

oregon daily emerald

Vol. 82, No. 132

Eugene, Oregon 97403

Tuesday, April 14, 1981

200 travel to Salem

Students rally for higher ed funds

By GREG WASSON
Of the Emerald

SALEM — As promised at Friday's rally, University students invaded the capitol Monday, attempting to generate concern over the plight of higher education.

Though the crowd numbered only about half of the 400 persons ASUO Pres. Dave Eaton had predicted, Vice-Pres. for State and University Affairs Rich Wilkins labeled the visit a success.

"The people that did come up were interested. They were excited. They cared and they wanted to show that to legislators," Wilkins said.

"I think we accomplished our goal of showing that we know what is going on and are very anxious for the Legislature to see things in the same light as we do."

But, as pointed out at a morning rally on the capitol steps, students have a very poor track record at the polls.

"That hampers us," said Wilkins. "One of the ideas we are looking at right now is having another voter registration drive so we can come back and say, 'Look, we registered 30,000 students in the state system.'"

The students spent the afternoon talking with lawmakers from their home district, paying special attention to members of the revenue committees, who will approve any money-raising tax increases.

Earlier in the day, Rep. Gratten Kerans, D-Eugene, the House Majority Leader, told the group that revenue increases are a must.

"The fact of the matter is, this state and its budget is facing the worst crisis it has experienced in its 122-year history," Kerans told students. "What I want you to do with your visit here today is to ask the members one very hard-line question: 'Are you prepared to raise the revenues necessary to preserve those

elements of the budget which must be maintained?'"

"Don't let anybody shuck you — that's the issue."

Eaton says the answers were sometimes less than satisfying.

"There are revenue committee members that are supportive of us. But most people are not ready to make any kind of commitment," Eaton said.

"I think we showed, however, that if we don't get more revenues and are forced to take this 10 percent cut, it's going to devastate higher education."

Eaton and four others met in the afternoon with Gov. Vic Atiyeh, who told the five that he'd done what he had to.

But, at the rally, co-chairer of ways and means Sen. Ed Fadeley, D-Eugene/Springfield, repeated his claim that Atiyeh's proposal puts higher education in the financial race "ten yards behind and wearing lead boots."

"In order for higher education to start

out equal with the other general fund programs, there must be \$30 million added to the governor's recommendation. I'm not going to lean into this or say anything inflammatory, but the governor really has done it to higher education."

Fadeley was followed by Rep. Margie Hendriksen, D-Eugene, who also lamented the inadequacy of the higher education budget. That fact, warned Hendriksen, means the most trouble for those who are already disadvantaged.

"There is a current lack of integration of women and minorities into faculty positions. I'm heading up a sub-committee to investigate affirmative action, or lack thereof, and we will be in Eugene April 15."

"I'm very concerned that as the budget crunches come forward, we will have practically no women or minorities getting tenured positions at the University or other institutions."

'Hello, Flipper?'

Computers may open lines between humans, dolphins

By MIKE LEE
Of the Emerald

We may have the best telecommunications system in the world, but John Lilly still finds fault in it.

"No dolphin can use our telephone," he says.

Although he is being a trifle facetious, Lilly is serious about his research into human-dolphin communication. With the aid of two computers, he hopes to create an electronic audio-visual trans-

'If dolphins are so damn smart, and men and women are so damn smart, why haven't we communicated before this?'

lator that will allow the two species to "talk" to each other.

Lilly and his wife, Toni, spoke to an audience of 250 at South Eugene High School Monday evening.

Lilly noted that a dolphin's brain is larger than a human's — 1,800 grams to 1,500 grams. Brain mass serves as a raw measure of intelligence, he said.

Yet, "If dolphins are so damn smart, and men and

women are so damn smart, why haven't we communicated before this?"

One explanation seems simple enough: dolphins talk underwater.

Too bad early researchers didn't recognize human limitations in this area. "A lot of people tried (to talk underwater) in the '50s and '60s and almost drowned," Lilly said.

The second explanation is more complicated: dolphins speak in a range of sound ten times as high and ten times as broad as ours, Lilly said. And they do it through four different voices, allowing two dolphins to hold four conversations at once.

The communications system Lilly is developing should sort through all that, he said. It's called JANUS — for "Joint Analog Numerical Understanding System."

Using JANUS, a human first speaks a command into a microphone. One computer then translates the command, simultaneously "printing" it in large words on an underwater television screen while broadcasting it in dolphin-recognizable sounds. The dolphin, either seeing or hearing the command, will then execute it, Lilly said.

"If you say 'Rosalie' into the microphone, the computer prints out 'Rosalie' and creates a sound that is like Rosalie's," Lilly said. The second computer analyzes



Photo by Erich Boekelheide

John and Toni Lilly explain how humans someday will be able to "dial-a-dolphin."

any reply the dolphin Rosalie sounds.

Then, if the command is "GO TO 1," Rosalie will swim to a "1" painted on the wall of her tank, and maybe fetch a ball there if she is told to.

The translator can handle only 40 words, however — hardly enough for an extended conversation. But Lilly says this is only the beginning.

Lilly himself began researching dolphins in the 1950s. At the same time, he worked with sensory-depriva-

tion tanks, like the ones used in the movie "Altered States," and studied the drug LSD in the 1960s. Lilly dropped his dolphin work in 1968 and traveled to Chile, where he explored states of consciousness.

After his seven months in Chile, Lilly investigated the U.S. mind-fads of the '70s: Gestalt, encounter and Rolling.

Lilly returned to dolphin research in 1976.

Since then, he has gained

actor Burgess Meredith's help in establishing the Human/Dolphin Foundation, a private non-profit research group based in Malibu, Calif.

Ideally, Lilly's research will enable humans, using portable translators, to talk to dolphins and have the replies synthesized into audible English. "I won't be satisfied until I can talk to dolphins," Lilly said.

"I want to have a telephone I can call up a dolphin on — Dial-a-Dolphin."