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Photo by Sherlyn Bjorkgren

Supporters of the Oregon Rivers Initiative from around the state assembled in Salem Friday to raft the Willamette River.

River fans converge on Salem

By Cami Swanson
Emerald Reporter

Eugene river enthusiasts took to the water Friday to show their support for the proposed Oregon Rivers Initiative.

Approximately 20 people from Eugene joined other representatives of various conservation, sportsman and outdoor recreation organizations from around the state to raft a two-mile stretch of the Willamette River in Salem. From there, they planned to hike to the Capitol Building and hand deliver to Secretary

of State Barbara Roberts an initiative calling for 11 more rivers to be added to the Oregon State Scenic Waterways System.

However, last-minute wording changes caused the initiative's official filing to be delayed.

"It always takes longer than you think," said Andy Kerr, the associate director of the Oregon Natural Resource Council, one of the organizations that is endorsing the initiative.

"Frankly, it's Friday afternoon and nobody's there (at the Capitol)," he told the group of rafters, kayakers and

canoeists gathered at the bank of the Willamette River in Salem.

Kerr said that the initiative would be filed soon.

Once the Oregon Rivers Initiative is officially filed and reviewed by the Legislature, supporters of the initiative will have until July 8, 1988 to collect 63,578 valid signatures by petition in order for the initiative to appear on the 1988 general election ballot.

Bill Marlett, from the Coalition for the Deschutes in Bend, said that the petitions should become available for

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Olum retirement call prompts petition drive

By Mike Drummond
Emerald Associate Editor

Frustration stemming from the State Board of Higher Education's call to retire President Olum has spilled into the student sector, prompting a "grassroots" drive to rescind the State Board's decision.

Last Tuesday the State Board's five-member executive committee announced its plan to terminate Olum's presidency effective June 30, 1989. Since then students have sprinted to join University faculty in the fight to keep Olum president through June 1992 — Olum's preferred retirement date.

Randy MacDonald, former Student Senate chairman, is helping spearhead one student movement to retain Olum.

"There's been a number of students who've been really distressed about this action by the board, so we've tried to get some people together to generate some student support for the president," MacDonald said.

MacDonald's drive is one in a series of independent student efforts to persuade the State Board to change its decision.

"This is like a grassroots development," MacDonald said. "Students who've dealt with Olum in past years and this year are really upset over this."

MacDonald is holding an organizational meeting this Friday (EMU Forum Room, 3:30 p.m.) to coordinate various student efforts interested in supporting Olum.

He also urged students to attend Wednesday's University Assembly meeting (Geology 150, 3:30 p.m.) where a faculty resolution opposing the State Board's decision will be discussed.

In addition, MacDonald said a student rally in support of Olum tentatively is scheduled for Nov. 13 — the day the regular State Board reconvenes — and expressed a desire to collect donations in order to run pro-Olum ads in local newspapers.

MacDonald approached ASUO President Kasey Brooks in an attempt to garner student government support for the Olum cause, and the ASUO was quick to oblige MacDonald and other student interest groups.

Brooks said the ASUO will help support student campaigns to retain Olum in any way it can.

"We'll be lending our support and our people and everything else. It's hard to tell exactly what we're going to do and exactly how we're going to do this. Randy and I are still working on the details," Brooks said.

Sandy Baruah, president of the Student University Relations Council, is another concerned student on Olum's behalf, and he, too, approached the ASUO for its support. Baruah also plans to coordinate his efforts with other student movements.

Baruah said he is motivating SURC to persuade the executive board to rescind its decision, a decision he believes the State

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Architecture school puts computerized studio in place

By Cami Swanson
Emerald Reporter

The University's School of Architecture and Allied Arts has set up a new computerized design studio that lets students clear off their drawing boards and draft their projects by punching the keys of a computer.

The studio, which is offered to third-year students or above, was the idea of architecture professors G.Z. Brown and Bobby-Jo Novitski. To purchase the computers, the department received a \$65,000 grant from Apple Computer, Inc.

Brown, professor of the experimental studio, said the 15 Macintosh SE computers are being used as another design tool, just like a pencil, pen or ruler.

However, Brown hopes that the systems will allow his students to complete their projects more quickly and help prepare them for work outside

the school, where he said professional architects use similar computer systems.

Architecture students already have computers available to them in the department's computer labs, but Brown said the newly purchased Macintosh computers are special because they are designated solely for use by the students in his particular studio.

"All over campus there are computer labs. These belong to the students in the class... One of our theories is that if (the computers are) more accessible... then students are more likely to use them," he said.

Reaction to the computers from students has been mixed.

Wendy Root, a second-year graduate student in the class, said, "I had doubts coming in, but I decided to see what it could do. It's been sort of frustrating, but... it has potential."

Root said her main frustration is she is unfamiliar with the

way the computer works, and this makes her work slower. However, she conceded that in some areas the computer is superior to the method of drawing by hand.

"This way, you can have 15 prospective drawings in 10 minutes. For that, it's really helpful," she said.

David Bolduc, a landscape student who is not in Brown's class but has access to similar computers at the school, described some of the advantages of the system.

"We have the capability to make plans to scale. You take a larger scale plan and reduce it and the level of detail becomes pretty precise," he said.

However, the computers are not perfect. Brown said that one of the problems with the computers is adapting them for architectural use.

"Most software is not designed for architectural use. We're

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Photo by Andre Kanieri

Fifth-year architecture student Andrew Dumitru works in the new computerized design studio in the School of Architecture and Allied Arts. The equipment is useful for making quick sketches of prospective ideas.