

Ordinance 8.12, nobody needs you

Robert Guerrero
Staff Reporter

Often times we take things for granted. We assume that somehow, somehow, someone will take care of 'things'.

It's almost as if we truly believe that there is a real Superman that will swoop down and set right any injustice that may arise.

If that is true, Superman, where are you? We need you to set right a serious injustice that is lurking in the Tacoma City ordinance chapter 8.12 number 23.

Chapter 8.12 is the city's disorderly conduct ordinance. According to the ordinance, "The following persons are hereby declared disorderly persons . . . (number 23) . . . any person who shall practice homosexuality, or practice or solicit prostitution, or keep a house of prostitution."

At best, this ordinance is poorly written because it mixes two unrelated issues in the same unenlightened breath. It also does not define the word *practice*.

Just what does it mean to practice homosexuality. Does that mean if I hug a male friend or my brother in public I've broken the law?

When my father comes to visit I make it a practice to kiss him good-bye at his car. This can't possibly mean we've broken the law, does it? Can I not walk down a public sidewalk arm and arm with my own father without being considered disorderly?

This ordinance makes gay people criminals simply for being who they are. It denies the basic dignity of an entire group of people who are tax paying, law abiding, and valuable contributors to the diversity of our community.

This type of law only adds fuel to the fire for such hate groups as the Northwest Knights (Tacoma's KKK). Do we really want to add weapons to the arsenal of hate mongers?

I would encourage people to write and urge the City Council to remove from this ordinance the wording "practice homosexuality." Let us restore liberty for all and justice for all because Superman is a busy guy.

Letters . . .

TCC should take cue from high schools

Editor:

I find it very difficult to believe that an educational institution such as TCC is lending a helping hand in the destruction of our environment by its use (of) styrofoam products in the cafeteria. I cannot believe that after having an "Earth Day Lecture" and after what **your** science classes teach students about what is destroying our

earth, that IT could utilize plastic products. We all know plastic is cheaper, so raise our burger five cents more, big deal. CONVERT TO PAPER PRODUCTS. Almost all of the grammar and high schools have. Is their intelligence at a higher level than ours?

Please see this change is made *immediately*. Thank you.

Jackie Benner



Save the earth: Kill the people

Kevin J. Mikolashek
Editor-in-Chief

We are recycling tremendous amounts of our waste, boycotting styrofoam and aerosol sprays to save the ozone. We have stopped purchasing tuna and Exxon gas to save our seas. But we are ignoring the most powerful killer of the earth. The human population is breaking nature's chains and destroying all that we work so hard to preserve.

We are killing ourselves with our own desire to survive; the population is a madman out of control eating up the earth's resources faster than they can reproduce.

We try to save our land and air from pollution through recycling --- how can we expect so little waste with so many people per square mile? How can we expect the air to be clean with so many people commuting to work each morning - even with carpools and public transportation.

Imagine if the earth were only inhabited by a million people. Each person alive could saw down an acre or two of rain forest a day and they would probably never meet. We could each use a can of hairspray every day (our hair would look funny) without the ozone taking any notice of it. We could drink out of styrofoam cups until we were sick (which wouldn't be long) and the earth would not feel a thing.

In this age where the earth is so precious to us, can we afford to have laws prohibiting abortion? The debate between those claiming abortion to be murder and those supporting the mother's right to make choices concerning her own body may never be resolved. It can be concluded, however, that we are contributing to our own murder and destroying any hope that the children we are trying so desperately to save have of living a healthy life. The out-of-control population should enter into the courtrooms and houses of congress when these important decisions concerning abortion are being made.

Can we go on having more and more children to make our own lives more full? We need to think about what the world will be like when our children are our age; will the world be too crowded for them to enjoy their children?

The attention that environmental problems are receiving lately is both wonderful and necessary. Recycling, boycotts and every action we take to save our earth is another battle we have won, but until we realize that the population is the primary instrument of our own destruction the war is far from over.



Butterscotch, a regular *Challenge* columnist, is on vacation. His column will resume as soon as he returns---if he returns... ENJOY LIFE!

Don't vote on May 23 for student government positions

It isn't your responsibility or right as students. The decisions are made for you at TCC.

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COLLEGE PRESS SERVICE

Subscriber

Women's basketball needs a role model

Ezra Graham
Staff Reporter

It's a sunny Saturday afternoon. At the park down the street ten fourth and fifth grade girls are engaged in a rollicking game of 5-on-5 basketball.

Analysis

Tina Johnson catches a bounce pass from Sarah Hawkins and drives the lane toward the hoop. Wanda Harriston leaps just as Tina leaves the ground for the layup and swats the ball out of Tina's hands.

"Foul," says Tina.

"Foul?" asks Wanda, "I didn't even touch you."

"You're crazy!" screams Tina
"You hammered me."

These are sights and sounds that have rarely been seen and heard. This is the problem with women's basketball and the potential for explosive progression.

Women's basketball is thriving like it has never thrived before. The level of play is at its height and attendance records are constantly being broken.

Over 20,000 people filled a basketball arena in Knoxville, Tennessee to watch the Stanford Cardinal win the 1990 NCAA championship.

However, women's basketball has much room for improvement. The quality of play will triple if little girls are introduced to the game of basketball when they are usually introduced to the game of "house."

The only way little girls will value hoops as highly as they value house is if there is a woman for them to look up to and to follow.

A role model. Someone who will transcend the present game. A woman who exudes the same energy and produces the same excitement that Julius Erving produced in the seventies and early eighties and Michael Jordan is presently producing.

Maybe Lisa Leslie of Morningside High School in Inglewood, California who scored 101 points in the first sixteen minutes of her final high school game is that person. Or perhaps there is a thirteen-year-old somewhere who shoots a basket-

ball the way Jennifer Capriati strokes a tennis ball.

Who will become the person who inspires little girls to become basketball stars is still in question. That there is someone somewhere who will become an inspiration is not in question.

When that player comes and basketball becomes a common part of a young girl's life it will not be long before women's basketball becomes the next great professional sport.

WNBA action will be fantastic.

Reflections: "I am the in-betweener's ghost"

Albert B. Butler
Columnist

People always come up to me and say "Why do you call yourself Butthead?"

Well, looking back on my three years here at TCC, I have tried to reconcile who I am and how I got here. This is my last quarter at TCC before I embark on my studies at Evergreen, so I thought that I would share with you, my loyal readers, something that nobody knows about: me. After all, I am a very misunderstood individual.

First of all, I have a 3.3 GPA, was on the Dean's list three times, invited to join Phi Theta Kappa, was awarded numerous editorial positions here on *The Collegiate Challenge*, and was just recently awarded the honor of best columnist in the state by The Washington Press Association.

So people ask me, "Why do you go to community college?"

"Why do you always write about philosophy?"

Well, things weren't always this way. In fact, before I got to TCC I was a pretty sad excuse for a person.

So how did I get here? What have I learned? Where am I going? Where have I been?

What does this mean to *you*?

All I really know is where I've been: Hell.

My entire educational career, before community college was full of terror. My world was a meaningless barrage of degradation.

It started in grade school. I was always in the shadow of my older brother Charlie. They all knew his name, but not mine. So instead of learning my first name, they used to razz me with a modification of my last name: Butler.

And I became the Butthead.

But that wasn't the only name that they called me. I was hyperactive, so the schools forced me to take this drug called Ridilan—an amphetamine. So they called me "hyper-boy."

All Ridilan really did was kill my appetite and made me lethargic. I never ate any food when I was taking Ridilan, so I was a really tiny kid—I mean I might have eaten a sandwich and some cookies for a full day's meal.

As I understand it, medical authorities are now bickering over whether or not Ridilan causes serious long-term mental problems.

I guess I'm proof of that (Yuk, Yuk.)

But like I said, they called me names and I got beat up a lot. When I was going to Boze Elementary in Tacoma, I got beat up just about every day.

Boze was 60 percent black. I had my first experiences with racism there. Going to school at Boze was a big reason I wrote *Racism disagrees with the human ecology*.

So out on the schoolyard I was terrified. Often I would get beat-up by girls—by *little* girls.

Now I'm not looking for sympathy, so don't get turned off by this. Actually, it wasn't so bad getting maimed by my schoolmates, and I was the wimp I claim to have been. It's my fault. I tolerated it.

But what really shook me up, as a person, was the brutal treatment I got from my teachers.

How could I *not* tolerate that?

Over the years I began to see things as they really were. I was no doubt a dysfunctional child. I was from a military family, and I moved around a lot. For every educational step forward that I made, I had to take two steps backward. I had to adjust to a new school system.

I was in special ed up until the time I was in sixth grade. Because I was in special ed, the other kids thought that I was stupid. They told me that I was stupid, and I believed it.

In fourth grade I took an SLO (Student Learning Objective) test and scored a 12th grade reading level and vocabulary. I was not allowed, however, to pursue higher English.

I was expected to be stupid, and that was how I performed. I was expected to be weak and that was what I was.

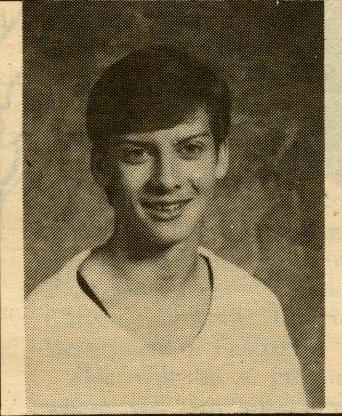
Most of all I remember the degradation. I remember my teachers in Texas scolding me in front of the class because I could not do multiplication or write in cursive.

