

The Current

Editorials
page 2
I-695
A &E
page 6
Film Vault
CD Review

I - 695: baited bear trap



Led Gilliam
Staff Reporter

Sure, we all want lower vehicle license tab fees, and thirty dollars is a nice, round, low number. But think for a minute, and read carefully before voting "yes". The thirty-dollar tabs are bait to suck you in, and to get you to vote for an initiative that would hamstring governments at local, county, and state levels. The working man doesn't even get the brunt of the savings.

Do the math: who saves more, the student with the beater that now pays \$60 a year in tabs; or the rich businessman who owns 2 BMW's and a Lexus, and pays thousands? People, this is just another tax break for the rich! Don't fall for it!

The second part of this voter initiative is the real danger. According to the text of the initiative, any tax increase imposed by the state shall require voter approval. It then goes on to define "tax" as: sales and use taxes, property taxes, business and occupation taxes, excise taxes, fuel taxes, impact fees, license fees, and ANY MONETARY CHARGE BY THE GOVERNMENT. Think hard, now. Do you want to have to vote every time a public library wants to raise the price of photocopies?

Education is something that finds near-unanimous support in our communities. Notice, however, that it is extremely difficult to get even the most desperate bond

levy passed. Do you think the average Joe/Joan would vote for even minor tax increases, if it were for something they didn't understand or care about? What if these raises were necessary to fix the roads, to keep the air clean, or to equip the police force?

You may say, "But what about the billion-dollar budget surplus?" Wake up and smell the accounting text-

Tell me, which services do you want to cut to make up for the at least five hundred million dollars a year that the state will lose? Metro? Or how about the fire department? Hospitals?

books, my friend. It is not a true budget surplus, just a one-time reserve. It doesn't come back every year. If I-695 passes, it will be gone in three years. Three measly years. Tell me, which services do you want to cut to make up for the at least five hundred million dollars a year that the state will lose? Metro? Or how about the fire department? Hospitals?

You have a choice: take the bait and watch the trap snap shut on our state, crippling it for years to come; or tell the rich yuppies in Medina and Bellevue that they can shove their Lexus, and the money they would save on its tabs, where the sun don't shine.

I-695, save a few bucks



Christina Jackson
Editor-in-Chief

What is so horrible about saving money? When a clothing store has a sale, those who buy a shirt and save ten bucks should be just as happy as those who buy a new wardrobe and save a hundred or more. Whenever a person is willing to spend more money on an item, when a discount is given, they get more money off initially.

The same concept applies to cars, someone who drives an expensive car pays the expensive car insurance rates, probably gets the more costly car washes, and pays more taxes on their car when buying it from a dealer. The fact that initiative 695 would save expensive car driving males and females some money doesn't bother the sound minded because they realize that they already save money by driving an economy car or a beater.

If you don't want to involve yourself in maintaining the schools and public works, than pay the extra car tab money and let the government take care of it for you.

I-695 would especially benefit those with less money to spend anyways. College students in particular are renowned for constantly digging for cash when it comes time to pay for gas, buy more textbooks or simply check out the newest flick. I-695 saves everyone money, why does it matter that someone who drives around a costly vehicle may save a few hundred bucks where someone driving an older economy car saves about fifty. In all honesty, fifty bucks goes a long way when it comes time to pay for groceries or rent.

A substantial argument made against I-695 is that voters would have to vote on more tax raises. If you don't want to involve yourself in maintaining the schools and public works, than pay the extra car tab money and let the government take care of it for you. If you are ready to take more responsibility as a citizen than vote "yes" on I-695, the time you might have to take to help keep the community running is time that everyone should be willing to donate anyways.

The bottom line is that driving a car is expensive already, with gas, insurance, and taxes. So why feel obligated to toss some more cash to the politicians so they can give their elevator boys another raise? Let the politicians magically find some more money when they realize that if they do severely cut education, fire department or police costs their chances of being re-elected are minimal at best.

Letters to the editor:

Dear editor-

As I was reading through the last edition of Green River's Current I have to say how disappointed I was in a certain article titled "Stay healthy: skip church." I'm not a very religious person but I found this article inappropriate and misinformed. I am curious as to where the writer of this article gets her facts? I very much believe in freedom of speech and I think that everyone has their own opinion, but I was very disappointed in the content and one sidedness of this article. I would be extremely embarrassed to have someone from another school read that article.

Signed,
Disappointed at Green River

To the editor:

I recently had the opportunity to read your article titled Squirrels accused of theft and voyeurism. I have to say that personally, I found the article rather amusing. One of my squirrel friends, however, had quite a bit to say about it. After letting him read the article, I let him loose on my keyboard, and the attached letter is what he came up with. he does not want his real name revealed, for fear of abuse...in this letter, he will call himself Zaphod.

To the editor:

Hello, my name is Zaphod. I am a squirrel here on campus. it has come to my attention that an article has been published in your paper that accuses me and my brethren of certain crimes. I feel the need to clear up some issues that were raised. First of all, it must be said that we were here first! Many of our homes and potential dwelling places have been chopped down or otherwise destroyed to make room for this college campus. Thankfully, you have left us a good number of trees and shrubbery that we have not had to abandon the area entirely. We feel somewhat content with the current living situation.

