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TODAY

If you forgot to call your mother then you had better do it today.



INSIDE

Marie Davis won the 1,500 and 3,000 to help the Ducks beat Washington

Doctors recommend minimizing sun exposure to decrease chances of melanoma



WEATHER

Hot.
High 85. Low 55.

University of Oregon
Eugene, Oregon

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UO pianist wins contest to play piece in Rome

MUSIC: Professor Claire Wachter will give a live piano performance at the international music festival

By Daniel Pearson
Higher Education Reporter

University music professor Claire Wachter doesn't know how to speak Italian. This is usually not a problem for the 44-year-old pianist from Frederick, Maryland, except that she won a national competition and will represent the U.S. in the Rome Festival, which takes place in Italy July 5 through 27.

"I'm planning on taking a dictionary with me," Wachter said. "But it always seems to work out that people can communicate when there is a language barrier. At least with music they can express what it is they want."

Wachter will be performing chamber music, her specialty, possibly with an orchestra as part of the month-long festival, which celebrates some of the great musical compositions in the world. The festival will take place in various venues throughout Rome.

She won't find out what piece she will be performing until June 1 and will have only one day of rehearsal once in Rome — the night before the performance.

"I hope I won't be doing any sight reading during the concert," Wachter said. "I think what I will be doing is learning really fast."

Understanding the intricacies of the piano has always come fast for Wachter. She began playing at the age of seven, studying with a local teacher in Maryland.

"[Frederick] is such a small town, and there was only one teacher," she said. "So when she decided there was nothing left for her to teach me, I went off to the big city."

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Kitzhaber will speak on campus

Governor Kitzhaber will speak in the EMU Ballroom today at 11:30 a.m. During the speech, Kitzhaber will focus on how reforms in grades K-12 affect higher education. The speech is part of a conference designed to find ways to link all educational systems of the state more closely into a type of "seamless education."

More than 250 conference participants, including representatives from the Oregon State System of Higher Education, will develop a preliminary action plan which focuses on aligning higher education with Oregon's standards-based education in grades K-12. Undergraduate course design, student services, diversity and equality issues also will be discussed. The conference begins today at 11 a.m. and ends Tuesday at 3:30 p.m.



KITZHABER

SUN SOUNDS



Hundreds of spectators watch DizzyBam perform Sunday afternoon on the East lawn of the EMU. Fourteen bands played during the all day event, both outside the EMU and inside at the beer garden.

MICHAEL CRISP/Emerald

A Fine Grind

The Oregon Grind provided music to dance to for many sun-seekers on Sunday

By Carl Yeh
Freelance Editor

Clad in T-shirts, bikini tops and shorts, people braved the summer heat to listen to music and dance in the Second Annual Oregon Grind Sunday.

Musical groups such as Isor Wallobee, Alien Criminal Land and Jibliminis performed on a stage erected on the EMU East Lawn.

Some people preferred to enjoy the bands up-close. Chris Goff, a 22-year old living in Eugene, and Tina Helm, a 21-year old political science major at Lane were dancing together near the stage.

"Music, warm day, good tunes, good beat — it doesn't take much to want to dance!" Helm said.

"And all of the bands have been fun," Goff added.

Sponsored by the EMU Cultural Forum, this is the fourth Oregon Grind. However, last year's Grind was the first "Annual Grind." The Cultural Forum received enough money last year to make the Grind an annual event.

"Last year was great too, but it was a little overcast," Helm said, referring to last year's weather during the First Annual Oregon Grind.

The two dancers were able to keep cool by having water squirted on them. "There's somebody with a squirt bottle randomly squirting people," Goff said.

The temperature was 83 degrees during the afternoon, the University web page said, and people looking for ways to cool down were lining up at the refreshment booths. "Business has been very profitable," said Jaimie Proctor, a South Eugene High School student working at Lulu's Smoothies. The booth sold lemon orange juice and berry smoothies.

The drinks helped three University freshmen — Kristen Oldham, Kristy Bailey and Jessica Sanders — keep cool.

These three women preferred to enjoy the Grind's bands from a distance. They sat on a blanket in front of Carson Hall — several yards away from the crowds of people and the stage.

For these three women, the Second Annual Grind was their first.

"I don't usually listen to this kind of music, but it's cool," Bailey said. "I usually listen to alternative music."

"It sounds more like local talent than alternative," Sanders explained.

All three women live in Hawthorne Hall near the EMU. "They should do this more often because it's so close to where we live," Oldham said.

Meanwhile, Helm was confident she will return. "I'll be here next year!" she said.



University of Oregon student Sarah Bastida and her dog, Suki, dance near the stage during the Oregon Grind

MICHAEL CRISP/Emerald