

# Watts makes waves in coast management

By GABRIEL BOEHMER  
Of the Emerald

Government, industry and public interest group representatives gathered at the University law school Saturday to discuss the fate of Oregon's coastal resources.

"The Oregon Coast in the 1980s" conference took place just one day after the U.S. interior department proposed an accelerated offshore oil and gas leasing program. The Outer Continental Shelf Lands Act gives the federal government the power to obtain offshore oil and gas resources.

Delivering the keynote address, Rep. Jim Weaver, D-Ore., said he opposed offshore drilling along California's coast, calling Secretary of the Interior James Watt a "fast-buck man" for examining the possibility.

Watt had announced Friday that federally owned gas and oil tracts in the Santa Maria Basin, three miles off central California's coast, will be leased in May for drilling.

## Weaver warns against oil development

Santa Maria is one of four California basins included in OCS Sale 53. Also included are areas off the northern California coast.

The condition of northern California's coast is critical to the well being of southern Oregon's fishing industry, Weaver said.

"There is no question those vital areas would be threatened by offshore oil drilling," he said. "I'm not trying to say we shouldn't grow and use these resources — but use and exploit them wisely."

Weaver also cautioned that the production of oil should not be an end in itself.

"The issue is short-term profits versus long-term wise planning," he said. "We want to insure future generations will be able to enjoy the great resources of Oregon."

However, funding for Oregon's coastal management program may be

in jeopardy, said Robert Knecht, acting director of the coastal zone management office.

The Reagan Administration wants to cut coastal management almost entirely and terminate the federal coastal program by 1985, Knecht said. Administrative grants for states with approved coastal programs would end this year, he said.

Of the 25 states with approved coastal management programs, only five — including California's — would continue to function at reduced levels. Oregon's program would all but disappear, Knecht said.

If coastal funding is reduced, not all states will have a chance to re-budget and cover the reductions, he said. Even if they did, coastal programs would have to compete for state funds with other programs suffering from federal cutbacks.

Industrial interests will be out to kill

coastal management programs as well, Knecht warned.

"Coastal states are going to have to take a hard look at the value a coastal zone management program has to them," he said.

Knecht also warned that the estuary sanctuaries program may be threatened by federal cuts. The South Slough Estuarine Sanctuary project in Coos Bay — the first sanctuary to be funded by the CZMA — may not be completed with reduced federal support.

During a panel discussion of offshore gas and mineral development, Reagan Administration consultant Hollis Dole responded to Knecht's assessment of the funding reductions.

"It was obvious to me that the world hadn't ended there for (federal) funding," Dole said.

Dole predicted that southern Oregon's Curry County would be the future site of a major coal port and that the Coos basin was the most likely spot for offshore gas and oil drilling.

## Black arts fete features pianist

A lecture, workshop and musical performance today by internationally acclaimed pianist Ingram Fox Black kicks off the three-day Black Arts Festival.

Fox, who has composed several black operas, specializes in translating traditional African rhythms into piano music, says Donavan Guy, vice president of the Black Student Union (BSU).

The BSU — the sponsors — says the festival will focus on the struggles of blacks in the 1980s.

"There has been a lot of concern about the new administration and its new focus — its new social order," Guy says. "We see certain problems resurfacing, such as unemployment, quality housing denial, racial harassment and a resurgence of the KKK."

The festival is partly a response to those problems, Guy says. Although most people are aware of the problems, they are

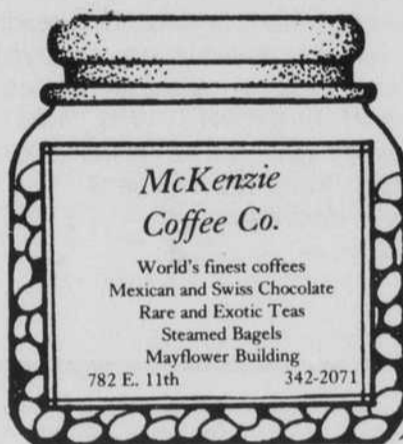
still reluctant to participate, he adds.

Fox will hold a workshop at 10:30 a.m. in Room 167 EMU. At 7:30 p.m., he will give a lecture and performance in the EMU Ballroom. Admission for the lecture and performance is \$2 for students, \$3 for general public.

