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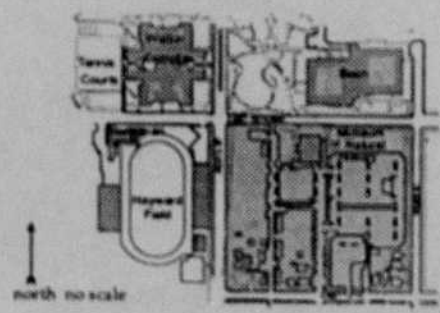
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PUBLIC COMMENT SESSION
 OPEN SPACE CONCEPT STUDY

(Block bounded by 15th, Agate, 17th, and Moss)



north no scale

The University is about to begin the design of a new Law School building on the southeast corner of the 15th and Agate intersection. Because the siting and design of such a significant building will have a long-term effect on the future development of the block bounded by 15th, Agate, 17th, and Moss, the local landscape architecture firm of Cameron McCarthy Gilbert has been commissioned to perform an Open Space Concept Study of that block.

All members of the university community are invited to review the preliminary open space concepts and to provide comments while the study is in its early stage.

When: Wednesday, April 10, 1996, 4:30 - 5:30 P.M.
 Where: Knight Library Browsing Room

This session is being sponsored by the University Planning Office.
 If you have questions, please call 6-3562.

Conference explores building design

■ **ARCHITECTURE:** Experts will discuss aspects of environmentally friendly structural planning

By Regina Brown
 Higher Education Editor

Students from the School of Architecture and Allied Arts will host their second annual Eco-Design Conference, which will run Thursday evening through Sunday and is expected to draw more than 500 students and professionals from around the nation.

The conference will include panel discussions with experts, workshops and an art exhibit. Admission is \$10 for students and \$30 for community members.

It will focus on combining aesthetics and environmentally friendly building plans to create beautiful designs that enrich the soul, said conference co-chair Renner Johnston.

"For a place to have a special quality, there is an established component to it," he said. "It

must also be responsible in what it does in the land and how it functions in our society."

The experts and students involved in the conference are at the forefront of a new movement in architecture that searches for environmentally sustainable ways of building, he said.

Renner called the process a learning experience.

"We're trying to find a vision of where to go," he said.

A major point of emphasis for the conference will be a workshop that teaches participants how to create a building structure out of straw bales, a sturdy form of straw, Renner said. Participants will create a dome-shaped straw bale building outside Lawrence Hall.

Straw bale is a useful building material because it is inexpensive, it is an excellent insulator and it is light enough to prevent structural damage in an earthquake, Renner said.

All five of the conference's keynote speakers are nationally renowned, Renner said. One

speaker, Pliny Fisk III, is the founder and director of The Center for Maximum Potential Building Systems in Austin, Texas. He has received international recognition for his use of local materials to create energy-efficient buildings.

"He creates buildings that are both beautiful and make [people] feel happy," Renner said. "At the same time he does it in an efficient sense."

Renner said involvement from all departments in the School of Architecture and Allied Arts will ensure that the conference looks at all sides of building design and planning.

More than a hundred students from different departments within the architecture school, along with students from the environmental studies department, have worked together to make the conference a success, Renner said.

"It's only when you have all these different groups coming together to make a vision that something good happens in the end," he said.

Computer stolen from association office

By Brian Womack
 Community Reporter

International Student Association leaders are not sure who stole their office computer, but they say whoever did it used a key to get into their office because the window and door were not damaged.

The theft of more than \$2,000 in computer equipment took place during spring break between March 26 at 5 p.m. and the following day at 3:30 p.m.

It was one of the busiest times of the year for ISA. The group was preparing for International Week, which will be followed by Filipino and Korean night, said Subir Dutta, assistant director

of ISA.

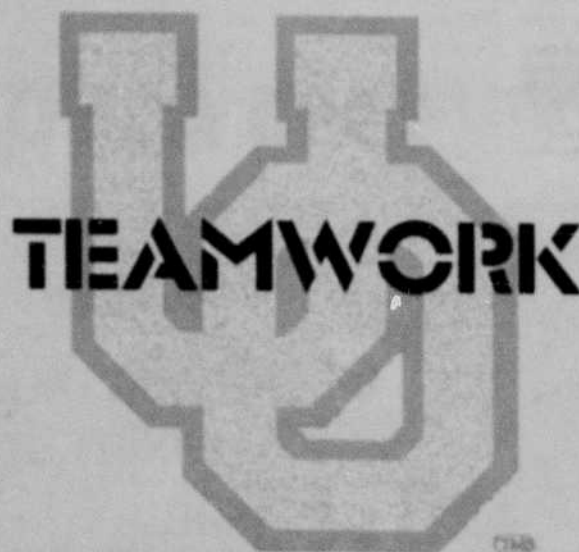
"It was the worst time of the year for it to happen," he said. "We had to find another place to work where the schedule was not as flexible."

Dutta will be meeting with ASUO Vice President Zachary Kelton Friday about getting replacement money for the stolen computers, he said.

Insurance will cover stolen property at ISA with a \$500 deductible if evidence of a theft is shown, such as a clipped wire that held the computer down, said Susan Racette, business manager for the EMU.

The Office of Public Safety has handed the investigation over to the Eugene police department, Dutta said.

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