I remember the tears running down my cheeks and the laughter and insults of my schoolmates. I remember the feelings of inferiority at recess as the other kids would bully me and I remember the disapproving glimmer in the P.E. teacher's eye as he saw my troubles and looked away.

When I was in sixth grade I was suicidal. I never attempted it, but I thought about it all the time. Everyday.

Let me relate to you an experience I had in seventh grade.

S A E R B A I N C T Y R



With Butthead?

I had just moved up from Texas to go to Pioneer Middle School in Steilacoom, Wa., where I now live. In my English class, we played this game: a sinister game.

The idea was to improve our communication skills. We grouped our desks around in a circle and evaluated everybody in the class, as a person, on a scale from one to five. Five being the best and one being the worst.

My total score for the entire class of 30 could be counted on one hand. It was like a lynch mob at class that day. The teacher was orchestrating a barrage of attacks upon *my self*. They laid me bare and ripped out the entrails of my soul. There was no place to hide.

The worst part is that it was all true. Every word, every attack, and every insult was true. After all, I was less mature than my classmates, and understandably less developed.

But from then on, I was cold. I was as frigid as icy death, and

I was alone.

So, I was never really part of *the program*. I was never really socialized. The indoctrinations and the power-play of reward and punishment never really affected me, because I was never really a part of 'it.'

In high school, I was very withdrawn. I participated in very little. My grades sucked with a graduating 1.8 GPA.

My only notable accomplishments were in wrestling. I was a four year letterman with a 19-5 senior record at 129 lbs. That year, 1987, I was runner-up Puget Sound Wrestler of the Year.

My wrestling coach said something to me that changed my life. He said, "Everything you do is a picture of yourself." I wonder what that picture looked like?

I think that that picture could be summed up in a poem I wrote during my junior year.

I am sitting on a throne,
My feats of tyranny rival the sun,
I am sitting here alone
And I am not the ruler of a single one
I am hanging in the sky
Like a zephyr on the skies low edge
My ascension is a sin,
My descent is a sacrifice
I sit and watch O' glory
Pointing a blade like Atropos
Hanging here in Purgatory
I am the inbetweener's ghost.

This poem relates my experiences on a stairwell where I used to hang out at, all alone during my lunchhour. Beneath me were the candy machines where all of the local gossip took place.

I could hear their every word, and people were oblivious to my presence. I used the information I gained to write a really seedy

underground newspaper called *The New Argument*.

And this was the picture of *me*. All of my history had produced this. My scholastic entrenchment had given me a new perspective and a revolutionary spirit. I began to become a kind of romantic person. I saw this all as some sort of trial by fire.

And this is why I am here, at TCC. I have written *Society is a conspiracy against the human spirit* because this is what I think our education has done to people. I know what it has done to *me* and I see what it has done to *you*. We are creating a society that cannot think for itself.

Those who can think for themselves, I believe are a lot like myself.

If everything that *do* is a picture of me, isn't everything that our *schools* do a picture of our society.

I hear people all the time degrading TCC. They say it is not a *real* college. I think TCC is wonderful. It has enriched my life. It has given me a second chance.

I love TCC. TCC has loved me.

My sincerest hope is that, with my writing, I have been able to enrich *it* and celebrate its glory. I have grown so much.

And when I leave I hope that I have fired in some a revolutionary spirit, bridled by years of temperance and guided by reason so that we can make responsible decisions for our children.

I don't want what happened to me to ever happen to anyone again.

Reminder:

Don't forget to register for Journalism courses for this Fall quarter! You'll thank yourself for it. However, you may want to bring plenty of aspirin with you!

Look for the:

TRILLIUM

Tacoma Community College's literary magazine

May 21

TCC student government a closed society



C. WASHBURN '90

Bryan Butler, Columnist

Deborah J. Ernst, Editor

Trish Schwaier, Staff Reporter

Once again the Student Senate will "elect" ASTCC's executive council.

Analysis

This process, performed entirely by the senate, excludes input from the students at large. By definition, the word election implies democratic choice. However, ASTCC Senate has a different dictionary.

For the past six years representation of the student body has been a choice of the ASTCC Senate, not a vote of the student population.

Lack of student body turn out in the 1984 elections allowed passage of an amendment that changed the voice of the students.

An amendment to change this method would require apathetic students to become involved.

First a proposal for a new amendment would have to be proposed to the Senate. The Senate

does this with a two-thirds vote.

Within 20 instructional days, the student body must pass the amendment by simple majority.

This is what needs to take place. Without a change the system will continue as it has these past six years. The system by which Senators candidate themselves for office leaves them to the automatic scrutiny of a few individuals who are often already close friends with their peers.

Approval is almost automatic and membership unlimited.

We, *The Challenge* staff, believe this undermines the concept of fair representation. Freedoms are lost little by little.

Controls however small, erode and undermine to everyday life, to even a national level. Students accept without argument what is dished out and presented to them by their student government.

Spoon fed, the students blissfully attend classes almost unaware of their civil rights.

Our student government controls

in a socialistic way. We need to heed the lessons of Lithuania and Romania, stand up now and reclaim our constitutional right.

The political organization of the college controls a massive budget. That budget is supplied by tuition fees and tax dollars.

Students need to be able to voice where the money for campus needs goes.

Voting rights need to be reinstated.

Panama: Four months after December twenty-first

Trish Schwaier

Staff Reporter

Editor's note: Collegiate Challenge reporter Trish Schwaier vacationed in Panama between April 25 and May 9. It is ironic that she was in Panama while Panamanian President Guillermo Endara was in Washington D.C. to pick up \$420 million in aid.

Arriving at the Torrijos International Airport, I recalled that this was one of the strategic locations seized by the American Army during Operation Just Cause last December.

Instead of a teeming international airport buzzing with visitors to Panama City, there was quiet. Very few people were leaving or arriving.

Panama has only two main cities, Panama City and Colon. The others are small villages and towns with 100 to 1000 inhabitants. There are very few people who travel.

There were no taxis, buses, or visible means of public transportation at the main entrance. There were no pay phones. Few people spoke English. I wondered how

I would have gotten to my destination had I been alone.

Although the parking lot could hold hundreds of cars, it had only three. There were no police, no officials, no bag handlers usually seen near doorways of airports.

Two men were walking around the lot. At first I thought they were parking attendants. As we approached our vehicle, one of the men mumbled almost inaudibly.

His right hand clutched a plastic sandwich bag which was twisting around, weighted by some white powder substance at the bottom. I decided he was not a parking attendant.

The drive to my destination took me through the area where most of the fighting occurred in December. Regardless of the darkness, the area did not seem menacing. The only challenge was to avoid the huge potholes that marred the street.

Daylight revealed tropical paradise.

Howard Air Force Base is on the outskirts of Panama City. Here lush green trees with pink, violet, orange and white blossoms lined the streets.

Americans, whether military or civilian, were advised to take cabs or drive private cars.

Military people were not allowed to ride either buses or trains. Explanatory bulletins stated that maintenance on both systems has been ignored.

I saw only Panamanians using buses and trains. I assumed that they must have had faith or no other choice.

Colorful paint and murals made the diesel-belching buses stand out. Most were bright orange or yellow with chartreuse stripes around the perimeter. Full length murals of patron saints and of Eddie Murphy decorated the rear ends.

The buses appeared to be 15 to 20 years old. Some stopped right in the middle of the road, broken down. A not-uncommon sight were pairs of legs protruding from beneath these buses as repairs were being made.

On Friday night, April 27, the city was hive-like, buzzing with activity.

People of all ages strode the dimly lit streets. Children ran bare-foot through the night

without any sign of parents. Adults, young and old, seemed bored with nothing to do.

People squatted in open doorways or sat in chairs brought outdoors. Some had tables with cans of soda for sale. This was Friday night free enterprise; a kind of Panamanian 7-11.

Most of the light in the street spilled out of these open doors.

Although the sun had long since withdrawn, the temperature was 85 degrees and the humidity was oppressive.

Within three blocks of the ghetto, the fenced homes of wealthy Panamanians stood in stark contrast to this poverty.

One thing the ghetto's inhabitants and the rich shared was a seeming lack of concern over maintenance of buildings. Paint was peeling on the once well-manicured apartment buildings. The grounds were piled with rubbish.

We drove by the American Embassy. There were no Marines with machine guns, no police. It was just a fenced building.

In the distance, I could see the dim lights outlining the capitol. Nowhere was there evidence of

unrest. It struck me that I felt safer in the ghettos of Panama City than in the Hilltop area of Tacoma.

To my surprise, not much physical evidence remained of the Dec. 20 invasion. In the Canal Zone, near the Bridge of the Americas, a train station was marked with new plaster over bullet holes in the front walls.

Further toward the main canal business area of Balboa office buildings bore similar patch marks. This was mainly where Noriega's men were stationed with their guns. Once the paint is applied there will be no visible reminders.

All that remained of El Chorillo area shanties, which burned in December, was flattened gravel. Local residents said that a new housing development for the poor was being planned.

Also surprising was the close proximity of General Noriega's Panama Defense Force (PDF) and the US military establishments.