Now, on the accusations. First of all, there is the accusation that we steal candy right out of the vending machines I admit that we scavenge for food. I admit that we would do anything for a meal. But even if we did figure out how to get food from the vending machines, we would find it much easier to eat it still inside the machine than to drag it out.

The second, and most serious accusation thrown upon us is that we steal cigarettes. Let me assure you we are trying to deal with the problem. It all started last year when one of your "students" thought it would be funny to give a cigarette to one of the squirrels. Larry has been addicted ever since. We are trying to educate him, tell him the dangers of smoking, but he likes it too much. Please, we beg you, never give him another cigarette. he even smokes the butts that people discard without extinguishing.

Finally, I will comment on the accusations of stealing lunches and running up girl's legs. These are clearly baseless accusations designed to stir up anger against my kind. Also, at one point in the article, we are referred to as pigs! PIGS! Have you ever seen a dirty squirrel? Have you ever stepped in a pile of squirrel poop? Have you ever seen a squirrel romp around in the mud? We may be rodents, but we clean up after ourselves.

As for your boarding school proposal, we agree. All we want is a few concessions. If we agree to go to boarding school, you agree to give us chocolate covered almonds and cigarettes. Thank you.

To Reach The Current:

Fax: (253) 288-3457

Ext: 2376

Mailbox: (located in STA) Current box

Location: STB1

In the future, no letters will be printed unless a real name is supplied or the writer is a squirrel. This isn't a Dear Abby column

The Current Staff:

Editor-in-Chief

Christina Jackson

Assistant Editor

Becky Jo DoRan

Staff Reporters

Matthew Burdick,
Matt Cole, Christy Cowan, Wendy Davis,
Melina Elder, Led Gilliam, Berta Lopez,
Courtne Oaks

Advisor

Michael Huffman



Journalists, Photographers, Writers, Cartoonists

The Current is soliciting freelance material.

News features, human interest features, profiles, travel, adventure, outdoors, satire, political...we are looking for anything that is reasonably well written, reasonably professional, thoughtful and fun.

Please contact us at x2376 or x4201 or stop by STB 1 on Tuesdays or Thursdays after 1pm.

Gravity rocks into Holman



Wendy Davis
Staff Reporter

What the...? Rock Art

It's not pop art, it's rock art, and it has made its way into the Holman library. Created by 17 year old Jessie Ferguson, rock art is a series of developing sculptures that use ordinary stone to recall the monolithic structures of ancient civilizations.

Ferguson began his rock art project last spring but has recently been invited to bring his unique work into the library. Like primordial creatures seeking intellectual evolution, Ferguson's rocks will rise out

of the now empty pond next to the library and creep into the building.

Library Director Jim Grossman is impressed with



Ferguson's rocks dance with gravity while standing still.

Ferguson's work and has encouraged the young artist to continue with his project. "When I first saw the rock art I believed it to be evidence of elves or a leprechaun culture that has been getting ready for the new millennium," Grossman said. He added that the art fascinates him and he hopes that Ferguson will expand the project to other buildings on campus.

According to Ferguson, the work started as a few balanced rocks. Then the project grew. He noticed that some of his arranged rocks resembled creatures like dragons. So he began the artistic process of deconstruction and reconstruction. Ferguson cautioned that the rocks are not glued together. Some of his sculptures, he said, have been kicked over.

When Grossman first met Ferguson, the library director asked the artist why he started the project on campus.



The rocks are arranged in different patterns to complement their natural surroundings.

"Well, you've got all the rocks," Ferguson reportedly answered. Grossman said that made perfect sense and he notified security that Ferguson had permission to continue with his work.

Ferguson's rock art is created in the tradition of the Washington Monument, Roman Aqueducts, Stonehenge and the Mayan Stelae. It is an expression of balance and beauty. Be sure to check it out.

Green River's jazz ensemble welcomes new member



Christy Cowan
Staff Reporter

True talent takes more than just mere dedication and practice. The ability to sing is inherently given. Allyson Manning, a new member of Green River's jazz ensemble Rendezvous has been actively involved in singing for ten years now. At the age of eleven Manning studied classical voice while also being a member of the Seattle Girls Choir. She continued her involvement with the Girls choir until her freshman year of high school when she quit due to time conflict.

Manning was given the lead role in her high school's production of West Side Story, which required much time and dedication.

Manning continued to pursue her interest in musical theatre. Studying under Rebecca Lloyd she performed in numerous musicals within the Renton area. Her favorite role in musical was "my role as Cinderella in Into the Woods has to be my favorite. I literally spent six months learning how to fall on my face and not hurt myself. This resulted in a lot of bruises and a lot of time," Manning said with a laugh. In any profession or art training is essential. According to Manning her membership in the Seattle Girls Choir gave her the best training because one had to match the other singers, which made a singer

become the best. The training and experience she gained at an early age from the Seattle Girls Choir proved invaluable.

Manning's most recent involvement as a member of the Rendezvous jazz ensemble at GRCC has helped her understand and know where her future lies. Manning said, "The music that Rendezvous does is sophisticated, which is unlike any high school performances of crappy show-tunes." Although membership in the Rendezvous is low, which is especially true with guys, the choir is furiously preparing for their holiday shows. Rendezvous will be performing a Christmas show on December 3 at the Methodist Church in Auburn, and will also be performing for Diane Shuur on campus on March 25.

