

Music school

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genre of music. The new sound system is one of the possible features that excites Villec most.

"Most public address systems are designed for voices or speeches or rock 'n' roll," Villec said. "They hurt your ears."

The school of music plans to make the renovations through private donations and funds from the state. Senate Bill 5525, which Gov. John Kitzhaber signed into law Aug. 8, guarantees that if the school can raise half of the \$15.2 million construction cost, the state will pay for the rest.

With only \$700,000 raised, the performance hall is still in the conceptual stage, said Joan Gardner, the school's development director. However, she added that the school is actively courting University donors to help raise the rest of its half, which it must have by June 2003 to receive matching funds from the state.

"The school of music has a tough road ahead, with athletics and the school of business competing for the same University donors," Gardner said. "If we meet that, then we could be breaking ground about summer 2003. It's going to be a daunting prospect to raise the money."

She added that the school is searching for a donor to give between \$1 million and \$3 million to jump-start the campaign. Although the Paul Allen Foundation turned down the request, Gardner said the school plans to apply to other major donors, including Allen's foundation again later, offering to name newly built wings and studios after the more generous givers.

Building more practice rooms, offices and classrooms will help combat a growing problem of overcrowding, McLucas said. With the lack of space, students are being forced to practice in whatever spaces they can find, and teachers are being forced to share offices that were once storage closets.

"We have GTFs that are sometimes packed 10 to an office," she said. "It's ridiculous that they have to schedule themselves so closely."

McLucas said an improved mu-

sic school will be good for the state of Oregon in general.

"We supply some of the major musicians for this state and all over," McLucas said, adding that about 40 percent of the people involved in the Grammy-winning Oregon Bach Festival were associated with the University.

Although the school will continue to use Beall Hall for traditional concerts, McLucas said the new facility's focus on electronic music will also enhance educational ability.

"We are now in a new century and music has changed a lot, and the training for what you need to know in music has changed a lot," she said. "We have a wonderful up-to-date computer lab and an electronic music lab, and they are all in facilities that are almost laughable, they are so cramped."

State support for the new pro-

grams and facilities is growing.

"Emerging music forms require progressive education. The school of music's new facility will provide opportunities for their students to reach new heights in music composition," said U.S. Sen. Gordon Smith, R-Oregon, in a press release.

Intermedia technology master's student Andrew Lane said that a modern music hall would attract students, performances and guest artists, which would all have a positive impact on the University.

"Having a facility like this puts us not only on the map, but puts us in as the leading facility in music technology," he said.

Music Professor Jeffrey Stolet said the building would enhance both the school's instructional ability and prestige.

"It enriches the public," he said. "When they leave a performance, they've been taught something."



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News briefs

Bradbury releases final redistricting plan

Secretary of State Bill Bradbury released his final redistricting plan for the state of Oregon Wednesday at a press conference in the Capitol, saying he had made "significant changes" from past plans because of public input.

Bradbury held 21 public hearings throughout the state while putting together drafts of the redistricting plan, which the secretary of state's office is required by the Oregon Constitution to do if the state Legislature fails to do so by July 1.

"These public hearings and opportunities for the public to submit written comment weren't just window dressing — far from it," Bradbury said in a statement released

with the plan. "I firmly believe that Oregonians are the best experts on what a redistricting plan should look like."

The plan can be viewed in its entirety on the Internet at www.sos.state.or.us.

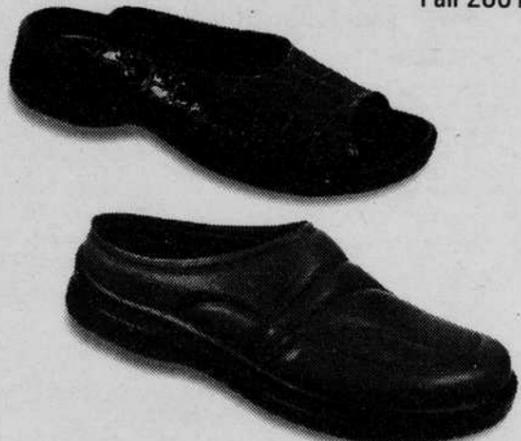
As required by law, Bradbury will also submit his plan to the Oregon Supreme Court. If the court receives no petition to review the plan, it will take effect Sept. 15.

In his statement, Bradbury expressed his confidence that if challenged, the plan will remain as is.

"I am 100 percent confident that this plan will stand up to any potential court challenge," he said. "This is a plan that responds to the input of the public. And I am confident that this is the best possible plan for Oregon."

BIRKENSTOCK

Fall 2001



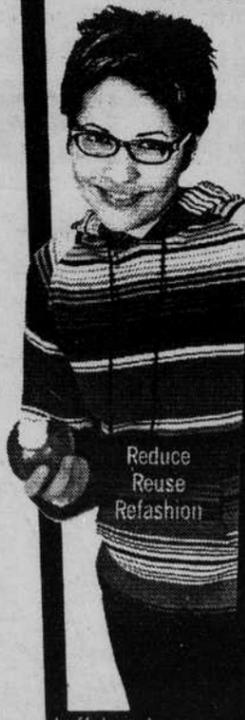
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