

WOW HALL

All Ages Welcome
8th & Lincoln • 687-2746

Today, Sept. 29 • country/folk • \$6 advance, \$7 door

Iris DeMent • **Debbie Dierich**

Doors 8:00 pm, Showtime 8:30 pm

Tickets available at Balladeer Music, CD World, EMU Main Desk, Happy Trails, House of Records, WOW Hall

Friday, Sept. 30 • funk/rock/metal • \$4.50 advance, \$6 door

Love Lode • **Glass Chunk** • **Multiple Sarcasm**

Doors 8:30 pm, Showtime 9:00 pm

Tickets available at CD World, EMU Main Desk, Happy Trails, House of Records, WOW Hall

Saturday, Oct. 1 • progressive rock • \$6 advance, \$7 door

Jerry Joseph Band • **The Strangers**

Doors 9:00 pm, Showtime 9:30 pm

Tickets available at Balladeer Music, CD World, EMU Main Desk, Happy Trails, House of Records, WOW Hall

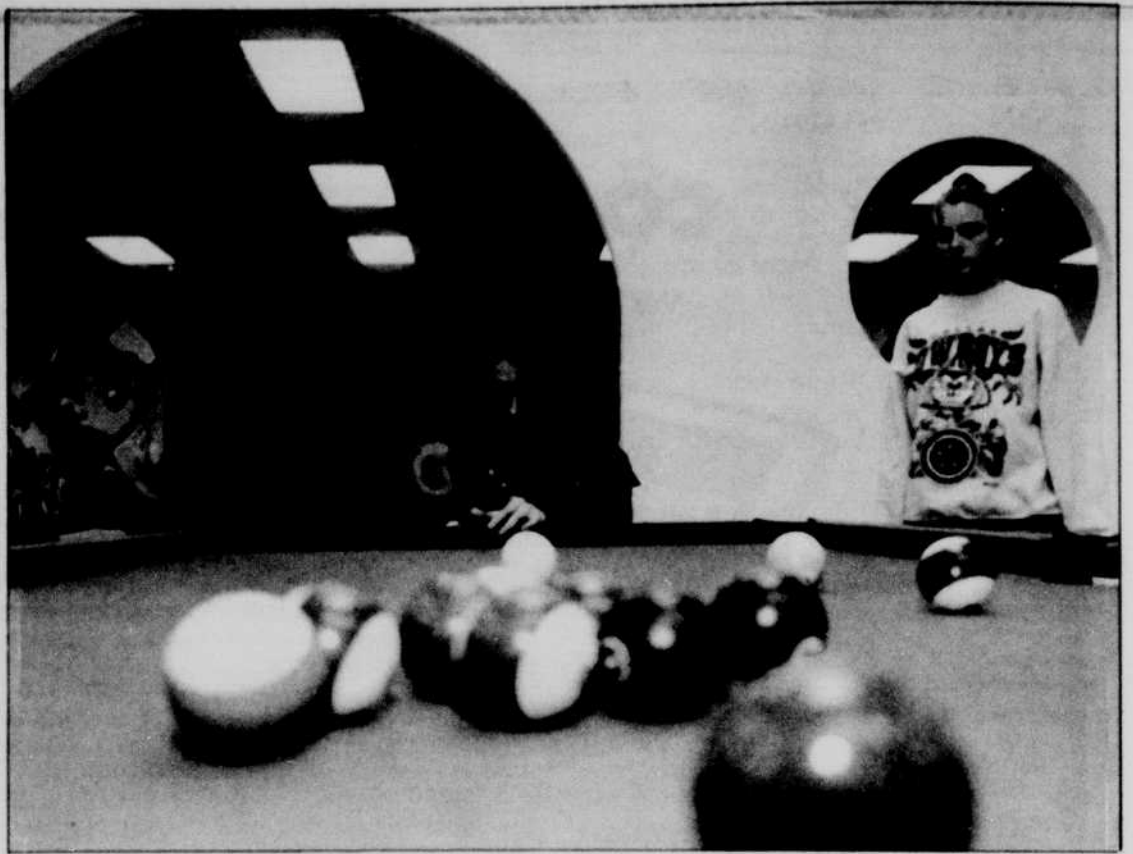
Wednesday, Oct. 5 • folk/rock • \$8 advance, \$10 door

Sam Phillips

Doors 8:00 pm, Showtime 8:30 pm

Tickets available at Balladeer Music, CD World, EMU Main Desk, Happy Trails, House of Records, WOW Hall

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WILSON CHAN/Emerald

Fifteen year-old Amy (left) enjoys her moment at the pool table with her friend Lynette at the teen center.