Manning has been blessed with many artistic talents. When she is not practicing or preparing for a show she is sitting in upstairs in the LSC drawing portraits and posters for GRCC's bookstore, The PaperTree. She does most of the artwork seen in the bookstore displays, and on the walls throughout the store. When asked her greatest moment in music Manning relayed this story. "During a music workshop in Seattle a big-time New York musical director wanted to use me as his classical example," said Manning with a smile in her eyes. As to the future she plans to audition for music schools in January, where she intends to study music theory, ear training, drama, and performance.

Women's programs assists female students



Berta Lopez
Staff Reporter

Our staff reporter takes a look at a GRCC program that helps area women

One morning I woke up and realized that I needed to make a career change, however my choices were limited to either going back to multiple minimum wage part-time jobs, that didn't have any benefits, or getting a job at a warehouse that demanded overtime.

That's when I knew I wanted more and called area colleges to get information about returning to school. When I reached Green River Community College's Women's Programs the person on the other end politely gave me all the answers I was looking for, and a week later I found myself going to college.

The Women's Programs staff helped me enroll with Project Class and has been there for me ever since, and when after a year at Green River, I still didn't have a career picked out, they told me, "It's alright, you can decide later. Right now, what is important is your classes." Their support and encouragement took a lot of stress off me.

Women's Programs has a wide range of services to offer today's career women. The services range from confidential consultations to campus and community events. The staff offers classes, a resource library, and assistance to the campus and community. Information and referral services are provided on a wide variety of subjects ranging from financial aid, to career planning, tutoring, and counseling.

Maureen Sweeney, Director of GRCC Women's Programs said, "The best part of teaching for me has always been seeing a student take new information about herself and the world and use that to make her life better. That's what I like most to help people find resources and information and put those things to good use."

If you would like more information about women's programs, or happen to be in the LSC building, stop by room 269 on the second floor and say "hi" to the Women's Program staff or call ext. 2547, office hours are 9 am to 5 p.m., Monday-Friday.

Contacting the Women's Programs is one of the best things I ever done for myself. The staff is always there to assist everyone involved in the program and they give out a sense of belonging.

Immediate openings!!!

Students earn up \$375/\$575 weekly processing/assembling Medical I.D. cards from your home. Experience unnecessary... We train you!

Call MediCard

1-541-386-5290



Boo'sing your way to fun



Melina Elder
Staff Reporter

Are you looking for something to do on Halloween? Well look no further. Here is the "skinny" on what to do and where to go for Halloween '99. From haunted houses, to movies, to one of the best raves of the year, you can find the information all right here for your Halloween enjoyment.

Where: Factoria Mall

March of Dimes Haunted House

Opens: Friday, October 22
Times: Sunday- Thursday 7-10pm
Fridays- Saturdays 7-11pm
Cost: \$5, all proceeds benefit the March of Dimes
Where: Lakewood Mall at the Hancock Fabrics Store
10401 Gravelly Lake Drive SW

masks and face painting and even an espresso stand. There will also be moon bounces and an enchanted river

the Pumpkin Push and Fisher and West of the Mountain and John Curley of King 5 will also be in attendance. There will also be an award for best costume so come dressed in your best Halloween gear.

For more information or to volunteer contact Julie at (206) 937- 9743

Costumes

Still need that last minute costume but you do not know where to go? Here are some great local Halloween costume shops to go to if you still need that last minute costume before the 31. These costume shops are guaranteed to make you the hit of Halloween.

A AAA-1 Costumes Rentals and Sales
1120 SW 16th St Bldg #7 Renton
(206) 623-3634 or
Great Costumes (425) 226-2000

Costumes Period
428 8th St SW #5 Auburn (253) 735-4235

Party City
17356 South Center Parkway Tukwila
(206) 575- 0502

Renton Party Center
Renton Center (425) 226-7740

Movies to rent

Here are some great movie rental picks for those of you who do not feel like going out this Halloween but like a little scare and gore. These movies are guaranteed to scare you and even gross you out.

Allison's Birthday (1979)
Director: Ian Coughlan
It is Allison's 19 Birthday, but instead of the traditional birthday party she expected with her family, their secretive devil worshipping is revealed which ends in a horrible twist of fate.

Dead Alive (1992)
Director: Peter Jackson
One of the goriest movies ever made. In this film millions of gallons of blood were used for the raunchy effects. The movie is about how the bite of a rat monkey turns people into

