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Eugene area diverse, recreational

By Brian Bloch
Emerald Reporter

Diverse is a term often used to describe our community, both the University and the Eugene/Springfield area — their people, landscape, convictions, industry, and thus its recreational and entertainment offerings.

The term stands alone in its accurate (albeit vague) description of the community because no other single description can be found. Our community reflects as a whole each individual taste and slant, which seem to vary so widely that their sum cannot be called anything less than diverse.

We are outdoor lovers, play-goers, songwriters, bicyclists, picnickers, swimmers — the list goes on. We have offered the community our needs and it has catered to them, creating an environment where even the most contradictory views and activities can take place.

This underlying community theme is carried into the recreational and entertainment opportunities available both on campus and in the Eugene area. The community has truly become a place where almost anything fun, exciting or relaxing can easily be found.

Eugene contains the larger metropolitan resources it needs to provide cultural events such as major plays, concerts and festivals that would be unavailable in smaller communities. In fact,

these resources make it the cultural focus of the central Willamette Valley and host to events such as the Lane County Fair, Willamette Valley Folk Festival, Oregon Bach Festival and others found only here in Eugene.

On the contrary, Eugene's relatively small size and population (about 112,000 compared to Portland's 433,000) gives it the small-town friendliness and responsiveness to its citizens cultivated almost exclusively by small, rural communities. Ethnic and multi-cultural events abound, as do community plays, concerts in the parks and homey festivals in communities surrounding the city.

In addition to its size and the diversity of its people, Eugene's location in the heart of the Willamette Valley also contributes to its recreational abundance. Wilderness areas surrounding the community offer perfect, serene settings for picnicking, hiking, fishing, camping, rafting and just about any other outdoor activity imaginable.

Its people, surroundings and unique size combine to make Eugene one thing: diverse. The array of entertainment and recreational opportunities are innumerable, catering to any taste or style, interest or hobby. When classes are over and the studying done, reach out for one of the many opportunities that this unique area has to offer.

Brian Bloch is a community reporter for the Oregon Daily Emerald.

INSIDE

WHILE YOU WERE AWAY—

Looking for things to do if you're under 21 and frustrated by a lack of activities catered to you? There's more to do than you think. The University sponsors a host of activities for students of all ages. □□□□□□

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WOW HALL—

The Community Center for the Performing Arts' W.O.W. Hall has brought some of the area's best local bands to Eugene in years past and promises to do the same this year. This historic concert hall provides shows for all ages and musical tastes. □□□□□□□□□□□□□□□□□□□□□□□□□□□□□□□□□□

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RECREATION—

If you're into the outdoors, the wilderness areas in the Eugene area are teeming with prime spots to fish, swim, hike and picnic. Explore nearby trails, rivers, lakes and winter recreation areas under the warm fall weather. □□□□□□□□□□□□□□□□□□□□□□□□□□□□□□□□□□

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ERB MEMORIAL UNION—

The EMU is a treasure of inexpensive, diverse entertainment opportunities for students. Whether you're into a relaxing canoe ride down the Millrace, an outdoor adventure or a competitive game of bowling, the EMU offers programs and services to meet any need. □□□□□□□□□□□□□□□□□□□□□□□□

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Entertainment

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