History of Eugene's arts on display

By Marianne Chin Of the Emerald

In 1907, the University had a 13-member Mandolin Club.

Pioneer dress and whisker contests were part of the lavish Oregon Trail Pageants held during the second quarter of this century in Eugene.

These and other historical elements of Eugene's performing arts past can be experienced in a nostalgic pictorial exhibit entitled "A Century of the Lively Arts" now being held on the second floor of the EMU.

The exhibit of black and white photos chronologically traces the last hundred years of dance, music and theater in Eugene, from the open air concerts of the Eugene City Brass Band in 1881 to the city's symphony and ballet companies as we know them today.

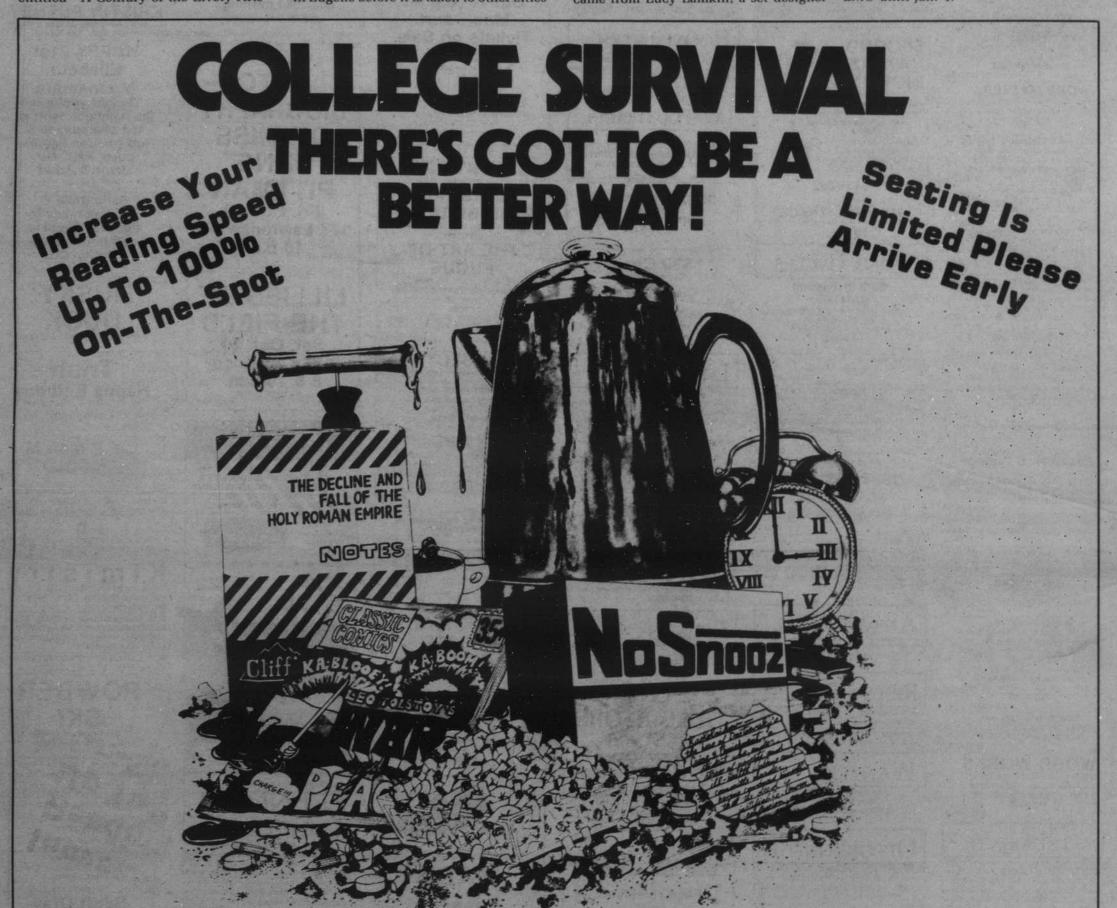
Sponsored by the EMU Cultural Forum, the EMU showing will be the last in Eugene before it is taken to other cities in Oregon. The exhibit, which involved 18 months of research through scrapbooks and archives, opened at the Hult Center for the Performing Arts last November.

Many of the faded photographs capture moments in University history, from the elaborate floats of the Canoe Fetes held on the Mill Race through dance and musical productions.

The idea for the historical arrangement came from Lucy Lamkin, a set designer for Eugene Theater Company. The research for the project was facilitated by grants from the Oregon Committee for the Humanities, the Donald F. Barker Foundation and private contributors.

The Eugene Arts Foundation and the Lane Regional Arts Council provided grants for the production of the exhibit.

The free showing will continue in the EMU until Jan. 4.



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