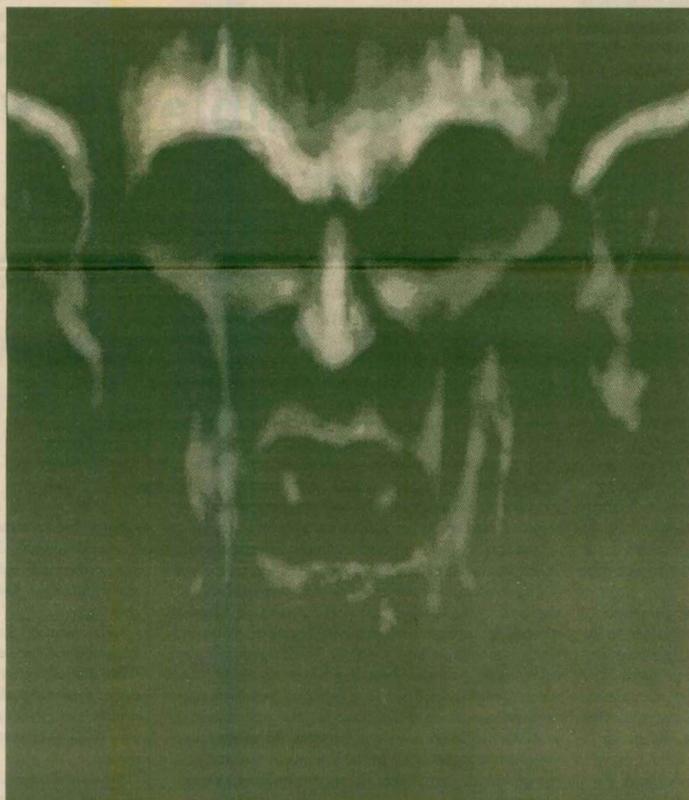
zombies.

The Exorcist (1973)
Director: William Friedkin
A classic horror flick based on a young girl's demonic possession.

The Blair Witch Project (1999)
Director: Eduardo Sanchez and Daniel Myrick
Heather Donahue, Joshua Leonard and Michael Williams hiked into Maryland's Black Hills Forest to shoot a documentary film on the legend of the "Blair Witch." They were never heard from again. One year later their film footage was found.

Charity Work

Do you feel like doing some charity work this Halloween while getting your exercise and having fun at the same time? Seattle is holding its Fourth Annual Pumpkin Push on Sunday morning, October 31 which benefits the 45th Street Clinic. This 10k race or 3-mile Family Fun Run and Walk will begin and end at Gasworks park in Seattle. All proceeds will go to the 45th Street clinic, which provides health care for the homeless, low-income families, and at-risk youth in North Seattle and North King County. At the Pumpkin Push there will be prizes, awards and freebies. The band Left Hand Smoke will be playing at



Halloween projects an image of mystery in its multi-faceted nature.

Haunted Houses

Looking for a scary haunted house? Well here are some haunted houses that should scare you silly this Halloween.

The 15th Annual KUBE 93FM Haunted House
Opens: Wednesday, October 6
Times: Wednesday, Sunday & Thursday 7-10pm
Friday- Saturday 7-midnight
Cost: \$10, or bring two cans of food and save \$1.50
Where: 5th Avenue and Mercer Street
Phone: (206) 232-2982

Twelfth Annual Des Moines Rotary House Club
Opens: Wednesday, October 13
Times: Sunday -Thursday 7-10pm
Fridays-Saturdays 7-midnight
Cost: \$6
Phone: (206) 824-3309
Where: The Des Moines Marina, 22030 Cliff Drive

South Center Rotary Club Haunted House
Dates Open: October 15-17, 21-24, 28-31
Times: Gates open at 6:00pm
Cost: None posted
Where: 17601 South Center Parkway

The House of Boo at the Puyallup Elks Club
Opens: Friday, October 22
Times: Runs Fridays and Saturdays, Gates open at 7:00pm
Cost: \$5 for adults and \$3 for kids under the age of 10
Where: 314 E. 27th Street Puyallup
Phone: (253) 845-9515
Coupons are available at selected locations for a \$1 off of admission. The coupons are available at local schools and sponsor sites that include Cyberzone, U.S.A in the Tacoma Mall.

Ultimate Haunted House
Opens: Friday, October 15
Times: Sunday- Thursday 7-10pm
Fridays- Saturdays 7-midnight
Open from 5-10pm on Halloween
Cost: \$6, or bring a can of food and save \$1

O w e e n

Ghouls, goblins, ghosts, vampires, witches, mummies, saints, monsters and freaks integrate themselves into a holiday truly worthy of recognition. This is The Current's tribute to all that is Halloween.



Vampire lord searches for next victim.

From Samhain to candy corn



Mathew Burdick
Staff Reporter

Before fall quarter began stores were already stocking their shelves with Halloween candy and decorations. What is it a celebration of? Where do the ideas and customs originate? The Halloween holiday has evolved over several thousand years and includes interesting customs, a rich historical past, and has become one of America's most popular holidays.

The origin of Halloween dates to the 5th Century BC with a religious group called the Celts. The Celts worshipped a number of Gods including the God of the Sun. The Celtic new year started on November 1 and was designated the end of the "season of the sun" and marked the beginning of "cold and darkness." The Celts believed that on the eve of the New Year, October 31, Samhain, Lord of the Dead and the Prince of Darkness took the God of the Sun prisoner. To celebrate their holiday, the Druids, or Celtic high priests would light huge bonfires on top of high ground. The priests danced and chanted around the fire to simulate the season of the Sun passing and the season of Darkness beginning. When the morning arrived, the priests distributed embers from the bon fires to each family to take home to start new cooking fires and to keep evil spirits from entering the home. On the night of Oct. 31, the Celts believed that Samhain called together the bodiless dead that had passed away the previous year and allowed the spirits of the dead to roam freely. The living warded off these spirits by offering them food and drink.

The evolution of the holiday continued into the first century, when the Romans invaded Celtic lands. The Romans eventually incorporated their holiday Pomona day, where they paid tribute to the Goddess of fruits and gardens with many of the customs and ideas from the Celtic Samhain festival.

