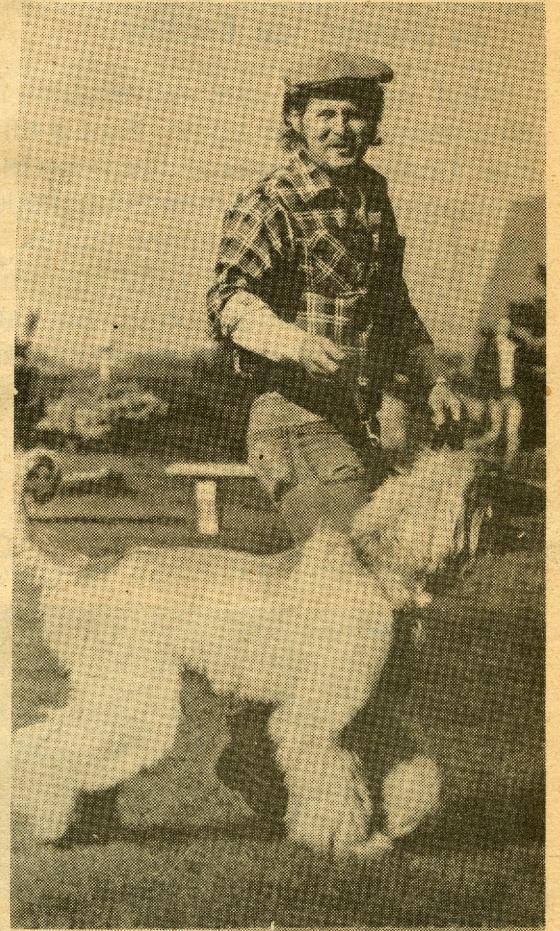
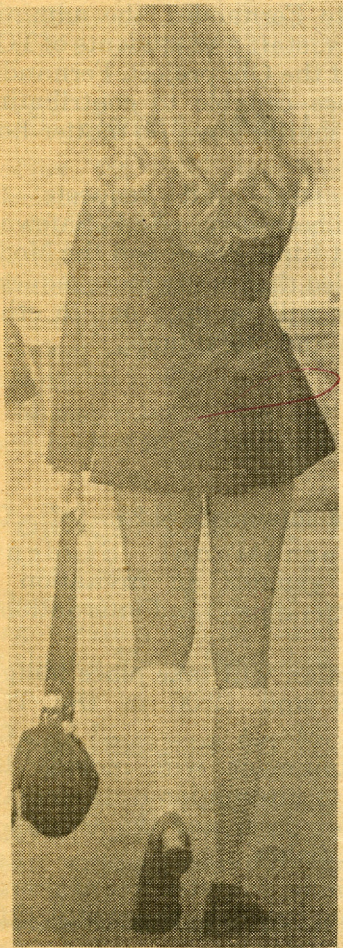


TACOMA COMMUNITY COLLEGE  
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# Collegiate Challenge

Tacoma  
 Community  
 College  
 Vol. VIII, No. 8  
 November 17, 1972



## To pinpoint a mood...

Tacoma Community College is a discreet mixture of young and old, bright and slow, ambitious and bored students from every corner of the Tacoma area.

There are many sub-groupings of students; those who are going on to a four year institution, those who are seeking job skills, and even some who attend "Because there's nothing better to do."

Because of its large variety of individuals with an even larger variety of interests, it sometimes looks like Tacoma Commuters College, with hundreds of cars coming and going after each class hour.

In an effort to find out student views on the campus atmosphere, the Challenge has asked several students what they thought of TCC. Their answers were as diversified as the many students who attend the school.

John Danke, a second year, full-time student found that "I like it here at TCC fairly well," and commented on the variety of students. "Students, in general, are . . . very nice, but they are all so different. It's difficult to classify people so varied."

"I haven't noticed any problem of communication at TCC," said Marianne Grile, a part-time night student. "I love it. Everyone I've met is friendly!"