They were literally across the street from one another. No further apart than James Center from Tacoma Community College.

They're there for the taking . . .

Two hundred fifty jobs await willing and able students

by Trish Schwaier
Staff Reporter

Wanted, 250 students needing summer employment. Carmen Mannix, Job Development Specialist, is looking for you.

Are you tired of hearing, "NO, we are not hiring for the summer?" Then the Employment Office in Building 18 is the place to go.

Calls come in for employees faster than Mannix can fill them.

"Several employers call everyday with openings," said Mannix. (While I was there one company called wanting 15 students for his company.)

"Employers believe that they will get better motivated, smarter employees from a college rather than from an ad in the paper and getting someone just off the street," Mannix said.

"This is why so many students

do not see listings in the local papers for positions they would like," Mannix added.

"What is important to know is that most of these jobs are non-work study. Anyone can come in, and I will interview them for these openings.

I have placed over 109 students this year out of 325 positions. If find skills in the student and help place them where they want to be. What I need is more students to apply," said Mannix.

Mannix went on to say that she does her best to place the student in a job compatible with the student's interests and field of study.

One student studying to be a lawyer was placed at the District Attorney's Office. Another student in the field was placed as a

legal secretary.

To make placements easier for daytime students, campus interviews are arranged.

"Many of the employers ask me to set up a special day for interviews. This year, students met with United Parcel Service, Roadway Package System, Tacoma Boys, Consolidated Electrical Distributors, City of Tacoma, and the US Postal Service to name a few," said Mannix.

Mannix went on to say that age is not an issue. These jobs are not restricted to recent high school graduates, but open to any registered Tacoma Community College students. Financial need is not a prerequisite.

"So many students think they are not eligible to apply because they are not financially needy,"

said Mannix. "This is one of the most difficult areas I have to try to get across. These jobs are open to anyone 18 or 50."

Mannix screens the students. She matches field of study and interests to a job. Jobs in the fast food industry and the domestic services seem to remain unfilled. According to Mannix, students are missing an opportunity to learn organization and management from fast food establishments such as McDonalds and Pizza Hut.

"Students do not realize that there is money to be made in the fast food industry as well as learning about customer service", Mannix said. She went on to say that some of the better marketing representatives learned about people from their fast food days.

Formed in 1979, The Student

Employment Office, has placed thousands of students who do not have time to hunt for that much needed summer job.

Mannix continued to say that if there is a job a student would like but cannot find on the list, she will contact an employer or firm in that field. Mannix pointed out that the employment center is a referral center not a placement service.

"My success comes when I hear a student say to me, 'I didn't know you existed' then am able to refer them to a position and see that they are successfully hired," Mannix said.

The Employment Center in Building 18 is free of charge. Mannix is in her office Mon, Tue, Wed 8:30am to 3pm. The phone is 566-5194. Someone is there during the hours Mannix is gone.

More than just another class

Doyle Lewellen
Staff Reporter

Excitement is the word for TCC's coordinated studies program. These classes provide a learning environment that challenges the student in a way that normal lecture classes never will.

According to Marlene Bosanko, who with Chuck Cline, is team-teaching Turning Points: Crises and Choice.

"These classes give a student a breadth and depth with material that sometimes is not possible in, for example, an English 101 or a Speech 100 class," said Bosanko.

The course Bosanko and Cline are instructing is one of four coordinated classes taught this year. Next year, however, there are seven such classes being offered.

Several courses will be repeated, but new curriculum will also be taught.

Bosanko's and Cline's class is now well into its second novel. The class has also read a number of short stories.

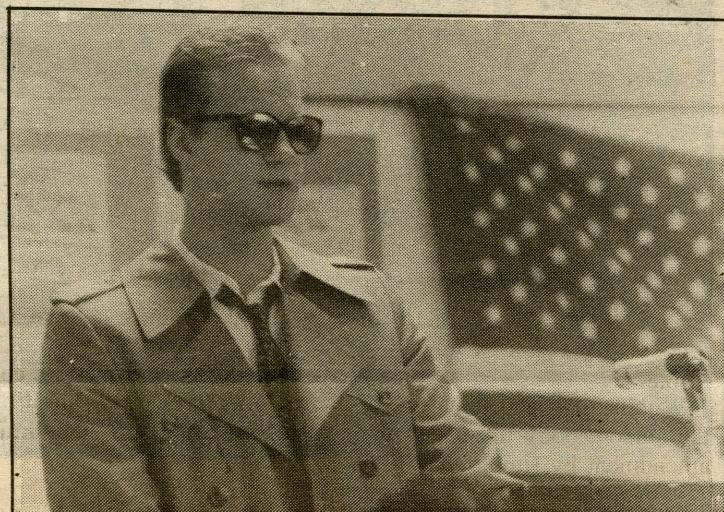
Outside reading requirements include news articles, book reviews, and film reviews. These will be summarized in the students' notebooks.

Bosanko said, "It sounds like a lot of work. It is a lot of work."

Each of these courses varies according to the characteristics of the instructors and the context of the material, but the format is similar in all of them. The lecturing is minimized, and student involvement is emphasized.

TCC has incorporated this learning environment into its curriculum for about two years, according to Humanities Division Chair, Gael Tower.

Bosanko attributes the success of coordinated studies at TCC to



Jim Gruver, in character as a CIA agent, debriefs the President and National Security Advisors during Coordinated Studies' presentation based on *The Hunt For Red October* by Tom Clancy. **Photo by Patricia J. McLean**

the "excellent support here. From our administration, and from our Humanities Division Chair, who is in complete support of our program."

"It's a full-term mentoring system," Cline said, "from Evergreen [State College], to Washington Center, to our college, to people who have taught here, to retreats where we have our own mentors."

We mentor one another, we mentor students, and the students mentor one another," he added.

The TCC coordinated studies program "is very much like Evergreen," according to Bosanko.

Evergreen State College has offered interdisciplinary and collaborative study since it was founded in 1967, and is a model for TCC's coordinated studies.

"Their intent," explained Cline, "is to integrate the disciplines,

to provide an atmosphere for learning that lays a groundwork places a great deal of responsibility on the student."

Though these courses may not be for everybody, they do change the outlooks of many students within the class.

"Students grow from that [the work], and strangely they sometimes ask for more [work] if there is a particular type of assignment they like."

Jodell Starrett, who was in the In Search of Meaning program taught by Bosanko and Tamara Kuzmenkov, said, "I would recommend it to anyone. It's not regurgitation, it's a thinking process."

There is another difference that Bosanko pointed out. In standard classes many students drop out, but she has found that in coordinated studies 94-96 percent of the students finish the quarter.

Hyde's summer class heads for the hills

Carla M. Golden
Staff Reporter

What is your idea of a classroom? Is it a stuffy little place with a clock on the wall dragging its hands in a full circle, making you wish it was already June?

According to Jack Hyde, Tacoma Community College. This trip is designed for the

geology instructor, it is the landscape of National Parks and Monuments in the Western United States.

This summer, from June 16-July 4, Hyde will take 14 students on an excursion to study rocks and geological processes throughout the western U.S.

now-available Geology 208 class and Geology of the Northwest Field Studies. It will include a drive around Mt. St. Helens (Hyde specializes in volcanoes and land use).

The excursion will begin in the Cascade Range of Washington, Oregon, and California. It's Please see Hyde, page 10

Tutor Program revitalized

Patricia J. McLean
Staff Reporter

Tacoma Community College's tutor program received a boost recently with a grant of \$10,348.

The money will be used to research successful programs at other colleges and to develop and implement a pilot program at TCC.

In addition to the grant, TCC will be setting aside \$31,278. TCC's portion is earmarked for staffing, supplies, and tutor training.

TCC's tutor program has suffered from a lack of staffing and funding, according to Beth Richardson, Program Assistant. "People are not aware of the (current) program because we haven't had the manpower to make it work."

Richardson's position was made possible by the grant. She is working on developing a model for the pilot program and helps to match students with tutors.

Planned improvements in the program are to include:

- Tutor training
- Collaboration between faculty, administration, tutors and students
- Ongoing program supervision and evaluation

Richardson said that one approach under consideration is the "supplemental instructor" con-

cept. "A tutor attends class, takes

notes, and leads a study group." She said that this system has been used successfully at other colleges.

Although money to pay tutors is limited, Richardson wants to encourage potential tutors to contact her especially if they will be available for Fall Quarter, 1990.

The pilot program will be implemented at that time.

"Volunteers are welcome," Richardson stressed. She indicated that tutoring can benefit tutors in their own understanding of a subject. "The best way to learn is to teach," she added.

Another idea under consideration is to offer a one credit training course for tutors. The focus would be on recognizing learning approaches and peripheral problems which may be impeding a student's ability to learn.

The tutors would not be expected to become counselors nor would they be encouraged to counsel. When the tutor perceived a family, financial or other problem they would be expected to refer the individual to the Counseling Center, Richardson explained.

For more information on the tutoring program, contact Richardson at 566-5339 or stop by her office in the Counseling Center in Building 7.

awards, from page 1

myself to write, it has to come natural."

Further, Wilson stated "I will always write." He is, in fact, in the process of writing two short stories. Wilson sometimes conceals his addiction by using a pseudonym, revealed here for the first time, 'John Arthur'.

