

Reports may hamper nuclear plant

By KATHLEEN MONJE
of the Emerald

Opponents of the Trojan Nuclear Power Plant think they have found a new weapon to aid their anti-nuclear fight.

The Eugene-based Power Research Group, Inc. (PRG) recently unearthed two pieces of information that it hopes will help prevent Portland General Electric (PGE) from increasing its spent-fuel storage pond at the Trojan plant.

A "missing" state geologist's report and a written agreement

between four environmental groups and PGE, both made in the early '70's before the Trojan plant was built, were found by PRG during two months of investigation.

"While we're not charging there was anything illegal about the siting, we do feel the process was not legitimate," said John Bartels, head of the non-profit organization.

"There was no criteria for siting nuclear power plants at the time Trojan was sited," he adds.

Bartels says the state geologist's report, which expres-

sed concern that the magnitude and intensity of earthquakes in the region of the site had been underestimated, was not included in the final decision-making process on the site.

The report, made by State geologist Raymond Corcoran in 1970, states "The fact cannot be ignored, however, that this part of Oregon is in a seismically active zone and although no destructive earthquakes have yet occurred, there is no proof that such a catastrophe may not happen at some time in the future."

Corcoran recommended more tests to determine the "geologic integrity of the site."

Copies of his report were presented in February to the Oregon Facility Siting Council, which has recessed its hearings on the PGE spent fuel expansion request until March 14.

Bartels contends that although some of the seismological tests recommended by Corcoran were made, the studies weren't sufficient.

He also points out that the Trojan plant was built to withstand

only half the amount of ground tremor which Corcoran predicted a quake in that area might cause. "It was under-designed by 100 percent," Bartels says.

The information in Corcoran's report has been given to the state Department of Energy, which commissioned the Department of Geology to review all its material and any new information.

State geologist Don Hull expects to complete the study by mid-March, but declined to com-

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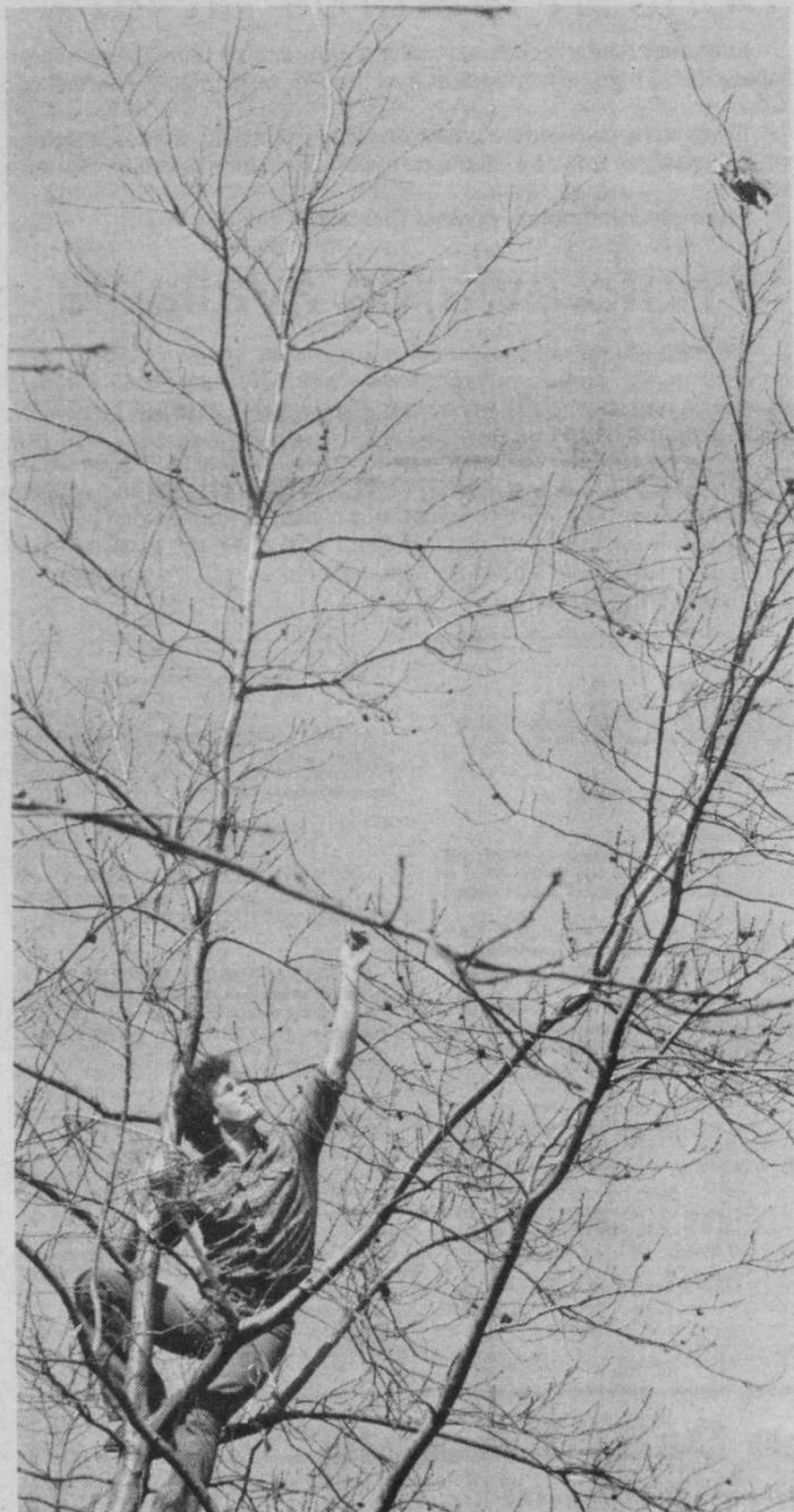
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a
bird
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Photos by Becky Young

By TOM WOLFE
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A flurry of applause, handshaking and squawks signaled that the escapade was over.

Hugo was safely back in his cage and not too happy about it.

Dan Maas (above left photo) had taken his \$200 Amazon Green Parrot out for a stroll early Sunday afternoon, when the parrot decided to try out his wings.

It couldn't get far, since its wings had been clipped, but it was able, after a series of short flights, to make it to the upper branches of most trees around campus.

Repeated attempts at capturing Hugo were unsuccessful and when night fell, the bird was still loose in a makeshift perch overlooking Williams' Bakery.

He was relocated this morning and Maas climbed "just about every tree on campus," trying to coax Hugo back to captivity.

The bird wouldn't cooperate.

In the afternoon, the big bird sat on a high

limb in the meridian running down Agate Street near 13th Avenue.

Knowing the bird hadn't eaten for 24 hours, Maas hoisted Hugo's cage up into the latest tree Hugo has claimed and lined it with a parrot's banquet of bananas and sunflower seeds.

Still no luck.

By now Hugo was tiring of his flighty existence and moved to successively smaller trees 'til he finally rested only feet above the heads of the crowd he had attracted.

In the meantime, Maas had purchased a

Grizzly Trout Net, model B-15, for \$4.

A rake and broom handle were attached and more attempts were made to coax the bird into the net by baiting it with red apples. Good try.

At last a passing motorist offered the hood of his truck as a recapturing platform for Maas.

"If he takes it, I'm going to wring his neck," warned Maas. There was a little bit of a struggle and it looked for a moment like Hugo would carouse a little longer.

He didn't.