



An independent newspaper Oregon Daily Emerald

<http://www.dailyemerald.com>

Tuesday, July 2, 2002

SINCE 1900 UNIVERSITY OF OREGON EUGENE, OREGON

Volume 104, Issue 3

'The colors just sing'

Local quilters are reviving the old pastime, using it to celebrate patriotism and other important issues in today's culture

By John Liebhardt
for the Emerald

After two and a half months of fighting a feisty army with winter fast approaching, British General "Gentleman Johnny" Burgoyne surrendered his 7,000-man army at Saratoga on October 17, 1777 to Horatio Gates of the American militia. The surrender was a much-needed victory for the rebels, and the battle convinced the reluctant French that these troops were serious in fighting their colonial masters.

One local artist is drawing from the annals of colonial pop culture to keep memory of the victory alive. Pené Marquette Bollini, a local quilter, has created a red, white and blue

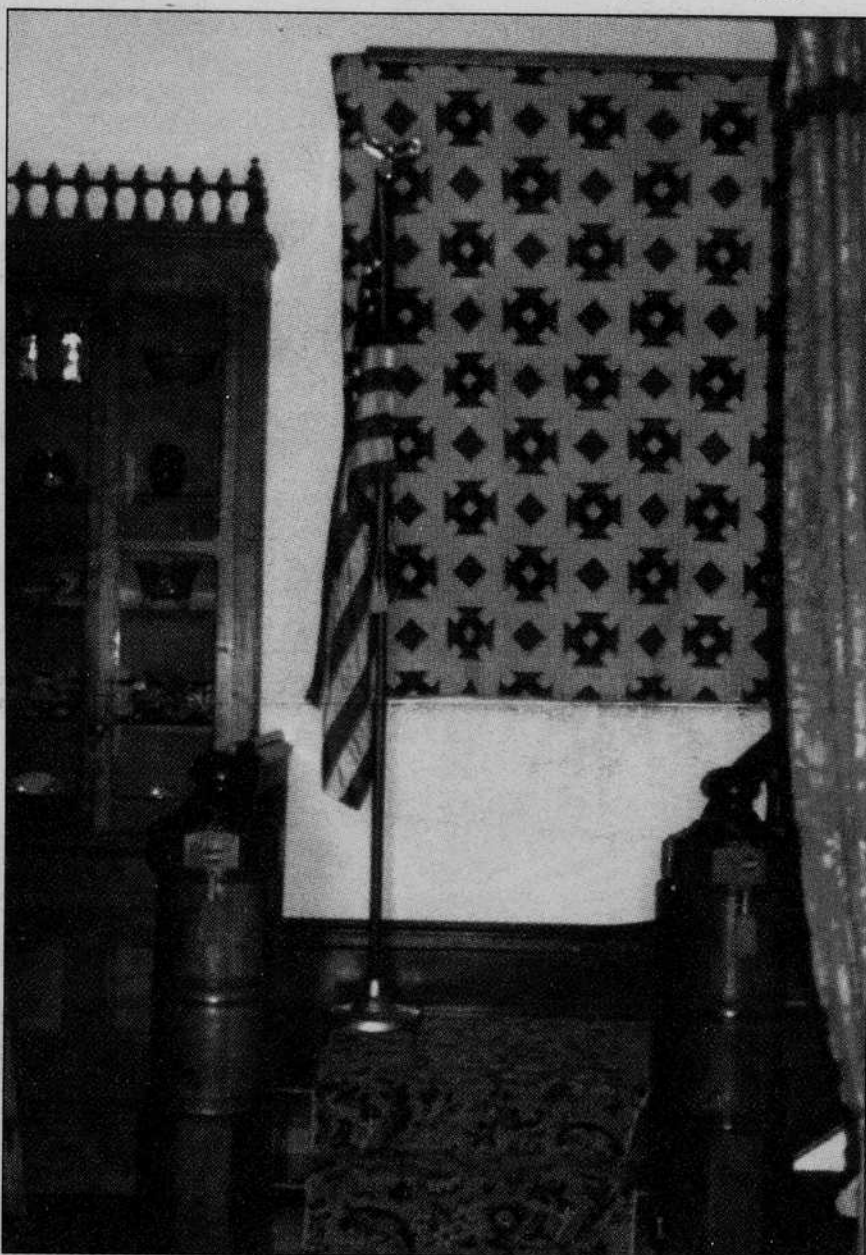
bed-sized quilt that depicts the American victory. The red pieces, representing the English redcoats, sit in the middle of a white field, completely surrounded by an army of blue, representing the Americans. Springfield Museum Director Kathy Jensen said Bollini has created a contemporary update on an old classic quilting pattern.

