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Photo by Keith Allen

Peeking allowed

A fountain near Villard Hall was the place to be Wednesday when the sun decided to make a cameo ap-

pearance. Freshman Jeff Boivin was there to capitalize on the seasonal oddity. Only 234 more days 'til summer.

New OSL executive plans pursuit of issues

By SALLY HODGKINSON
Of the Emerald

Bob Watrus, the newly elected Oregon Student Lobby executive director, begins his two-year tenure today.

"I wish I could think of something more original to say than I'm pleased and excited about the board's decision," he says with a laugh. "But I am really excited."

Watrus, an OSL lobbyist and intern since January, was unanimously elected by the OSL Board of Directors late Tuesday afternoon. He'll spend the first month of his term assisting current executive director Jim Bernau. In December, Watrus will take over as executive director and Bernau will serve as executive assistant. Watrus will be on his own when Bernau's contract expires in January.

"In a sense he will be on probation for the first month," Bernau says, adding that the "training period" was set up for the first time this year to provide continuity in the OSL and a smooth transition for the new director.

Watrus says recent structural changes in the OSL office have helped clarify staff positions and reduced many of the personnel conflicts that rocked the lobby earlier this year.

One of the first issues facing Watrus is admission policy decisions made last week by the State Board of Higher Education.

Under the new plan, Oregon State University and the University of Oregon will require applicants in 1981 to score at least 30 on the Test of Standard Written English. Until the new plan, there's been no minimum score for the English test.

The board also gave presidents of state system institutions the option of raising their grade-point-average requirement by one-quarter point.

Under the plan the University's requirements would go from 2.50 to 2.75.

These policy changes "smack of elitism," Watrus says. "They seem to make very little sense. I don't see how they will improve the academic quality of the state system."

The OSL is looking into the possibility of getting the board to reconsider the admission issue, Watrus adds.

Watrus says he plans to continue working on many of the same issues he worked on as a lobbyist, including child

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Computer registration plan is ready

By KEITH BERNE
Of the Emerald

Anxiously watching the "closed sections board," scrambling to get to registration tables and waiting in long, tiresome lines may become just bad memories next year if the University administration approves a new computer registration system.

The computer program, now ready for use, was developed by three math students at Appalachian State University in 1972. It was recently adapted for use at the University of Oregon by Dr. Arthur Gloster, director of the University Computing Center.

"The computer software will be ready for fall of '80," Gloster says. "If we can get the people ready — students, faculty, and administration — we can put the system to work."

Gloster, who headed Appalachian State University's computing center for seven years before coming to the University this year, has helped implement similar systems at eight other schools. He says he installed a highly successful system, similar to the one proposed for the University, at the University of Alabama, a college with 17,000 students.

Gloster, who sees himself as "the advocate for the students," says the

system is built around the student, not the administration. The major goal of the new computer program "is to get a complete schedule within each student's constraints — the program is totally student-directed," he adds.

"I guess the reason I'm involved in it is because I was appalled when I went to Mac Court (to observe registration)," Gloster says. "I was sure there had to be a better way. I have been involved in student information systems on eight campuses and this system is the most labor-intensive I have ever seen."

Gloster says the new system allows students a better chance of getting the classes they want.

The proposed "New Enrollment System" would begin when students receive their registration form in the mail. They would fill it out, listing priority courses and course sections.

A major feature of the registration form, according to Gloster, is the "directive column," in which students list "undesirable professors" from whom they would not take the course. Students who don't get the classes they want will receive a priority alternative course.

"This is a one-to-one course substitution system," Gloster says. If a student is closed out of one class he or she will not be forced under pressure — as happens

in Mac Court — to take an unneeded class.

This system tells the administration exactly what students want. Under the present system, demand for courses is not accurately tabulated.

Registration by computer will give the administration immediate indication of course demands, forcing faculty shifts from unwanted classes to more popular areas.

Gloster says registration by computer gives about 90 percent of the seniors and graduate students, 85 percent of the juniors, 75 percent of the sophomores and 65 percent of the freshmen what they want.

ASUO Pres. Scott Bassett, who supports the new enrollment system, says he will set up public review sessions of the system for students and faculty.

Paul Olum, University vice president for academic affairs, is more skeptical about the implementation of the program and urges students not to "jump to conclusions" about the fall 1980 target date.

"It's going to be unsure for next fall," Olum says. "We'll do our best, but we're not sure that we'll be able to handle all that's involved. From the computing end, everything is ready, but the process is complicated by administrative problems. We'd rather wait for fall 1981 and do it right."

today

There's \$250,000 in extra parking revenues, but should it go for improving auto parking or for implementing a bike plan? See Page 3A

Where do the Talking Heads head to talk? The Emerald, of course. The New Wave group gives an exclusive interview in the entertainment supplement. See Page 4B.