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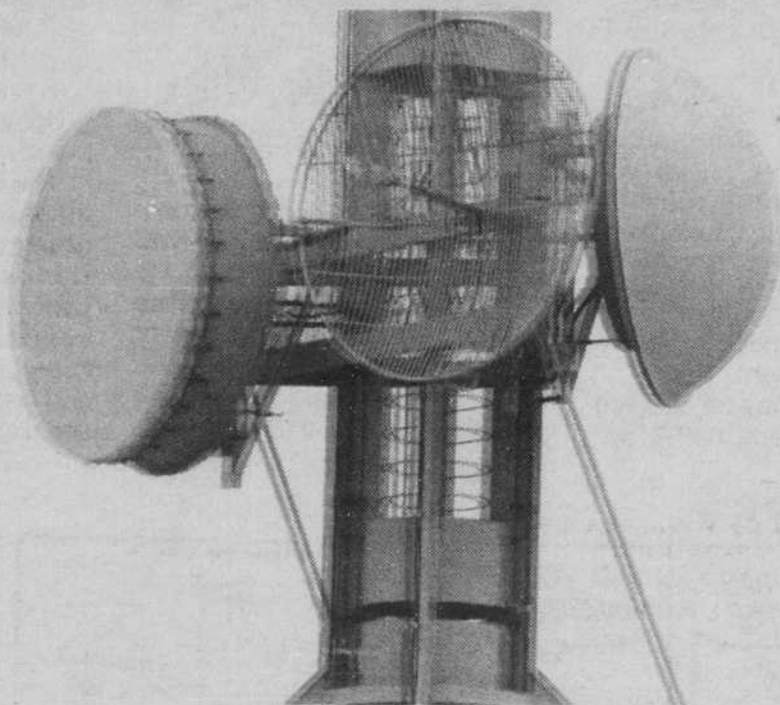
Today is the last day to register and pay tuition without penalty at Oregon Hall. After today each change in registration will cost \$1.

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Concern builds over use of micro...



Waves Waves

By KEVIN HARDEN
Of the Emerald

While the Federal Communications Commission and the State Health Division attempt to pinpoint the source and cause of the mysterious radio signal monitored in Eugene several months ago, concern over the health effects of errant microwave radiation has been growing nationwide.

According to a March New Times magazine article, microwave radiation from sources that aren't so mysterious may be more dangerous than pulsing radio signals. Microwaves are now used in appliances from the obvious microwave ovens to easy-to-install burglar alarms, automatic garage door openers and Citizen Band radios.

Other microwave emitting equipment that could have been blamed for Eugene's radio signal, telephone relay transmitters and large antennas used to receive and transmit television programs, have so far been ruled out as the signal's cause, says Marshall Van Ert, an industrial hygienist with the University's Health Physics office, who discovered the signal six months ago.

When the signal was first detected

last October, Van Ert and Bill Bise, a Portland radio engineer, tried to pinpoint the source of the radio wave and ruled out the possibility of the not-so-mysterious sources. Those sources included microwave antennas on top of the Pacific Northwest Bell building on the downtown mall and the Teleprompter Cable TV microwave receiving disc on Garfield Street.

Most of the microwaves emitted by those devices are "legitimate", Van Ert says. But concern that they may be causing the signal is not based on fact.

"It's obvious a contemporary problem here," he says. "We live in an electronic age where there is bound to be smog and pollution of this type. But the type of equipment they (the telephone company and Teleprompter) use is legitimate."

According to a Pacific Northwest Bell spokesman, the antennas on the Bell Building's roof are used to send and receive long distance telephone calls. The cone shaped antennas on the building are used to send a 10 watt microwave beam to several transmitters east and west of the city, the spokesman says.

Other antennas on the building are

used to transmit mobile phone calls around the area, the spokesman says. None of those transmissions reach the power of the radio signal Van Ert and Bise discovered, he says.

