

Hot underground fluids might be tapped for energy source

United Press International
SEATTLE — A unique deep drilling project carried out this summer in Iceland suggests that fluids are circulating deep in the earth's crust at temperatures high enough to be tapped as an energy source, according to a leader of the project.

Dr. Nikolas Christiansen, professor of geological sciences at the University of Washington and a principal U.S. investigator on the project, said the two-month drilling found

circulating fluids with a temperature of about 175 degrees Fahrenheit in the rocks about a mile deep.

"This is the first time we've had evidence that we could get into older rocks and find circulating water," Christiansen said.

"We discovered a large artesian system down there and found that the water is certainly hot enough to be an energy source."

"A key part of the discovery was learning that rocks are still open at that depth, fractured with water circulating through them," he said. "As a result of our findings, I think we'll discover the same situation exists in many areas."

"It appears fluid is circulating through the earth's crust," he added.

Christiansen explained that in order for geothermal energy to be put to work, "you not only have to have high temperatures deep in the earth, but some means to bring the heat to the surface."

Temperatures at the 1,920-meter (6,330-foot) level were about 175 degrees, hot enough to use as an energy source "but not hot enough to bring to the surface as steam," he said.

Christiansen and two dozen other scientists from six countries were involved in the Iceland drilling effort, and they plan to carry out a similar project at another site to help verify the findings in Iceland.

"We'll probably have another drill two years from now," he said. "We'll select another island, possibly a location in the Canary Islands."

Because Iceland is mostly of volcanic origin, it is one of the few countries whose energy needs are supplied largely by geothermal activity, Christiansen said.

While the geothermal findings represent the most interesting aspect of the project for the general public, Christiansen said the core samples brought back from the site will provide important geological information.

The actual drilling site was located near a series of overhanging 4,000-foot cliffs. By examining samples taken from the cliffs, as well as the core samples from the mile-deep drill hole, the geologists are getting a look at a thickness representing 12 million years of earth history.

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Where to, Ma'am?

To many off-campus students, Kevin Roby, junior Range Science major, brings the first smile of yet another class day.

Battalion photo by Mike Bailey

Grandmom does 10 miles

Women 'walk for hunger'

United Press International
WICHITA Kan. — May Dryden knew her children wouldn't like it, but that didn't stop the septuagenarian great-grandmother from taking a 10-mile stroll to gain money in a walk for hunger Sunday.

"I'm not ready for the rocking chair," the 77-year-old said to explain her decision to join the "Walk for Hunger" part of the annual ap-

peal for Christian Rural Overseas Program. "I couldn't give much money. So I'm giving my feet."

Mrs. Dryden and two friends - Mildred Dodd, 83, and Ethel McRae, 75 - were among the 100 who began the 10-mile walk designed to gain pledges of money to buy food, tools and equipment for underdeveloped countries and for disaster relief. More than \$3,000 was pledged.

"I figured if Mildred could do it, then I could, too," Mrs. McRae said.

But the banks of the Arkansas River and rolling hills of Sims Park proved too much for Mrs. McRae who had to drop out at the 5-mile mark.

The two other women would not stop even to rest a bit on a park bench.

"The sooner I get going the sooner I'm through," said Mrs. Dodd. "I never told my children I was going to do this. They wouldn't

have let me. They're so afraid I overdo."

After eight miles, though, Mrs. Dodd also had to drop out after her walking mate and pastor of her church, the Rev. Melvin Cran convinced her it was best. However, Mrs. Dryden, grandmother of five and great-grandmother of 20, was determined to persevere.

"I wrote and told my children I was going to walk," she said. "I knew they wouldn't like it, but they were too far away to do anything about it."

One man was so confident of Mrs. Dryden's determination and physical stamina that he pledged \$500 a mile and paid it in advance.

When Mrs. Dryden reached the finish line 5 hours and 45 minutes after she began she had earned \$110.45 in pledges for CROP. She didn't even rest then. She had to hustle over to her church in 15 minutes for a supper.

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