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CENTER

Continued from Page 1

Then the teen center's advisory board, composed of an equal number of teen-agers from area high schools and adults, had to decide whether the center should change its original objective. The board planned on using the center to serve a wide cross-section of youth, Thompson said. Serving high-risk youth would require a completely different agenda.

Craig Smith, chairman of the advisory board, said it decided to refocus on serving all community teenagers.

"We didn't have the facilities for dealing with high-risk youth," Smith said. "We decided to try to divert them to other programs such as Looking Glass."

Thompson said she is now working on convincing parents to let their children attend the center. "The problem is most kids have an image of the mall as a place to avoid," she said. "This area, especially around the bus station, is a high-crime area."

Thompson hopes the community will help the teen center deal with the problem of crime downtown. This is really a problem Eugene needs to face, she said.

Thompson said the center is unique because it targets a specific age group, from ages 13 to 19. "This center is designed for teens. It doesn't offer activities for any other age group, so it can be tailored to their recreational and educational needs."

The center will offer a variety of classes during the school year including: Taikwando instruction, computer, dance and after-school homework

"Some of the kids are working with businesses, trying to sell ads, when they used to shoplift from those same businesses."

— KAREN THOMPSON
Teen Center volunteer

coaching sessions. The center is also creating its own teen magazine. Teenagers will be able to work in journalistic writing, layout and design, creative writing and cartooning.

"It is really working out well," Thompson said. "Some of the kids are working with businesses, trying to sell ads, when they used to shoplift from those same businesses."

Symantec corp., a software company that is moving into the downtown mall opposite the teen center, has donated computers and educational software programs that will be used to create the magazine.

Sean Chapin, who helps organize events at the center, said he has been in many of the same situations as the street kids in the area. He hopes the center will become a place for all kids to go. "We need kids to fit in somewhere," Chapin said. "If they can't fit in here, they might try to fit in with a gang. That's why gangs work. Teenagers need a sense of belonging."

The Youth Connection Teen Center is open Monday through Thursday 3:30-9:00 p.m., Friday 3:30-10:30 p.m., Saturday 12:00-10:30 p.m. and

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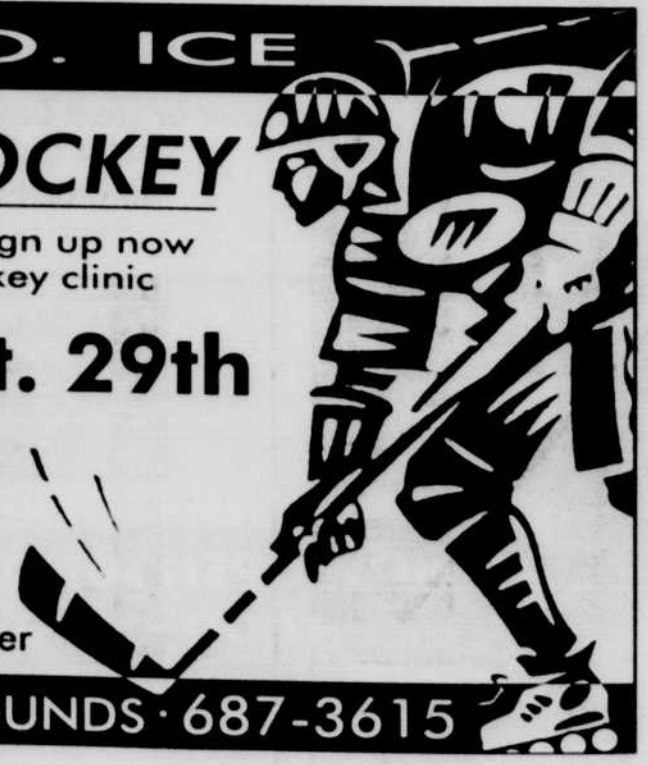
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