Wilson chose the name John Arthur because it was his father's name. His father was and is, though he is no longer living, Wilson's primary inspiration.

Wilson's history is cloudy. We know that he has a brother, lives at home and consorts with otherwise "normal" people.

Wilson admits to having been

heavily influenced by the Philosophy Department at TCC.

Professor Wakefield also seems to have left an indelible impression on this young man. Butler explained that Wakefield thinks writing should be like music. It should have a flow.

Butler asserted that he tries to write like Metallica. "My columns jerk you from one subject to another, but so quickly that you have a sense of the whole. You could read it backwards."

Butler expressed his assessment of the *Challenge*, "TCC has the strongest opinion page in the state. James (Wilson) is sweet, I'm sour, Madame Guru is meat—it is a full meal."

Wetlands faced with extinction

Erin Martinez
Staff Reporter

According to Richard Perkins, Tacoma Community College biology instructor, "Wetlands are the breeding grounds for hundreds of different plants and animals."

He added that "destroying the wetlands means destroying future generations of life."

"There are 76 acres," Perkins explained, "surrounding TCC that provide homes for ducks, plants, and other living organisms. This vital area is being threatened and may soon be totally destroyed by a building contract."

Perkins said that he is concerned for his children. "We have a responsibility to them," he added.

"We have a job here at TCC," Perkins said, "not only as educators but as leaders in setting a good example for the community surrounding TCC."

"I personally believe that some of the greatest land is around us, and it provides homes for new generations," added Perkins.

Instead of considering nature, Perkins remarked, the general

public only considers dollars and cents.

None of the previously discussed sights (Hilltop, TCC's wetlands, and Fife) have been discounted yet according to Sue Harvey, the University of Washington's Director of Finances, Facilities, and Administration.

She added that a draft of the environmental impact survey will be released in June. A final draft should be ready in September.

Perkins said the survey will determine if the area surrounding TCC is, in fact, wetlands by studying the ground waters. The survey also includes taking plant and animal samples to determine if any or all of them might be endangered species.

The survey will examine what effect destroying their habitat could have on the organisms and their species, said Perkins.

Joe Brawley, Branch Campus Program Director, and Cheryl Miller, Chairperson of the Tacoma branch of the Sierra Club Northwest (an environmental action group) were unavailable for comment.

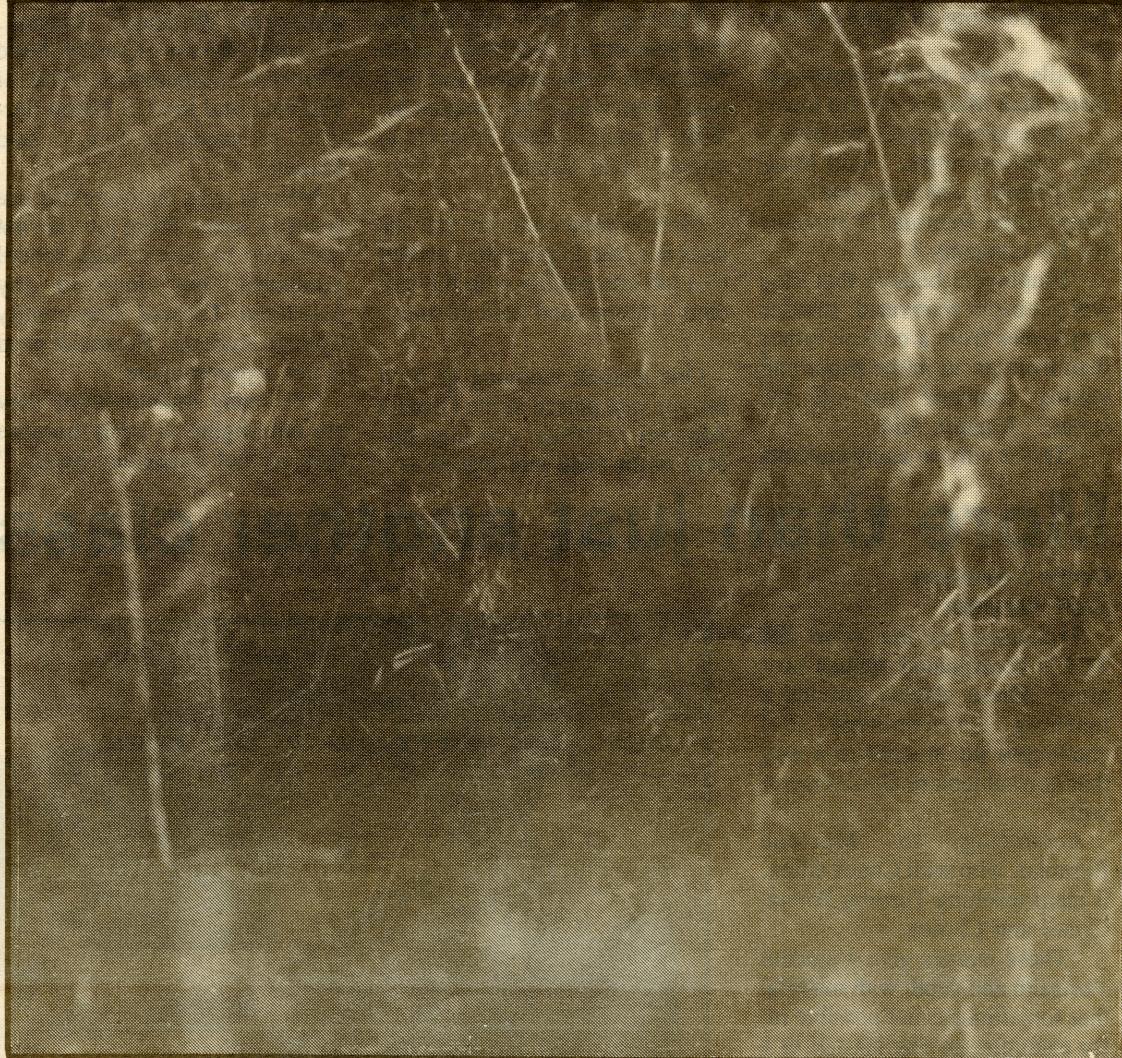


Photo by Kevin Mikolashek

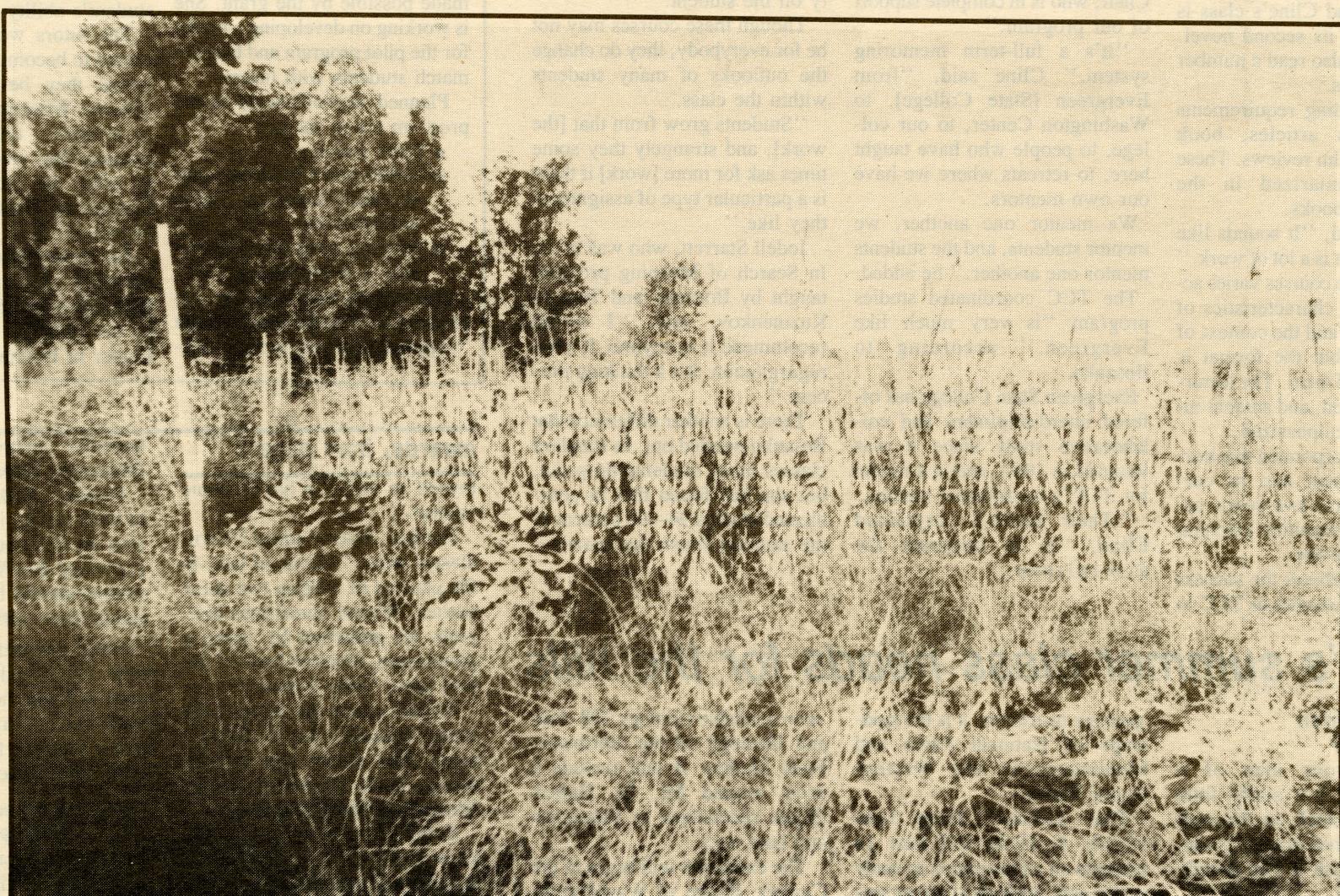


Photo by Kevin Mikolashek

Time

*Patiently,
I observe pillows sailing across
the sky.
Carefully,
I determine if the wind whispers
in the right direction.
Joyously,
I watch her as she passes me by.*

