



Photo by Mark Pynes

Maintenance crews begin to repair damaged curb cuts.

Crews smooth sidewalks

City of Eugene maintenance crews are putting the finishing touches on campus-area sidewalks, such as this one at 14th and Alder, which will be accessible to wheelchairs when the project is completed. "Smoothed" sidewalks include those along Alder Street from 14th to 18th, and on 12th Street from Patterson to High.

After receiving numerous complaints from people who use wheelchairs around the University area, the West University Neighbors Group, which is funding the construc-

tion, implemented the \$10,000 federally funded project.

Besides smoothing the sidewalks, maintenance crews are repairing those which have been damaged by heavy foot and wheelchair traffic in the busy neighborhood.

Construction, which began spring term on the 12th Street sidewalks and last week on Alder Street, could be completed as soon as Wednesday or as late as July 4, a city spokesperson said.

Board pursues lease of 'surplus' school

By Joan Herman
Of the Emerald

The State Board of Higher Education approved a motion allowing the University to pursue a lease of Condon School from the Eugene 4J School District Friday.

The 60-year-old building at 1787 Agate Street — across from Hayward Field — would be leased for a 2-year period at \$50,000 annually, with an option to apply rental payments to a purchase price.

Because of declining enrollment in the 4J school district, the building was considered "surplus" to the district's needs after June 30, 1983.

Unlike the school district, the University badly needs the building's usable area of 27,400 square-feet, said University Pres. Paul Olum.

"We don't have any extra space around the University, and we are giving up other leased space to do this because we are getting a better deal and it's a more desirable space," Olum said at the board's June meeting held in the EMU.

The building's primary function will be to house the College of Education's microcomputer center, which helps train students, teachers and administrators in the use of computers, said Jack Hunderup, vice-chancellor for facilities planning.

The former elementary school also would provide space for architecture students' design studios, many of which are now housed in prefabricated World War II buildings along Agate Street; ERIC Clearinghouse on Educational Management, an education resources information library, which is currently in the University's main library; Career Information Service; the Continuation Center; and the Housing Department, which would use the school's auditorium, gymnasium



Condon School

and kitchen to provide recreational facilities for University students in the East campus area.

Funds for the building's estimated annual operating expenses of \$118,000 would come from the departments to be housed there, rent savings of those departments, as well as a \$35,000 supplement to the University's state budget, Hunderup said.

The building is in "extremely good shape" and has been modernized with a new roof and weatherization system, Hunderup said. "It can be adapted readily to certain uses" by the University and free up expansion for other programs, he said.

The two-acre site, which lies within approved campus boundaries, has been part of the University's long-range development plans, Hunderup said. The University hopes to include funds to purchase and rehabilitate the property within its budget request for 1985-87.

Rilling is thrilling audiences, students

By Joan Herman
Of the Emerald

The young woman moves to the front of Room 198 in the music school as her name is called. She raises a small, white baton and begins leading the group of musicians that surround her through a Bach cantata.

Leaning against a piano, intently watching every move, is Helmut Rilling, the Oregon Bach Festival's artistic director. When she is finished, Rilling walks up next to her to critique her conducting.

"Oh, very good," he says, obviously impressed with the student's performance. The woman laughs both from surprise and relief that the "master" of conducting has praised her work. She is the first student in Rilling's master's class to receive a compliment that day.

It's not that Rilling is stingy with compliments, but that he demands perfection from his musicians. Perhaps only from Rilling would the conductors, who come from all over the nation to be in his class, take these criticisms without flinching.

Yet Rilling softens every criticism with humor. After one conductor finishes his turn, Rilling tells him, "I'm surprised you didn't say anything to the basses because they are falling asleep over there." The class loves it and they crack the somber mood with laughter, not an unusual occurrence for the bunch.



Rilling's approach to conducting is a mirror of his approach to living. Rilling is a world-renowned choral conductor as well as one of Europe's finest teachers of choirs and choral conducting.

The musicians seem more like teenagers experiencing their first love than some of the country's most talented artists. They hang on their mentor's every word, nodding in agreement with all he says. When Rilling demonstrates how to conduct, they move their hands in unison with his, attempting to catch his conducting talents.

Rilling's musicians are "totally dedicated to him," says the festival's executive director Royce Saltzman. "The orchestra and choir seem to have a love affair with him. They also have an enormous amount of respect for him," Saltzman says.

The feelings are mutual. "I enjoy working with people — with the ensembles, chorus, orchestra and soloists. We have an unusually good atmosphere. They love the music as I do. And I love working in class with workshop members," Rilling says quietly.

Conducting and teaching are not new to the 50-year-old man from West Germany. Not only is Rilling a world-renowned choral conductor, but he is also one of Europe's finest teachers of chorus and choral conducting, as well as an accomplished organist.

When he is not involved with his many choral conducting responsibilities in his native Stuttgart, he is

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