Seeing another point of view is Jenice Valbert, a full-time sophomore. "They're (TCC students) not a very communicative bunch - you see them in the cafeteria with their own little groups of friends and that's the way they stay for the rest of the quarter."

A freshman, Jim Fox, sees "too many people doing too many different things, not getting to know each other." He states, "The educational end of it is okay, but the general campus environment is dull."

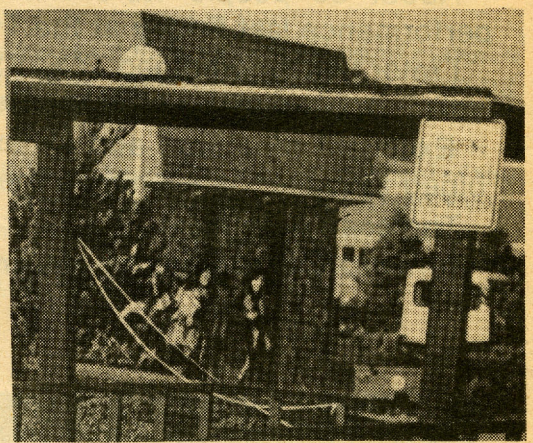
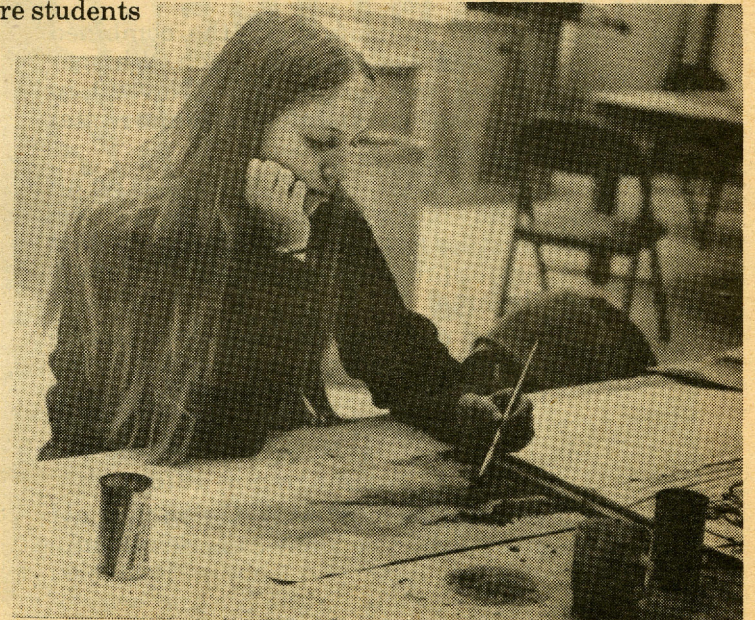
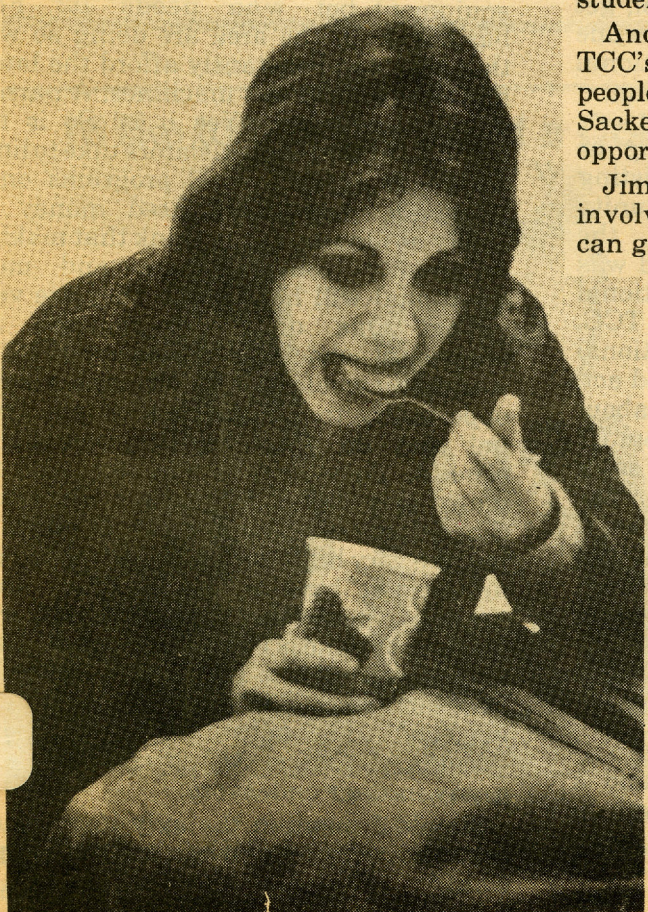
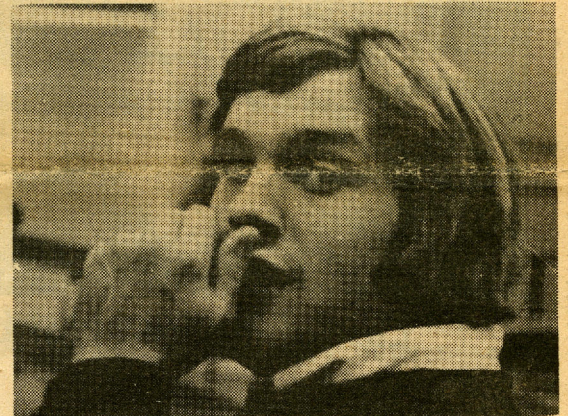
A large group of students at TCC are the veterans. Bill Cyrier, a veteran and a full-time student said that, "There's no hassles here at TCC as compared to the life of a serviceman. It's a lot better." Cyrier also stated, "But the students are not too friendly. . . communication ties are loose."