*The scorching sun melts away my
frosted mind.
Trees shake leaves
in acknowledgement of me.*

*Ducks are tickled by the scenery of
green.
A powerful rainbow shower colors so
glamorous and bright.*

*A small boy cuddles his pup, This is
true love.
It reminds me of childhood fantasies
to always live by.*

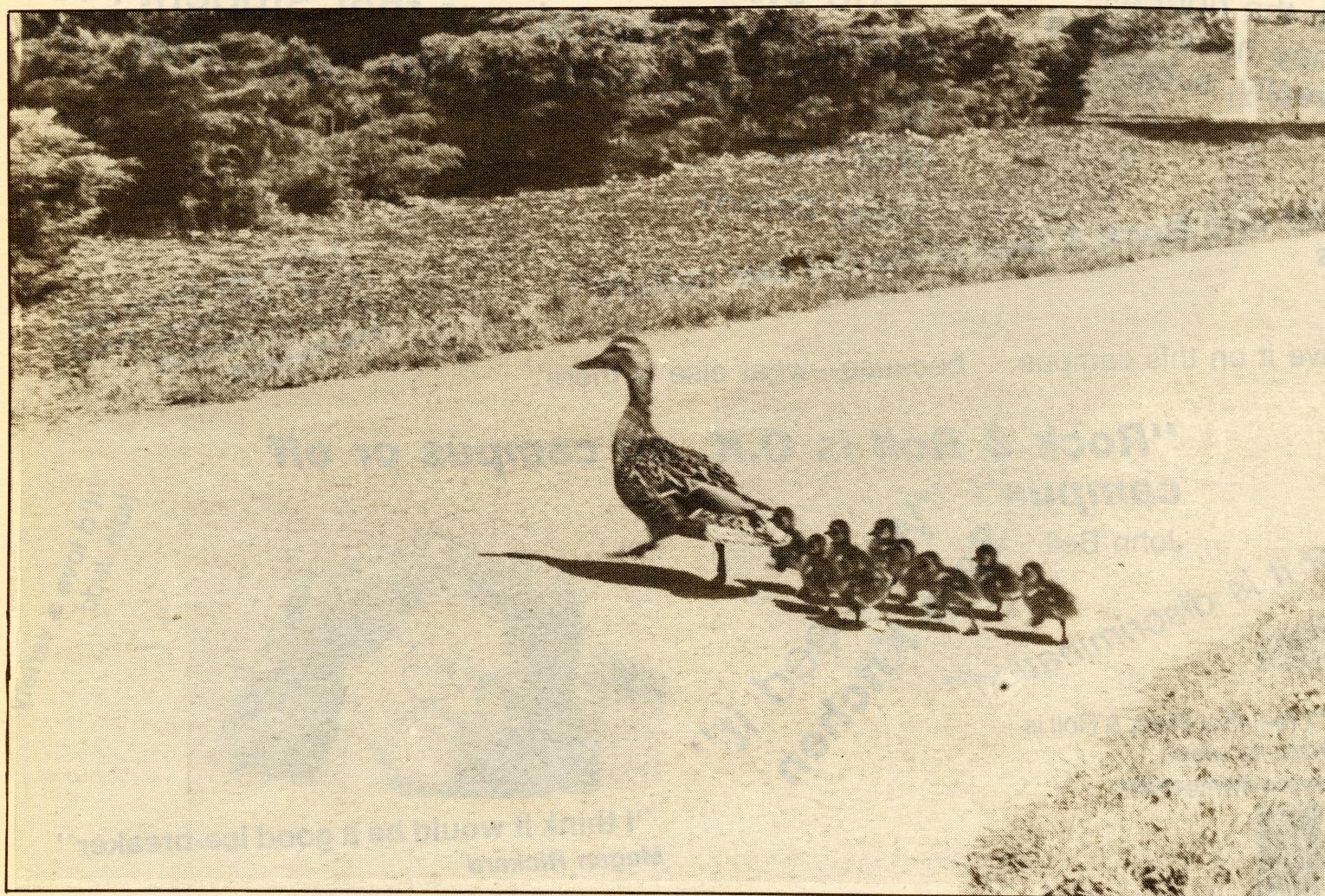
*A moment of pleasure expands my
heart.
A celebration for my inner self.*

*And yet, I am still watching her
as she passes me by.*

John Arthur †



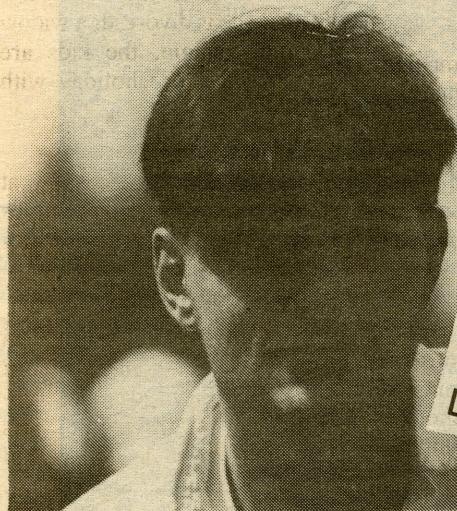
Photo by Kevin Mikolashek



Soon to be displaced ducks are quacking in their 'webbs' over University of Washington's plan to use their home for a branch campus.
Photo by Damon Rosencutter

Student Forum . . .

How do you feel about rock 'n roll on campus (or the lack thereof)



"I think that the avoidance of Rock & Roll on our campus is a breach in the democratic ideal of cultural representation, and that if equality is to be expressed, it should be across the board"

Roy Romans

"As long as it's Jimi Hendrix—Fine"

Russel Smith

"I think we should have more varied types of music"

D. Brooks Seymour

"It may increase some peoples morale"

Robert Hamilton

"I'm deprived,"

Lecion Jacobsen

"I think it should be mandatory"

Butthead

Music is in the eyes of the beholder

Mrs. Sharon Mize

"If we have Rock & Roll we should have chamber music, jazz, etc..."

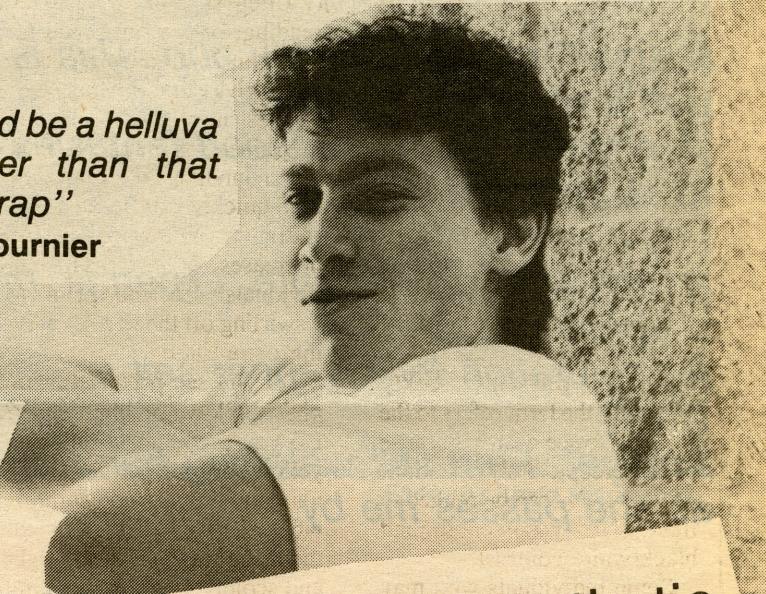
Lisbeth Wheelehan

"I like it... it would be cool if we could have it on campus"

Scott Leingang
V.P. Legislature
Student Government

"It would be a helluva lot better than that crappy rap"

Pierre Fournier



"Good rap is no rap—and all Rock is good Rock"

Chris Siler

"I think it's a step in the right direction... the music they have around here really, really, really, sucks"

Mark Reed

"Fair is fair and Rock & Roll is part of our culture"

Daly Barnes

"The students wouldn't be so apathetic about the entertainers that Student Programs provides if we got what we wanted"

Peggy Doherty

"I think we should have it on this campus... because—what else is there"

Mike Jones

"Rock & Roll is O.K. on campus or off campus"

John Bell

"I think the lack of it is discrimination"

Jodell Starrett

"We need it", "Sara Kitchen"

"I feel that Rock & Roll is here to stay"

Joyce Montgomery

"I think we should play some Christian Rock music on campus"

Don Davidson

"I'd love a variety"

Nola Judd



"I think it would be a good ice-breaker"

Megan Rickard

"I think if they have any type of rock, they should have the opportunity to use the theatre... as long as it doesn't promote violence"

Daniel Mumm

Mousse or mountain Mother's Day matters

Mary Carmody
Staff Reporter

On Sun., May 13, phone lines across America were tied up.