A free panel discussion of black issues is scheduled for Tuesday at 7:30 p.m. in the ballroom.

The festival ends Wednesday with an African-derived dance at 7:30 p.m. at South Eugene High School. The dance will be performed by the Dance Dimensions Theater Company. Admission is \$3.50 for students, \$5 for general public and \$6 for reserved seats.

Tickets are available at the EMU Main Desk, Meier and Frank, Toad Hall and Backstage.

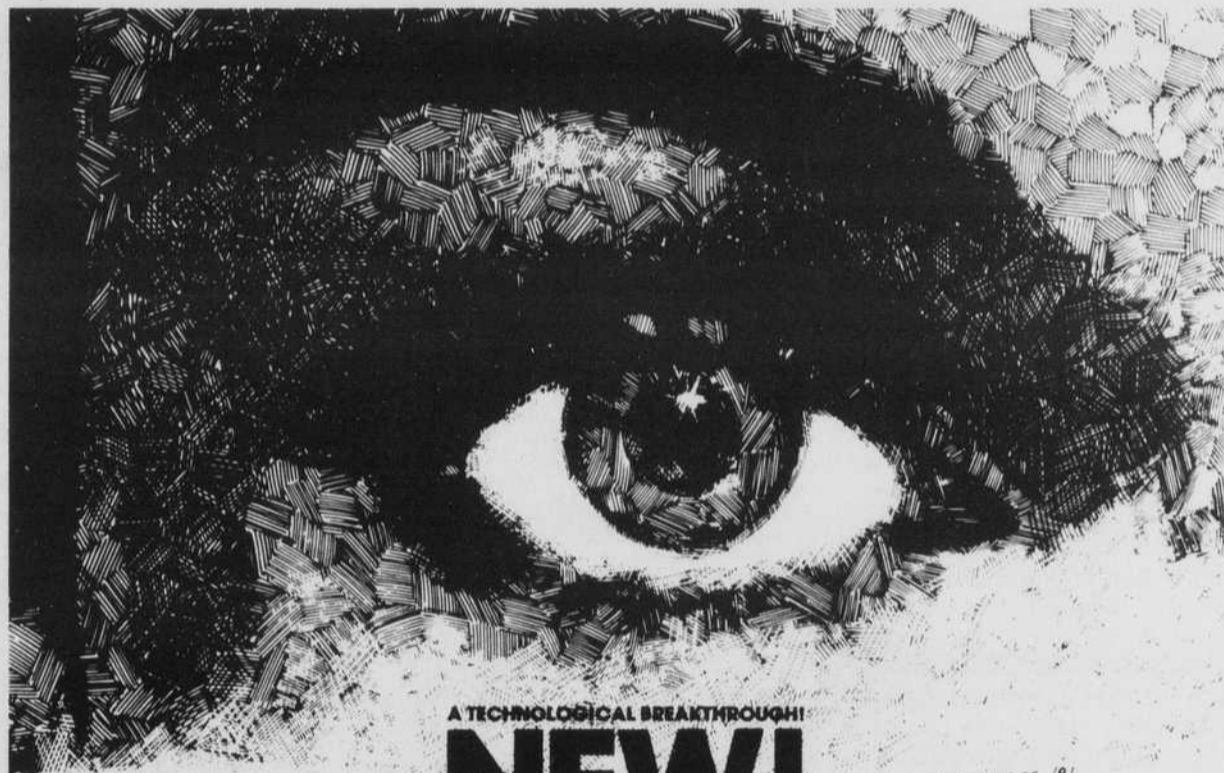


### INTERFAITH DIALOGUE

Reza Benham (Muslim), Alice Kinberg (Jewish), Richard Beswick (Restoration), and Norman Metzler (Lutheran).

The dialogue this term will continue with specific questions/issues/concerns raised by the participants and resource persons on the relationship of these three major western faiths. A good opportunity to discover both the similarities and the distinctions of these faiths today...bring your questions and ideas; you may wish to formulate these in a brief, coherent form for presentation if you choose.

Session I: Tuesday, April 14, 7-8:30 p.m.  
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