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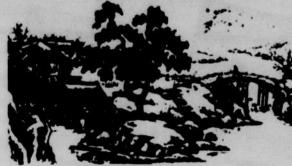


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### EARTHQUAKES Continued from Page 1

University Physical Plant Director George Hecht said that although there is a growing recognition statewide of the need to improve buildings, the University is in a fairly safe area.

"We're about as prepared as we could be," he said. "As you walk around campus, there's no building you could point to that you could say is

Hecht said the newest campus buildings, such as the science buildings Willamette, Deschutes,

Streisinger and Cascade, are built to resist earth-

quakes. Several campus buildings, including older buildings like Deady and Villard, are built over

large areas of underground bedrock, he said.

"I'd be very surprised to see a tremendous amount of damage," Hecht said. Fred Tepfer of the University Planning office, an

architect, has advised the University on construction projects. He agreed with Hecht that the rock beneath the campus is helpful, but said it wasn't as helpful as sound construction.

He said that at least half of all earthquake danger comes from falling debris, both inside and out, and that in the case of many buildings, the University is not ready for a serious quake

Tepfer used Chapman and Condon halls as examples of the difference between structural and non-structural damage.

"Chapman is mainly a concrete shell surround-ed by bricks," he said. "Most of the danger there is from bricks falling on your head.

'In the case of Condon, you've got un-reinforced bricks. With buildings like that it's really difficult

to predict what might happen," he said. Tepfer said that in the case of older buildings made of un-reinforced bricks, the possibility of a total building collapse should be considered, but that it does not necessarily mean the building will crumble in the event of a large quake.

There are so many details to consider in an earthquake," Tepfer said. "You've got the length, location and intensity of the quake to consider. With some of these older buildings the engineers are just scratching their heads."

Tepfer applauded the housing department for

taking steps to address the problem.
"They're way ahead of the rest of the University and probably most other state agencies," he said.
"They're doing a tremendous job."
University Housing has an important edge over

the rest of the University. As a self-supporting department, housing has more money for renovations and capital improvement.

But in the wake of tight budgets caused by 1990's Ballot Measure 5, the money to improve buildings campus-wide is in short supply, if avail-

Associate Vice Chancellor George Pernsteiner visited the campus of Oregon Institute of Technology in Klamath Falls Wednesday, and said that campuses statewide are looking there for lessons

on how to prepare for earthquakes in the future.

At the Klamath Falls campus, housing staff members evacuated the dormitories after both large quakes and one of the aftershocks. The campus suffered some extensive damage to several of its buildings, particularly the library and student

"They're really lucky that no one was in either one of those buildings when the quake hap-pened," Pernsteiner said.

Pernsteiner said a recent study of buildings at Oregon State University showed that to bring existing buildings up to current building codes is an expensive undertaking and unlikely because of the current shortage of money.

Construction costs alone on any one building can easily reach into the millions, Pernsteiner said. He said Physical Plant directors from campuses around the state will discuss cheap ways of minimizing earthquake damage at their next meeting on Oct. 8.

We have a number of safety concerns, but we just don't have a pot of money to deal with them all right now," he said. "So we're trying to determine what we can do operationally to minimize the damage without major reconstruction projects. Right now we have to ask how many class sections do we cancel to take care of these problems."

One example of this kind of preparation might be to widen bookshelves in the library and link them all together across the top, Pernsteiner said.

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