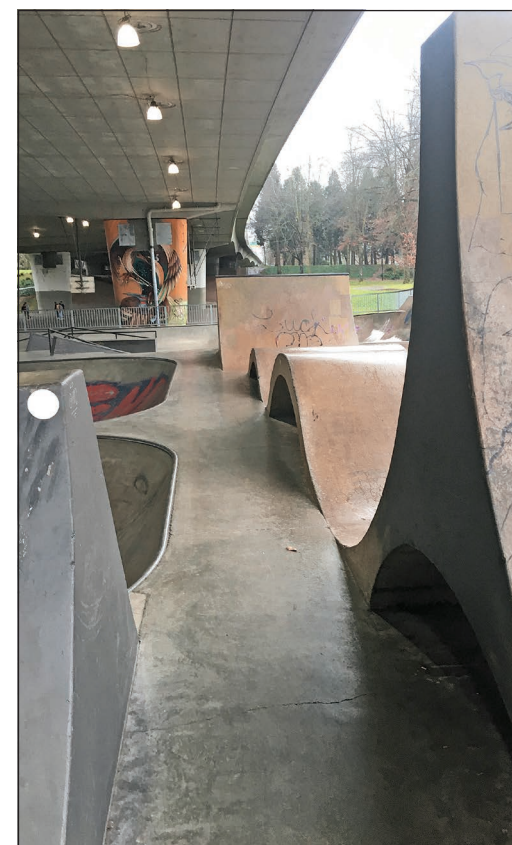




Submitted photos

Not every obstacle at WJ Skatepark + Urban Plaza in Eugene is covered, including its fun and inviting brick banks.



WJ Skatepark + Urban Plaza in Eugene is lighted and partially protected from rain by I-105, as this March 5 photo attests.

**Continued from previous page**

“I had been there probably three times prior, not too much,” Matwisch said, who grew up skating at Ponderosa, a park on Bend’s east side that is home to two skateparks — an older one from the late ’90s off 15th Street and the newer one with an entrance on Wilson Avenue just west of 15th.

What Matwisch likes about WJ — and you may too, should you accept this spring break assignment and go to Eugene — is the park’s “flow,” which refers to a skatepark’s design — how well, and how satisfyingly for the rider, various obstacles are linked.

“Every obstacle sends you into an-

other obstacle, like, just endless lines,” Matwisch said.

WJ was designed and built by the renowned Oregon-based Dreamland Skateparks, LLC. The company also built three in Central Oregon: Redmond Skatepark (opened in 2001), Madras Bike + Skatepark (2005) and Prineville Skatepark (2019).

Asked to compare WJ Skatepark to those other Dreamland parks closer to home, Matwisch said, “It’s bigger, and the concrete feels different, like they buffed the s--- out of it at WJ.”

It’s true that the concrete feels different, which may be attributable to the many vehicles constantly passing

overhead — there’s just something a little slick, even greasy, about WJ. At any rate, many skaters advise slightly softer wheels for better traction when riding there.

Matwisch also believes a lot of thought went into the functionality of the Eugene park.

“Eugene’s population, I think, had an influence on that. Redmond can get overwhelming with a lot of people, and WJ, I think, was built to handle that,” he said. The more recently built Prineville Skatepark, he believes, is informed by a similar sensibility as WJ.

“I think they put a lot of functionality, a WJ-esque twist on the Prineville

park, because of the street obstacles,” he said.

“You can kind of tell the influence on the park based on who showed up at the (public input) meetings, and who really pushed to have a street section in Prineville. ... Madras, I think that’s the perfect park for how small of a population there is. There’s some little stuff and it gets progressively larger.”

Getting there: WJ Skatepark + Urban Plaza is located between Washington and Jefferson streets at First Avenue beneath the I-105 bridge in Eugene.

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## movie times for the week of March 25

### BEND — MCMENAMINS

McMenamins Old St. Francis School, 700 NW Bond St., Bend, 541-382-5174, [mcmenamins.com](http://mcmenamins.com)

- **Godzilla vs. Kong** (PG-13) Wed: 3:30, 6:15 Thu, Fri: 4:30, 7:15 Sat, Sun: 11:30, 2:30, 5:30 Mon, Tue: 4:30, 7:15 Wed: 3:30, 6:15
- **Raya and the Last Dragon** (PG) Fri: 4:30, 7:30 Mon: 4:30, 7:30 Tue: 4:30, 7:15
- **Younger than 21 may attend screenings if accompanied by a legal guardian.**

■ Open captioning provided for some screenings.

### BEND — TIN PAN

- **Tin Pan Theater, 869 NW Tin Pan Alley, Bend, 541-241-2271, [tinpantheater.com](http://tinpantheater.com)**
- **Ski Films in the Alley** (no MPAA rating) Thu, Fri: 6:30

### REDMOND — ODEM PUB

- **The Father** (PG-13) Thu: 3

### MADRAS

Madras Cinema 5, 1101 SW U.S. Highway 97, Madras, 541-475-3505, [madrascinema5.com](http://madrascinema5.com)

- **Godzilla vs. Kong** (PG-13) Wed: 4:05, 7:10
- **Monster Hunter** (PG-13) Thu: 7:10 Fri: 4:25, 7:10 Sat,

- There may be an additional fee for 3D and IMAX.
- Movie times may change after press time. Contact individual cinemas for the most current schedules.

- Sun: 1:35, 4:25, 7:10 Mon, Tue: 4:25, 7:10 Wed: 7:20
- **Nobody** (R) Fri: 4:15, 6:50 Sat, Sun: 1:45, 4:15, 6:50 Mon-Wed: 4:15, 6:50
- **Raya and the Last Dragon** (PG) Thu: 7 Fri: 4, 7 Sat, Sun: 1, 4, 7 Mon-Wed: 4, 7
- **Raya and the Last Dragon — Spanish Dubbed** (PG) Thu: 7 Fri: 4, 7 Sat, Sun: 1, 4, 7 Mon-Wed: 4, 7
- **Tom & Jerry** (PG) Thu: 7:20 Fri: 4:40, 7:20 Sat, Sun: 1:50, 4:40, 7:20 Mon, Tue: 4:40, 7:20 Wed: 4:40
- **Wonder Woman 1984** (PG-13) Thu: 6:35