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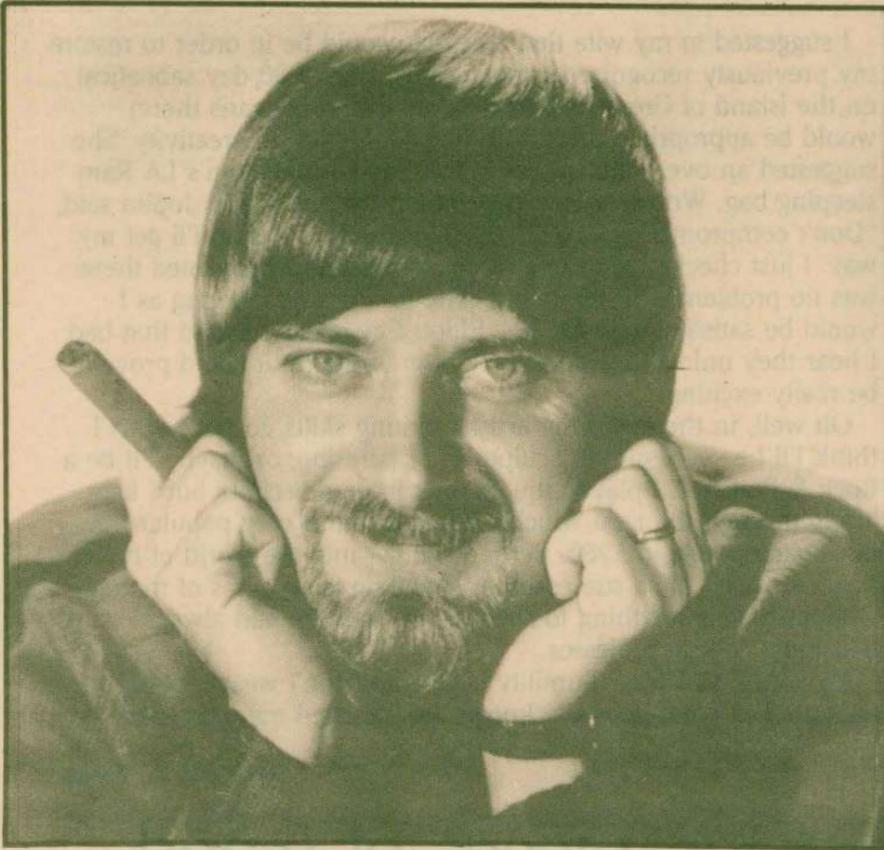
The
Green
River

CURRENT

Green River Community College

Volume 19, No. 3

February 10, 1984



Pete Barbutti will provide comic relief at Green River Community College Thursday as part of the annual Artists and Speakers Series.

Barbutti to perform at GR

by Matt Massey

Pete Barbutti has a special quality. He knows how to make people laugh.

Barbutti, who has been providing comic relief for over 20 years now, is set to combine with the Music Company, the Green River Community College student music group, for a night of entertainment next Thursday at Green River Community College.

The two acts, Barbutti and the Music Company, will take the stage for two performances at 7 and 9:30 p.m. at GRCC's Lindbloom Student Center as part of the college's annual Artist and Speakers Series.

The jazz-musician turned stand-up comedian has received rave reviews for his outrageously funny comedy routines.

Barbutti, who was recently named Lounge Star of the Year at the annual Las Vegas Entertainment Awards, aims to please. His area of target is to make one forget his troubles.

"If I can make one person laugh and forget his troubles and those he reads about, my evening's effort has been a success," he once informed a Los Angeles reporter.

As a fixture in the night clubs around the country, Barbutti has almost become a replacement for alcohol, as an escape mechanism.

"It was when I had a combo touring the nation's night spots and watching the audience drowning their troubles in drinks that I decided something had to be done," Barbutti told some time ago to that same LA reporter. "I don't do this (tour as a comedian) for the money. Money just happens to be a fringe

benefit."

Also, Barbutti frequently is seen on Johnny Carson's "The Tonight Show," and is a regular feature in Reno and Las Vegas.

His style is a unpredictably funny one, yet not a "dirty" kind.

"I tell the audience right off the bat I use only three-letter words. Four would make my show dirty," he assures. "To make someone laugh at the expense of someone else would be defeating my purpose."

Barbutti, a cigar-smoking (and playing), bearded wonder, highlights his shows with various whacky bits.

He plays his broom and plays a special version of "Love Story" on the piano part ly with his nose.

The multi-faceted comedian tells stories from Polish bullfighting to ones of camper parties.

Before all his zaniness actually initiated in the early 1960's, Barbutti was a jazz musician. He was considered by other musicians, as perhaps the last of the great accordion jazzmen. Lack of work and the absence of a vocalist in his group turned him to comedy.

Tickets are available through the Student Programs office on the GR campus. Reserved seats are \$8 and general admission seating is \$4. Also, Ticketmaster Northwest has tickets for this event, which not only features Barbutti, but the GR Music Company. The group has played to sold-out audiences throughout the Pacific Northwest. Ticketmaster's phone numbers for the show are from Seattle, 628-0888; from Tacoma, 272-6817; and from all other areas toll-free, 1-800-562-4988.

February scheduled as Black History Month

by Rocky Near

February is designated as the annual salute to Black History Month. Green River Community College's Black Student Union has scheduled a variety of cultural events designed to stimulate interest toward black accomplishments.

