

## Arena: Officials say project could be finished by 2009

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by National Championship Properties, a subsidiary of the UO Foundation. NCP would repay the bank bonds by taking a portion of ticket sales at the new arena.

"It is beyond our reach, in my mind, to raise that much money," Moos said about the need for NCP to take out bonds.

Once the design process is under way architects will be able to determine the options for design and the cost of each one, Moos said.

Bob Thompson, a University graduate and design principal for TVA Architects, said his firm is designing the building, concourses and other interior spaces, while Ellerbe Becket is designing the basketball court and locker rooms.

The size and scope of the project is entirely dependent on fundraising efforts, Moos said.

Moos is hopeful Nike founder and University graduate Phil Knight and his wife, Penny, will contribute to the arena project and said if the arena were to cost \$160 million or more, "we'd probably need Phil's help."

"At this point, there's no guarantee that that is going to happen, so we're cultivating other donors that we would need regardless of the Knight donation, if there is one," Moos said.

Because raising the needed funds

could take some time, Moos said, the architects will be exploring the possibility of building the arena and its amenities, which include an indoor practice facility and a new athletic learning center, in two phases.

Donors who gave during the summer to restart the design phase were aware of the fact that an arena is not definite and still depends on funding factors, Moos said.

"We're going to get to some juncture where we're going to have to decide if we halt it completely or we scale down or we shoot for the moon," Moos said. "And that's good; at least we're making progress."

University officials have said property around the Williams' Bakery site must be purchased for arena construction to begin. The University has not had contact with the owners of those properties, Moos said, and the architects are exploring whether it's possible to contain the first phase of the project on the Williams' Bakery site.

A completed design can show what other properties need to be acquired, Thompson and Price said.

"We have a lot of alumni working on the project, so there's a strong emotional attachment to making sure we succeed," Thompson said.

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## EMU: Wind power wins ecological award

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Board, ASUO Student Senate President Stephanie Erickson worked on the initiative with University Sustainability Coordinator Steve Mital and two other students, Megan Edgar and Yoko Silk, who have since graduated.

"They were able to convince the administration and the students to get behind this," said Kristy Jones, manager of campus climate education and action for the National Wildlife Federation. "That's really an achievement."

Wind power is more environmentally friendly than other types of electricity because it does not generate waste or pollution, and it does not deplete the finite supply of natural resources such as coal, oil or natural gas, according to the Eugene Water and Electric Board Web site.

The University contracts with EWEB for its wind power, which comes from a wind farm in southeastern Wyoming, according to the EWEB Web site.

For the EMU to run purely on wind power, it would have to have a turbine on or near the building. Instead, the wind power that the EMU uses is heavily diluted with other types of electricity — coal, gas fire, nuclear and hydroelectric, which use the same grid. This energy grid runs through 10 Western states, connecting the Wyoming wind farm to the University.

"In reality, where the electrons in the EMU originate could be anywhere in the grid," Mital said.

The extra money University students pay means there is more financial support for wind power in general, Mital said, and therefore a greater likelihood that wind power will become affordable and more widely used.

"People are only going to build wind farms if there are other people willing to pay for it," Mital said.

As a token of its support for wind power, the EMU will receive a "green tag" from EWEB. This will be framed and hung in the EMU sometime during the school year, Mital said.

University Utilities Analyst Josh Ruddick said that without wind power, the EMU's electric bill averages \$110,000 per year. The wind power adds an extra \$11,400.

Because of a lower-than-expected price from EWEB, there is a \$25,000 surplus from this year's fee collections, which will be used to establish a fund for future sustainability projects, Erickson said.

"That was the idea. We'd start wind-power in the EMU, then migrate to the rec center and other buildings on campus," Erickson said.

Another possibility, Erickson said, is that the University might construct its own wind turbine on the Oregon Coast sometime in the future. Oregon State University is

currently researching something similar, she said. A group called Energy Conservation and Alternative Futures is being formed to work on these possibilities, and it will include University students and faculty members.

Jones was impressed with the University's involvement with EWEB.

"They kind of brought it into the local community, encouraging other businesses to do this," Jones said.

Jones said colleges and universities are eligible for this recognition if they set short- and long-term goals to make the school more ecologically sustainable, work to achieve those goals, report on their progress and ultimately achieve at least one of their goals during a school year.

Of the more than 200 universities that are members of the National Wildlife Federation, 15 applied for recognition and 12 received recognition for the 2004-05 school year. Other recognized projects involved habitat restoration and transportation issues. These projects and others are listed in the Federation's Campus Ecology Yearbook. The University was included in the 2000, 2001 and 2004 editions of this yearbook for projects involving waste reduction, habitat restoration and a Web site about campus energy use.

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### IN BRIEF

#### DPS increases patrols after attempted robbery

A University staff member thwarted a robber's attempt to steal her shoulder bag when she struggled and escaped near Johnson Hall on Friday, according to the Department of Public Safety.

Around 7 a.m., the woman, whose name the Emerald could not obtain, was walking to work when a man approached her and grabbed her shoulder bag. He said he carried a weapon, but did not describe it or show it to the woman, according to a DPS press release.

The woman freed her bag and quickly walked away. She reported the incident to DPS at approximately 1 a.m. Saturday.

DPS and the Eugene Police Department are investigating. They are also increasing patrols in the area.

The man is described as a white male in his late 30s to 40s, approximately 5 feet 8 inches tall and 165 pounds. He has brown hair, a mustache and brown eyes. He was seen wearing a charcoal gray fleece jacket and torn blue jeans.

At the time of the incident, the

woman was on her cell phone and may not have been aware of her surroundings, DPS Interim Director Tom Hicks said.

"We feel we have a safe campus, but incidents like this will happen," he said.

Hicks encourages people on campus to be alert and aware of their surroundings.


People walking on campus should also avoid isolated areas and

walking alone at night.


All students, faculty and staff who witness suspicious behavior or are approached in a threatening manner should contact DPS or the Eugene Police Department immediately, according to the release.

Anyone with information about the incident should contact DPS at 346-5444 or Eugene Police Department at 346-2904.

— Katy Gagnon



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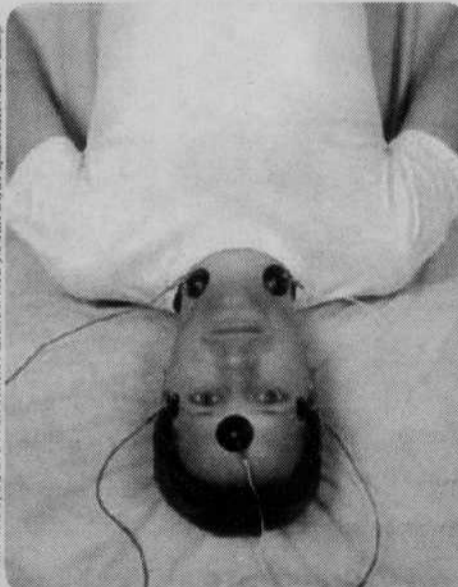
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