The spread of Christianity also affected the present day version of Halloween. The Roman Catholic Church initiated All Souls Day which worshiped the dead as did some of the earlier traditions. The spread of Christianity did not prevent people from continuing pagan and Roman customs and beliefs. They infiltrated many cultures, and countries, which carried on, personalized these traditions, and continued to develop them.

In Germany, they have St. Walpurgis Day. On the eve of this, German holiday, witches, demons, and spirits from the dead journey on earth in a wondrous state. The Chinese and the Japanese have always had a deep respect for their ancestors and the dead or deceased. In the spring, the Chinese hold a festival of purification and regeneration; one of the ceremonies included in this festival is the honor and care of the dead through prayers and sacrifices.



Skeletons appear on window decals and costumes all over the world.

Film Vault:

This is Spinal Tap & Blood Diner



Led Gilliam
Staff Reporter

I have two selections for you this issue: the mother of all mockumentaries, *This is Spinal Tap* (Columbia, 1988); and for a Halloween treat (actually, this one is a trick), the abominable *Blood Diner* (Vestron Video, 1987).

My strongest impression of *This is Spinal Tap* is that it would have been more enjoyable with half a case of beer in the system. Not that it was bad, mind you. The major flaw is the director/screenwriter's habit of taking a running gag on a 26-mile marathon. This

is the point where booze would come in handy; one would forget the same joke having happened five minutes ago.

Far be it from me to be completely derogatory of the movie, however. *Spinal Tap* certainly has its good points. It carries the feel of a real documentary: say, something like *The Song Remains the Same*. The acting of Derek Smalls, Nigel Tufnel, and David St. Claire, portraying themselves, is passable. It's not all that hard to picture *Spinal Tap* as a real band. There are also quite a few great jokes. The songs, in and of themselves, can be a total riot. I suggest "Big Bottom" and "Bitch School" for a good laugh.

This is Spinal Tap's strongest point has to be the way it both parallels and parodies the rock industry. There are

cheap shots at the Beatles, Judas Priest, Black Sabbath, and many other established rock bands. Some songs have direct correlations in serious rock. Rock traditions are poked fun at: the constant line-up changes, the interfering wife, the aging band still on tour. If you enjoy rock as an art form, you might enjoy this movie; if you enjoy it as a phenomenon, you will.

Where *This is Spinal Tap* might require some hootch to be regarded as a good movie, *Blood Diner* would take a full lobotomy. In 1987, this stinker was released upon the world, and I have no idea why. Even as a B-movie, this is more of a D-minus. The actors (in the loosest sense of the word), I have not seen in any other picture, for which I am very thankful. It is hard to decide which is cheesier, the plot or the not-so-special effects.

The best scene in the movie is at the start. As two young boys play in a house, a radio is reporting the slaying of a glee club, and describes the killer as, "stalking down the street with a bloody meat cleaver in one hand and his genitals in the other." The movie quickly goes downhill, from there. The killer busts down the door of the house, to visit his nephews. Flash 20 years later. Said boys, who now look remarkably like Siegfried and Roy, are unearthing their uncle's corpse. He sends them on a mission to raise the Mimerian goddess of black magic, Shee-tar. They have to build a body out of spare parts, sacrifice a virgin, and make a feast out of other body parts, including dog genitalia. The only reason to watch this movie is for the sheer disgust of how bad a movie can be. Shee-tar! Shee-tar! Shee-tar! Shit-ty!

SubDebs subpar



Christina Jackson
Editor-in-Chief

The band from Olympia's new album 'She's so control' rips through your eardrums with a savage yet nasal bitterness that makes your brain cringe with its absolute lack of quality. The SubDebs, as they call themselves, start out with complete mediocrity but eventually display a satisfying relationship between singer and instrument, unfortunately, they wait until the very last song.

The song 'Give it up' has music that sounds like it belongs in a James Bond movie while the nasal

crooning of the singer revolves around lyrics like "You're right this time, you're right he's wrong, he's wrong it's the same old song." The SubDebs strive to cash in on the new popularity of feminist songs with their lyrics, but ironically, the only thing keeping the album from completely sucking is the music provided by the SubDebs male member.

Where 'Give it up' mimicks James Bond, 'German Love Song' relies on the childish practice of tearing apart innocent flowers while mindlessly chanting, "He loves me, he loves me not...." Surprisingly simple and unbelievably annoying, this song makes you bob your head with the music, if for no other reason than to provide a source of joy and happiness in your life.

Saving the album from being a host for spreading a hatred of music to anyone who listens to it is the length of the songs. They are short enough that, though reeking of thoughtless blurbs comparable to audio vomit, the songs prompt frantic ear grabbing versus the more controversial act of slamming your head into a wall to reach a state of blissful unconsciousness, thus avoiding any more torturous sound filtering through permanently damaged ear drums.

To buy or not to buy the album? If you enjoy fun things like insanity and hysterical fits, this is the c.d. for you, the music is so bad that if you aren't driven to run around in circles, at least you can enjoy the feeling of your brain cells committing suicide, oh well, it's not like they came through on tests for you anyways.

