

On Alton Baker Park site Museum, planetarium near completion

By BYRON TAYLOR
Of the Emerald

A new planetarium and science museum for the Willamette Science and Technology Center complex is almost finished on a 10-acre site in Alton Baker Park.

Six Eugene-Springfield agencies have joined forces to construct the facility.

These two portions of the project will be ready for use in the beginning of the 1979-80 school year, says Russell Donnelly, a University physics professor and chair of the Lane County Cooperative Museum Commission.

Plans for the complex began more than four years ago.

At the same time, the Intermediate Education District, now the Educational Service District, launched its own plans for a new planetarium complex at its facility on Highway 99N.

To keep from duplicating services, the original contacts between the two agencies and four other interested groups, led to the formation of CMC.

"The organization of the CMC is unique in the United States," Donnelly says. "It's a monument to the cooperation between these different organizations all working toward the same end."

Directed by Donnelly, the CMC is the heart of the project. The commission coordinated the planning and financing of the project between Lane County, the

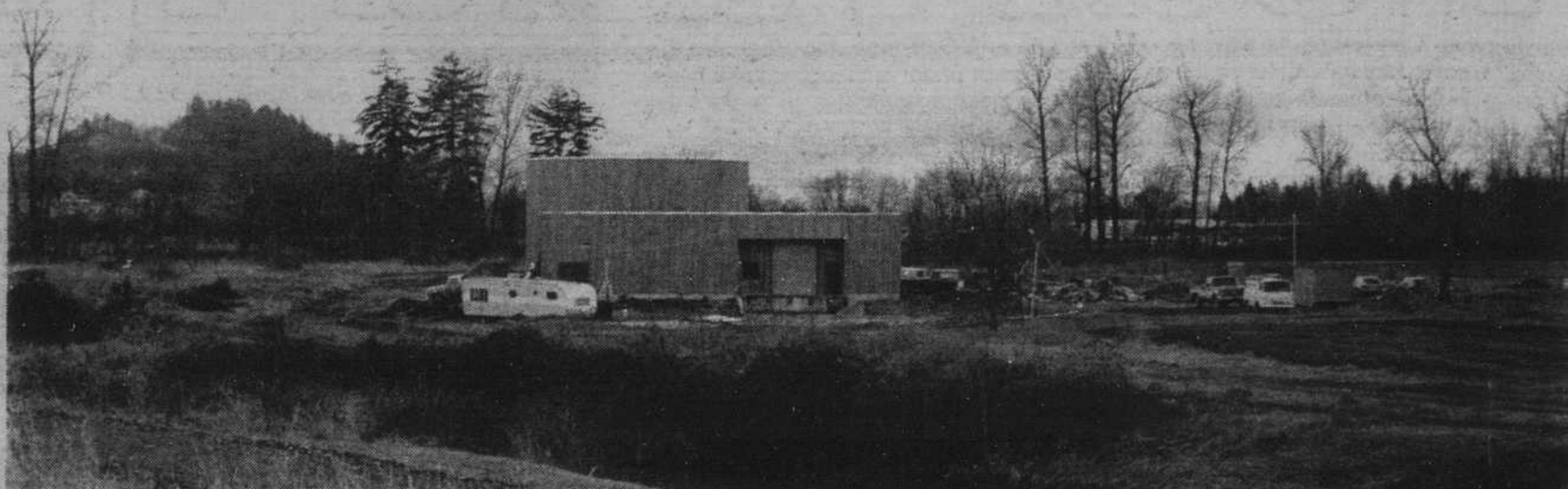


Photo by Cathi Cornils

These buildings in Alton Baker Park are the first in a museum and planetarium complex that will house natural history, Lane County history, science and astronomy. "The organization of the Cooperative

Museum Commission is unique in the United States," says chairer Russell Donnelly.

ESD, the city of Eugene, the University, Lane Community College and the WSTC.

Besides the ESD-run planetarium and the WSTC museum, long-range plans for the complex include two more museums. Still on the drawing board are plans for a Lane County Museum, and a University Museum of Natural History. An observatory is also being planned in conjunction with the University's contribution to the complex.

The Lane County Museum will replace the facilities now in use at the Lane County fairgrounds. The new Museum of Natural History will supplant the museum now located in the University Science

building complex.

Both of these museums will be built in conjunction with and adjacent to the ESD planetarium and the WSTC museum. However, construction will not begin until funding sources are found, Donnelly says.

The ESD planetarium will have a 40-foot dome, with seating for 123 people, making it the largest planetarium in the Northwest, says Bill Suggs of the ESD.

The new equipment will project the stars of both hemispheres, a refinement the present portable ESD planetarium lacks.

For the past three years, the portable planetarium has been making the rounds in Lane County schools, under the direction of

Suggs.

The WSTC museum's new home is a 10,000 square foot wooden structure. Located adjacent to the planetarium, it will house 2,500 square feet of display space, a store, preparation rooms, a darkroom, storage space and offices.

The price tag for the museum-planetarium complex totals \$1.3 million, including utility connections, site preparation, and construction of a paved parking lot with more than 200 spaces. Funding for the \$775,000 building, exclusive of the other costs, comes from federal grants and local matching funds.

