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Gospel ensemble's concert honoring Martin Luther King

 MUSIC: Director tries to further the message of Martin Luther King Jr. through her choir

By Elisabeth Forsythe

"I live, eat, breathe and sleep gospel music."

So says Julia Neufeld, director of the University Gospel Ensemble. The ensemble, which will perform a concert in honor of Martin Luther King Jr. today, offers a unique blend of music and religion to its members.

"It's a good haven where if you want to include religion you can, but if not, it's not preached," said Steve Bender. Bender, a junior marketing major, joined because he hadn't participated in music or religion lately, and he wanted it to keep him rooted.

It's kept Ellen Tevik, a senior math major, rooted for eight terms. She enjoys the music, "and when I became a Christian I wanted to praise God," she said. " I guess I'm one of those people for which there's a more religious meaning to me."

That meaning is strong for Neufeld, who was born in Louisiana to a minister. Her father once turned in his license to preach because he wasn't free to preach to people of all colors. Her family fought for civil rights while living in the Bible Belt. teaching her that people "should always fight for those less fortunate."

Neufeld remembers being taken out of school by her parents the day Martin Luther King Jr. was killed. "I was so sad," she said. "I had such feelings of remorse for his family and the process of desegregation. It felt like a total setback."

Neufeld believes King's dream is not dead.

"It hasn't evolved to where it should be, but I still feel those same little chills when I hear his 'I Have a Dream' speech — it hasn't lost its message," she said.

Neufeld tries to keep King's dream alive in the Gospel Ensemble. "I want to give a message about freedom in our musical expression — overcoming oppression and iniquities; I think we can all sing about that.

"I'm hoping for more participation, this term and next term, from the black students at large," she said. "African-American music is about African-Americans, and they could so heighten the process of the learning environment."

The Gospel Ensemble's concert will take place tonight at 7 p.m. in Room 150 Columbia. Neufeld is enthusiastic. "We may not have a large crowd, but if we have ten or 12, we're going!"

Parking permit costs increase this year for students, faculty

■ PARKING: Official cites rising operating costs as justification for the hike

By Regina Brown

Higher Education Reporter Tired of on-campus parking bassles?

They're not likely to disappear anytime soon. The cost of University parking permits will increase by \$2 for students and \$3 for faculty and staff, said George Hecht, director of campus operations.

The increase is to offset the growing cost of campus operations, he said. Parking prices have not increased since 1987, while the cost of maintaining and monitoring parking has, Hecht said. The University has no plans to

 Springfield's McKenzie-Willamette Hospital is seeking volunteers ages 15 years and older to serve the community. Opportunities range from flower delivery, serving meals, conducting hospital tours, being a liaison between families and nurses, working in the gift shop to helping seniors in the Adult Day Health Care Center. For more information, call 741-4606. · The United Way of Lane County has more than 700 volunteer opportunities ranging from food transporters, receptionists/office assistants, courtappointed advocates, preschool aides, to self-reliance course instructors for Wilani Camp Fire Inc. For more information, call the United Way Volunteer Connection at 683-9000.

build a parking garage, as proposed in 1987. The idea was rejected because the community did not support it, he said.

"There was a lot of community opposition, and we had to accept the fact that people just did not want a large parking structure," Hecht said.

The University has done what it can to make parking on campus easier, he said.

Finding a parking spot near campus is still a difficult endeavor and as a result, the University has tried to promote other forms of transportation. For example, it has provided bike racks and improved local bike paths, Hecht said.

In addition, \$95,000 of student fees is used to pay for free bus service for all University students.



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10A Oregon Daily Emerald Tuesday, January 16, 1996

 The Lane County Audubon Society will be hosting a meeting with guest speaker Cindy Thieman, who has walked nearly 2,000 miles from Mexico to Canada. Thieman will present slides to accompany her commentary on hiking the Pacific Crest Trail. The meeting will be Tuesday, Jan. 23 at the Eugene Garden Club, 1645 High St. at 7:30 p.m. For more information, call Herb Wisner at 344-3634.

 Sacred Heart Medical Center's Women's Information Network will be presenting a free program titled "Ancient Techniques in Modern Use: Acupuncture, Meditation, Therapeutic Touch and Yoga," on Jan. 23 at 7:30 p.m. at the Eugene Hilton. For more information, call 686-7272.

-Samantha Martin