

# If softball watching is the name of the game . . .

Like watching softball? If you do, you're in luck this summer in Eugene.

Softball leagues have been organized through the city Parks and Recreation Department, and games will be happening almost every night through June and July.

The women's teams will be playing on Monday, Tuesday and Thursday evenings at Amazon Ballpark at 29th and Amazon Parkway, and the men will be out each weeknight plus Sunday evenings at Shasta Junior High, 4656 Barger Ave.

by Kathy Craft

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With the coming of summer and the lazy warm evenings that accompany the longer days, one's fancy can often turn to peanuts, Crackerjacks and root, root, rooting for the home team.

For Eugene residents that great American pastime — baseball — is alive and well with the Northwest League Eugene Emeralds.

The Ems, who were 54-25 last year enroute to a second-straight league championship, open at

home Wednesday against Aberdeen. And the ticket prices—\$2.50 reserve seats, \$1.75 for adults and a buck for children—make a visit to Eugene Civic Stadium at 20th and Wilamette Street enjoyable.

The Ems belong to the Cincinnati Reds organization, and the talent from such a powerhouse parent team is evident even in the minor leagues. In an exhibition game in Eugene Tuesday, their first played at home, the Emeralds outbattled the Portland Mavericks, 8-5.

The Ems and the Mavericks are frequent rivals in the summer league. Last season, Eugene beat Portland in the playoff for the league title.

It all adds up to something relaxing after school or work. Single games start at 7:45 p.m., with doubleheaders getting under way at 6:30 p.m.

And for those who enjoy a little brew with their baseball, beer is served on the premises (watch during the season for the occasional 25 cent-a-cup nights).

by Jeff Nielson

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## Eugene caught in net of latest tennis craze

Eugene has been caught by the current tennis craze, leaving empty courts hard to find, and long waits for courts frequent. On campus, three tennis court areas exist that are supposedly restricted to students, while city courts are a short bicycle ride away.

The nine covered courts on 15th Avenue near University Street are nicely surfaced and have good lighting for night play. Across the street are six outdoor courts with a faster, more irregular surface and no lights.

Eight lighted courts lie off of Alder Street near 16th Avenue, but have a very slow surface, poor lighting and virtually invisible lines. The lights at both lighted areas are shut off at midnight.

The University's athletic department conducts eight one-hour sessions of beginning tennis lessons from 7:30 a.m. to 3:30 p.m. Monday through Thursday and five sessions of intermediate ten-

nis from 7:30 to 11:30 a.m. Monday through Thursday and 7 to 9 p.m. on Tuesday and Thursday.

Advanced tennis is taught at 12:30 p.m. Monday through Thursday, and from 7 to 9 p.m. Monday and Wednesday. Lessons are held at all campus courts.

Closest city courts to campus are the four at 24th Avenue and Amazon Parkway, and the two at 21st and Washington Streets. City-sponsored lessons will fill the Amazon courts from 8 a.m. to noon and 5 to 8 p.m. on Monday and Wednesday.

A reservation system may be used to secure an Amazon court for one and a half hours. Reservations, made through the Amazon Community Center, cost \$2 on weekdays and \$3 on weekends. Reservations are not required for play, but those with reservations have court priority. The Amazon courts are lighted all night.

Due to the poor condition of the outdoor courts on campus, the covered courts are generally crowded with both students and community residents, and a wait of up to an hour should be anticipated. The waiting system at all campus courts requires players to sit by their desired courts, which makes the process a calculated risk rather than an orderly sequence.

by Chris Junkin

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