Children called their mothers to wish them a happy Mother's Day. Newspaper reports stated that it's the busiest day of the year for the phone company. So, how did Mom spend the day?

Analysis

Ah! Belgian waffles and strawberries served to her bedside. Brunch at the local restaurant. The kids and Dad did the cooking and the chores.

Bonbons, chocolate mousse and gifts.

That seems to be what most mothers did last Sunday. But what did the single mother do for her day? "I cooked breakfast, washed clothes, and cleaned the house," said Jane, a single mother of two kids.

"It's no special day. It's just like any other Sunday," she added. She also said that she and the kids did do *something* special.

"We went to Mt. Rainier for a hike," said Pam. "It was fun to get away from the house and play."

Pam and her daughters spent a quiet day together. Her ex-husband traded visitation days so that she and the girls could do something special.

Whether the single mom has only one child or five, Mother's Day is still pretty special. In 1914, President Woodrow Wilson issued a proclamation declaring the second Sunday of May an official holiday honoring mothers.

This proclamation followed a Congressional resolution a year earlier. The real founder of Mother's Day is Anna Jarvis who

in 1908 held annual memorial services honoring her mother.

Jarvis started a letter campaign to get support from influential people to set aside a day for mothers. Since that time, Mother's Day has evolved into a great event for business, especially the phone company, florists and greeting card shops.

"My kids and I spent the day with my mother. We went to a movie and then out to dinner," said Barb. She's a single mother and her own mother and children are important to her.

Mother's Day is really no different for the single mother. Whether she is divorced, a widow or simply single, the kids are there to share the holiday with her.

Even if the kids are away at school or grown up with families of their own, the phone brings them close to her.

Gifts from the kids were not on the expensive side, and breakfast consisted of burnt toast and raspberry pancakes. The thought was there that mom is loved and remembered on her special day.

Counselor's Corner

What color works for you?

(Editor's Note: Counselor's Corner is a regular feature in the Collegiate Challenge.)

Bonnie Bennedsen
Counselor

Scotopic sensitivity syndrome is a term that has come into the language of some persons who are interested in and concerned about individuals who seem to have reading disabilities.

Coined by Helen Irlen of the Irlen Institute, and made popular through *Sixty Minutes*, the term refers to the inability to see clearly because of a perceptual dysfunction. This inability can be related to light, glare, wave length, and black/white contrast.

Some individuals who may be sensitive to light may have to work harder to see print. It is necessary for them to constantly be adapting to distortions of print that cause fatigue after reading very short periods of time.

They also have difficulty comprehending what they have read. Studies suggest that this condition is frequently found in combination with dyslexia, dysgraphia, dyscalculia, attention deficiency disorders and hyperactivity.

Helen Irlen suggests that there are six major categories of scotopic sensitivity. These include photophobia (sensitivity to glare, brightness, and the intensity of light); background resolution (ability to accommodate to black/white contrast); visual resolution (ability to see print clearly and free from distortions); scope of focus (ability to see groups of letters, notes, numerals, or words); sustained focus (how long one can maintain focus without effort); and depth perception/gross motor activities (seeing distance accurately).

Persons who may be

affected by scotopic sensitivity often say that they avoid reading, or can only read for less than 20 minutes. Reading may give them headaches, cause nausea, or even migraines. As they read, their understanding of what they read quickly deteriorates, and their comprehension decreases. I have heard individuals describe print as "swirling off the page," moving or pulsating.

Do you see print better on pink, yellow, or blue paper? Do you prefer to use a pink, yellow, or blue marker? How many times were you comfortably reading along and someone turned on another light and scolded you for "reading in the dark?"

Screening for light sensitivity involves less than two hours of time and involves answering questions about what happens when you read, looking at some figures and describing them, and then doing some comparisons of how print looks through different colored overlays.

You may have done some of these comparisons at the bookstore when you bought a colored plastic folder to put your report in. Did the print seem clearer to you in some colors than in others? For those who want to go to the next step, information can be provided to have prescription colored lenses through the Irlen Clinic.

While screening for scotopic sensitivity is not the answer to everyone's reading problems, it may be something that you want to explore if you find reading more than a challenge.

Students at Tacoma Community College may explore this idea by making an appointment with me in the Counseling Center.

Environmental action plan is May focus

Trish Schwaeier
Staff Reporter

Make a difference in your environment. Join with Washington's *Environment 2010* program.

"If you are concerned about growth, if air quality are important to you...I strongly urge you to attend one of our 2010 town meetings," said Christine Gregoire, Director Department of Ecology.

This will be a program where you can voice your ideas, Gregoire went on to say.

The "action plan," to be presented throughout the state in May, spells out strategies for environmentally concerned citizens seeking to a difference.

Making the difference was the beginning of the *Environmental 2010* which had its beginnings in 1988. The State of Washington and the US Environmental Protection Agency joined forces to teach citizens to examine how their lifestyles, values and attitudes affect our state.

Town meetings were held across the state in churches, schools and city halls.

According to Gregoire, people heard about the meetings through newspaper articles, teachers and word of mouth. These meetings were successful.

With ideas from these meetings, the DOE has prepared a five year "action plan" that they will present at the May

meetings, Gregoire went on to say.

All meetings will start at 7 pm. To receive a "State of the Environment" report or more information, call SCAN 585-7701 or (206) 438-7701.

Meeting places in the lower Puget Sound area are:

May 16 Seattle-- Shorewood High School Auditorium, 17300 Fremont North;

May 17 Olympia-- General Administration Bldg Auditorium, 210 11th Street

May 23 Tacoma-Fircrest United Methodist Church, 1018 Columbia.

News Briefs . . .

Female grads earn less than men with H.S. diploma

(CPS)--Female college graduates earn less money than men who have finished only high school, an April 25 report charges.

College-educated women nationwide earned an average of \$25,554 in 1987, while high school-educated men made

\$27,293 the same year, said the Women's Research and Education Institute, a Washington, D.C. based-nonprofit organization.

Stanford University researcher Deborah Rhode, author or the section on gender equality for the report "The American Woman

1990-91," speculated the reason for the disparity is that many women are still concentrated in the traditionally lower paying jobs, dragging down the average salary. Most high-ranking jobs in professional fields are still filled by men.

TCC schedules writing workshops for June

TCC office of Lifelong Education will offer two non-credit writing workshops in June.

"Screen Writing," which covers writing skills, marketing, and finding an agent, will be held

June 2 from 9 am-4 pm.

"How to Get Your Writing Published" offers helpful information to writers of poetry, fiction and non-fiction who are interested in being published. It

is planned for June 9 and will last from 9 a.m. until 3 p.m.

For further information call TCC Lifelong Education at 566-5018.

Baseball game sets faculty against students

Erin Martinez
Staff Reporter

"You'll never find out the score because the students won't tell you," laughed Dan Small, Director of Information and Publications.

"It (the game) is just for fun, and it gives us a chance to get out there and injure ourselves," added Small, who coordinated the softball game.

The Titan soccer field will be the battlefield on May 24 at 1:30 pm.

For more information, or to sign up for the game, contact Doug Carlson at 566-5268 or Dan Small, 566-5030.

Are you a single woman, under age 40 who owns or carries a gun for self defense?
Classes are being offered by The Tacoma Sportsmen's Club. For more details, call 537-6151.

Come write for the Challenge

We don't bite—anymore

Neufeld revives lost art

Donna Jeffries
Staff Reporter

Everyone loves a good story. However, storytelling is almost a lost art. Not too many people can tell a good story.

Opinion

Carol Neufeld, a librarian at Bethel Junior High School, can tell those tales. She uses folktales in the public school system not only for entertainment purposes, but also to educate and counsel.

Neufeld takes folktales of the Northwest into English and history classrooms and mesmerizes students with tales of yore. "Storytelling brings the characters to life, and makes listeners understand the meaning as well as the history behind the legend," comments Neufeld.

Why bring it into the school system? "Folktales are for the

folk and we here at the junior high are part of the folk," she further relates.

Neufeld goes on to explain how her storytelling also counsels. "When a man, woman or child hears stories and identifies with the characters and their danger, it helps the listener solve his or her own problems. The purpose of telling these folktales, then, is to satisfy the needs of the listeners."

And satisfy she does. The kids sit on the edge of their seats taking in every detail of every spoken word. Neufeld grips the hearts of her listeners by giving intense, passionate, and descriptive speeches on characters who even though they lived yesterday, their problems slide right into the present.

How fortunate these kids are to have the opportunity to hear such tales from such a person.

Local celebrities highlight TCC writer's conference

Carla M. Golden
Staff Reporter

Anyone who wants to break into the world of writing may want to take note of Sat., May 19.

From 9 am to 4 pm, KIRO radio personality Jim French and historian Murray Morgan make cameo appearances at the 1990 Tacoma Writer's Conference.

The event is at Tacoma Community College with sponsorship from the school's Lifelong Education office.

There will also be workshops and seminars on photojournalism, screenwriting, poetry, romance, children's books, and more.

