

Prices: Asia supplies large percentage of West's gas

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competition and better overall prices in that region.

There are no pipelines connecting Oregon and the West to the oil-rich Southern states, and trucking gas that far is too expensive.

Oregon also has no refineries. The state gets 70 percent of its gas from a pipeline filled to capacity by five refineries around the Puget Sound. The rest comes up the Columbia River by barge from Washington and California.

Other than West Coast refineries, the most convenient gasoline suppliers to the region are in Asia. California imports 3.5 million gallons of gasoline a day from foreign ports.

When problems develop with the Washington pipeline or refineries, consumers in Oregon bear the increased expense to move gasoline

via truck or barge.

If similar problems occur on the East Coast, there is less effect because states have greater access to other sources of gas, said Mike Burdette, senior analyst with U.S. Energy Information Administration.

Refineries also have to produce pollution-fighting summer and winter "boutique" blends that are brought into different areas of the U.S. market at varying times based on weather patterns.

Another major factor is demand, said Denton Cinquegrana, markets editor for the New Jersey-based Oil Price Information Service.

Despite record-high gas prices, Americans continue to drive more without making a switch to more fuel-efficient vehicles.

— The Associated Press

Dinner: International Night is week's most anticipated event

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Last year, when she was working as a public relations officer for ISA, the group tried to host too many programs during the week, and few of the shows attracted big audiences, Mu said.

"We'd like to concentrate more on our core programs this year so we can make the few (programs) the best," Mu said.

Another special aspect of this year's International Week is the exchange between different student groups on campus, ISA Co-Director Ryohei Ishii said.

This week will include programs such as Earth Day celebrations hosted by the ASUO and the 30th-annual Lu'au hosted by the Hawaii Club.

"They helped us a lot last year, so we put them up there," Ishii said. "It's also part of the international

cultural exchange."

The biggest event of International Week, Sunday evening's International Night is expected to be the biggest international gathering this year.

"As usual, the dinner of the International Night will still be everyone's favorite," Ishii said. The organizers have prepared a menu of more than 20 dishes that were popular at past international gatherings.

More than 700 people showed up at International Night last year, and Ishii expects the number of visitors to be close to or surpass that number this year.

"People can stop by any time on Sunday evening. I think our party will run late into the night. It's never too late to have fun there," Ishii said.

The tickets for Sunday's International Night may be purchased at the EMU ticket office.

INTERNATIONAL WEEK ACTIVITIES

Monday:

- 11:30 a.m. — Opening parade (East 13th Avenue)
- Noon — Opening ceremony (EMU Amphitheater)
- 2 p.m. — Bhangra workout (EMU International Lounge)
- 3 p.m. — Balkan dance (International Lounge)
- 4 p.m. — Ethiopian and Eritrean Dance (International Lounge)
- 7 p.m. — Film series: "Vengo" (International Lounge)

Tuesday:

- All day — Art exhibition (EMU Concourse)
- 11 a.m. - 2 p.m. — Various booths (EMU Amphitheater)
- Noon — Martial arts demonstration (EMU Amphitheater)
- 12:30 p.m. — Japanese flower arrangement and tea ceremony (EMU Amphitheater)
- 1 p.m. — "The Scarlet Flower: Russian Folk Tales through Theater" (EMU Amphitheater)
- 7 p.m. — Film series: "Old Boy" (International Lounge)

Wednesday:

- All day — Earth Day celebrations (EMU Amphitheater)
- 5 p.m. — Presentation: "International Community, Experimental Learning and Action Adventure" (International Lounge)
- 7 p.m. — Film series: "Tsunami" (International Lounge)
- 9 p.m. — International games night (Hamilton Commons)

Thursday:

- All day — Display: Untranslatable words from around the world (EMU Amphitheater)
- 11 a.m. - 2 p.m. — Various booths (EMU Amphitheater)
- 12:30 p.m. — Contemporary Thai songs (EMU Amphitheater)
- 5 p.m. — Lecture: "Culture, Literature and Language Change" (International Lounge)
- 7 p.m. — Film series: "Il Postino" (International Lounge)

Friday:

- International Food Factor
- 11 a.m. - 6 p.m. — Food sampling (EMU Concourse)
- Noon — Competition (EMU Amphitheater)
- 4 p.m. - 6 p.m. — International Coffee Hour (EMU Amphitheater)
- 7 p.m. — Film series: "Eat, Drink, Men, Women" (International Lounge)

Saturday:

- 4:30 p.m. — 30th-annual Lu'au (McArthur Court)

Sunday:

- 4:45 p.m., 5:30 p.m., 6:15 p.m. — International Night dinner (EMU Skylight)
- 7 p.m. — International Night show (EMU Ballroom)

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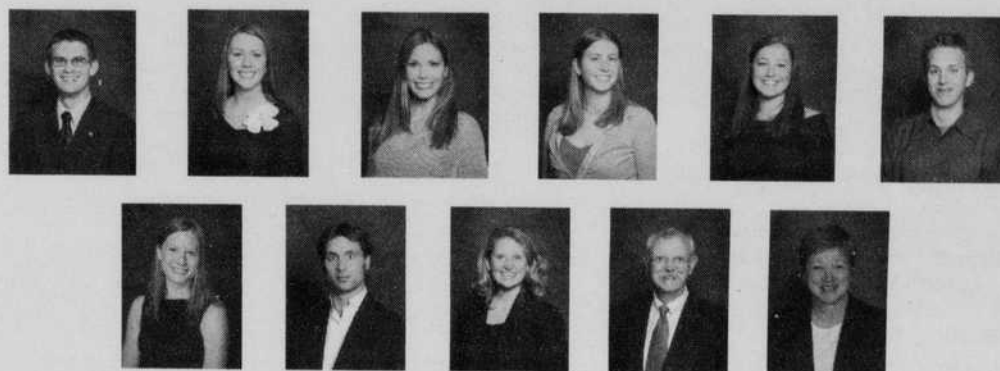
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