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THIS WEEKEND

An Oregon Ballroom Dance will be held. No experience is required and no partner is needed. For information, call 346-6025.



INSIDE

The outdoor sport of rock climbing has recently moved inside for the competitive world

5

The Eugene Emeralds down Boise 8-4 to move within two games of first place

5



WEATHER

Sunny and hot.
High 95. Low 60.

University of Oregon
Eugene, Oregon

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City Council discusses dog ban

■ **MEETING:** A police representative explained why getting rid of dogs and skateboards on E. 13th Avenue would improve the area

By Andrea De Young
Associate Editor

The first step has been taken in the possible banning of dogs and skateboards on E. 13th Avenue. The Eugene City Council met on Wednesday with the issue on the agenda.

UP AHEAD

What's next on the dogs and skateboards ban

■ Public hearing, August 5

■ Decision, August 7

Lieutenant Becky Hanson of the Eugene Police Department explained to the council why the ordinance was needed and where and how it would be enforced.

The issue was brought up a year

ago when a community response team complained of nuisance crimes that involved dogs and skateboards in the West University neighborhood. The area attracts up to 30,000 people a day, making it one of the most traveled areas in Eugene during the day.

In addition, the police department was receiving numerous complaints about health hazards in the area. Dogs have been known to fight each other, leave droppings that their owners don't pick up, and have been seen eating off the plates of people who are dining at restaurants that have outdoor seating.

One of the biggest problems cited involved the people who disregard how their dogs or skateboarding affect others on the streets and sidewalks. Lieutenant Hanson recounted being hit by an unapologetic skateboarder this week. The incident occurred while she was in uniform. The skateboarder is reported to have yelled at her before continuing on.

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University Museum of Art

Reaching for open skies



Rachel Hoar designs a skyscape in the Discovery Room at the Oregon Museum of art. The room is a part of the Open Skies exhibit that opened yesterday.

ANDREW BRACKENSICK/Emerald

The Sunday benefit concert will feature the rhythm and blues band Body and Soul

By Kristin Bailey
Associate Editor

Looking for something to do this weekend? Organizers of the University Museum of Art summer exhibition say they're hoping for a big community turnout at Sunday evening's benefit concert.

"Under the Open Skies" will be a night of food, music and art appreciation open to people of all ages.

Body and Soul, an 11-member rhythm and blues band from Portland, will play to the crowd at the Knight Library Quad beginning at 5 p.m.

"We want to shake things up," said Heather Brown, museum public program assistant. "People can take their shoes off and dance all night."

The concert and evening's activities will raise money for the museum.

"Rather than doing another black-tie event, we said 'Wouldn't it be wonderful to do more of a concert where people can bring their families?'" Brown said. "This community is very outdoors oriented. We want to take advantage of the weather and the scenery."

The grassy area in front of the library

SCHEDULE

■ Present-Sept. 8: "Open Skies" art exhibition. Wednesday-Friday, noon-5:00 p.m.

■ July 28: "Under the Open Skies," a benefit concert. 5-9 p.m. Prices: \$10 students, \$15 individual, \$25 families, children under six free.

■ August 18: "The Sky's the Limit Family Day," refreshments and hands-on activities. Noon-3 p.m. Free

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THE 'GANG MOM' TRIAL

LOOKING BACK

■ **OCTOBER 3, 1994:** Aaron Iturra is shot in the head in his mother's home by James Elstad, 17, accompanied by Joseph Brown, 18.

■ **FEBRUARY 10, 1995:** After three and a half weeks of telephone intercepts, police arrest Mary Louise Thompson for the aggravated murder of Iturra. She is accused of having gang members kill Iturra.

■ **JULY 17, 1996:** The seven-woman, five-man jury finds Thompson guilty after a six-week trial.

■ **JULY 23, 1996:** Thompson is sentenced to life in jail without the possibility of parole for her role in Iturra's murder

'Gang Mom' receives life prison term

■ **SENTENCING:** Mary Louise Thompson showed no emotion in court when Janyce Iturra read a personal statement she had prepared

The Associated Press

A woman who publicly crusaded against gangs sat silently as the mother of the teenager she was convicted of murdering described her loss.

Janyce Iturra believed Mary Louise Thompson was such a good friend to her family that when her 18-year-old son, Aaron, was slain, Thompson was the first person she called.

But she later learned the 41-year-old woman she put so much faith in had mas-

terminded her son's gang-related execution. On Tuesday, Lane County Circuit Judge Lyle Velure ordered Thompson to spend the rest of her life in jail, with no chance of parole.

"As far as I'm concerned, you might as well have pulled the trigger yourself because you could have stopped this," Janyce Iturra told Thompson on Tuesday. "You had the control, the ability, to stop this at any time and you didn't think twice."

If her words touched Thompson, the former community activist didn't let on. She shook her head once or twice but didn't cry as Iturra read from an 11-page statement. And while her lawyer turned his chair to face Iturra, Thompson stared straight ahead

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THOMPSON