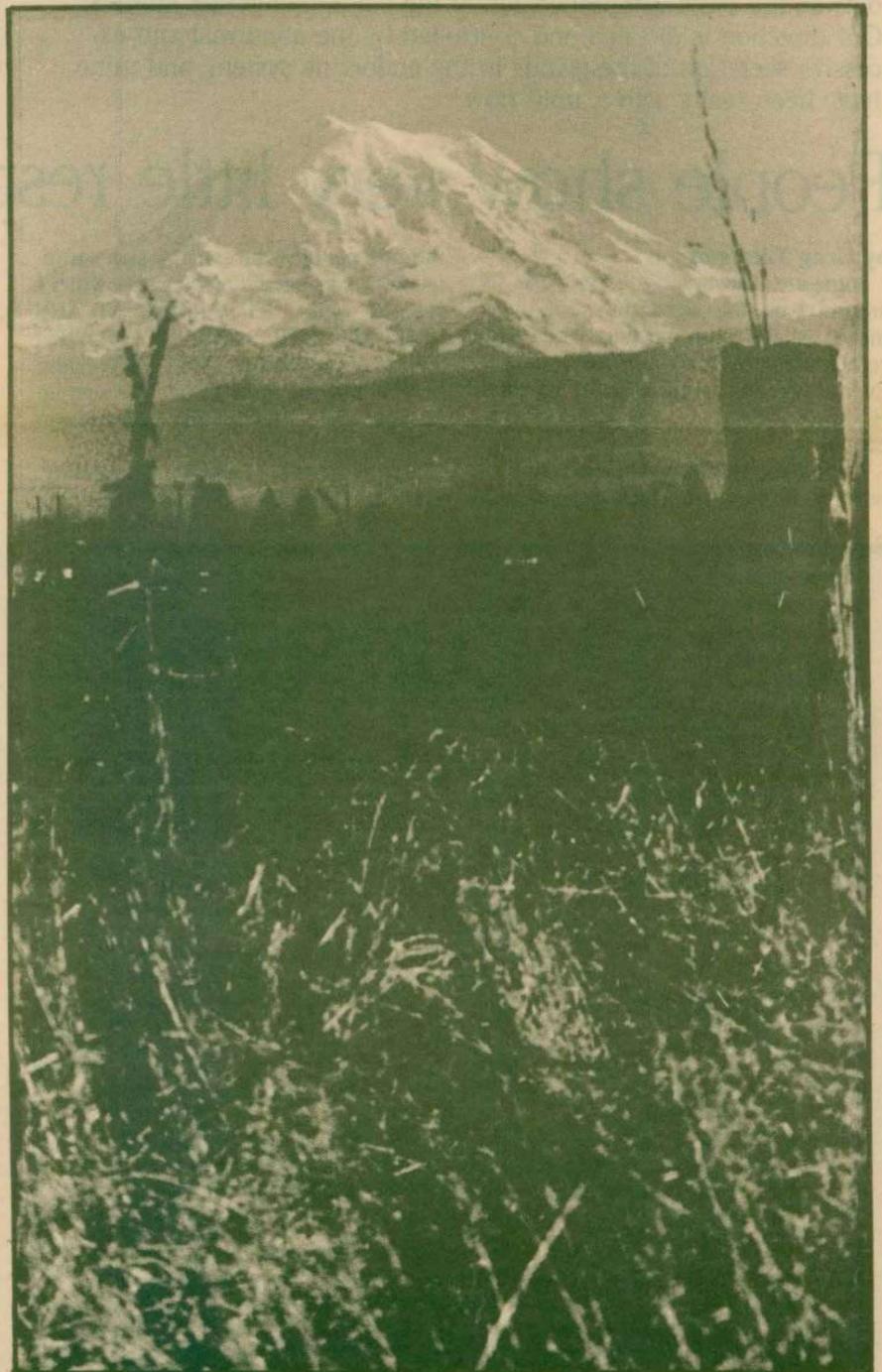
Among the events scheduled are the Garfield Jazz Band and the South Shore African Dancers. Music videos by black artists like Earth, Wind and Fire and Michael Jackson will be shown in the Glacier room. There is also a black history display upstairs in the Lindbloom Student Center.

The need for a Black History Month was first recognized in 1916 by author, educator and historian Carter G. Whit-

son. In 1968 the idea became popular on college campuses as a way to provide the campus with exposure to the cultural achievements and contributions of black Americans.

Girtha M. Reed of Minority Affairs said, "If accomplishments of blacks are properly presented, it would let the world know that black people were a factor in the early progress of America and have made important contributions." She continued, "Most people don't know that the first open heart surgery was performed by a black man or that Charles R. Drew, the father of blood plasma, was black."

Reed said, "It's sad that we have to set aside a month to show people the accomplishments of blacks."



Photographer Michael Papritz captured a scenic view of Mt. Rainier near Orting last Sunday. A high pressure system came over the Seattle area and caused unusually clear and warm weather.

SIR
drags

Racing season returns

Pages 4 and 5



Number one
lady Gators

The sky's the limit

Page 6



OPINION

Reservoir has temporarily dried up

My past editorials have been extremely easy to write. It has seemed like the words, the ideas were of a source outside myself.

Editorial

I would initiate a thought, grab a pen and write three pages of (let us not forget this is an opinion editorial) relevant, important, pertinent stuff. I'm presently in a real quandary. My reservoir of literate expertise has temporarily evaporated. I have concluded I'm in a typical artists dilemma. That predicament of being an artist and having to produce upon demand. I have read that Picasso refused to work under such a guise. I remember Mick Jagger being under contract to write a score of songs for a recording company but missed the deadline. He was subsequently threatened with a breach of contract civil suit so he spent two hours writing the songs which were so obscene and raunchy "Hustler" magazine wouldn't ever print them. Jagger was consequently released from the contract.

Artists like Picasso, Jagger, and me need time to continually produce expected masterpieces. We do not function on the same plateau as mere mortals and our inspiration flows from a source outside the basic comprehension of the beforementioned mortals. Our direction is dictated and controlled by the abnormal and excessive secretion of the glands in the endocrine system, and mine have been really active, until now.

I suggested to my wife that a retreat would be in order to restore my previously recognized genius status. I felt a 30 day sabbatical on the island of Grenada (I heard they like Americans there) would be appropriate therapy to negate this lull in creativity. She suggested an overnight stay at Elliott Bay with my son's LA Ram sleeping bag. We are still in negotiations but like Janis Joplin said, "Don't compromise yourself, it's all you got," I'm sure I'll get my way. I just checked with one of my instructors who related there was no problem with me being gone for 30 days, as long as I would be satisfied with an "F." Elliott Bay doesn't sound that bad. I hear they unload a wide variety of grain there. It could prove to be really exciting.

Oh well, in the event my artistic writing skills do not return I think I'll be successful in sculpture, or painting, or maybe I'll be a Rock & Roll star. I played the clarinet in grade school but I kept biting through the reed which created a sound very popular now but unacceptable in 1960. Perhaps I'll get into the world of high finance since I'm so successful at spending large sums of money without having anything to show for it. Hell, I could always become a college professor.

My wife says I wear humility well, I just don't wear it often enough. But what does she know? She married me didn't she!!

— Fred A. Pritt

People show very little respect for pieces of wood

by Greg Tillotson

Someone's always trying to push us around with the signs they put up. I mean, what's your reaction when you come up against the sign: "KEEP OUT"? Even if you don't want to go in, reaction is always: "The hell with you, fella, I'm comin' in."

I think most of us have some kind of reaction to every sign we see that isn't

the one people who put the sign up intended us to have. For instance, when I see this one: "NO PARKING AT ANY TIME: VIOLATORS WILL BE TOWED AWAY AT OWNER'S EXPENSE," I figure they're bluffing. They've had the sign up for ages and probably have never towed away anyone yet.

A lot of signs are very strong sounding. They try to scare you into not doing

something: "NO TRESPASSING." "WARNING: TRESPASSERS WILL BE PUNISHED." Or maybe they'll suggest you're going to get bit: "BEWARE OF DOG."

Some signs are polite. For instance, they'll try to sweet-talk you into not smoking: "THANK YOU FOR NOT SMOKING." Some are more direct: "SMOKING NOT PERMITTED." Some get tougher: "POSITIVELY NO SMOKING." Or this is a good one: "NO SMOKING-BY ORDER OF THE BOARD OF EDUCATION." Has any student not done anything by order of the Board of Education?