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'Stars and Stripes Forever'

The Springfield Museum is located at 590 Main St. in Springfield. Admission is \$2 for adults age 18 and older.

The Shelton-McMurphey-Johnson House is located at 303 Willamette St. Admission is \$3 for adults, \$1 for children age 12 and younger.



Adam Jones Emerald

Quilts on display at the Shelton-McMurphey-Johnson House and the Springfield Museum display a patriotic mood in recognition of the Fourth of July holiday.

Eugeneans can find fireworks in every flavor

Locals can go to Alton Baker Park, Civic Stadium and the Eugene Pro Rodeo to see big-scale displays

By Brad Schmidt
Oregon Daily Emerald

Trying to get more bang for your buck or just plain trying to see some fireworks that don't suck?

For the fireworks enthusiast who loves a big show or for the casual observer who wants some hands-off entertainment, Eugene has something to offer everyone on Independence Day. Organizers have lined up a variety of venues that could lead to a hog-wild good time or a grand-slam of a night. Here's what Eugene has to offer:

Alton Baker Park

The Eugene Active 20-30 Club will host the 56th Annual Freedom Festival in what promoters say will be the strongest of local fireworks displays. After a rousing show last year, which captured the attention of about 12,000 attendees, festival chairman Mike Clark said he expects higher attendance.

Events begin at 4 p.m. Clark said he is optimistic about attendance because two major improvements have been made. Last year, some attendees complained of a long walk between Autzen Stadium — where parking is provided — and Alton Baker Park. This year, shuttles will be provided free of charge.

Clark also said some festival-goers become restless in the hours leading up to the fireworks display. That problem has been remedied, he said, because the festival will now have three times as many food booths and entertainment stands. All of which, he hopes, will help pass the time before the 10 p.m. fireworks show.

"The key is for people to arrive early and to find a place to sit and enjoy the fun," Clark said.

Clark said the 685 fireworks shells — which now consist of 5-inch shells rather than the smaller ones that were used at the festival's prior location of the Lane County Fairgrounds — will bring in the largest local crowd.

"This is the big one," he said.

But to enjoy the show, Clark said, attendance is mandatory. "Because of the nature of how the trees line Alton Baker Park, it is very difficult to see the show from outside the

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Legal fireworks offer bang, but little 'wow' for the buck

Emerald staff members blow up some fireworks to bring readers the unvarnished truth

By Michael J. Kleckner
Oregon Daily Emerald

Oregon doesn't offer fireworks enthusiasts much in the way of legal, do-it-yourself enjoyment for the Fourth of July holiday. At least, that was the Emerald staff's assessment after our Independence Fireworks Test, conducted Sunday at an undisclosed downtown Eugene location.

This year, we decided to offer readers a college student view of fairly inexpensive, locally available fireworks. We purchased from TNT Fireworks — simply because of the convenient location.

Fifty dollars bought quite an assortment of fireworks, from super cheap fountains and novelties to two fountains in the more-than-\$10 range.

As might be expected, you get what you pay for. The smaller items were fun but generally unspectacular, although we had the feeling that a boatload of these novelties might have possibilities.

We thought that an interested pyrotechnic fan could combine a lot of the novelties (which can be McGyver-ed into more impressive displays — but that should never, ever be done, as serious injury can occur) and a few of the larger fountains to create a satisfactory hour or two of enjoyment before a professional fireworks show.

We ranked the fireworks on a scale of one to seven in three categories: Fun factor, artistic quality and firepower. Read on, and then clip this article out and take it with you to the stands.

Under \$2

"Crickets": The best value of the bunch, with a lengthy display of red, green and blue stars and

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Adam Jones Emerald

Emitting a shower of sparks, this 'Crackling Cactus' was tested Sunday for an Emerald report.