

10,000 Oregonians drink untested water

By **BRAD BERTON**
Of the Emerald

While more than 10,000 Oregonians have no way to determine the quality of their drinking water, major population centers, including Eugene and Springfield, are generally immune to the problem.

Federal law requires water system operators to test their water regularly and report sediment and bacteria content to the Environmental Protection Agency.

The EPA reported that operators of 102 small systems — 11 percent of Oregon's systems — failed to meet reporting requirements over the past year.

"We're basically dealing with a rural problem," said Harold Youngquist, public health engineer of the Lane County Health Department's environmental division.

"Small systems are less likely to comply and more likely to have problems," said Youngquist, who responds to complaints and pursues requirement compliance.

Youngquist said mobile home parks and small communities are the most common violators of the reporting requirements. The county monitors systems serving two or more units, whereas state and federal inspectors monitor systems serving a minimum of four



Graphic by Max DeRungs

and 15 units respectively, he added.

Because the federal government does not monitor systems of fewer than 15 units, the EPA's estimate of 10,000 "unsure" Oregon water systems may underestimate the problem, Youngquist said.

Commenting on the EPA's charge Oregonians suffer three times as many outbreaks of waterborne disease as the rest of the nation, Youngquist said that no such outbreaks have been "absolutely confirmed" in Lane County recently.

John Hoffman of the Oregon Health Division's environmental health department confirmed Youngquist's statement that incidents of waterborne disease have not recently surfaced in the Eugene area. He noted Eugene and Springfield have "excellent (water) systems."

Howard Rogers, of the EPA, identified 16 systems in Lane County that have missed at least four monthly reports during the year ending Oct. 1, 1981. These systems, mostly in mobile home parks, serve an average of 80 units.

Richard Castenholz of the University's Health Education Department said the "extremely high quality" of Eugene and Springfield water is due to the purity of the McKenzie River.

Kimber Johnson of the Eugene Water and Electric Board said EWEB's customers have "guaranteed pure water." Eugene's water is purified at treatment plants and tested regularly before entering the city, Johnson said.

Music school mini-computer is patient tutor

By **DIANE WINOCUR**
Of the Emerald

A totally impartial, and infinitely patient music tutor awaits "its" first students today.

The music school has just acquired an Apple II computer, and according to Prof. Robert Trotter, the first assignment for the machine will be to "help students and faculty keep in touch with excellence at a time when it is very elusive." Trotter says the new micro-computer will take over the repetitive, tutorial aspects of instruction, freeing professors to polish the

scholarship end of the teaching.

Both Trotter and graduate student Ray Morse, who is using the computer to compile data for his doctoral dissertation, maintain the computer will not depersonalize instruction.

Morse says the computer was well worth the \$3,200 spent to acquire it.

"How much is a professor's time worth?" Morse asks.

The new Apple — with its five-octave range — can simulate orchestral sounds, play and print music typed in at the keyboard, tutor pitch recognition and harmonic function and operate as a word processor.

In the works are plans for the computer to keep business records, administer and score quizzes, enable instructors to develop course materials, control school inventory and interface with a music synthesizer.

"We're just now realizing all the possible ways it can serve us," Morse says. "That's exciting!"

The table-top computer's hardware, consisting of a keyboard, a color monitor, two disc drives and a

small line printer, arrived last week, Music Dean Morrette Rider says.

The music school also has bought five pre-recorded "software" discs: three tutorial programs, the "Music Composer" which plays and graphs typed-in notes and a word processor known as the "Apple Writer."

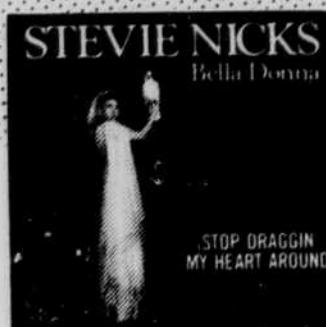
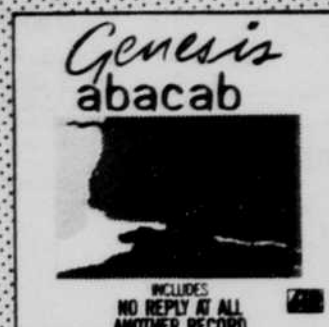
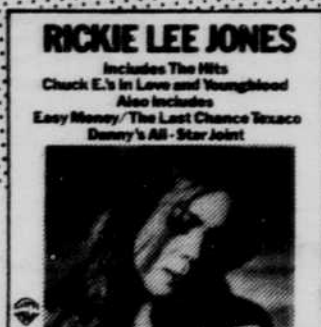
The computer was purchased for the students, Trotter maintains.

An infinitely patient mechanical tutor doesn't care how long a reply takes, Trotter says, but it will keep at it until the reply is correct.

Trotter, with Morse's help, is developing a computer program that will sharpen his students' "aural imagery."

"A performer must be able to imagine what music will sound like as he reads it, and be able to co-construct it (organize it in his mind) as he hears it," Trotter says.

"No computer can ever replace human intuition," he says. "If you feel threatened, you're doubting your own creativity."



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