

# Sports

## Bird droppings may delay track resurfacing

By Aaron Knox  
Of the Emerald

When the planners and contractors laid out the new 400-meter oval at Hayward Field, they forgot to check with the avian residents of the East grandstand.

Now it appears the timetable for Hayward Field's renovation may be for the birds, but not for Herb Yamanaka, Athletic Department senior special assistant, has anything to do with it.

After pushing the east grandstand some 20-feet closer to Agate Street in order to make room for the new, wider oval to replace the pre-metric 440-yard surface, the roof of the grandstand still extends over what will be the last five lanes of the track.

That was not expected to be a problem, but someone forgot to check with the dozens of pigeons and sparrows that occupy the prime nesting areas

provided by the rafters that support the roof.

The results have not been pretty. Bird droppings fall on the blacktop foundation almost as quickly as they can be swept away, and threaten to delay installers from laying the Proturf polyurethane surface on schedule.

Workers will lay the infield portions first, and that, along with a one-week cushion built into the construction timetable, should prevent the birds from delaying construction, Yamanaka said.

University officials tried a variety of preventive measures to clear out the birds, from hanging facsimile predators in the rafters, piping in sounds of alarm, and even simply trying to shoo the birds away.

But the birds have shown persistence and refuse to be driven away. The latest ploy, which involves stringing up yards of heavy guage netting, has shown promise but has not yet been attempted. The Athletic Department needs to bring in a higher lift to reach the ends of the rafters, he said.

"We like birds and would never think of harming them," Yamanaka said. "They can continue to roost there this year. We're just asking them to move about 15 feet to the east," he said.

Should the netting fail to dissuade the pigeons, Yamanaka has a backup plan. He said workers would run sheets of Visquine all the way across the front of the rafters, but that would be a last-ditch

alternative. "Trying to keep big pieces of plastic attached to the rafters would be just about impossible, especially in the wind," he said.

University officials aren't getting desperate yet. The first meet scheduled on the new track, the U.S. Masters Track Meet on August 14-16, is nearly a month away. Yamanaka said the polyurethane surface would dry in one day and be painted the next, then given a day to seal.

The University's long-term solution to the birds is to screen off the rafters of both grandstands completely, in addition to the portion that extends over the track, he said.

"Next year," Yamanaka added optimistically, "maybe they will find nesting places under the footbridges."

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## Building

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when the school faces accreditation requirements.

George Hodge, associate dean for the AAA school, said the school officials were "pretty tickled" about the new construction. One of the advantages of a new building for the school will be to get architecture students out of Condon, Hodge said. The AAA school has been renting Condon school from school district 4-J to satisfy classroom space needs.

The plans for the new AAA building call for 30,000 square feet of floor space. A likely site would be in the north campus area, across Franklin Boulevard.

Related to the plans for the new building will be the renovation of Lawrence Hall. Plans for Lawrence include adding a fifth floor to the building. Another option would add a floor to Science 1 to alleviate the lack-of-space problem in the AAA school.

"There's a whole number of different alternatives that need to be explored," Rowe said.

Both projects are still in the

planning stages. The University will select the architects for the new building and Lawrence renovation by the mid-September. Construction for the new building should begin by December 1988, and Rowe expects that it will be completed by fall 1990.

The third project, the main library expansion, is still in the early planning stages, and the State Board of Higher Education has not yet approved any steps to be taken beyond planning. Rowe expects the planning process to last 18 months.

"The library is just bursting," said Paul Holbo, University vice-provost of academic affairs. Holbo serves on a library expansion committee. The library needs to be brought up to date to make it a more comfortable place to work and study, Holbo said. To do this the library will have to expand to twice its present size, he said. However, Holbo stressed that plans are still in the early stages. The library expansion committee will issue a report on

its plans in two weeks.

Rowe regards new library facilities as "desperately needed." By 1990, there will be no unassigned seating in the library, and the library is deficient by any standard in available space for processing and storing books, according to a report Rowe provided.

Options for the library are either adding a fourth floor to the south side of the building, or an expansion onto the playing field behind the library.

In the fall there will be public meetings held at the University to discuss all three projects.

Beyond the currently planned projects, the University hopes to solve the on-going parking crises with parking garages. One plan would scoop a parking garage from beneath the tennis courts, while another plan envisions a similar underground structure under the grass of Hayward and Howe fields behind MacArthur Court. The University may also build on some lots in the center of campus in the distant future.

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