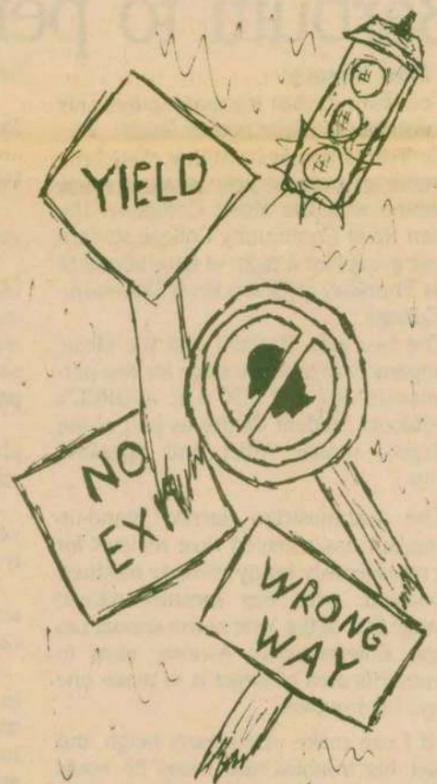
Schools have a special irritating way with signs. They pretend to be friendly "WELCOME TO OUR SCHOOL" - but, then tell you all the stuff you can't do: "NO BIKE RIDING, SPITTING, LOITERING, etc." . . . Any kid would never think of spitting until reading this sign.

I don't care much for signs with pictures on them: "DEER CROSSING," "CATTLE CROSSING." By the time I've figured out what it's a picture of, I'm past it.

I like signs that have no doubt about what they mean. Take this one: "IN," only one meaning for that. But of course there are always those signs that deceive us. I figure "NO THRU TRAFFIC" really means that road is a shortcut. And "NO EXIT" is an exit but they don't want you to go out that way.

There are signs you do not fool around with, such as "RADIATION." I mean, if you really wanted to keep someone off the grass that might be one to put up.

You know some signs are put up too late, of course. Usually by the time some-



one puts up "NO DUMPING" people have been dumping there for years. And some signs are just too far fetched. Have you ever seen someone go 5 miles an hour? I don't think there is such a speed.

The fact of the matter is most of us show very little respect for signs. It really is difficult to show anything towards a piece of wood.

CURRENT

The Current is published as an educational experience by the students of the journalism program of Green River Community College, 12401 SE 320th St., Auburn, WA 98002, each Friday throughout the school year except during scheduled vacations and examination weeks. The Current welcomes all letters concerning subjects of general interest as long as rules of good taste and libel are observed. Opinions expressed in this newspaper are not necessarily those of the college, student body, faculty, administration, Board of Trustees or the Green River Current staff. Copy is set by the Green River College Instructional Media Center. The Current office (833-9111, ext. 267) is located in the Student Communications Annex. Office hours are 8 a.m. to 3 p.m. Monday through Friday.

The Green River Current welcomes all letters concerning subjects of general interest. Every attempt will be made to print all letters to the editor, space permitting.

The newspaper verifies signatures as authentic and will publish only signed letters with a complete address and phone number, although they will not be printed. Names can and will be withheld from publication only in special pre-arranged cases.

Letters to the editor should be written concisely; any letter more than 250 words will be edited to conserve space. Because of this paper's legal responsibilities, the Current reserves the right to delete questionable material.

The deadline for submitting letters is 3 p.m. Monday of the same week of publication. Address all letters to the editor, The Green River Current, Green River Community College, 12401 SE 320th St., Auburn, Wa 98002, or deliver them to the Current office located in the Student Communications Annex. Once received, all letters become the property of the Green River Current.

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Inmate wants a correspondent

Editor's note:

This letter was received from an inmate in a New York correctional facility.

Staff,

I would very much appreciate it if you would please place this in your campus newspaper, as it is very important to me.

WANTED! "Behind The Walls" college student looking for correspondence from people that care. Good looking, 5'9". Irish/Italian, 150 lbs., brown hair, brown eyes. Lonely. Friendship interests. Serving three years for burglary and escape.

All responses welcomed and answered.

SEND TO:
Rick Garvey-83 C 810
Great Meadow Correctional Facility
P.O. Box 51
Comstock, NY 12821-0051

*P.S. If it is not possible to place this, please post it where interested persons might be able to see it. Thank you in advance, have a nice day.

Respectfull,
Rick Garvey

GENERAL NEWS

Trindl takes care of grounds

by Joan Nelson

A lot of people may notice the campus and how well the area is maintained, but they don't know who is responsible for it. Tom Trindl, who is in charge of the grounds and maintenance at GRCC, along with his crew makes GRCC the place that it is.

Trindl, who has been working at the college for six years, became interested in studying plants in high school. He then went on to the Los Angeles Pierce College in Southern California and received an Associated Science Degree in Ornamental Horticulture. While attending college, he worked at nurseries, garden shops and did some landscaping jobs.

The maintenance crew has 40 acres to take care of so they can't do everything that has to be done at once. "That's too much work," stated Trindl. Their first priority is to make the campus safe to get around by clearing debris and litter off walkways and taking care of the lighting in the parking lots. The next thing they do is the general cleaning and the re-landscaping of the parks. Their last priority is cutting the brush in the wooded areas.

"The duties change from season to season," explained Trindl. During the winter they clear snow or ice off the parking lots and walkways. In the spring and summer the ball fields have to be taken care of more often, the lawns have to be mowed, and in the fall the leaves have to be cleared off of the parking lots and the walkways.

Trindl enjoys hiking, electronics,



Tom Trindl prepares to take care of grounds. Photo by Rocky Near

photography and outdoor type work. He also likes watching plants grow and taking care of them. Trindl has always wanted to be a park ranger but he feels that working at GRCC is close enough to the real thing. He sees himself staying at the college for another five years and then he would like to give teaching a try. He has taught night classes at GRCC before and would like to do it again.

Trindl would also like to generate a horticulture program at GRCC. "There aren't any horticulture programs in their area and the GRCC would be the perfect place to have one," commented Trindl.

Trindl says that he enjoys working at the college as long as he can make ends meet. He enjoys his job so much that sometimes he doesn't even think of it as work.

Phonathon volunteers needed

by Joanne Webster

The Green River Foundation is sponsoring a phonathon on Feb. 27, 28 and 29 from 6:15 to 9:30 p.m. Volunteers are needed to help with phoning for one, two or three evenings and the only requirements are enthusiasm and a friendly voice.

Last year, the Foundations raised \$126,500, but the organization was short \$8,000 in the scholarship fund because many contributions were directed toward other specific programs.

The Foundations enhance the cultural, educational and recreational opportunities available to the community. The organization receives funds from individuals, businesses, service organizations, government agencies and philanthropic foundations.

It welcomes gifts of cash, stock, property, materials and volunteer services and donations are tax deductible.

Donations go toward meritorious scholarships, library materials, high technology, parent education for parents of troubled youth, community arts, the Cardio Pulmonary Research Institute (CAPRI) and visiting lecturers.