The price for the entire complex has not yet been determined.

"Each museum will be a separate entity. The buildings will be owned by the county which will rent the space to the museums and planetarium," says Alice Carnes, director of the University Museum of Natural History.

The complex will be under the direction of the CMC headed by Donnelly. The CMC will have no hand in the actual day-to-day running of the individual museums, but will be responsible for the overall operation of the complex, says Carnes.

Though the museum will be tuned to the specific needs of the University in a research capacity, Carnes hopes the museum will be accessible to the general public.

IFC endorses four groups' budget goals

The Incidental Fee Committee approved goals for four of five groups in its third session of budget hearings Wednesday night.

The Student Bar Association, SEARCH, EMU Board, and the University Veterans all breezed through the meeting with unanimous approval. However, Phi Beta Lambda, a newly formed business fraternity, found the committee less receptive to its three goals. All three goals failed unanimously.

PBL's first goal was intended to provide members with an opportunity to compete

with other business majors in oral and written tests.

Committee member Dusty Rhodes, IFC advisor on the group, questioned whether the same competition could be achieved by comparing grade reports, and recommended the goal be rejected.

"I don't feel this competition has the element of benefit...it doesn't fall within our criteria," said Rhodes.

Other goals included events, publicity and promotion to gain membership in their

18-member fraternity, and office expenses. Rhodes said that PBL "had no proven track record."

The Committee recommended that PBL try again next year when it has had a chance to "see if there is a need for it in the community" explained IFC chairer Janet Eggleston.

Also heard were Student Bar Association goals that concerned community awareness, affirmative action, orientation for first year law students, efficient operation and intra-school activities.

SEARCH presented goals to the committee that included student taught classes, efficient operation and provision for special programs.

Goals for the EMU Board and the University Veterans were approved with no discussion.

The veterans' goals included providing information to University vets, researching the delayed stress response syndrome, researching the effect of herbicide "Agent Orange" and providing draft registration counseling.

ask the sexpert

This is a weekly column by Planned Parenthood of Lane County. Send questions to the Emerald, 300 EMU, or call Planned Parenthood at 344-1611.

My boyfriend and I want to have two children after we're married, a boy and a girl. We've heard it's possible to decide ahead of time what the sex of the baby will be. Is this true?

Whether the doctor announces "it's a boy" or "it's a girl" is still a matter of chance. As of now there are no practical and effective methods of sex control available. There are theories and studies, but the results are not offering much hope.

There are three basic approaches to pre-selection. The first is the timing of sexual intercourse, douching or other procedures designed to increase the chances of fertilization of female-bearing or male-bearing sperm. The sperm determines the sex of the child.

The second approach is the separation of male from female sperm — X and Y bearing sperm — and then artificial insemination of the woman.

The third approach is the choice of abortion after the sex of the fetus has been determined through a procedure called amniocentesis.

In 1970, Dr. Landrum Shittles popularized the idea that the timing of intercourse in relation to ovulation—release of the egg from the ovary—would determine the sex of the baby. He suggested that boys would be more likely when sexual intercourse took place very close to the time of ovulation. He also had recommendations about douching, coital position and the desirability of female orgasm, all of which he thought might change the odds slightly.

Another researcher, Dr. Rodrigo Guerro, studied the records of women using the rhythm method who had accidentally gotten pregnant. He found that when conception took place as long as six to nine days before ovulation, 68 percent of the offspring were boys. The pattern was opposite from that found by Shittles.

Dr. Elizabeth Whelan has written a book called "Boy or Girl." She recommends Guerro's approach but feels changes the odds only slightly. Some couples might still be interested in learning more about it and

using the recommended techniques.

There's no harm in trying, and it might slightly increase your chance of getting what you want.

Literature put out by the Oregon State Health Division venereal disease program says that VD may have no outward signs. It would seem sensible to encourage all people to have periodic physical examinations, blood tests, cultures. I see no such encouragement coming from the Oregon State Health Division unless outward signs appear. The University has no facilities for periodic check-ups unless a person has symptoms. Why create this awareness through literature without following through the logical implications?

It's true that approximately 80 percent of men and 30 percent of women that have VD show no outward symptoms of the disease. When you state that all people should be encouraged to have periodic examinations, we assume you mean all people that are sexually active or involved in a relationship where their partner might not be monogamous. Persons not sexually active

have no concerns about contracting VD.

The Lane County Health Dept. V.D. clinic at 399 E. 10th encourages all people that have any reason to suspect they might have contracted a disease through a sexual encounter to use its services.

There is no charge for the simple test. Anyone with a current student body card from the University is eligible to have a V.D. test. Getting people to use the services available is the problem. Sometimes very minor symptoms (a mild burning sensation when urinating, for example) are ignored if the individual is not aware that this might indicate a problem.

There is often a reluctance on the part of patients to state their concerns and they merely ask for "an examination." The University is not prepared to give "an exam" to a healthy student unless a problem is stated. Some private physicians do not routinely check for VD because of the extra expense to their patients and because the patients have not told the doctor of their concern. There is no way one can be forced to be examined. Personal honesty, responsibility and concern for others would provide a solution to the V.D. problem.

Thursday, January 25, 1979