

Sports

Voelz to keep University post

Illinois State University has selected current Mankota State (Minn.) athletic director, Ron Wellman, to assume those duties at ISU, the chief of Illinois State's search committee said Tuesday.

Wellman was selected from a group of finalists that included Chris Voelz, assistant athletic director at the University.

"We assessed our needs at this time and came to the conclusion that Ron Wellman would fit in best with what we are trying to do," said Dr. Al Otto, chairman of the ISU search committee that filled the vacancy.

Otto added that the decision to hire Wellman was a difficult one.

"The finalists we brought in to interview were all very good applicants, and any one of them would have done an outstanding job," he said.



Chris Voelz

Voelz is a graduate of Illinois State and a member of the NCAA Post-Season Drug Testing Committee.

"She would have brought a tremendous amount of experience and knowledge about the NCAA," Otto said. "She is a first-rate person and makes a fine contribution to the athletic community, but it is always a difficult decision to choose between such outstanding candidates," he added.

Voelz will retain her current duties with the University Athletic Department. Voelz oversees internal organization and management, regional and local sports, and drug testing policy and procedure. It's "the real nuts and bolts of athletic administration," according to Sandy Walton, assistant athletic director in charge of business and finance.

University Athletic Director Bill Byrne is on vacation and could not be reached for comment.

Track conversion proposal opposed

By Gary Henley
Of the Emerald

A course operator for the bicycle motorcross (BMX) race track near Autzen Stadium said he and the Emerald Valley BMX Club refuse to let Lane County build a golf course on the track as has been proposed.

Scott Snook said the track has "phenomenal community support" from citizens and business leaders of Eugene who don't want to see the track converted into a golf course.

The building of a golf course on the former Day Island Landfill area and large parking area to the south of Autzen Stadium, near Alton Baker Park has been proposed and is being studied by the County Economic Development Committee.

The race track, which has occupied the land since 1982, is where the driving range and clubhouse would be if the course is built.

Lane County Commissioner Jerry Rust, a proponent for the construction of the golf course, has apparently offered to help find a new location for the race track. Snook said Rust has not offered to help and if he did, it would be a futile attempt.

"The County Parks and

Recreation Department is nearly broke, and everybody's pointing at the \$60,000-70,000 it would take to build another track, but the money's not there," Snook said.

The Emerald Valley BMX Club cannot afford to move, he said.

Allan Miller, administrative assistant to Rust, said "the BMX track is just a temporary deal. It was given to them by the county. They got it for nothing. It was never permanent."

The county planning committee is considering adopting a feasibility study of the situation, Snook said, adding that he didn't know where they would get the funds for the golf course.

The committee is "thinking about the funding at the present time — where to get the funds and the amount needed," Miller said.

"Jerry wants to meet with the BMX people and get something worked out," Miller said.

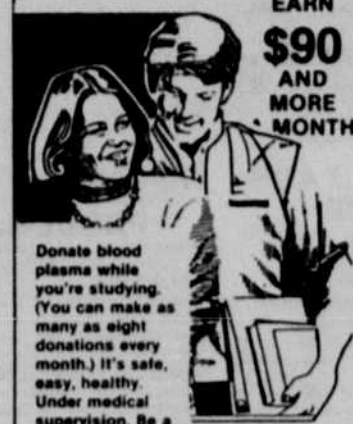
The county had a list of five potential locations for a new golf course, and the Alton Baker Park site was fifth on the list, according to Snook.

The four other proposed sites were an expansion of Laurelwood Golf Course, an

area around Mt. Pisgah, Golden Gardens and the Willow Creek area, said Chris Scott, who is involved in marketing production for the

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Correction

The Oregon Daily Emerald incorrectly identified Beverly Curtis, a speaker at a seminar on the homeless, as Eugene Police Department Deputy Chief John Rutledge in the July 21 edition. The Emerald regrets any confusion or inconvenience this may have caused.

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