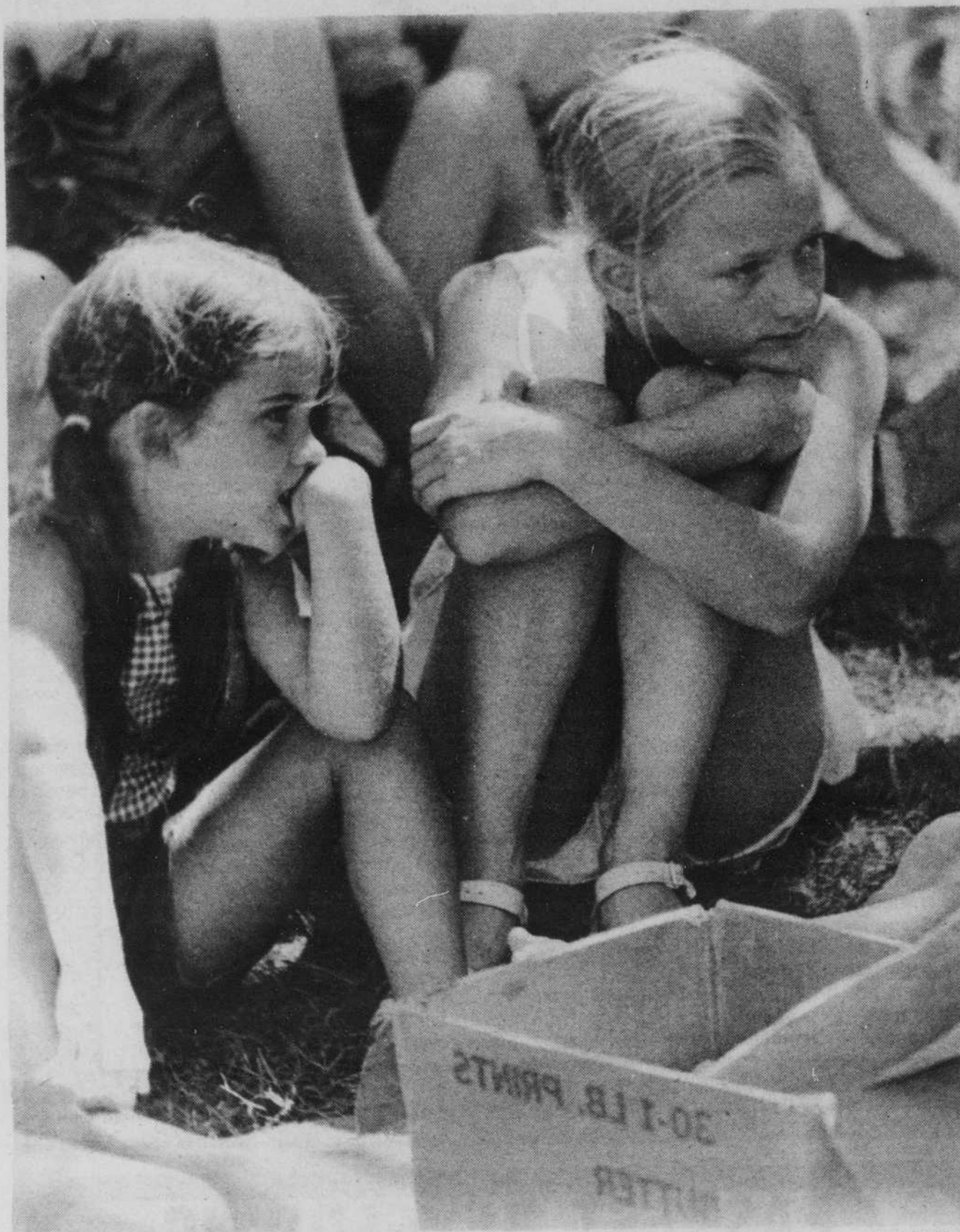


Cook, dance, learn karate — For children only

By KATHLEEN MONJE
Of the Emerald



Day campers at Camp Illahee on Spencer's Butte can hike, swim, learn about nature and even paddle a raft, with children in their own age group.

Emerald Photo

For children just out of school, the long summer stretches ahead in a pleasant golden haze, filled with interesting things still very vague in their minds.

The vagueness is part of the excitement of anticipation, but unfortunately for parents, in two or three weeks it is the reason for the universal cry, "There's nothing to do!" And parents discover what incomparable nags children can be.

The Eugene Parks and Recreation Department has done its best to remedy the situation, with activities designed for almost any child's interests, age and skill level. From music to horseback riding lessons, from baking and cooking to organic gardening, classes abound.

Places such as the Eugene Library and the University offer still more help, in the form of books and children's theatre.

For those small people still too young to know the joys of release from nine months of school, several different child care programs offer daily care, with stimulating activities and high ratios of adults to children.

The Parks and Recreation program includes them too, with classes for children as young as two years.

A day camp for children entering grades one through six is part of the Parks and Recreation summer schedule, offering a week of outdoor learning and fun for one age group at a time.

Camp Illahee (a Chinook Indian word meaning homeland) will be held at Spencer Butte Park south of Eugene. Activities include hiking, exploring, outdoor cooking, singing, nature study, campcraft, swimming and a paddle raft trip.

Campers are gone from 8:30 to 4:30 with their sack lunches. Each week-long session is limited to 12 children; advance registration is required, with a \$20 fee for Eugene residents. For more information, call 687-5310, or inquire at Eugene Parks and Recreation, City Hall I, 858 Pearl St.

An acting workshop for children in grades one through six will emphasize improvisation and creative expression, with role-playing and simple characterizations.

Cooking classes will teach the same age groups to make sloppy joes, tacos, pizza and snacks (with the emphasis on "healthy") such as cookies and granola.

Dance classes offer beginning and intermediate ballet and tap dancing, for children age three and up.

Crafts opportunities are varied, with classes in pottery, puppetry, weaving, photography and dough art.

Tumbling, trampoline skills, gymnastics, ice skating and even karate classes can make use of some of the boundless energy of elementary-school children.

Outdoor skills classes include backpacking, canoeing, biking and hiking, mostly for older children from grades four to six. Some trips go as far as the Cascades.

A special organic gardening program for fourth through eighth graders will teach young gardeners to grow vegetables, herbs and flowers at the North Polk community garden.

Activities for smaller children, aged two to five, duplicate many of the activities available to older ones — they can bake, dance, tumble, and make crafts items including pottery.

A special "Lion's Tale" story time combines drama and music with a story hour for ages three to five. Other classes are organized for parent participation in dance, exercise, music and arts and crafts.

(Continued on Page 13A)



ESCAPE

ESCAPE offers field experience in academic and social counseling in the Eugene/Springfield community. Share your talents and skills with someone else while gaining job experience, working with others, and developing an awareness of human service vocations. halfway houses, schools, day care centers, recreation programs — all need your energy! CI/CSPA upper-division credits available — register at MacCourt or Contact ESCAPE, 327 EMU, 686-4351.

**Looking
for a Summer
Experience?**