"I think the kids are friendly," said Becky Bowers, a freshman. She said, "The courses are too much like high school classes."

"I would like to see a recreation area. If there is one, it should be made known to the students," said Mansour Sultan, a sophomore. "There should be a place where students can play pool or watch TV." (There is, it is the student lounge in building 15-15)

Another sophomore, Joseph Sackey, stated, "I do like TCC's campus, the people to get to know, and I enjoy seeing people around of different nationalities. I've noticed," said Sackey, "that students don't take full advantage of opportunities such as listening to speakers on campus."

Jim Griffin, a soph, said, "There ought to be some way to involve more student action during the day so more students can get to know each other better."



# opinions

## ...On Dancer, on Prancer, on Rudolph, on Gobbler

Well here we are, November 17, and it's the Christmas season again. Wait a minute I'm wrong, the "Christmas" season has been in full swing since the beginning of the month. Just take a look at some of our friendly department stores.

But why wait clear until November to start the "Christmas" season. Why not start in July or January. With the right promotional campaigns Mr. Department Store Owner can make lots and lots of money.

Merry "Christmas."

Ho! Ho! Ho!

Dann Tillinghast



"Last of the Red Hot Lovers"

## Way to go theatre buffs

About 50 people were treated to a hilarious performance last Friday at the TCC Little Theatre.

I refer to the combined TCC-FSCC production of Neil Simon's play "Last of the Red Hot Lovers."

Excellent direction, and an excellent cast combined to make the evening a memorable one.

The cost: nothing.

An awful lot of people missed an awful good thing.

Dann Tillinghast

## Music students hear recital

Some 65 students from the combined music classes of Mistern, Birch, Whisner and Dezell, met last Monday, Nov. 13, in building 2 to hear an informal piano recital from Dr. David Rostkoski.

Dr. Rostkoski, a native of Ohio, is on an eight day leave from his college responsibilities at Eastern Washington State College to present nine concerts throughout the area.