The program was formed six years ago and it keeps track of more than 10,000 alumni, honors distinguished alumni, provides a quarterly newsletter and solicits funds through phonathons.

Anyone interested in learning more about the Foundation or phonathon volunteers may call Connie Huzar, alumni relations assistant, at 833-9111, ext. 430 for more information.

Nuclear group formed

Nuclear war is a concern of a lot of people. There are several people at GRCC who have gotten together and formed a group about nuclear awareness.

Ted Smith, the originator of this group, described it as being very action oriented. Smith, who is a sociology instructor at the college, said that they try to bring speakers, films and slides shows to GRCC on a regular basis to make everyone aware of nuclear war.

The group has been meeting for a year. A few of the things they have done are showing the film, "If You Love This Planet," having a discussion about the television movie, "The Day After," and

bringing in Don Whitmore, a military systems analysis from Boeing, to talk about arms control and national defense.

Smith said that the group is very informal and is made up of administration, faculty and students. Smith's reason for getting the group together was because of the lack of discussion at the college. "I wanted the faculty and students to get together on an equal basis and talk about something that is of mutual concern to them," explained Smith.

Any people who are interested in the nuclear awareness group may contact Ted Smith at ext. 396 or Philip Heft at ext. 356.

Legislative Budget Committee Open Hearings

Wednesday, Feb. 22
4:00-6:00 p.m.

Monday, Feb. 27
6:00-8:00 p.m.

In the Rainier Room of the Lindbloom Student Center

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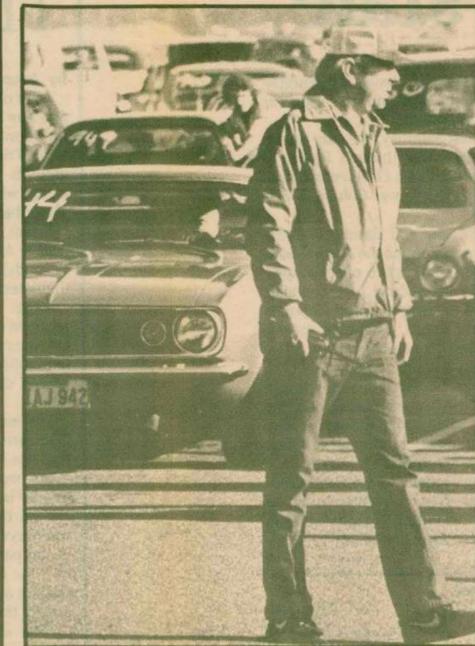
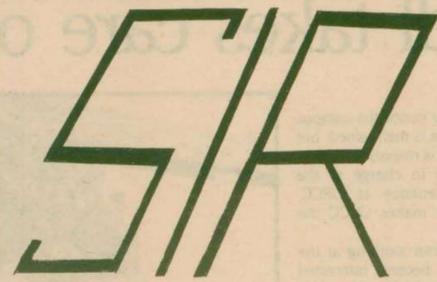
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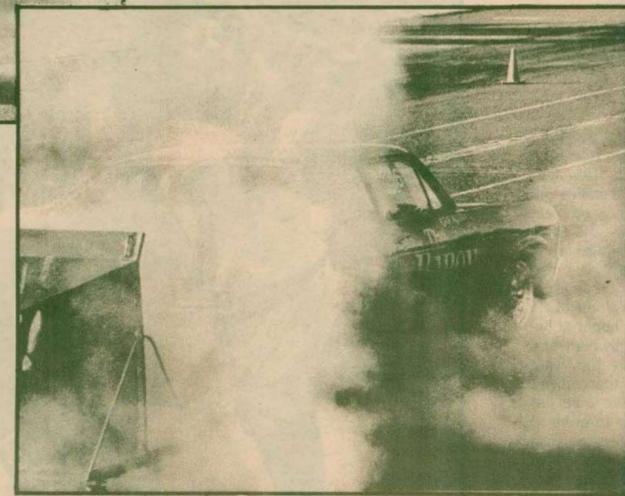
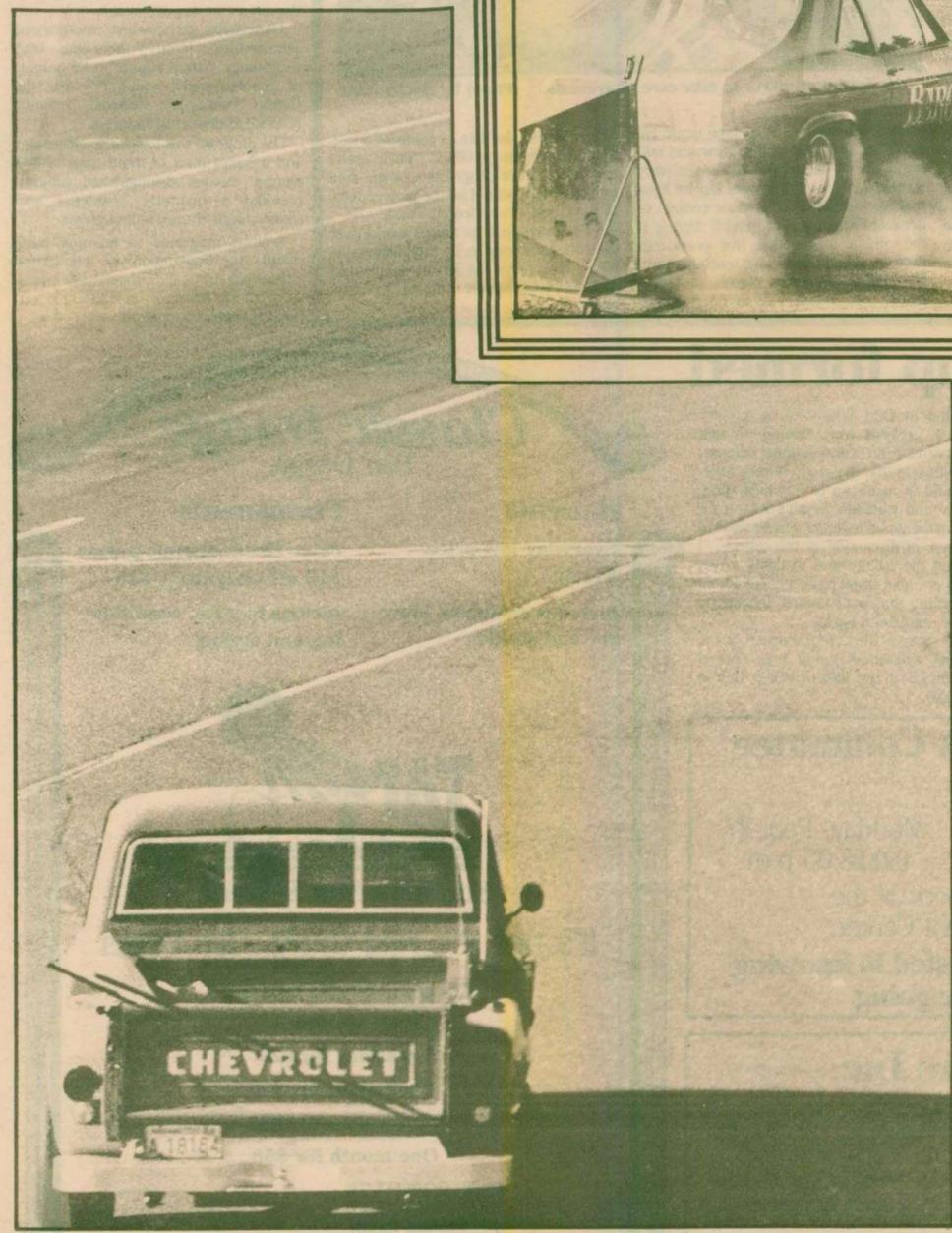
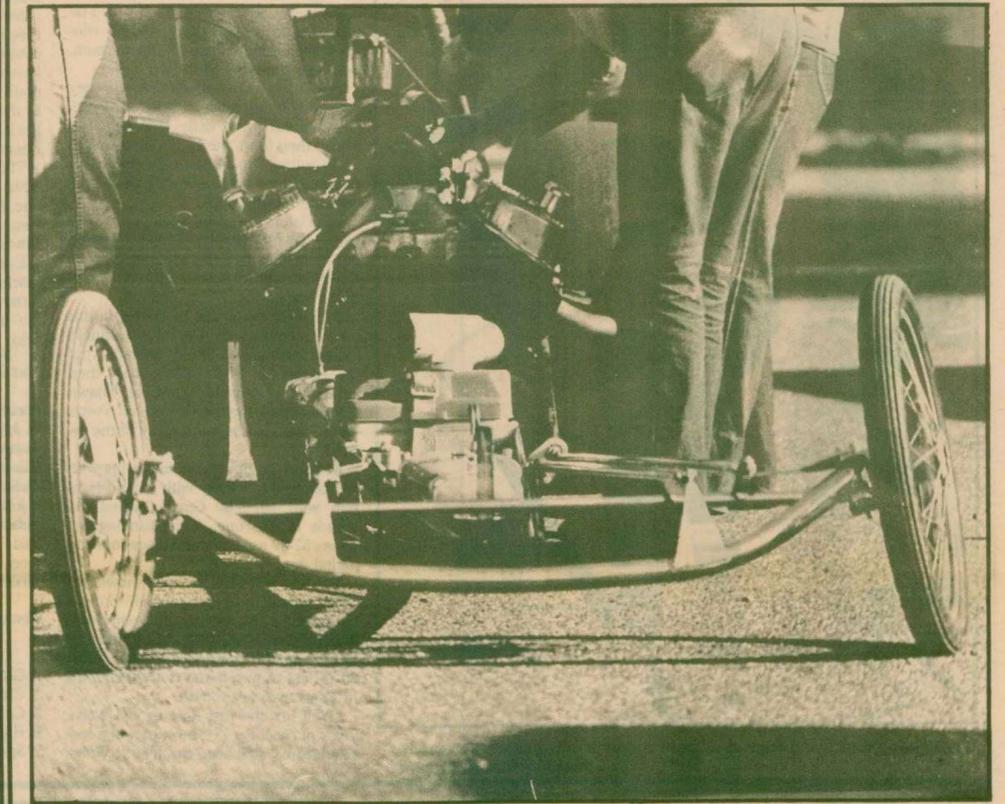
1414 South 324th
Federal Way, WA 98003
Beneath Swensen's Ice Cream Factory

