

UNIVERSITY

Changes add new look to weight room

By Daniel West
Oregon Daily Emerald

The Harry Jerome Weight Room has a new look because of a recent \$8,000 renovation.

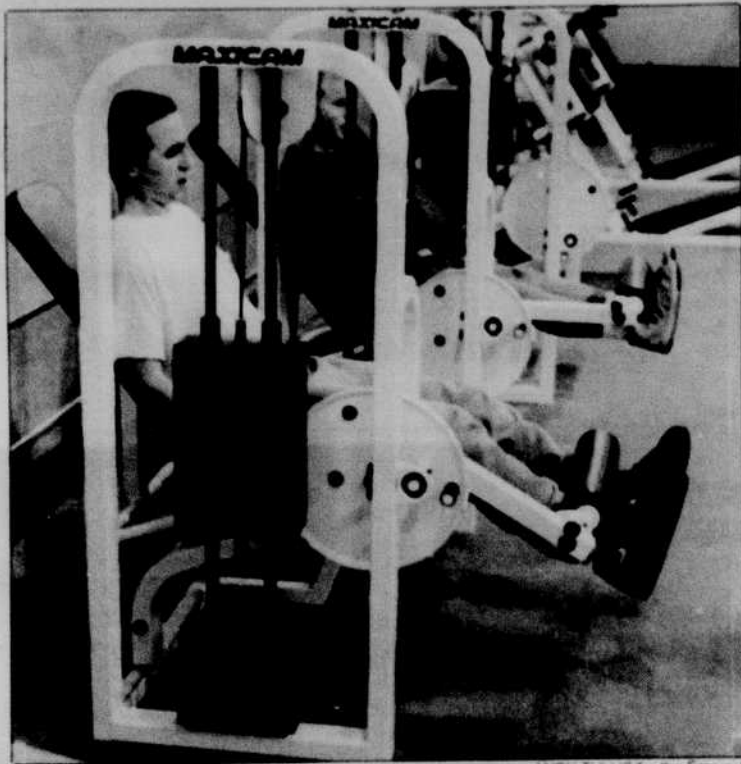
The weight room was moved because the area was too small, and when it was relocated it gained about 1,000 square feet. The renovation included new weight racks, machines and a new stereo.

Although the weight room is currently open for student use, it isn't complete. A ventilation system will be finished soon and mirrors will be added.

"I like it. It's a big improvement," said junior Ben de Sugny. "I like having all new weights and machines to work out on and the rubber mats really cut down on noise from weight being thrown down."

However, along with the renovations comes the burden of a student user fee. Beginning today, a user's pass will be required in order for students to use the new facilities. The pass costs \$15 per term or \$40 a year. The faculty are also required to purchase a pass, which will cost \$50 per term or \$150 a year.

The faculty pass includes pool use and locker service. These passes will be available for purchase at the weight center, and the money will go toward paying for student supervisors, upgrading the equipment and maintenance.



Sophomore Paul Kalil (front) and freshman Jeff Venture (back) work out on leg curl machines at the Harry Jerome weight room.

pay a small fee if the weight room were remodeled.

"The survey conducted was positive. A majority of the students agreed to pay a small price for a new gym," said Karla Rice, Recreation and Intramurals director.

The ASUO granted money for the renovation but also cut the funding of the weight room. RIM was budgeted for the student supervisor through the college work study program, but ASUO suggested RIM trim its budget. Now the weight room has to find ways to pay for budget cuts.

"We hope that students understand what's happening and are happy about the new equipment," Rice said.

This isn't the case with all students. Some students are upset that they're now being charged for the use of the weight facilities and question whether the renovation is even worth the fee.

"I don't feel that I should have to pay for the use of the weight room when I pay \$900 a term for tuition," said senior Anthony Willey. "I feel that the old gym was set up much better. There was much more space to do exercise."

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