Leading some of the sessions will be C.R. Roberts of *The Morning News Tribune*, romance author Margaret Chittenden, children's author Kathryn Galbraith, and poet Edward Harkness.

The conference costs \$35. Brochures and further information is available at TCC's Lifelong Education office, 566-5018.

Got a problem? I got the solution

Write to "Ask the Annihilator"
Send letters to Bldg. 14-13

Hyde, from page 5

designed to study recent volcanic activity and continue with a journey through time as students go back to examine ancient seas, deserts, and mountains in the following National Parks: Zion, Bryce, and Dinosaur in Utah, Arizona's Grand Canyon, and the Grand Tetons of Wyoming.

HIV, from page 1

proximately two of every 1,000 students tested positive for the HIV antibody.

Hutchins said that there has not been a formal study done at TCC. However, she did say that information has reached her that would indicate there are approximately six self-disclosed HIV or AIDS-infected students of the 5,000 enrolled at the college.

Hutchins added that the actual figure is probably higher because the average age for TCC students is higher than the norm.

Hutchins is bothered by the fact that students are neither intensively seeking nor voluntarily availing themselves of information on prevention. Evidence of this is apparent by the turnout at the last safe sex lecture.

There were only a dozen or so

Accompanying Hyde will be Larry Johnson, also familiar with the trip localities, thanks to the teaching of similar classes since 1980.

As they say: "First come, first served," so sign up now for time travel with Hyde and TCC---it's a blast!

students in attendance. Patrick Rumrill, Pierce County AIDS Foundation, was unwilling to make a judgment regarding how the disease is affecting students.

He did quote from a study that indicated that students are indulging in very diverse and unsafe sexual practices. A report by the Kinsey Institute showed that students engage in significant levels of unprotected sex.

These acts include anal intercourse, multiple sexual partners and sex with partners whose sexual history is unknown.

Hutchins said that because of the AIDS Omnibus Law, beginning in the fall of 1990, all community college students must be given information on the transmission and prevention of AIDS. Allied Health Staff members are working on a program for TCC.

Nolte is 'nasty' in Q & A

Ezra Graham
Robert Guerrero
Staff Reporters

The new Sidney Lumet movie *Q & A* is a mixed bag of thrills, chills, good acting, and unnecessary points.

Q & A is the story of a young lawyer (Timothy Hutton) whose first assignment as a district prosecutor is to investigate the killing of a known criminal by a veteran police officer played by Nick Nolte.

---Now prepare yourselves, as two of the *Challenge*'s critics try their hand at a "Siskel and Ebert" style of movie review---

Graham: Timothy Hutton's portrayal of a naive and moral lawyer is excellent. He is intense and in control. There is an edge to him that makes him appear as though he could lose it if he is pushed too far.

Guerrero: Hutton's performance is nothing more than just fair. He has been much better in the past (*Taps*) and he has shown more heart. I agree with my partner that Hutton has an edge that he plays well.

Graham: Armand Assante is quite good in the role of a cool and cocky criminal. Assante brings a freshness to the old 'dirtball' gangster role he plays.

Guerrero: Assante does an okay job.

Graham: In the beginning of the film racial epitaphs are us-

ed in conversation in a way that evokes laughter from the audience. But as the movie continues and the racism continues it serves to perpetuate violence and is no longer funny.

Guerrero: No longer funny is a very nice way to say that this movie helps perpetuate needless stereotypes against people who are historic victims of our society.

The way that gay people are treated in this film is degrading. The movie painted gay men as people who would do anything for sex.

I don't believe that the movie is deliberately anti-gay. I do believe this film engages itself in the needless stereotyping that does not progress the plot.

Graham: The Nick Nolte character is a boisterous, arrogant racist with a warped sense of justice. His character believes that racism and corruption are a part of being a cop who is loyal to the force.

Nolte's character conveys an anger and toughness that is repellent and, yet, compelling to watch.

Guerrero: At last, we finally agree. Nolte is easy to hate in this film and that is what gives him his power. This role is a great change of pace for him. He seeps off the screen like slime seeps through your fingers.

Graham: The love story is

trite and trivial. It shows how even a morally sound person can be effected by racism. It is unnecessary because the theme of racism is already thoroughly expressed and only slows the movie's pace.

Guerrero: Was there a love story in this movie?

Graham: The pace is sometimes slow and the story is sometimes confusing but the film is intelligent and intriguing. The performances by Nolte, Hutton, and Assante are superb. THUMBS-UP and *** on the star scale.

Guerrero: This movie is peppered with its fair share of spicy action and good unpredictable story twists. For the most part the acting is good, Nolte is really good.

This movie also suffers from some pointlessness. It was about ten minutes too long and the ending was an endurance test that meandered to a corny conclusion.

Nonetheless, this movie will entertain you and is exciting enough to justify the price of admission. THUMBS UP and *** on the star scale.

Excellent	****
Good	***
Fair	**
Poor	*

Rather be in Tacoma



In response to criticism of the coverage *48 Hours* gave Tacoma, Dan Rather appeared at Mt. Tahoma High School to hear Tacomas tell their side. The panel discussion featuring prominent members of the community was held on Tuesday, May 8.

Aaron Brown of KRO-7 News introduced panel members which included Lyle Quasim of Safe Streets. The discussion was televised locally on Saturday, May 12 at 9 pm. **Photo by Kevin Mikolashek**

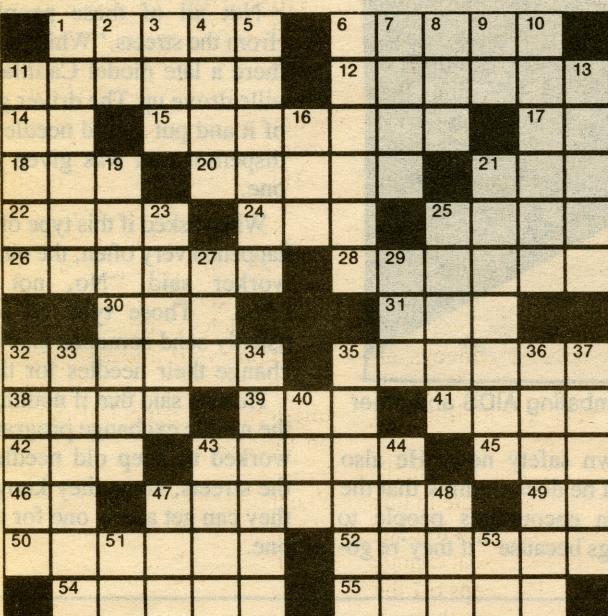
ACROSS

1 Stator
6 Snares
11 Mock
12 Sword
14 Symbol for silver
15 Second mast from the deck
17 Symbol for cerium
18 Pinch
20 Attain
21 Possessive pronoun
22 Mountain passes
24 Ending with lemon
25 Difficulty
26 Glossy paint
28 Roadside restaurants

30 Recent
31 Neither
32 Mediterranean vessels
35 Alloy of tin and copper
38 Rubber trees
39 Equality
41 Farm structure
42 Mild expletive
43 Doctrine
45 Be ill
46 Near
47 Day of week: pl.
49 Symbol for xenon
50 Esteem
52 Crucial time
54 Lavishes fondness on

DOWN

1 Area



COLLEGE PRESS SERVICE

The Weekly Crossword Puzzle

2 Either
3 Small bird
4 Aroma
5 Amend
6 Delineated
7 Reckless
8 Likely
9 Greek letter
10 Geometric figure
11 Waltz
12 Remains at ease
13 Insane
14 Sowed
15 Indisposition to action
16 Pintail ducks
17 Is aware of
18 Female sheep
19 Suffix: like
20 Sweetening substance
21 Raised the spirit of
22 Squanders
23 Deliver a sermon
24 Drink of the gods
25 Parts in play
26 In addition
27 Ripped
28 Beginner
29 Small rug
30 Transgress
31 Proceed
32 Therefore

Not Real Ads

Whoever stole the bloody leg, the pentagram, and the pocket calculator from the Challenge office—**BRING THEM BACK!!**

The Annihilator's office hours are 5-9 pm Tuesdays thru Thursday in Bldg. 26. Unless you're a blonde, in which case, just come on over. You know the place. That steel house on the corner with the missile launchers in the front yard and the 8000 pit bulls trained to eat intruders—except blondes. Come play with my gun!

Need projects, article reviews, essays, or term papers typed? Well, hell, your worries are over! Quality typing guaranteed. \$5 per hour. Call Geppy at 566-SLOW.

Reasonably cheap speakers and car stereos just like the ones stolen from the TCC parking lot. Come to the little pickup just behind Bldg. 25. After midnight only. Cash only. None of that check of credit card stuff. Bring lots and lots of cash—and no cops.

KEVINGER ©1990 THE CHARLOTTE OBSERVER
COLLEGE PRESS SERVICE



ASK THE ANNIHILATOR

Dear Annihilator,

My girlfriend is blonde, gorgeous, a good dancer and is very intelligent. She's a great conversationalist and is fun to be with and one can hardly help but notice her fantastic body (and noticing it, and noticing it . . .). She has a neat car, too. The problem is that lots of guys like her and I don't know how long I can keep her from realizing what a schmuck I really am. I just hope she won't break up with me. Help! ---Putz and I know it

Dear Putz,

I think you need to give me her phone number; this is a difficult case and your girlfriend is in much need of some private, very intense, counseling. As for yourself, you seem nervous and too uptight—take a vacation. The coast of Iowa is nice this time of year. Go find it.