PHOTO FEATURE

SPORTS



A day at the races



Seattle International Raceway has opened its gates for another season. Current photographer Michael Papritz captured the excitement of Sunday's events.

SPORTS

Gator women are No. 1 in state



Sue Wald, a Kentwood High graduate, makes a move on an opponent.
Photo by Glenn Marzano

by Steve Smith

Typical. That would be the best way to describe the Green River women's basketball squad's victory Wednesday night over the Tacoma Titans, 82-57.

The win keeps the Gators, who are now ranked number one in the state community college's coaches poll, in a tie with second ranked Clark, 101-54 winners Wednesday over Ft. Steilacoom. Both teams are 8-1 in Region II play.

The Titans, with nothing to lose if they knocked off the states number one team, powered out to an early 19-9 lead. But true to their form, the Lady Gators fought back, pulling into a 23-all tie with 4:18 remaining in the first half on a pair of Julie Williams freethrows.

The Gators then took a temporary lead with a 10 foot Carolyn Laufasa jumper, but the Titans tied the score at 25 on a Karin Dalesky layin with 2:34 remaining in the stanza.

But GRCC would not be denied in this one. Freethrows by Christine Hannon, Shiree Maulin and Shelly Schrader put the Gators up 31-27 at the half, then behind the outside work of Shawn Johnson and the inside job of Yvette Henry, the visitors put it away in the second half.

Johnson led the Gators in scoring with 18, followed by Henry with 16 and Hannon with 10. The Gators owned the boards in this one, outrebounding the Titans 52-39 as Henry and Stacy Johnson pulled down nine apiece.

The win sets up a possible showdown of the state's CC top two ranked women's basketball teams in Auburn Wednesday, if both teams are victorious tomorrow night. The Gators will want to avenge the 80-78 loss they suffered to the Penguins in Vancouver last month.

"Well, it's the first time in my twelve years of coaching I've been part of a top-rated team," said head coach Mike Willis.

"It's a good feeling to have - its a compliment to both the team and the coaches as well as to the school."

In action last Saturday, the lady Gators continued their tear through Region II and kept pace with the Clark Penguins as they thrashed the Lower Columbia Red Devils, 73-52.

Shelly Schrader and Carolyn Laufasa rose to the occasion for the Gators, both coming to life with superb offensive performances in the second half. Schrader poured in 14 of her game high 19 points in the second stanza, adding six assists. Laufasa scored 16 points after the intermission. Shawn Johnson added 15.

Though not having a superior height advantage, the Gators outboarded the She Devils 35-28, with forward Yvette Henry grabbing 12 and reserve Stacy Johnson hauling in 11.

Everything worked well for the Gator machine, as they committed only 15 turnovers while hitting 81.8 percent from the freethrow line and 43.8 from the field.

