

'Old folk,' not thrilled by prize, looks to sell Jacksons tickets

By Lori Steinhauer
Of the Emerald

The phone rang. John Neely answered it and discovered he was a lucky winner. His immediate thought, however, was to sell his prize... and still he seeks a buyer for his packaged trip for two, to see Michael Jackson's Vancouver, B.C. concert on Nov. 17.

Many of the millions who have purchased Jackson's best-selling "Thriller" album would have been elated to win not only two concert tickets and round-trip air transportation, but one night's lodging at the Four Seasons Hotel in Vancouver, where Jackson himself will stay.

However, Neely, who retired five years ago, would just as soon remain at home in Eugene. He's satisfied with the exposure to Michael Jackson he's already had from television.

As for the plane ride, Neely lost interest in aviation long ago, when he quit working on aircraft after World War II and became an auto mechanic.

"The irony of all this is that I'm almost 67 years old, and my



John Neely

upper tones of hearing are gone, so I wouldn't get any benefit out of it whatsoever," Neely said.

"If it wasn't for all the foot-stomping of the audience, if you close your eyes, it sounds all right," Neely said of Jackson's music. "But I'm an old folk. He's a young folks' musician."

The concert package, compliments of Willamette

Beverage Co., was only one of the prizes given away at a drawing for the Albertson's super-market grand opening at Santa Clara Square last month. Neely said when a woman pulled his name from the barrel, she said, "I know that man. He won't want to go. Why don't you give him the refrigerator or something." And she's sure right.

The package has an estimated tax value of about \$400, according to Ron Jaros, sales manager of Willamette Beverage Co. And that's why Neely wants to sell it to a more appreciative party. His starting price is \$375, but he said he is open to negotiations.

"We're not trying to hawk anything. We just thought we should get what we can out of it," he said.

Anybody interested in Neely's offer can contact him at 688-4554 or 688-3290.

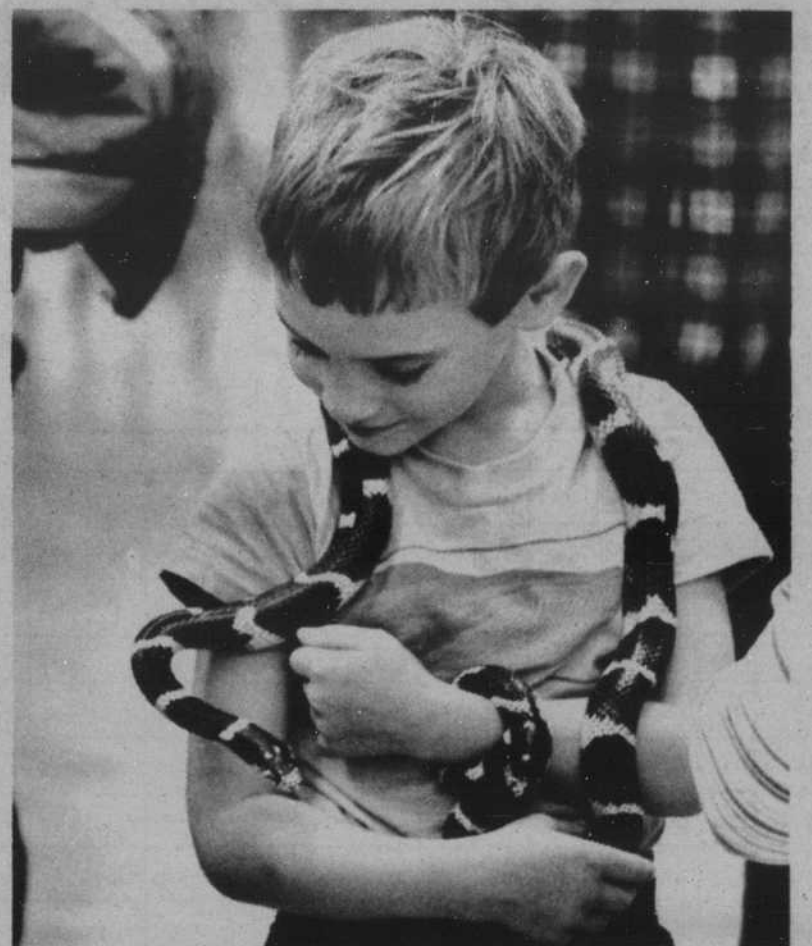
'Coffee concert' guitar series tickets on sale

Tickets are now on sale for the 1984-85 Coffee Concert Series, five evening shows presented by the Eugene Guitar Association and the Washington Abbey.

The concerts, which feature local and regional jazz and classical guitarists, will be held at the Abbey on select Sundays over the next seven months.

This year's roster of artists includes jazz guitarists John Stowell, Don Latarski and Gary Hagberg, among others.

Tickets can be purchased at Balladeer Music in the Fifth Street Public Market. Call Don Latarski at 343-8184 for more information.



Zoo visits town

Curious children had the opportunity to pet a wide variety of creatures at the Amazon Community Center Saturday. The Eugene Parks and Recreation Department and the Oregon Reptile Society cosponsored a free Eugene New Zoo and Wildlife Workshop which featured the society's large collection of reptiles and animal visitors from Wildlife Images and Wildlife Safari.

Photo by Karen Stallwood

Oregon artists' exhibits open this week at museum

Two exhibits, "Drawings on Paper" and "Landscapes and Interiors," will open Wednesday at the University art museum.

"Drawings on Paper" is a show by two Eugene artists, Tom Blodgett and Michael Kelly, whose works illustrate their innovative techniques with figurative images done with mixed mediums on paper.

Blodgett, who graduated from the University with a masters of fine arts degree in 1966, has exhibited at New York City's Alnico Gallery, as well as at Mount Angel College and other galleries.

Kelly, a 1976 Lane Community College graduate, has shown his work at several places including the Oregon Biennial Art Show at the Portland Museum of Art and the Maude I. Kerns Art Center in Eugene.

The "Landscapes and Interiors" exhibit will feature paintings by James Lavadour, a member of the Confederated Tribes of the Umatilla Reservation.

"Lavadour begins his paintings as abstract patterns that remind him of places and experiences that he projects into the works," says Richard Paulin, University art museum director.

"Whether he explores natural land forms, man-made objects and settings or pure abstraction, he enjoys the art-making process for its ability to help him understand the world and to achieve an exhilarating visionary experience," Paulin said.

Lavadour, who lives near Cayuse, shows his work regularly at the Elizabeth Leach Gallery and Seattle's Sacred Circle Gallery.

The museum's lobby and main floor changing galleries will house the two exhibits which run through Dec. 9. The museum is free and open to the public from noon to 5 p.m. daily, Wednesdays through Sundays, except holidays. Free public tours are available every Sunday at 2 p.m. For more information call the museum at 686-3027.

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