Dear Annihilator,

My boyfriend of almost four years recently died in a car wreck. I'm alone and scared and don't know who else to turn to—I grew up reading your column, you got me through adolescence and every problem I've ever had in my life. This is the hardest thing I've ever had to deal with.

---Grieving and Bereaving

Dear Grieving,

Well shit, my first instinct in matters of the heart is to kill the dude, but I guess you can't do that, him already being dead and all. Sorry, but I'm stumped . . . hey, I got it: go out and find a guy who looks just like him. Wine 'em, dine 'em and do the other thing if you have to. Then blast him! Yep, blow him away. I'm sure that this will make you feel better about what your old boyfriend did to you, you know, going off and beefing it without your permission.

Dear Annihilator,

I have two really big problems. Let's see . . . I really don't know how to begin. One thing is that there is this duck that keeps following me, no, that's not it, it's the devil I know it. But the worst thing is this guy who laughs at me at the bus stop. I hear him laughing, laughing, laughing. What am I going to do about the duck?

---Ms Ridiculed in Tacoma

Dear Ridiculed,

Wow, no offense, but yer wacked! Get a shrink, two if you have to. If that doesn't help, let's start with the laughing boy at the bus stop. You're a chick, right? Pretend like you're making a play for him, then right before the bus comes chuck a pencil or a bra or something out into the road. If he likes you enough he'll reach to get whatever it was and SMASH! And if he doesn't die right off he's the guy for you. As for the duck, invite it home for dinner and eat it. If it turns out to be Satan, believe me, you'll know it.

Dear Annihilator,

I enjoy gardening. I just bought a house and as I was tilling up the backyard to plant some tomatoes I'm afraid that I found some bones! Upon careful examination I've concluded that they are HUMAN! (There was a skull—and I believe it was smiling at me) I'm scared to call the police because they may accuse me of being a killer, but I'm also reluctant to just leave it there, as the presence of a human carcass may decrease the property value.

Sincerely, a Haunted Gardener

Dear Haunted Bonehead,

So you're the schlep—I mean the nice gentleman who just purchased my former home. Well, don't worry about it. They're probably just some animal bones anyway. And they are CERTAINLY not the remains of somebody's ex-girlfriend's nagging mother. They'll probably make good fertilizer (she was full of it). And for God's sake, DON'T DIG IN THE SIDE YARD!!

P.S. And about that comment about being afraid to be called a killer: my father once told me that you're only a killer if they didn't deserve it (but most people do).

Needle exchange weathers controversy

Dolores K. Woods
Staff Reporter

Tacoma's 21 month-old Needle Exchange Program has been criticized, publicized and the subject of a law suit.

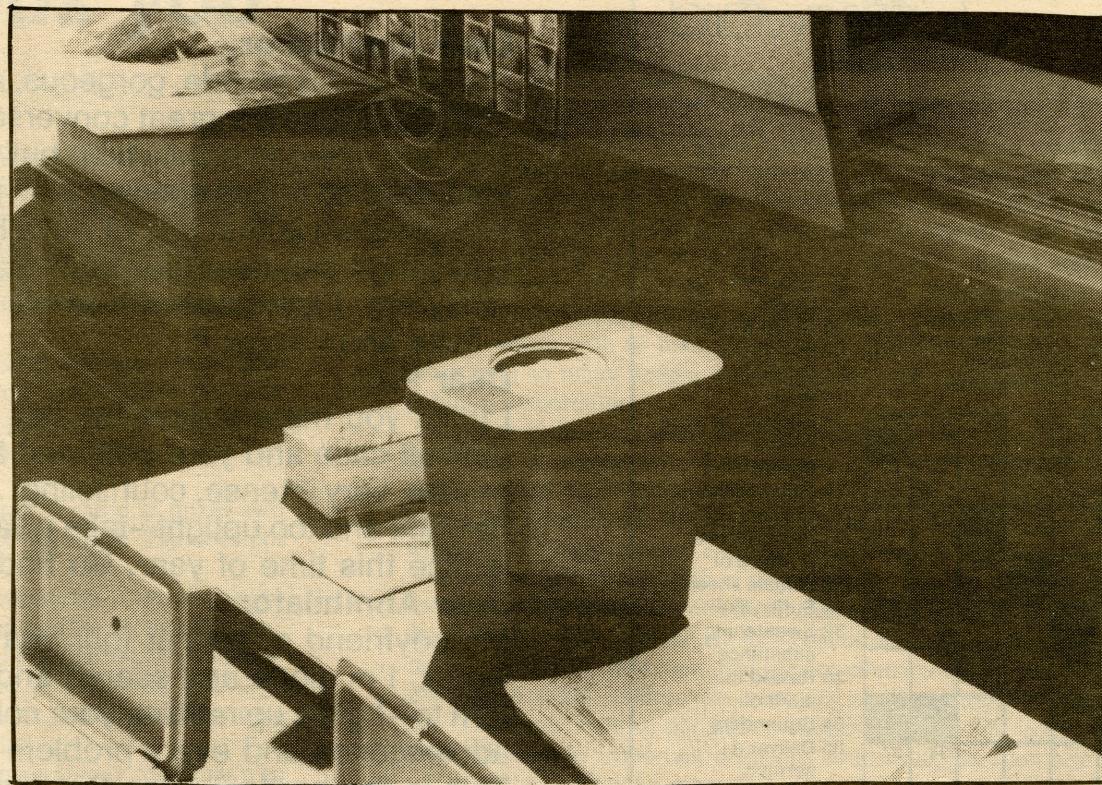
David Purchase started the program, in August, 1988 with \$135 and an idea. He believed that if you offered I.V. drug users new needles for their old ones, they would not have to share dirty needles. They would not have to use needles that may be infected with the AIDS virus.

In September, 1988 the Health Department studied the habits of intravenous drug users in the program. They were trying to find if the exchange program would have any effect on how users cleaned their needles and how often they used.

Forty-six randomly selected needle exchange users were surveyed. The study compared the drug users habits prior to the exchange program with their use since.

Fifty percent of the drug users reported injecting less, 15 percent reported the same use and 35 percent were injecting more frequently. Measuring also showed change towards safer ways of injection.

The incidence of lending injec-



Needle exchange is one of Pierce County Health Department's weapons in combating AIDS and other communicable diseases. Photo by Damon Rosencutter

tion equipment to sexual partners or close friends declined. Users who used only water to clean equipment decreased, while the use of bleach to clean equipment with increased.

A patron, who would like to remain anonymous, said that he

could see the difference that the program is making.

He said that people he knew seem to be looking out more for

their own safety now. He also said that he doesn't think that the program encourages people to use drugs because "if they're go-

ing to use (drugs) they're going to use, you know?" he commented.

The Health Department plans a more extensive study to begin in June or July, 1990. It will run for one year.

The white Community Health Outreach Van is parked on 15th and Commerce six days a week. From two to four-thirty p.m. there is a steady stream of people to and from the van.

Not all of these people are 'from the streets.' While we were there a late model Cadillac Service drove up. The driver got out of it and put an old needle in the dispenser and was given one.

When asked if this type of happened very often, the outreach worker said "No, not very often." Those type of people usually send someone else to exchange their needles for them.

He also said that if nothing else the needle exchange program has worked to keep old needles off the streets, since they know that they can get a new one for an old one.

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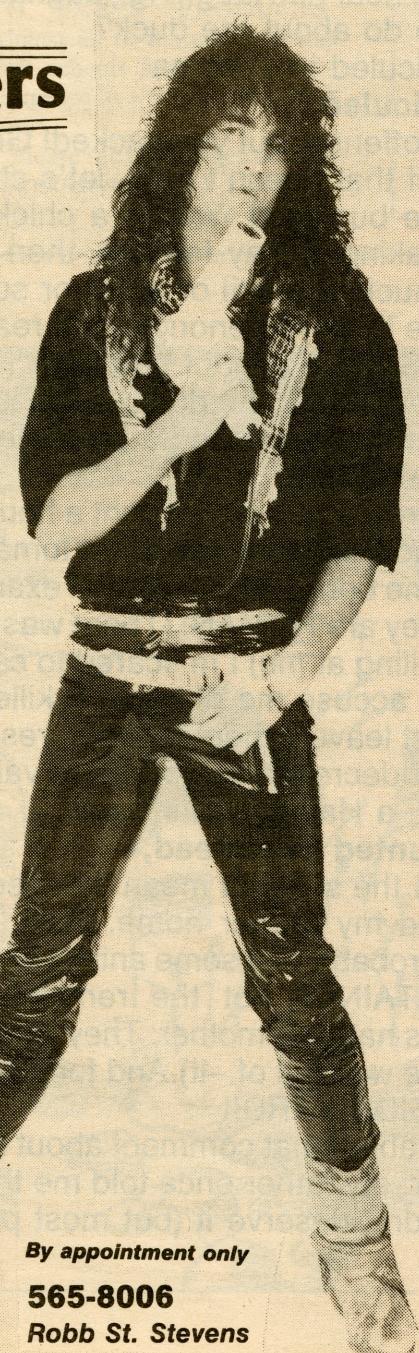
But then again... who is besides them?

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