CENTRAL WASHINGTON UNIVERSITY



LYNNWOOD * SEATAC * STEILACOOM

DEGREE PROGRAMS

CWU LYNNWOOD (425) 640-1574

Accounting
Business Administration
Law & Justice
Certification: Purchasing Management

CWU SEATAC (206) 439-3800

Accounting
Business Administration
Early Childhood Education
Community Health/
Chemical Dependency
Certification: Purchasing Management

CWU STEILACOOM (253) 964-6636

Electronic Engineering Technology
Law & Justice
Community Health/Chemical Dependency

Site Address: Sno King Building
6600 196th St. SW
Lynnwood, WA

Mailing Address: 20000 68th Ave. W
Lynnwood, WA 98036-5999

Site Address: 2450 S 142nd Ave.
SeaTac, WA

Mailing Address: P.O. Box 69288
SeaTac, WA 98188-9288

Address: 9401 Farwest Dr. SW, Lakewood, WA 98498-1999

Thanks to you, all sorts of everyday products are being made from the paper, plastic, metal and glass that you've been recycling.

But to keep recycling working to help protect the environment, you need to buy those products.

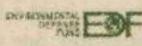
BUY RECYCLED.



AND SAVE.

So look for products made from recycled materials, and buy them, it would mean the world to all of us.

To receive a free brochure, write Buy Recycled, Environmental Defense Fund, 257 Park Ave. South, New York, NY 10010, or call 1-800-CALL-EDF.

Soccer team leading league



Christy Cowan
Staff Reporter

The Gator Men's soccer team continues their impressive season. With a 12-0-0 record the team tops the Southwest Division with 36 points. The Gators are the only team in both league divisions with a perfect record. One of the "fear-some foursome", Travis Mortimer said, "We are the leading defense in the league." With a strong defense and outstanding offense, the team is tearing up the field.

Last week's victories proved once again that the Gator men are on top.

On October 20 the guys cremated Highline with a 3-0 win. Freshman forward Gordy Esborg scored two goals, while Atkinson and Cho scored one each respectively. On Friday the guys took on Southwest Oregon, gaining yet another victory of 6-1.

The Gators began the week with a 4-1 annihilation of Highline. The defense played their best blocking all but one goal. As Scott Kriss said, "We played solid." Another one of the fearsome foursome agrees. David Thor said, "We have been playing consistently and solidly." The guys will play at South Puget Sound on Saturday, at Tacoma on Wednesday, and will finish off the normal season against Umpqua on the sixth. With only three games left to end a perfect season and become the champs of the Southwest Division, the Gators are prepared to conquer.

Girl's soccer continues at playoff pace



Christy Cowan
Staff Reporter

GRCC's Girls soccer team continues to work for a shot at playoffs. Practicing every day on the week minus Sunday, the girls hope to make it to the quarter finals in the end of November. With seven returning players, and an equal number of new members the lady gators are strong and confident. Team co-captain Jamie Watson uses her quick reflexes and ample speed to lead the team.

Although the team has a few players out with injuries the strength of last year's returning players is solid. The lady Gators have a league record of 2-6-1, gaining two wins this weekend. On Friday the girls played Southwest Oregon beating them with 3-0 win. The streak did not end there. The Gators 3-1 slaughter of Tacoma on Saturday illustrated the girls ability to pull through.

Only a few games remain before the playoffs in November. Player Beckie Griffin said, "I think we have the ability to playoffs. Everyone's pretty equal on the team and works to make everyone else succeed." The competition for the playoffs is fierce, but with dedication and consistent plays the girls continue to strive towards playoffs.

Gone to the wind:

Jumping out of planes for sport



Wendy Davis
Staff Reporter

Don't you know? Only fools and bird shit fall from the sky.

—Ernie the cook

An extreme sport is best described in two words: adrenaline rush. If you're not freaked out with fear and excitement, then you haven't gone to the extreme.

I recently felt the fear and experienced the excitement when I joined 20 other people, most of them GRCC students, and jumped out of an airplane for the first time.

It was the scariest thing I'd ever done it my life. But I'm glad I did it.

My adventure began at GRCC on a sunny Saturday morning. We met at the Student Center and piled into two vans. We had to drive 90 minutes to Shelton, and by the time we reached Blue Skies Skydiving Adventures, we were all eager to get started. However, before the big jump, we had to take a four hour training course. Our instructor, Kerry Alzner, who has worked with Blue Skies for two years, started the detailed class with some parachute vocabulary. He discussed the sliders, steering toggles, main ripcords and reserve ripcords. Then we learned about altitude concerns, spotting, what to do upon exiting the airplane and correct ways to land. Alzner also informed us about ground winds, what to do if caught in the trees or power lines and other worse case scenarios. Alzner explained that skydiving, like other extreme activities, is perfectly safe as long as proper procedures are followed. Pay attention to the details, he said, and skydiving is beyond fun.

"Not only is this a popular sport, but it's an addictive sport as well," he said.

During the training class I spoke with a few jump masters about their first experiences skydiving. 35 year old Laurie Brady, a parachutist for five years, said she jumped the first time because her cousin dared her to. After that, she was hooked. Brady said she feels a powerful sense of freedom when she skydives. Now her young daughter has also taken up the sport.

Like Laurie Brady, Gary Reed, who has been skydiving for three years, began on a dare. He explained that his boss at the time gave him a skydiving pass, thinking that Reed wouldn't go through with the jump. "It actually back fired," Reed said. "I loved the skydiving experience so much that I became a jump master. I now have my D license and a total of 499 jumps."

