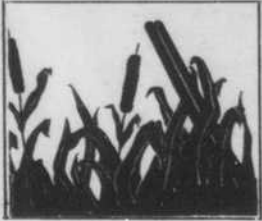


Trails await the novice or experienced hiker



If you like to hike, then the Eugene area is the place for you. Trails abound, whether you're an every-chance-you-can-get hiking addict or a once-a-year neophyte. Listed below are seven hiking trails within a one-hour drive of Eugene. All seven can be hiked in an afternoon, although the "sweat quotient" differs rather drastically between them.

SPENCER'S BUTTE

Go out South Willamette Street to the park sign on the left. The trail leads from the parking area. The east trail has a more gradual grade. It connects with the west trail to form a loop. This hike involves a rather steep rise in elevation. The trail is in excellent condition, thanks to thousands of hours of volunteer work by Eugeneans. On a clear fall day, you can see much of the southern Willamette Valley, plus the Coast Range and occasionally a glimpse of the Three Sisters. Trail length is approximately 3.5 miles round trip.

MOUNT PISGAH

Go south on Interstate 5 to the 30th Avenue exit. Turn left on 30th and left again after crossing over I-5, then turn right onto Seavy Loop Road. Continue east to the Coast Fork Bridge. Turn right, following the upper road, and you will see a parking lot next to the trailhead. The climb is fairly difficult (Mt. Pisgah has an

elevation of 1,200 feet), and it is a two-mile hike to the top and back. It's difficult to believe you're within a few minutes drive from a metropolitan area of over 160,000 when you're climbing Mt. Pisgah, because the surrounding area is largely undeveloped. The summit affords a good view of parts of the Eugene-Springfield area and the Coast and Cascade ranges on a very clear day.

HARDESTY MOUNTAIN

Take Highway 58 east for 28 miles. The trailhead is directly on Highway 58, just before Crale Station. This is one of the more popular trails in the Willamette National Forest. The climb is fairly steep at times, but the grade is generally moderate, and a round trip is eight miles. The trail up to Hardesty Mountain is one of the oldest in the area, having been built in 1910. The area is heavily forested with occasional open meadows.

REBEL ROCK

Take Highway 126 east to the Cougar Reservoir turnoff — about 45 miles from Eugene. Then take Road 163, and 12 or 13 miles after turning onto the road you'll find a trailhead on the left side of the road.

This is a 10-mile hike that you won't want to try if you have an easy Sunday afternoon stroll in mind. There are lots of uphill sections, but the view from the top of Rebel Rock is worth the sweat expended. If you want, you can take a mile loop off the trail to

Rebel Rock and cool your feet in Rebel Creek.

GOLD POINT

Drive to Lowell on Highway 58 (20 miles). Go through Lowell to Unity Junction, three miles from the highway. Turn right onto Fall Creek Road, go east for 16 miles from Unity, then turn right onto Road 1849 (Portland Creek Road). Follow it for about one mile until the road forks. Take the middle fork (Road 1800) and go about two miles; the trailhead will be on the left.

The Gold Point trail is "pretty rigorous," with a climb from 1,600 feet to 4,000 feet. It's uphill all the way to Gold Point, and it's a four-mile trip.

The view from the top includes a number of scenic mountain valleys. Although the trail wasn't built until 1935, the surrounding area was the site of periodic gold rushes in the 1800s.

TIRE MOUNTAIN

Take Highway 58 east to the Westfir exit (38.5 miles from Eugene). Drive through Westfir and up the North Fork Road six miles to Road 1910 (on the left), which crosses the north fork of the Willamette River. Follow Road 1910 eight miles, turn left on Road 1911 and follow for one-quarter mile to head of the marked trail.

You begin on the old Alpine Ridge trail, which eventually merges with the Tire Mountain trail.

By John Healy

Grades cancel Duck players

Oregon basketball coach Don Monson announced Monday that two players on his roster — juniors Jerry Adams and Kenny Thompson — have been dropped from the University because of academic deficiencies.

For Monson, in his first year at Oregon, the loss is a severe one. The 6-8 Adams led Duck rebounders in 1982 with a 6.5 average and scored six points a game. Thompson, 6-7, sat out last season after transferring from Vancouver's Clark Community College.

The dismissal of Adams and Thompson leaves Monson with no player taller than 6-7, except 7-footer Blair Rasmussen.

"I'm disappointed," Monson said Tuesday, "especially since it happened so late. But I've gone through this before."

Both Adams and Thompson were dropped from the team after failing to satisfy Scholastic Review Committee requirements. Appeals for reinstatement by the junior forwards were denied. Monson said both plan to go to junior college and reapply for admission to Oregon next year.

Monson said that he is not familiar with Oregon's system of reviewing student achievement. One University official said Oregon has a three-step procedure — warning, probation and record review by the Scholastic Review Committee. She said any student can appeal committee decisions.

"I haven't been here long enough to understand the system," Monson said.

The Ducks start practice Oct. 17.

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