota weather are still the sponsor's biggest worries in producing the event.

As to proceeds, the type used in printing this program may well have been purchased with Follies profits, for, at its inception, surplus Follies profits went to equip a campus printing shop and to the Memorial Stadium drive. Net proceeds from the show have always gone to aid an ever expanding University. Recently, the bulk of net proceeds has gone to the Memorial Student Union now under construction at the University.

This briefly is the Follies' first 25 years. It's been called a tradition and an all-campus variety show. Yet, whatever its title or history, Follies is an example of co-operation at the University of North Dakota that presents the school in its magnitude and quality.
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(Long Act)
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JITTERBUG DANCERS: Jacky LaVine, Lois Schultz, Bonnie Bohnenblust, Gladyce Aslackson, Helen Aslackson, Beatrice Purcell, Betty Sierks, Shirley Birkland, Marcia Melicher, Anna Marie Linehan.
LOVE SONG: Chris Bjornson.
PAPER BOY: Beverlee Lee.
COMEDY NUMBER: Marilyn Stolzman.
THE DREAM DANCER: The Dream—Anita Sue Prichard. The Dream—Lorraine Parrow.
FINALE: Entire Cast.
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(Combined Act)

"PARIS CAPADES"

SOLOISTS: Stan Warburton, Lois Burke, Jeanne Pederson.
TAP DANCERS: Dick Buckingham and Harold Blanchard.
QUARTET: Al Gillespie, Jack Klemer, Paul Thonn, Verle Johnson.
CHORUS LINE: Pat Rickey, Henrietta Burfening, Barbara McGrath, Marilyn Muelle, Marge Tuffe, JoAnn Hathaway, Shirley Zintel, Joyce Thompson, Joyce Utolf.
Act Managers — Helen Herman, Al Gillespie, James Norby.

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(Short Act)

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Sigma Nu
(Long Act)

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CAPTAIN: Allen Sware.
BOSUN'S MATE: Walter Haberstroh.
COOK: Karl K. Anderson.
SHIP'S CREW: Thomas Bruleard, Norman Christensen, John Engesather,
Eugene Haupt, Wallace Kennedy, Donavon Lund, Robert McFarren,
James McPherson, Walter Mikkelson, Donald Rosscup, Robert Rosscup,
Jack Rutten, Barton Siemens, Emil Waltari, James Wright.
SCENERY: Elmer Klaudt, Donald Smith.
COSTUMES: Harvey Jacobson.
Act Manager — James McGuckin.

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Larimore Hall
(Long Act)

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CAT AND SHADOW: Kathryn Loram and Betty Spornitz.
KITTENS: Jane Heinemeyer, Colleen McCullough, Mary Margaret Olson,
Thelma Sorenson, Peggy Stromberg.
FIDDLERS: Darlene Lisk, Mae Heigaard, Mona Meyers, Dorothy Molsberry,
Lois Retzlaff, Mavis Solberg.
THREE LITTLE KITTENS: Carol Howell, Donna Hagelie, Dorothy Krueger.
"ALLEY-CAT": Julianne Hillman. "KITTEN ON THE KEYS": Betty Spornitz.
Act Manager — Betty Spornitz.

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Alpha Phi
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PIANISTS: JoAnn Foster, Claude Stone.


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Act Managers—Shirley Scheving and Dave Knudson.

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*PAGE ELEVEN*
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Beta Theta Pi
(Long Act)

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Act Manager — Roy Winchester.

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SIGMA DELTA CHI

The Dakota Student

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1950 Flickertail Follies

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THANK YOU!

Sigma Delta Chi extends sincere thanks to the many persons and organizations who have assisted in the production of the Flickertail Follies.

Special thanks go to members of Theta Sigma Phi, professional journalism sorority, who are again serving as ushers for the Follies.

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