

ENTERTAINMENT

# Oregon Country Fair will entertain folks of all ages

Kim Weiss

Oregon Daily Emerald

Are you looking for a weekend of fun and excitement but don't know where to go? Look no further than the outskirts of Veneta because the Oregon Country Fair will shake the weekend up.

The annual event is celebrating its 26th year of existence and has lots of entertainment, great food and crafts for everyone to enjoy.

The fair will provide 10 stages of music and entertainment throughout the weekend. Various genres of music will be performed, including everything from reggae to folk to acoustic rock to jug band.

Actors Cabaret of Eugene (with musical excerpts from *Hair*), Artis the Spoonman, and Jim Page and Shakin' Snakes, playing accelerated rhythm and blues, are a few of the mainstage performers for Friday.

Mythic Sky, cyberspace age sounds, Etouffee and its Cajun swampgrass and reggae band Unshakable Race, and much more, will hit the mainstage on Saturday.

Acoustic rockin' Calobo, the folk foursome Babes with Axes, Zero and many others will provide



Calobo, self-described "electric/acoustic seven-piece folk 'n' roll groove band, will play the main stage at the Oregon Country Fair on July 9, and 12:30 p.m.

vide hours of great music on the mainstage on Sunday.

There is even a youth stage at which the younger crowd can listen to music. And throughout the grounds there are spots where performers entertain the kids.

Local food vendors, including

New Day Bakery and Rising Moon, will be at the fair to quench your thirsts and satisfy the cravings of your appetite.

Crafts of different styles, fashions and utility will be available at many of the fair's booths. In addition to crafts, some local shops will have booths set up

throughout the area, including eco-shop Real Goods Trading Corp.

In addition to all this, there are little "villages" within the fairgrounds. Energy Park focuses on renewable and alternative energy sources and sustainable technologies.

Community Village gives educational demonstrations and musical commentaries on political, social and environmental issues.

The history booth displays the evolution of the Oregon Country Fair, from its inception 25 years ago to its existence today.

Local community radio station KLCC will be broadcasting the mainstage performances live from the country fair for all three days, beginning at 11 a.m. each day and ending at 7 p.m. each evening.

Lane Transit District offers free service every 15 minutes from the Lane County Fairgrounds stop, at West 13th Avenue and Monroe Street, for anyone who would prefer this hassle-free transportation. The first bus departs at 10:30 a.m. and the last one leaves the fair at 7:30 p.m. each evening.

So if you have no idea what to do this weekend, try something new and adventuresome. It should be a fun weekend of entertainment and enlightenment. Check out the Oregon Country Fair, out near Veneta, which is going on Friday through Sunday. Admission is \$7 Friday, \$10 Saturday and \$8 Sunday.

## Phish-Heads can experience band with CD release 'A Live One'

J. Daniel Pearson

For the Oregon Daily Emerald

A simple melody drifts from a guitar, bounces around the room, spirals down toward the happily dancing crowd, splits open and melts into everyone's ears.

The music slowly crescendos and rises from the stage in a rainbow of sound. The sound is as soothing as a bedtime lullaby and takes the listener on a delicate ride, like a leaf across a tranquil pond.

The band continues to build its sound-painting into an unbelievable climax, drawing its energy from an audience that will be exhausted by night's end. Suddenly the band pulls out into deliberate chaos before settling back into a recog-



A Live One  
Phish

★★★★

June with a two-CD set called *A Live One*, which captures the band's concert experience and sense-of-humor in full, digital sound.

Phish gives old favorites like "Bouncing

nizable melody.

For years the only way Phish-Heads experienced the excitement generated at a Phish show was in concert or by seeking out the poor sound quality produced from bootleg tapes.

But Phish emerged from the studio in June with a two-CD set called *A Live One*, which captures the band's concert experience and sense-of-humor in full, digital sound.

Around the Room," "Stash" and "The Squirmy Coil" new life with long improvised jams, alongside songs never before recorded that include "Slave to the Traffic Light," "Wilson" and "Harry Hood."

Standouts include "You Enjoy Myself" with the chorus no one ever seems to understand, "Tweezer," and a fun little tune called "Simple," highlighting the band's humor and vocal abilities.

"Simple" is interesting because the chord progression is carried by the vocals rather than by the instruments — a technique rarely used in Western music, especially rock 'n' roll.

While *A Live One* does an excellent job showing off the band's diversity,

absent is the country influence that shines in each of previous studio efforts. Instead of a two-minute spot on the album, where a good hoe-down would've fit nicely, the space is filled with a rather boring instrumental called "Montana," which kind of sits there like a firecracker that never goes off.

For anyone who has ever heard of Phish, but never heard them play, *A Live One* is an excellent introduction.

And for all you Phish-Heads out there complaining about the song choices (and you know who you are), now there is a decent recording to enjoy along with a good puff.

Phinally!

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