To complete our training we had to take a written test. After the test the reality set in. I was about to jump out of an airplane. Suddenly, I was terrified. But I was ready. I got into my jumpsuit and Reed, my jump master, fitted me with my parachute. It was so heavy I nearly fell over. But I stood tall and made my way to the plane.



Fighting to overcome nausea and anxiety, Wendy prepares to jump.

I had never been in a plane so small, and as it took off my stomach sank to my knees and my heart grew heavy with dread. I prayed we wouldn't crash, even though I was wearing a parachute. As the plane climbed to altitude I was thinking that this is it, I'm really going to do. Crazy. I could feel my heart pound in my throat, harder and faster. Do I really want to do this, I thought? What if my parachute doesn't open? What if I break my legs? What if I die? All these thoughts raced through my head as the other two students in the plane moved to the open door and jumped. Finally, it was my turn. I was completely freaked out. But there was no turning back now. I checked my static line to make sure it was securely attached to the plane. I kept thinking that I'm going die. What if I die? My adrenaline surged as I stepped out of the plane and onto the jump platform. Don't look down, I said to myself. Just don't look down. The wind was blowing hard and my mind went blank. I was so afraid that I forgot everything I had just learned. I knew I had to breath and grab both toggles.

I jumped.

Five long seconds of free fall. Five long seconds of silent panic. Then I realized what I was doing. I was skydiving and it was amazing. I'm doing it! I screamed. It was the best high I had ever experienced. I couldn't believe the view. Incredible.

Suddenly I heard a voice in my ear. I was the radio talker in the airplane. "Jumper three, grab your brakes. Give me a 180. Jumper three, give me a left turn." I started to go off course and I could hear the radio talker laughing. "Jumper three!" he yelled. "Jumper number three, left turn!" Now I was laughing. The radio talker asked me if I needed an interpreter, if I spoke English. I could only laugh, I thought. Amazing.

As I neared the ground I pulled down on my brakes. I knew I was coming down hard. I tried to land on my feet but failed. I basically landed on my face, but survived. I knew I might be a little sore, but didn't care, I had just had the best time in my life and couldn't wait to do it again.

Are you HUNGRY?

Sick of those microwaved burgers? Don't want a weak salad? The smell of warm cheesy pizza awaits you at your local Auburn Godfather's! Order your favorite Pizza!

253-833-1772

Located on the corner of 4th and Auburn Way

RPG Stuff

TSR, Dice, Rifts

White Wolf

Network Computer
Gaming Center

Come Play!

