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Photo by Erich Boekelheide

## Waitin' for rain

Dormies donned their springtime duds in honor of the rare appearance of Oregon sunshine. Seating space was scarce Tuesday as worries were canned in hopes of some preseason color; however, patchy clouds and a slight chance of rain are predicted for today.

## Officials push for housing office audit

By MARY BETH ALLEN  
Of the Emerald

If the Amazon Community Tenants (ACT), the Office of Student Advocacy (OSA) and ASUO Pres. Gary Feldman all have their way, the University housing office may be in for a major fiscal and performance audit.

Proponents of the audit are hoping to get Jim Weaver, fourth district congressman; Gov. Bob Straub; Norma Paulus, secretary of state and County Commissioner Jerry Rust behind their cause.

Ron Eachus, a staffer at Weaver's Eugene office, says "We have received a number of letters from people in the Amazon Housing Project generally asking us to help with the audit."

He points out that it is "basically a state

matter," and says plans are being made to transmit the matter to the governor's office "with an indication (from Weaver), that an audit does seem appropriate."

Close to 100 letters that ACT members have mailed to the congressman's office have "called (Weaver's) attention to the obviously strong feeling on the part of the Amazon residents that an audit is appropriate," Eachus says.

"There are enough questions surrounding the (Amazon) building reserve fund and the accounting system (that the office uses) for the dormitories, where it would be helpful for the housing office, ACT and the students to have an audit of the housing office operation," says OSA Director Don Chalmers.

Ideally, an audit of the office should come from the University itself, Chalmers feels.

"The University would be best served if it

went ahead on its own volition and accomplished these two audits quickly," he says.

Chalmers feels a fiscal audit, involving an examination of the office's books is necessary, in addition to a performance audit, which would scrutinize the office's "management structure, use of personnel, administrative structure and working relationships."

A report submitted by the Portland accounting firm, Haskins and Sells, was commissioned last summer by the University administration and finance office to review the married student housing operation. It stated there are "significant weaknesses in the married student housing financial and accounting procedures," according to Chalmers.

He says the report speculated the same weaknesses may be evident in the dormitory system.

Feldman says, "There is a real question as to whether the housing office is a good faith operation." He is hopeful that Weaver will decide to intervene.

Feldman would like the housing office books open for "periodical, scheduled review." He favors formation of an agency made up of representatives from ACT, the dormitories, the ASUO and the University, which would have jurisdiction over the housing office.

Paulus' office, which handles all state audits, has not yet planned an audit. A representative of her office says, "Nothing has been finalized. Nothing has come through my office as of yet."

The representative says, "A special audit may or may not exist — I kind of doubt it. Of course, the final boss is Norma Paulus."

## Registration procedures eased for CEP

By RICHARD SEVEN  
Of the Emerald

The University will be making registration much easier for Eugene-Springfield residents interested in enrolling in the University's special Community Education Program (CEP) next term.

CEP students can be admitted at reduced tuition rates and without participating in formal admission procedures.

The program, initiated last term, will allow interested residents to register by mail or in person at Oregon Hall beginning March 13, or at the regular registration session.

Assist. Registrar, Chris Munoz, says

these "baby steps" are part of the University's attempts to further its reach out into the community.

"Higher education's thinking has changed; you can see it across the nation," says Munoz. "Universities will have to keep up more and more with mid-life changes. It's up to the Universities to provide opportunities and encourage older people to change their lives in terms of employment, enrichment or whatever."

Through the program, persons of any age or background who are not seeking University degrees can take up to six hours of course work per term at reduced rates. The work can later be applied as transfer credit.

Munoz says the 300-500 persons who benefit from the program don't hurt regular students' chances to get classes.

"Because the number of students we're dealing with is so small, it won't hurt our regular students," says Munoz. He also points out that courses offered to CEP students are first approved by the departments and schools and then by Vice-Provost, Robert Albrecht.

Area residents participating in the special pre-registration March 13-24, will be assured of getting their classes, according to Registrar Wanda Johnson.

Johnson says mail-in forms for pre-registration will be made available in a CEP

supplement in the March 13, Eugene Register-Guard and at the registrar's office, Room 220, Oregon Hall.

The regular CEP registration session will be held during the University's regular spring term registration period between 6:30 and 8 p.m. on Wednesday, March 29 in McArthur Court.

About 600 people registered last fall through the program as compared to 589 people this term.

CEP students also are eligible to register for any of the University's morning classes in which they meet prerequisite requirements.