

Weaver supports UO solar energy project

By RICK BELLA
Of the Emerald

The University solar energy research project received a boost Monday when U.S. Congressman Jim Weaver, D-Eugene, pledged support in the effort to obtain federal funds.

Weaver was guided through a one-hour tour of the research facilities on the roof of Science I by Doug Lowndes, associate professor of physics, Dan Kaehn, physics research associate, and University glassblower Gerrit DeWilde.

The project, designed to study the feasibility of solar energy collector-reflectors, has funding

through "the middle of this year," according to Lowndes. It is now operating on grants from Portland General Electric, Pacific Power and Light and the Graduate Studies Center. When these sources are exhausted, the project directors will have to seek alternate means of funding.

"I'm going to convert my own house to solar energy," Weaver said. "And I will support any effort to obtain funds." Weaver was referring to the possible availability of money through research grants from the Energy Research and Development Administration (ERDA), one of the groups that replaced the now-defunct Atomic Energy Commission.

Weaver is a member of the



Jim Weaver

House Energy Conservation Subcommittee and hopes to use his influence to sway opinion on the ERDA grant proposal board. The project directors have submitted grant proposals to ERDA and are still waiting for evaluation.

"We hope to hear of the results in the next couple of months," said Lowndes. "We wrote the project proposals with a strongly regional emphasis in our measurement of solar radiation and the possibilities of solar energy." Lowndes and Kaehn both stressed that if solar energy could work in the Pacific Northwest, it could probably work anywhere in the country.

The project is currently studying the use of reflectors in conjunction

with the collectors already marketed by solar energy pioneers. The reflectors would gather and direct the sunlight into the collectors where the energy would be used to heat circulating water. The heated water could then be used for radiator heat or for driving turbines to generate electricity. Reflectors, Lowndes says, make particular sense in the Northwest, where there is relatively little sunlight, because they can help utilize all available sunlight.

One new technique of reflection is the use of aluminum coatings in the collectors. This idea, used by DeWilde in the current project modifies Coos Bay inventor Henry Mathew's use of aluminum foil as a reflector.

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Demands rest on Mac Court ownership

Editor's note: The following is the first in a two-part series on the historical ownership and control of McArthur Court. Tomorrow's article will deal with the ASUO's

specific plans for regaining control of the facility and the administration's response to those plans.

By LOIS LINDSAY
Of the Emerald

Student leaders are ready to do battle to regain control of McArthur Court, a building they say

they built themselves.

Opposing current University rule over usage of the nearly \$800,000 facility, ASUO officials say that power rightfully belongs to the students. A proposal asserting that right will go before the General Faculty for approval tomorrow.

"After all, we built the building," says Dave Donley of the Inciden-

tal Fee Committee (IFC). "We should at least have some say as to how it is used. As it stands now, they (the administrators) are determining both the scheduling and usage of the facility without any student input. That's not an equitable system by any terms."

Donley bases his claim on research he conducted for the ASUO over a six-month period

from November, 1974, to June, 1975. Delving into piles of official documents, Donley compiled an extensive report outlining historical ownership and management of the athletic facility.

According to Donley's research, the history of Mac Court goes back to August, 1925, when

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Aid session slated today

The introduction of new financial aid forms has prompted the Office of Student Financial Aid to conduct application workshops Wednesday and Thursday.

Any student applying for aid for summer term and next year will have to follow new procedures and fill out forms different from any which the University has used before. The Financial Aid Office hopes to avoid confusion at the end of February by holding the two mass workshops.

The workshops will last for three hours, with an hour-long presentation of the new procedures, followed by a two-hour question-answer session.

The Wednesday workshop will be held from 2 to 5 p.m. and the Thursday session will be in the morning from 8 to 11. Both are scheduled in the EMU, room to be posted.

Any students wishing information on the new procedures who miss the workshops can pick up hand-outs and receive less extensive advice in the financial aids office, 270 Oregon Hall.

According to Janice Holland, financial aids assistant, students who are not informed about the new procedures for applying for financial aids will be severely handicapped.

"The forms are different enough that if people don't know about them, they'll be pretty unhappy in June," she said.

The priority deadline for applications for both summer term and the 1976-77 academic year is March 1. No applications for scholarships will be considered after that date.



The next event in Mac Court may be a hard-fought contest for control of the facility.

Photo by Greg Clark