



Danielle Hickey Emerald

William Russell, owner of WINGS Birding Tours, said Eugene's variety of landscapes offer an abundance of birding opportunities. He added that the rarest breeds of birds are found outside of the United States in places such as Ecuador.

Birds

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from home to find the rarest breeds. More than half of the trips offered by WINGS extend to locales outside the country. Russell said the reason for this boils down to simple math.

"Take a country like Ecuador, which has 1,500 species alone, compared to the U.S. that has only 700, which is just 10 percent of the world's species," Russell said. "So, bird watchers looking for the widest variety of species will naturally look elsewhere."

But this isn't keeping the American Birding Association from holding its annual convention in Eugene June 2 to June 8. The ABA chose the location for the same reasons Russell said Oregon is ideal bird watching territory. The event, which is currently being held at the Hilton Conference Center, includes everything from workshops to trips to local birding hot spots and is open to ABA members only.

However, novices and experts

alike are invited to attend a birding event closer to campus. Nestled in the middle of the week-long convention, the Museum of Natural History will welcome the editors of the book, "Birds of Oregon: A General Reference." The three experts, all ornithologists, will introduce and sign copies of the book, which offers details on the 400 bird species currently calling Oregon home. The signing will take place June 6 at 7 p.m.

"Birds of Oregon" co-Editor Alan Contreras has been a bird watcher since he was 11 and has traveled all over the United States in search of feathered adventure. Contreras said bird watching is an accessible hobby offering participants the opportunity for unlimited discovery.

"It's a wonderful excuse to get out in nature, and the interest can bring you to really diverse environments," Contreras said.

While May brings the flood of migrating birds back to the Oregon valleys, mountains, deserts and forests, Russell said every season offers local bird watcher plenty of

captivating sights.

Spring and early summer are ideal times to catch birds at their most colorful and vocal. But during late summer and fall, it is possible to find an inordinate amount of rare breeds in the Pacific Northwest — usually due to the misguided southern migration of young birds. And the relatively mild Oregon winters give fowl from higher latitudes a perfect respite from the harsher northern habitats.

The sight of a rare breed is a treat in itself, but the opportunity to catch the creature on film is another facet of birding reaching peak interest at the moment. Russell said the new still-photographic method known as digiscoping, which utilizes extremely powerful telephoto lenses to capture otherwise unapproachable creatures, is revolutionizing the birding world. The successful documentary "Winged Migration" revealed stunning photography of some of the world's most beautiful birds.

Contact the senior Pulse reporter at ryanbornheimer@dailyemerald.com.

Pregnancy

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hormonal method, but a few women aren't sure," said Jones. "I'll explain the options and their effectiveness."

Almost every type of contraception on the market is available at the Health Center, and with programs such as the Family Planning Expansion Project, many students can receive services for free. Jones said she tries to make sure her patients have Plan B, also known as the "morning af-

ter" pill. Plan B is a form of contraception that can be used up to 120 hours after sex in the event of mishaps like forgotten pills or broken condoms.

Jones said several attempts have been made by Health Center staff to reach out to men and explore issues of contraception, but she said the responsibility to prevent pregnancy usually falls back on women.

Students for Choice currently is the leading campus abortion rights group, but co-Director Lauren Manes said the group also tries to advocate

for reproductive awareness in general. Students have handed out condoms at events, and some will be advocating to keep FPPEP available next year. Manes said while the group targets women, she believes men should be included in the decision-making process, as well.

"It's a two-person commitment," said Manes. "Ideally, it's a conversation between partners."

Contact the reporter at lindsaysauve@dailyemerald.com.

Pulse brief

OSU to host music festival on Thursday

Students wishing to take a break from their final classes to congregate with other scholars this week can take a short trip to Corvallis, where Oregon State University will host the Free World Music Festival.

The festival, scheduled from 4 p.m. to midnight on June 5, will showcase a reggae-dominated array of talent, including Clinton Fearon, Katt, and Cor-

vallis-based Irish folk band Amadan, along with reggae group Jah-Bong, also from Corvallis. Reggae superstar Eek-A-Mouse, the evening's standout act, will also perform.

The show will take place in the Memorial Union Quad, complete with food vendors and a beer garden for 21-and-over attendees. Admission to the festival is free, so even those of us whose financial aid has run out can enjoy some gourmet reggae with a dash of Corvallis.

— Jacquelyn Lewis

Campus buzz

Wednesday

Stress relief workshop (sponsored by University counseling center), 10 a.m.-4 p.m., EMU Amphitheater.

Middle/secondary education program information meeting, 4-5 p.m., 152 Education, 346-1360.

"Mental Health in our Community: Conversation about Child and Adolescent Mental Health Services" (forum), 5:30-7:30 p.m., Lane County Mental Health, 2411 Centennial Blvd., Eugene, Michael Rogers meeting room (198), 682-3814.

Dance Quarterly (dance performance), 7 p.m., Dougherty Theater, free.

Jennifer Miller, flute (junior recital), 7 p.m., Newman Center, free.

Green Garter Band (UO ensemble program), 8 p.m., Beall Hall, \$5 general, \$3 students.

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German Culture and Thought: From Luther to Marx
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