(After 22 Games)

	GMS	TP	AVE	REB	AST
Schrader	22	175	8.0	77	61
Sh. Johnson	22	364	16.5	87	123
Hannon	22	278	12.6	57	86
Williams	22	86	3.9	22	33
Maulin	21	151	6.9	122	8
St. Johnson	14	65	4.6	77	20
Laufasa	21	128	6.1	105	35
Wald	17	33	1.9	18	14
Henry	22	225	10.2	193	15
Poindexter	22	146	6.6	117	9

Womens State NWAACC Top 5 (as of 2-7-84)

	Recrd	Pts.	Pvs.
1. Green River	18-4	80	3rd
2. Clark	20-2	75	2nd
3. Col. Basin	16-4	75	6th
4. Highline	17-4	70	5th
5. Spokane Falls	14-5	51	1st

Dedication, enthusiasm, inspiration and scoring points are Laufasa's trademarks

by Karen Sweatt

One of the best forwards available to the college recruiters last year is a highly motivated and committed athlete from Seattle. She always tries to do what's best for the team, whether it's providing enthusiasm or inspiration or scoring points, she always tries her hardest. This is the trademark of Caroline Laufasa.

Laufasa is a 1983 graduate of Chief Sealth High School in West Seattle. In high school she played volleyball, softball and ran track, in addition to basketball. Laufasa says she chose to play college basketball "because I've always enjoyed playing basketball. It's fun for me."

Besides being recruited by the Gators, she was recruited by Wenatchee Community College for her basketball abilities. Head Coach Mike Willis stated "We are lucky to get her. She could have gone to lots of other schools."

She said she chose Green River over Wenatchee because "I wanted to sort of get away from home. Also the basketball program is pretty good here."

Laufasa is the team's leading free throw shooter at 75.9 percent. She averages 5.6 points and 5.1 rebounds per game.

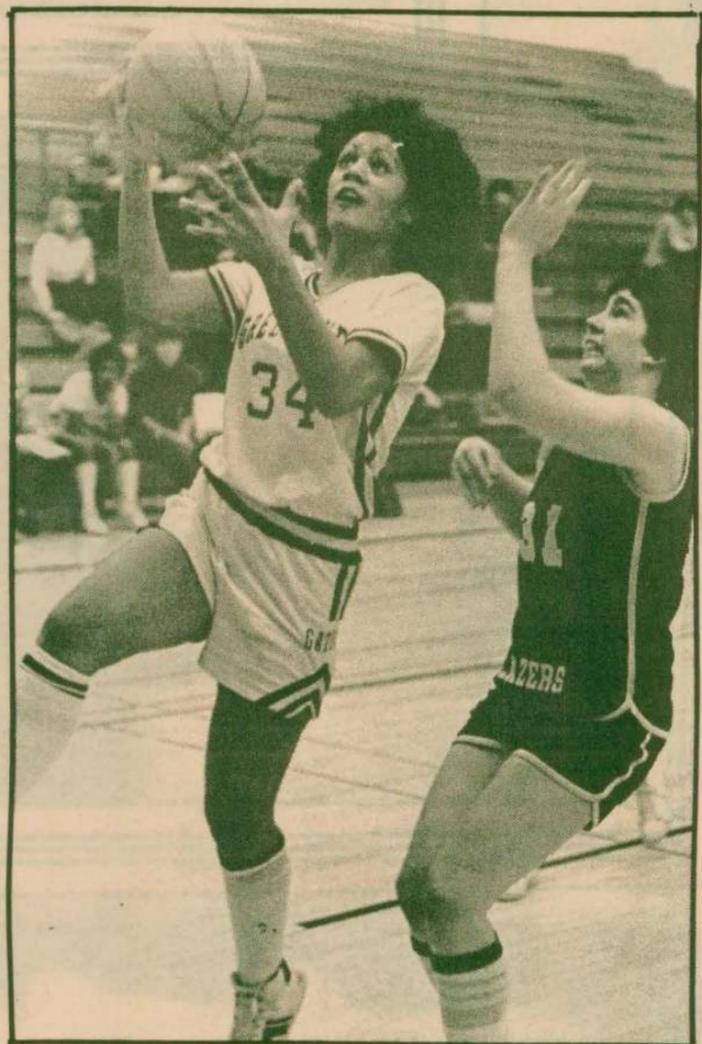
"Laufasa has made more of a commitment to the team than anyone," Willis

added. She rides the bus to and from school each day-a two hour ride each way. "By riding the Metro lines four hours a day, she still has good grades and does not have an attendance problem with her classes or practices and there are members who live 10 minutes away who do have problems with class and practice attendance."

Her supportive attitude to all members of the team earned her the honor of being voted Most Inspirational by her teammates in December when the team traveled to Hawaii for a tournament. Willis also stated "I would like to get her farther away from the hoop in order to maximize her shooting abilities." She can also get as many assists as points which makes her a valuable asset to the Gator squad.

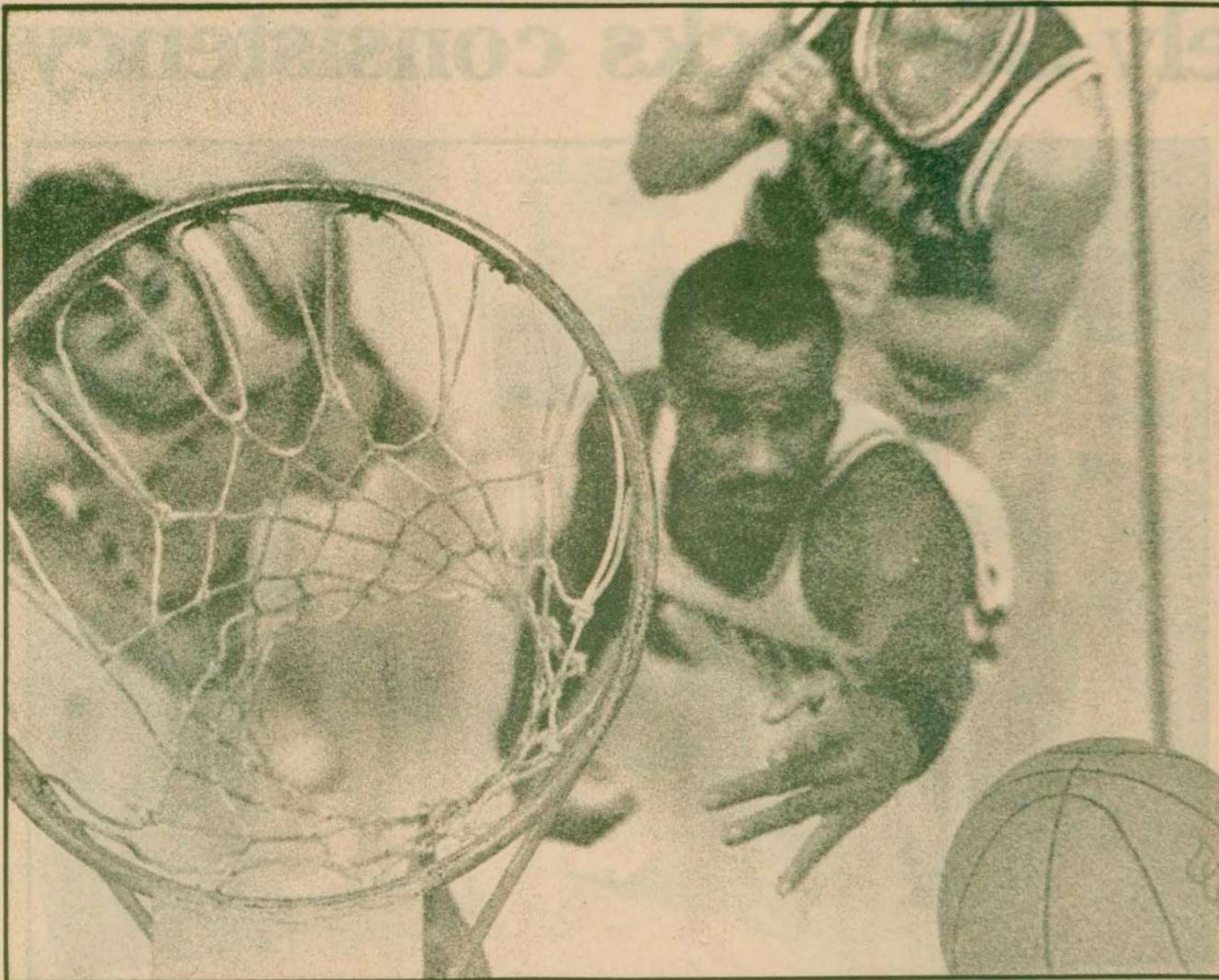
In order to complete her major in recreation - she would like to coach kids - Laufasa intend to go on to a four year school. She stated that she wasn't sure if she would continue playing basketball but that she would definately go on.