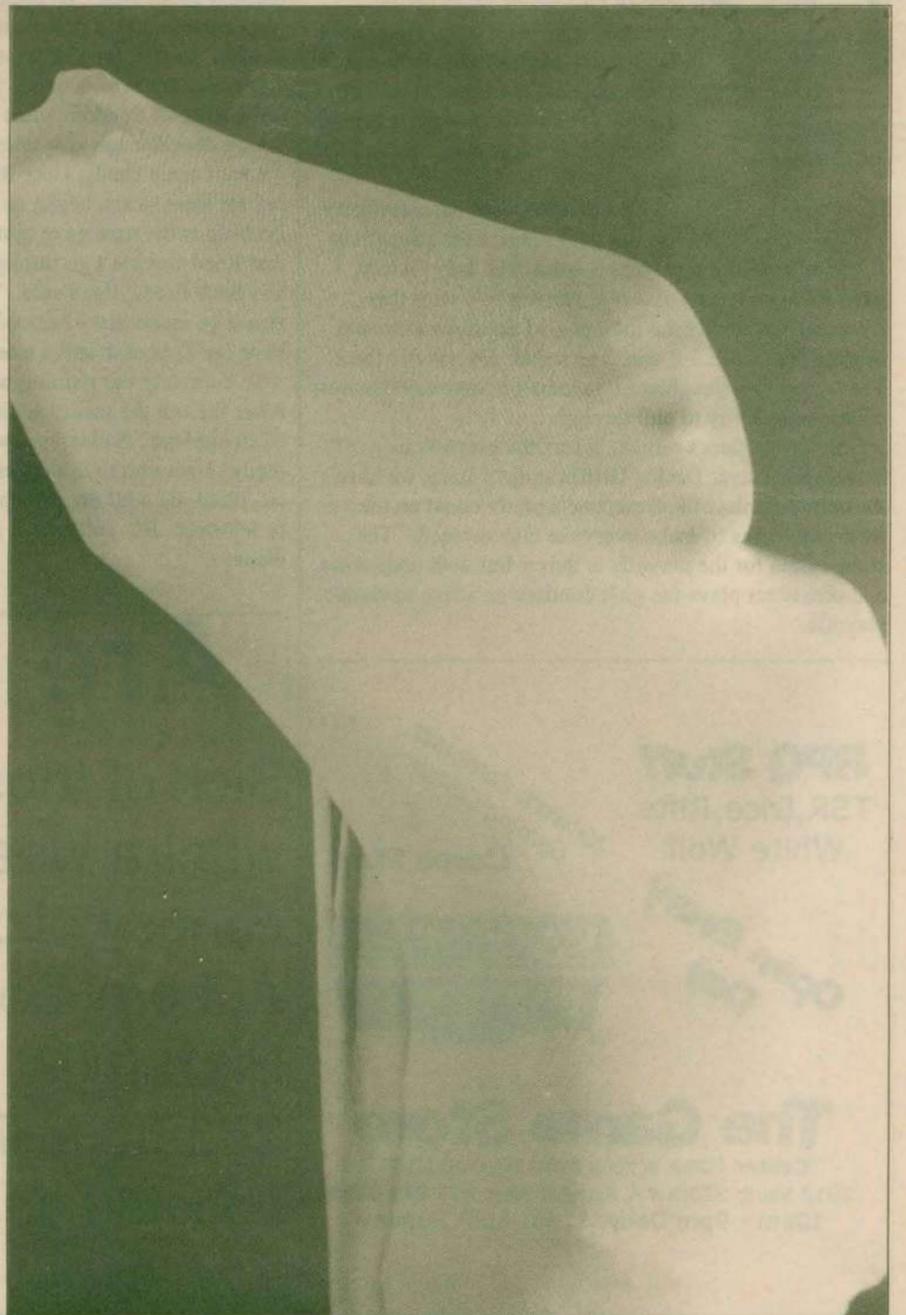
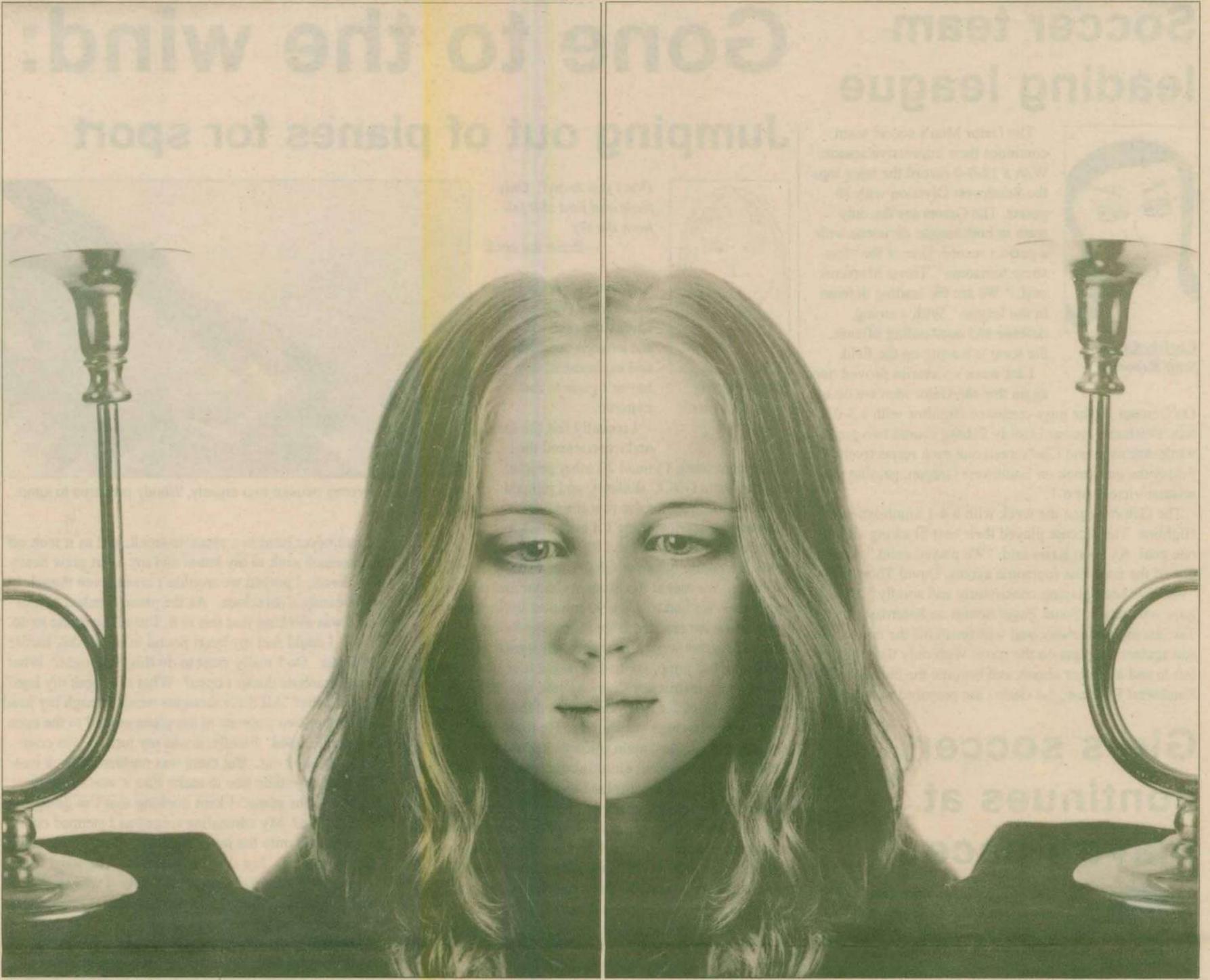
Open Every
Day



The Game Store

"Center Plaza across from SeaTac Mall"

2012 South 320th #A, Federal Way 253-946-2553
10am - 9pm Daily 11am-6pm Sunday



Photos contributed by (from top left to bottom right) Taichi Kitamura, Taka, Nate Gray