

reopen it, and we don't have that," Chapman said.

"It was never highly developed, not in the order of Orchard Point or Richardson. They have marinas, they have concessions, they have irrigated turf, just about everything. Zumwalt was always more of a natural park," he said.

The U.S. Corps of Engineers also operates two parks at Fern Ridge: Perkins Peninsula and Kirk, Lamster said.

According to Lamster, Orchard Point is the most heavily used park at Fern Ridge with 175,000 visitors in 1986, followed by Perkins Peninsula

with 154,000, Richardson with 127,000, Kirk with 37,500 and Zumwalt with 12,600.

At Dexter Lake, Lane County operates two parks, Dexter and Lowell. Dexter Park has a boat ramp and dock, picnic sites and a swimming area. Lowell Park has a small marina, a boat ramp, a picnic area and a swim beach. The University crew team has their headquarters at Lowell Park as well, with a dock and storage building located on park property.

According to Lamster, Dexter Park attracted 104,000 visitors in 1986 and Lowell Park

102,000.

The reservoirs aren't without controversy, however.

"There's a group of people that varies, in size that wants Fern Ridge Reservoir left full all-year-round," Lamster said.

"Quite honestly, if the dam was left full there would be floods every year. And it may not affect someone in Eugene because they're upstream. But it sure is going to flood out Monroe and Corvallis and some of those places," he said.

Fern Ridge is drained during the winter so it has the capacity to store spring runoff from the

Long Tom River, Coast Range streams and the Amazon Slough, Chapman said.

"They hit the spring rains, fill the reservoir up and then use it all year round for charging the Long Tom River downstream for irrigation purposes," Chapman said.

"It's a very flat lake. So as they draw down, the shoreline

recedes quickly," he added.

The controversy over use of Fern Ridge has raged for years, although the 1960s were a turning point. In 1965, the U.S. Corps of Engineers increased the height of the reservoir's dam and combined with the advent of inexpensive aluminum and fiberglass boats, recreational ac-

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Piano instruction available to community

By Sean Nelson

Of the Emerald

Beginning Sept. 28, the University's School of Music will offer a special pre-piano instruction course for children emphasizing music through movement and improvisation, as well as the usual piano courses for community residents of all ages.

Children's courses will include "songs and stories, and are designed to provide preliminary instruction to children ages 3 to 5," according to Barbara Baird, director of the Community Piano Program at the School of Music.

"What we're teaching them is to make music...as well as learning a repertoire," Baird said.

More advanced-level courses are offered to children ages 5 to 6 utilizing the Dalcroze Eurhythmics method, she said.

The Dalcroze Eurhythmics method is "a method of music teaching that involves the child in whole body response to sounds and rhythms," to prepare them for a continued musical experience, Baird said.

Children and teen-agers are offered courses which teach the skills of piano itself, while adults receive instruction in the form of classes or private

lessons, she said.

"It is a program for children ages 3 to 93," she added.

Other courses offered through the School of Music include a course for teenagers which concentrates on individual instruction, but students meet with a group in the electronic piano lab once a week to explore a musical topic more thoroughly, Baird said.

"I think our program is unique in its emphasis on the creativity of the child, harmonization and improvisation skills," Baird said. "We have group instruction as well as private instruction so the kids are involved in the social aspect of piano instruction...which makes it more fun for them," she added.

The skills taught in the preliminary program would apply to all of the different programs offered for all ages, Baird said. Instruction is designed to provide a lifelong learning experience.

The courses cover performance of standard piano literature, she said. "It runs the gamut from Bach to the contemporary composers including popular literature and folk songs," she added.

The courses also cover harmonization and improvisation, and aim to include their members in ensemble perfor-

mances at group meetings, which meet every other week and perform for each other, she said.

"Teens paired in lessons perform for each other, individually instructed teens perform only once a month or once a term," Baird said.

The end of the term is open to children, teens, adults and the entire community, she added.

Beginning children's classes are taught in groups of three or four, and emphasize the reading and creative skills needed to build a strong musical foundation.

"Basically learning to read music and learning to improvise, harmonize, transpose and perform music is all integral in the student's instruction," she said.

This would help the individual child "as a well-rounded musician" who composes and responds to music he or she hears, Baird said.

Children who move forward from this stage can continue to work in groups or in pairs with additional private instruction, she added.

"We have both adjunct instructors and GTFs who provide that instruction," Baird said. "For the most part they are all highly experienced and well qualified," she said.

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