But for now she will continue to do her best for the Lady Gators. Next year she will inherit one of the two forward spots, either the power forward or the small forward.



Caroline Laufasa drives to the hoop in a game earlier this season.
Photo by Glenn Marzano

SPORTS



Sophomore Gator guard Robert Grinds goes up for a lay-in against Lower Columbia last Saturday. (Left) Teammate Rance Newman looks on. Grinds paced the green River scoring attack with 19 points, but the Gators fell in defeat to the Red Devils, 70-64.
Photo by Michael Papritz

Men leave Tacoma unsatisfied

by Steve Smith

The Green River Gators men's basketball team went into Tacoma Wednesday night with thoughts of avenging the come-from behind overtime loss they had suffered to the TCC Titans last month.

They left Tacoma unsatisfied and possibly disappointed.

Shooting only 32 percent from the floor, the Gators dropped their third straight conference game, losing to TCC 77-57. GRCC, down 37-24 at the half, was only able to connect on 29 percent of their shots in the first half.

Tacoma's Mike Green led all scorers with 32. No Gator was able to get into double figures, as Dan McCone topped the scorers with nine, followed by Ron Grosvenor, Robert Grinds and Bryan Oas all with eight points.

The Gators, now 2-7 in Region II play and 9-14 overall, will see action Wednesday as they travel to Centralia to take on the Trailblazers, a team they beat in Auburn 74-65 last month.

In action last weekend, the Gators were nearly able to avenge a loss to Lower Columbia, but as in the first contest in Longview a month ago the Gators were close but fell just short, losing to the Red Devils, 70-64.

The Gators trailed through most of the contest, but were able to pull back to a tie at 41 with 8:30 remaining in the contest. But the Devils opened up the floor on the Gators and were never headed again. GRCC did manage to pull within four near the end of the contest, but in an effort to foul to get the ball back, the Devils were near perfect at the freethrow line down the stretch.

The Gators, going into the contest without the services of starting forward Dan McCone and point guard Dan Balmer, were led in scoring by sophomore Robert Grinds with 19 points, followed by Matt Mead with 16 and Scott Cline with 12.

Rance Newman, freshman forward from Raymond, also had a fine performance for the home squad, leading the Gators with nine boards and eight assists.

Intramural standings

5 on 5 Basketball

Division A	W	L	Division B	W	L	Division C	W	L
Slow Break	3	1	Slama Jama	3	0	Artesian Hunters	3	0
Retakes	3	0	Ram Jam	2	1	Bolivia Boys	3	1
Chem 140	2	1	Beavers	2	2	One Step Behind	3	1
Those Dudes	1	2	All Stars	1	2	Disciples	1	2
KGRG Exciteries	1	3	Cunning Runts	1	2	Sixers	1	2
One More Time	0	3	Soul Strippers	1	3	Team One	0	3

Volleyball

Division A	W	L	Division B	W	L
No Return	4	0	Motley Crew	3	1
Oldies But Goodies	3	0	Rottens	3	1
Spike	2	2	Dead Pintos	2	2
Six Pack	2	3	Beaverpelts	1	3
A Team	1	2	Foads	1	3
Bounty Hunters	0	5			

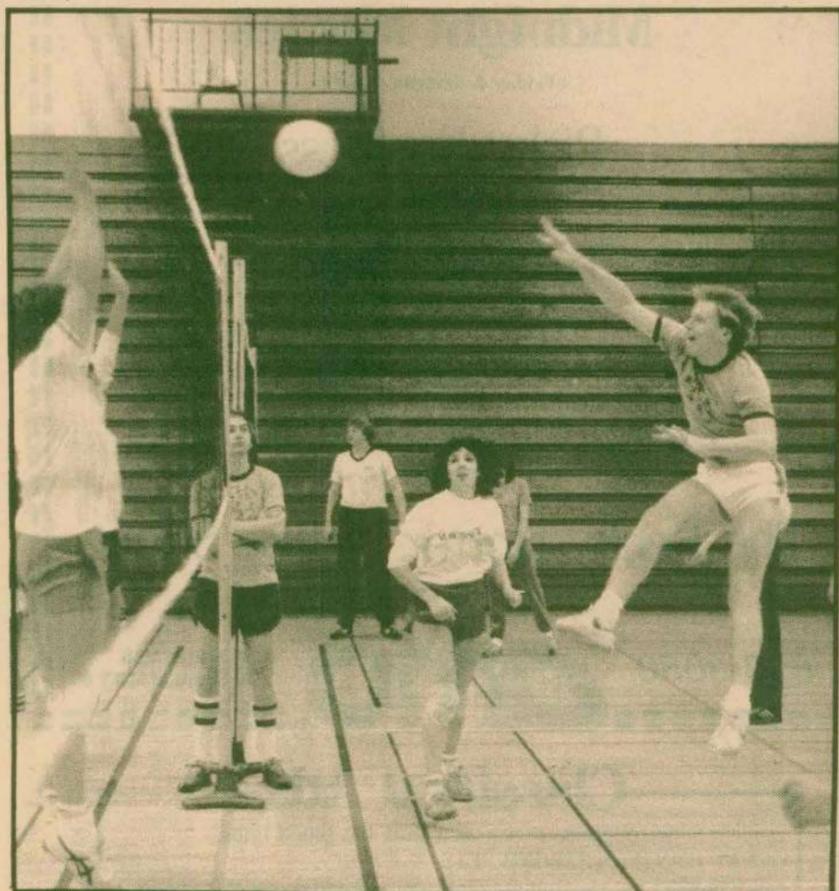
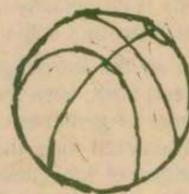


Photo by Michael Papritz
Mike Barr spikes the ball in intramural competition.

