

# Oregon Daily Emerald

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## University begins work on a new telephone system

By Gary Henley  
Emerald Associate Editor

Construction on a new campus telephone system began Wednesday near Hayward Field. The system will be part of a \$19 million high-tech telecommunications network linking the eight campuses of the Oregon State System of Higher Education.

The new University telephone system, costing \$4.6 million, is expected to be in operation by February 1990, when the University is scheduled to "cut-over" to its own computerized switching device. At that time, the prefix for campus phones will change from 686 to 346, and many local and long-distance dialing procedures for callers on and off campus will be streamlined.

After four years of planning, state higher education officials signed a contract in fall 1988 with AT&T Information Systems to install the network. Components of the network are already in operation at Western Oregon State College in Monmouth and at Oregon State University in Corvallis.

Sherri McDowell, University director of business affairs, said, "In addition to the ability to control our own destiny and our costs, this new phone system also will bring the University of Oregon into the modern age with telephones that have features which promote greater efficiency."

The new phone system will replace the electro-mechanical equipment currently installed that is obsolete, outdated and of limited capacity, McDowell explained. The new system is capable of handling voice communications and any future data and video applications for up to 32,000 users, including students.

Other special capabilities which are designed to reduce costs include selection of the least expensive routing for outgoing long-distance calls, voice messaging to help end so-called "telephone tag" by allow-

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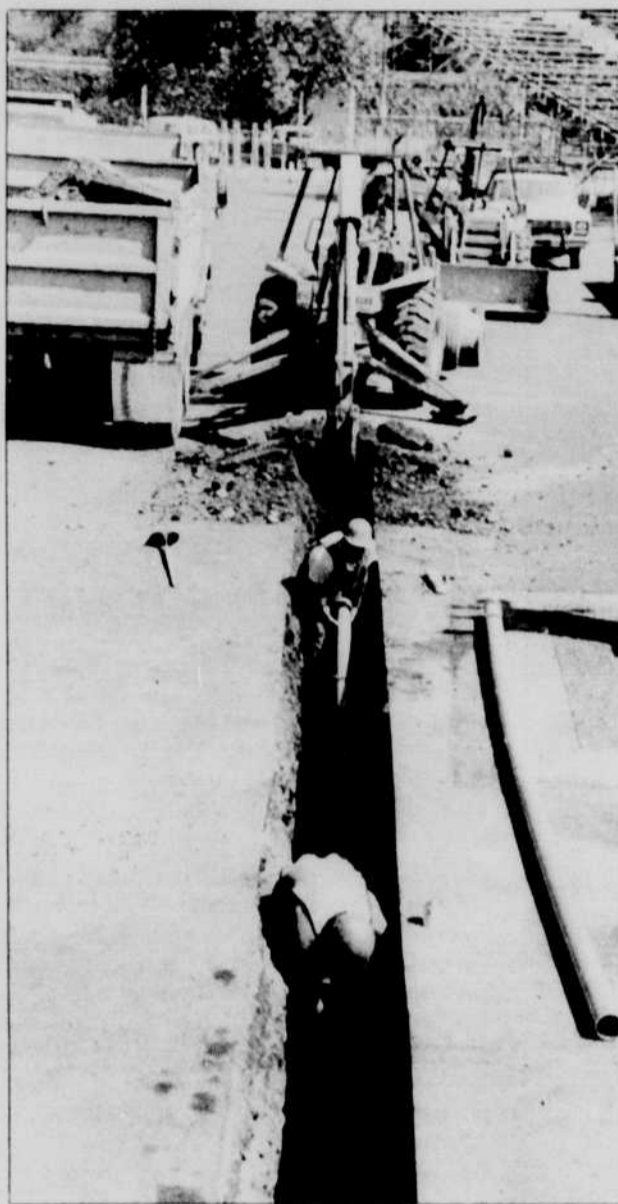


Photo by Mark Ylen

Workers began digging trenches near Hayward Field Wednesday in preparation for the University's new \$4.6 million phone system.

## Contract, bargaining don't satisfy workers

By Christopher Blair  
Emerald News Editor

Members of Oregon Public Employees Union Local 085, which represents state employees at the University, are happy with neither the state's latest contract offer nor the way it was handled by OPEU bargaining representatives.

Risa Haberman, the local's president-elect, said a July 2 proposed contract agreement between state officials and union bargaining representatives would require part-time employees to pay prorated rates for insurance coverage. Full-time employees would lose coverage for spouses and dental coverage for dependents.

Under another part of the proposed agreement, employees would not be able to file grievances over performance appraisals, nor would they be able to have incorrect additions to performance files removed immediately.

About 40 of the 1,400 state-employed University employees were in attendance at the meeting, and virtually all indicated in a voice vote that they disapproved of the state's offer.

Haberman said she disliked the fact that the OPEU bargaining team did not give drafts of the proposed contract agreement to members with the ballots, which were sent July 6.

"We'd like people to hold their ballots until they know what they're voting for," she said. "What we've got here is an undemocratic process."

While several in attendance agreed with Haberman, library employee Will Harmon asked union members not to "jump to conclusions," and instead chalk up the actions of the union bargaining team's to inexperience.

Later in the meeting, Haberman urged the members to vote "no" on the contract.

"In my opinion if we go back to the table with a strong and unified 'no,' the state will see that we have a strength they didn't know we had," she said.

However, employees in attendance said some union members had already sent in their ballots, and some of those had been "yes" votes.



## Soaking up knowledge

This student spent Tuesday afternoon learning through osmosis while catching up on some sleep. The warm weather certainly was conducive to such activities, or rather, such inactivity. But the true test of a reader's commitment to brain feeding comes in the autumn, when raging wind and rain keep even mountain bikers in bed and lawn dwellers really dig their books — out of the mud, that is.

Photo by Mark Ylen

## T-shirt sales support democratic struggle

By Thomas Prowell  
Emerald Editor

Members of the Chinese Student Solidarity Union, angry over their government squashing the pro-democracy movement in Tiananmen Square, are continuing to let their voices be heard in protest.

Their latest tactic: selling T-shirts to raise money for their struggle.

"Just after the Tiananmen Square massacre, we wanted to do something besides just hold posters," molecular biology graduate student Zhang Yu-zhong said. Zhang and Cheng Fei designed the artwork for the T-shirts.

The white T-shirts are high quality and made of 100 percent cotton. One design shows the now-famous photograph of a man halting a column of tanks heading for Tiananmen Square, under the caption "You are not alone."

The Chinese Student Solidarity Union sells the shirts for \$10. It costs the organization \$4.25 to print each shirt; the profit is sent to the families of

political victims in China and toward the continued publication of the union's newsletter and fax machine operations.

Solidarity Union leader Guixue Yu said that the shirts are selling well. "They are our main route of collecting money."

The Solidarity Union collects news from American publications unavailable in China because of government censorship, and sends that information to student leaders hiding in China. A local business, Oregon Photocopy Co., has donated a fax machine to the union's crusade for one month.

Since the Tiananmen crackdown, Chinese protesters in the United States have faced the news of friends being killed at home, the shadowing of pro-communist Chinese, the declining television coverage in this country and the growing demoralization of their own ranks. Zhang said that students must continue to be heard.

"If people are silent, then there is no future for China," Zhang said.

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