Having received his Bachelors Degree from Oberlin College in Ohio, Rostkoski completed his graduate work at Northwestern University and went on to receive his Doctorate Degree in music from the University of Washington in 1970.

Performing on Monday, the 35 year old pianist played selections from Schumann, Scarlatti, Sciabin and Chopin. Rostkoski also spoke briefly on the life and work of these composers during his 50 minute appearance. A question and answer period followed.

## OBI sponsors Thanksgiving drive

This year, as with prior Thanksgiving holidays, the Obi Society of Tacoma Community College will sponsor a food drive to help needy families in Tacoma.

According to Reginald Fernandez, the prime minister of Obi, the organization's annual project has been highly successful in the past. Fernandez said that the 1969 drive provided food for 15 families, and the 1970 drive supplied 30 families with food. With the enthusiasm being generated by the members of the group, the 1972 drive will exceed the previous efforts, Fernandez said.

Fernandez added that because of the severity of the economic recession in the state it is important that those who are

more fortunate (businesses, industries, agencies, organizations and individuals) share their resources with those who are unable to provide themselves with one of the basic needs of life.

According to Fernandez, the administration, faculty, staff and students of TCC have endorsed the Obi project. Fernandez urged all those capable to contributing anything, no matter how, no matter how little, to do so.

Fernandez said that requests for donations had been sent to A&P, Safeway, Mayfair, Food King, Sears and the Model Cities. He added that many more requests for donations will be sent out to other organizations and individuals.

## ISO festival takes place tonight

Editors Note: The following article is written in both Spanish and English for the convenience of TCC's Spanish speaking students.

El Club Internacional de TCC tiene el placer de invitarlos al gran festival internacional.

El festival tendra' lugar el 17 de Noviembre en la cafeteria de este plantel de 8:00 pm a medianoche.

Tendremos diferentes distracciones como bailes, comidas y vestidos folkloricos.

Para los estudiantes, todo sera gratis. El

publico pagara solamente \$1.25.

The International Students Organization extends an invitation to everyone to attend its grand international festival.

The celebration will take place tonight between 8:00 and 12:00 in the TCC cafeteria.

The entertainment will include the performance of international dances, the wearing of folk dress and the serving of international dishes.

Students will be admitted free of charge. The general public will be charged \$1.25 for the complete program.

## Mundt praises campaign workers

John C. Mundt, state director of community colleges, today praised Washington voters, news media, campaign workers and those who gave endorsements for their help in passing Referendum 31.

# letters

# letters

## Knocks Referendum 31

Community Colleges are today a very necessary part of our educational system. Together with the vocational schools they fill the gap between the universities and nothing. The community colleges and vocational schools were conceived as an "education for all". One could go to a community college for two years and make up what was missed in high school, get your feet on the ground sort of thing, or one could go to the more practical vocational school and learn a practical profession.

Now we are hell-bent on killing or seriously hampering the two existing vocational schools and the two community colleges here in Tacoma. Ref. 31, the community college bond just passed was urgently needed. All the educational institutions need money and so does TCC. But to limit the funds to vocational programs was a very narrow minded act. Perhaps some of the courses TCC is about to initiate with funds from this program are needed. But, TCC could use some money elsewhere just as badly. The argument: "if we had a wider vocational program it would boost enrollment," might be true, but, it seems to me that if we had, for example, an enlarged art, drama, and music department, enrollment would also rise. Nobody wants to work in a crowded place where artists spill paint on each other instead of on the canvas.