Winter intramurals to end soon

by Nese Welch

As the Green River Intramurals department begin to conclude its 1983-84 Winter activities season, preparations have already begun for spring activities.

According to Intramurals coordinator Ted Franz, playoffs for the 18 five-on-five basketball teams and the 11 coed volleyball squads will begin February 20. Each team will play at least five league contests and since every team will make it to the playoff tournaments and has a chance at a championship.

GR's Santini breaks school record in indoor track meet at Kibbie Dome

by Wendy Taylor

The Green River tracksters competed in their second indoor meet of the season last Saturday in the Kibbie Dome at the University of Idaho.

Green River's highlight performance went to Cathy Santini breaking the school record in the 800 meters with a time of 2:19. Santini also ran the 1500 meters in 5:00.3.

Another strong performance came from Larry Beatty running the 400 meters in 52.3.

"We did well considering we didn't

bring that many people. It gave a lot of people the chance to experience running on an indoor track," said head coach Ron Snodgrass.

Other participants in the meet were Mike Neuman, Reid Johnson, Rod Meeker, Adam Clarke, Wendy Taylor and Kevette Van.

"This was one of the biggest meets that the team has ever competed in. It gave them an opportunity to compete against a lot of very talented university athletes," Snodgrass concluded.

Also in the works is an invitational basketball tournament for recreation league teams from Auburn, Kent, Spanaway, Seattle, and Renton.

Signups for spring sports will begin next month, with badminton beginning March 13 and signup for coed baseball set to start the same day. For further information, see Franz or Diane Reid in PE-9. Other spring activities will include one-on-one basketball for the first week of the program, four-on-four basketball, coed volleyball, horseshoes, and croquet.

ARTS/ENTERTAINMENT

'The Lonely Guy' lacks consistency

by Doug Williams

"The Lonely Guy," starring Steve Martin, Charles Grodin, and Judith Ivey; directed by Arthur Hiller; at Renton Village, Center Plaza Six, and Valley 6 Drive Ins; rated R because of language.

REVIEW

"The Lonely Guy" is a movie with an identity crisis. Director Arthur Hiller's latest effort that stars Steve Martin as "Wild 'n Crazy Guy" Martin can't seem to find a comfortable side of the comedy/drama fence to fall on. So, the film simply leans on one side of the fence for a while, then it hops over to the other side. The real loser, however, is the audience.

Steve Martin plays a "lonely guy," a man without female companionship, or hardly any companionship at all for that matter. Martin stumbles through life with people stepping on him at every level. He comes home after a long day at work, only to find his girlfriend (Robyn Douglass) in bed with another man. Martin is kicked out of his home, and he begins a long and grueling stint as a "lonely guy."

Martin meets Charles Grodin, an experienced lonely guy of many years. Grodin rents life-sized cardboard cutouts of celebrities and has parties with them. He and Martin become best of friends, and they help each other to cope with being branded as lonely guys.

Martin tries trick after trick to attract a woman that might add to his life, but he seems doomed to failure. He even uses canned sweat, a favorite way for a lonely guy to attract women. In spite of his bumbblings, Martin manages to meet the girl he's been looking for, Judith Ivey. Ivey has been in love with lonely guys before, even though she knows that there is no way she and a lonely guy could ever share a lasting relationship.

Ivey and Martin make several attempts at staying together, but try as they may, a lonely guy is a lonely guy for life.

Or is he? Martin writes a lonely guy



Steve Martin begins to know what it's like being a lonely guy.

manual, and he becomes rich and famous. He makes appearances on talk shows, has a few sexual relationships with women, and even a chance to get back together with his old girlfriend. But, alas, he is desperately in love with Ivey, and at heart he's still a lonely guy.

And so the movie goes on, hopping back and forth, from the comical side of the fence of genuinely funny scenes, to the dramatic side that examines the sensations of loneliness and all of the pain that goes along with being alone.

Steve Martin is a very funny person,

and he's a great comical actor. But when he tries to be a more rounded, complete actor, he starts running into trouble. He's always expected to make people laugh, and when he does do something serious, it just doesn't go over too well. He's been branded as a comedian, and until he can get that association wiped away, he'll keep on doing only mediocre performances.

But Martin's difficulties aren't the only things wrong with "The Lonely Guy." Since the style does flip-flop substantially, the smoothness and consistency of it all suffers quite a bit. As soon as some

momentum is built up with some nice comedy or fine drama, both of which are present in this film, director Arthur Hiller decides it's time to throw in something 180 degrees away. Oops, there goes the momentum—it's time to start all over. "Stop-and-go driving" is bad for a car, but it's even worse for a film!

"The Lonely Guy" is a disappointing film. Although there are true flashes of brilliance, on either side of the comedy/drama fence, the lack of consistency and smoothness hurt this film, quite possibly fatally.

Northwest music scene has variety and strength

by Greg Tillotson

People in the Northwest never know how good they have it until they leave the area or hear of somewhere else. This is especially true of Northwest rock music.

The Seattle area right now has a numerous amount of good local bands. Then when you add Portland and Vancouver to that list, we're talking talent.

Leading the Seattle scene are two bands; The Allies and the Cowboys. The latter of the two is the longest surviving rock band in the area. They took over the crown when the Heats departed. While the Allies have had great success in getting airplay up and down the west coast, "Emma Peel," the Allies single, gained national attention with its video being run on MTV.

Mondo Vita, another Seattle band is billed as one of the more promising acts. Also, the Visible Targets are on the move up. Their recent release of the album, "Artistic Savant," has shown good dollar sales locally. A video for MTV planned should also help.

Turning to Seattle's heavy metal scene, no one band quite stands out like Queensryche. The four member band released an E.P. in early August. It sold so well and caught on at so many radio stations

that EMI signed the boys to a record contract.

Long time survivors Rail recently broke through and hit the national scene by winning MTV's basement tapes. After years of playing Seattle clubs and community colleges, the band struck a recording contract also with EMI.

But Seattle isn't the only place with good local sounds. Portland has some bands that will be making noise on the air very soon. Billy Rancher and the Unreal Gods have changed their name to Billy Rancher and the Magicians to suit Arista, the groups record label. Also out of Portland is the Wipers who are a cross between Jimi Hendrix guitar and Sex Pistol's lyrics.

Turning up north in Vancouver, many bands can be heard. Life in General and 54/40 head a list of potential bands that could make it big. Both bands play progressive music with a dance orientated sound. In fact, the whole music scene in Vancouver is dance orientated. That's why Loverboy is no longer welcome there.

Local music is definitely something to listen for. Seattle music fans do not seem to support the sounds of their city. Perhaps if they would we could spawn the next big band of the 1980's.

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12:00

The Evil Dead

12:00

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Song Remains the Same

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