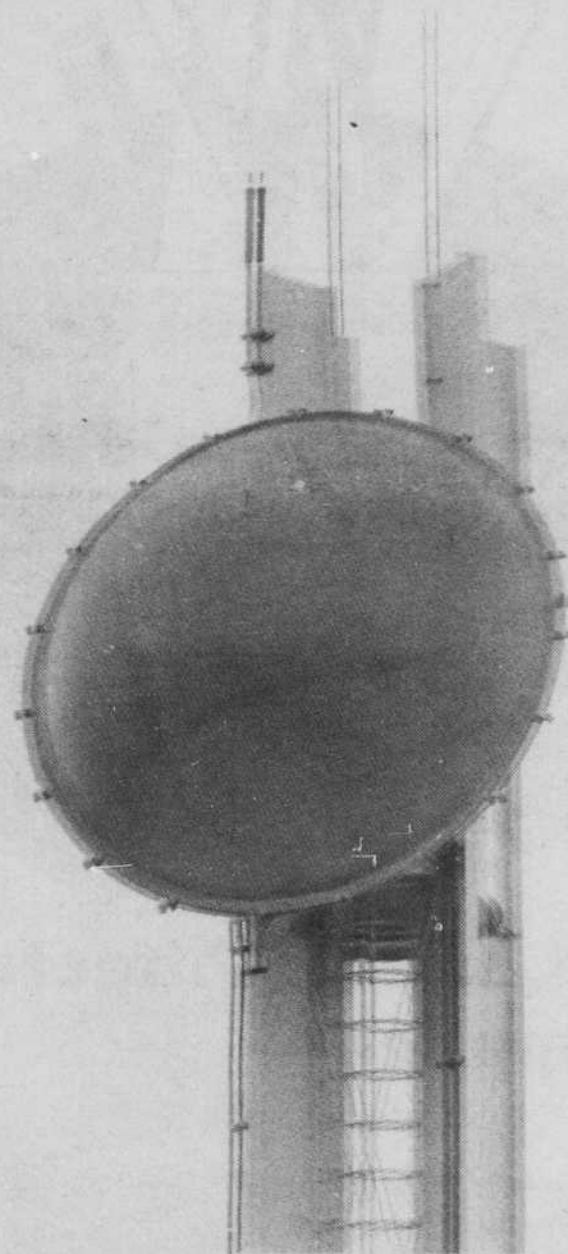
The microwave receiving disc used by Teleprompter Cable TV in West Eugene does not transmit any signal at all, says Bob Logan of the Teleprompter company. The huge white disc is used to receive satellite transmissions sent from Teleprompter's New York headquarters.

But, even with those and other sources of microwave transmissions operating legitimately, there may still be cause for concern over the "electronic smog" phenomenon, Van Ert says.

"I couldn't speculate on the possibility of the signal being produced by their equipment," he says. "But there is reason for concern about any contact with microwaves."

Although Van Ert and Bise have not drawn conclusions on the signal's origin and cause, they have come to the realization that it may be covering the entire Eugene-Springfield area.

"Generally speaking, the Eugene-Springfield area is completely saturated by the signal," Van Ert says.



Photos by Patrick Sullivan

Hello computer, good-bye Mac Court

By RICHARD SEVEN
Of the Emerald

So how did registration go? Did you get your classes? Or will it be another term of basket weaving and hoop rolling?

University Pres. William Boyd has been a long and hard advocate of switching from the current "arena" system to the pre-registration system, which he feels will help enlighten departments of the University about what classes students want.

The advance feedback by students through pre-registration would not only satisfy their academic desires, but according to Boyd, it would also save the University up to \$1 million a year.

Currently the University is funded by the Legislature on the number of full-time student's attending the institution. Although

the Legislature consider 15 hours full-time, studies show students only carry an average of 11.8 hours per term.

"Our present registration system has always been defective on two levels," says Boyd. "Number one, it doesn't make enough classes available at the right time to our students. Secondly, it masks demands that our students are unable to express through our present registration system."

The man Boyd is looking at to implement the computer pre-registration system is Gerald Moseley, the new associate provost for student affairs. Moseley, who was hired just this year, played a key role in the University of Texas' switch to the pre-registration system.

Moseley says he expects the University will be able to make the switch by the Fall of 1979.

Among the proposed advantages of the computer system are: It would lead to better academic advising and planning for students, it would be more efficient and it would prioritize all student requests.

"Pre-registration gives students a more leisure time period to get together with their advisors and decide what are the best classes for the individual student," Moseley says.

He also points out that a student has time to change his or her mind before it's too late, as is often the case with the arena system.

The computer system would also furnish hard data about what a student needs and can get.

All students would submit their choices before the end of the term. The computer would then go through the requests, find the demands for certain classes, search for al-

ternatives, reveal the need to open more sections if necessary and assign classes on a priority (senior-major) basis.

Those students participating in pre-registration would then have about three weeks to mail in their fee assessments. If they don't or decide to drop out of school after making their class selections, the computer would open those classes for the regular registration period that would be held.

Moseley says the computer gives the students many more alternatives, because it can consider placing them in the right class, but at a different time. However, Moseley admits this could be a possible source of grief for students and the

(Continued on Page 6)