

Goonies: People were impressed with the new events

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and women rushed the stage, where they all danced to the iconic Lauper pop hit.

Willkie said people were impressed with the new events compared to five years ago, including the trade convention in the Astoria Armory. The event brought in mostly 1980s and cinematic memorabilia, with art, movies, toys, accessories, 1980s-themed pastries and a Lego diorama depicting the Goon Docks and One-Eyed Willy's treasure cave and pirate ship.

"Some of the vendors would love to have a trade show like this every year," Willkie said.

She said the chamber's main goal in the event is to break even, although she would not share how much the event cost to put on or how much the chamber made in return.

The celebration was scattered around the North Coast, from a beach bonfire and 5K race in Cannon Beach to the film screening at Warren Field and a block party and 1980s-themed dance party at the Astoria Event Center, complete with a display of DeLo-reans on Ninth Street.

Another new event for the 30th anniversary was the 20-stage geocache — the One-Eyed Willy Treasure Hunt — organized by Seattle company Geocaching. Tom Phillips, a vice president of marketing for Geocaching, said 812 groups took part, with three-quarters making it to all the filming locations and businesses. The fastest group finished the geocache in about 90 minutes.

"The (public relations) value we had this year is great for the region year-round," Willkie said, adding most of the hotels she called this weekend were full, along with Fort Stevens State Park's campgrounds and most of KOA.

The weekend brought out the Goonies cult following from around the world.

Possibly the most peculiar visitor was Brian Kidd, better known in Portland as the Unipiper, a unicycling, kilt- and



JOSHUA BESSEX — The Daily Astorian
Fans of "The Goonies" filled the grass and stands of John Warren Field for an outdoor screening of the film Saturday night. View more photos online at www.dailyastorian.com



JOSHUA BESSEX — The Daily Astorian
Sierra Hart, dressed as Mama Fratelli, dances along to '80s music while her sister, Abbi Hart, right, watches. Jen Hart (not pictured) said she spent six months custom-making Goonies costumes for her and her kids.

'The (public relations) value we had this year is great for the region year-round.'

— Regina Willkie

marketing director for the Astoria-Warrenton Area Chamber of Commerce

Darth Vader helmet-wearing bagpiper.

In Astoria, Kidd donned his Sloth mask and costume and rolled around downtown play-

ing his fire-breathing bagpipes and snapping photos with visitors.

"It's like my favorite movie growing up," Kidd said of



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Brian Kidd, also known as the Unipiper, unicycles around Exchange Street while shooting flames from his bagpipes Saturday. Kidd dressed as Sloth for "The Goonies" anniversary celebration.

"The Goonies," adding he moved from Virginia to Oregon years back in part because of the nostalgia from the movie. "That's one of the first things I did after moving to Portland, is drove to Astoria," he said.

Truffle Shuffle fun run attracts Goonies cosplayers

But non-Goonies fan wins gold medal

By ERICK BENGEL
EO Media Group

CANNON BEACH — In an affront to the gods of nerdism, the first-place female-division winner of Sunday's 5-kilometer "Truffle Shuffle" fun run in Cannon Beach had never seen "The Goonies."

In fact, Esther Schrama, who lives in Houston, Texas, but hails from Holland, had never even heard of the 1985 cult classic before last week. She was simply visiting her friend, Cari Schwerd, in Portland and asked if there were going to be any races in the area. Schwerd, a Goonies fan who came to the coast to celebrate her birthday, mentioned the fun run — held 30 years to the day that "The Goonies" hit theaters — and actually heard Schrama utter the words: "What's 'The Goonies'?"

How does Schwerd explain the cosmic injustice that is Schrama's victory? "Goonies fans are (busy) watching the movie instead of training," she said.

The nearly 500 runners at the event, hosted by the Cannon Beach Chamber of Commerce, ran northward along the shoreline from the Tolovana Beach Wayside to East Washington Street and back. The runners' times weren't recorded, but Schrama finished the run in about 18 minutes, she estimated.

As a warm-up, a small circle of children and their parents Truffle Shuffled. This is where one lifts up one's shirt to expose one's belly and jiggles it for public amuse-

ment, a stunt made famous by Chunk, the chunky kid in "The Goonies" played by the no-longer-chunky child-actor-turned-lawyer Jeff Cohen.

Cosplayers

The fan-status of the fun run attendees — runners and non-runners, young and old — ranged from nonexistent, as in Schrama's case, to full-fledged cosplayer (costume player).

Dave Freeman, an attorney from Bellingham, Wash., showed up dressed as Sloth, the film's sweet and simple Quasimodo lookalike, wearing the character's Superman T-shirt, red suspenders and pirate hat. His wife, Miranda, came as Brand Walsh, the athletic older brother of Mikey Walsh, the main Goonie.

"I thought there'd be more Brands (at the fun run)," Miranda said, wearing a red bandanna and a gray hooded sweatshirt with the sleeves cut off, Brand-style. "It's the obvious costume to wear at a 5K, right?"

The two 35-year-olds celebrated "The Goonies" on Saturday by dressing as Chunk and Mama Fratelli, respectively, Freeman said. And on Friday, Freeman appeared in court in Ferndale, Wash., sporting a bow tie and tweed jacket, à la Mr. Walsh, father of Brand and Mikey.

"Now I'm sounding like I'm crazy," Freeman said, laughing.

Crazy like a dedicated Goonies fan. And, as the North Coast's Goonies extravaganza proved, such fans are legion, and for good reason: The film — like "The Wizard of Oz," "Willy Wonka" and "E.T." — speaks to children's inner adult and to adults' inner child.

"It's like that catchy song on the radio — you have to sing along," Miranda said.

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