It is considerably cheaper to build a building for an academic subject or even an art studio than for a vocational program. The business and medical machines for some of the vocational courses are very

expensive and so is the maintenance and upkeep. Some of the programs are already in existence at one of the two other vocational schools, and to initiate yet another vocational program at TCC would only duplicate or even triplicate the existing programs. TCC's program would undoubtedly have the latest and newest equipment but who needs it? Few businesses in the area are doing so well that they can constantly afford the latest and newest business machines. A narrow minded argument? Yes it is! So is the standpoint that the legislators take to limit the funds to vocational programs only. Academic institutions need money as sorely as others. If they think that making community colleges more and more vocational will help people they are very wrong. One of the arguments for vocational schools and for passing Ref. 31 was that it would give minorities a greater opportunity to a higher education. True, but they do not want only vocational schools. They want a way out and for many this dream is a college education. Since many are poor and can ill afford to pay the very high tuition of the two private universities here in Tacoma, they must find a way to cut these costs. The only way this can be done is by going first to TCC for two years then to a regular university for the last two. Limiting the academic subjects and substituting them for vocational courses would certainly hurt many in their endeavors.

Should I mention the ugly insinuation that that's exactly what certain people want?

Irene P. Jones

# happenings

## 'La Boheme' and 'Adventure' at Little Theatre

Two movies will be shown Nov. 24-26, they are "LaBoheme" and "Great Adventure." They will be shown at 8 p m in the TCC Little Theatre.

## OBI slates Joe Tex

Nov. 22, 1972, the Tacoma Community College OBI Society will attempt to further the awareness of all members of the community. This awareness will come in the form of Minister Joe X. Tex. Formerly a singer and entertainer, Minister Joe X. Tex is coming to TCC as a Moslem minister.

The purpose of this presentation is twofold; first to build Moslem awareness, and second, to gather donations to build a hospital in Chicago.

Minister Joe X. Tex will speak in Building 15-8 from 11-1 p.m. on November 22, and there will be no admission charge.

## Political science forum

The Political Science Forum will hold its meetings every Thursday in Bldg. 18-2 at noon. Information on the organization can be found in 18-1. Future P.S.F. programs include a Media Week Jan. 15-19.

## Pool league to form

Anyone interested in joining the TCC Pool League contact Mario Gomez, ASB Senate office. Tentative play off for 6 man team will be Friday, 4:00 pm.

# Collegiate Challenge

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# happenings

## Columnist takes turkey

Challenge columnist Debra Cambell was among four winners of Thanksgiving turkeys in a contest sponsored by K.Q.I.N. radio. The other winners were Darryle Carter and Roger L. Clark.

On receiving her turkey, Debra could only respond by saying, "It's a once in a lifetime experience."

## Campus 'heads' to meet

There will be a general information meeting for all present and prospective members of Phi Theta Kappa on Nov. 21 at noon in 5-7. PTK is a national honor society for all students which have shown academic excellence. So if you are a pretty smart cookie come and join us. They offer many projects and ideas of interest to students.

On Nov. 28 PTK will have election of new officers. Dec. 3 is set aside for the initiation of new members.

## Titans favored at Tip-Off Tournery

The third annual Bellevue Tip-Off Tournament will be held Nov. 24-26 at Sammamish High School in Bellevue. The Titans have won the crown the past two years and are favored again this year.

## Food coupons at Bookstore

Food coupons may be purchased from the first to the 25th day of each month, Monday thru Friday, 8:00 a.m. to 4:00 p.m. in the Bookstore. Please have authorization and identification cards with you. Personal checks cannot be accepted.

## ISO dance tonight

I.S.O. (International Students Organization) is having a Dance Festival tonight from 8 p m until midnight in the Cafeteria. It is free to all TCC students.

## AF reserve recruiter to visit

An Air Force Reserve recruiter will be on campus Nov. 29 from 8:00 Aa.m. to 3:00 p.m., in the Library conference room #2.

## "Applause" adds student matinee

Northwest Releasing has added a special student matinee of the touring Broadway musical "Applause," starring Patrice Munsel, on Friday, Nov. 24, at 2:30 p.m. in the Seattle Opera House.

Winner of the 1970 Tony Award for the best musical of the season, "Applause" is based on the movie "All About Eve." The story centers on a stage star forced into an all-out battle against a scheming, sneaky, younger rival who threatens both her career and her lover.

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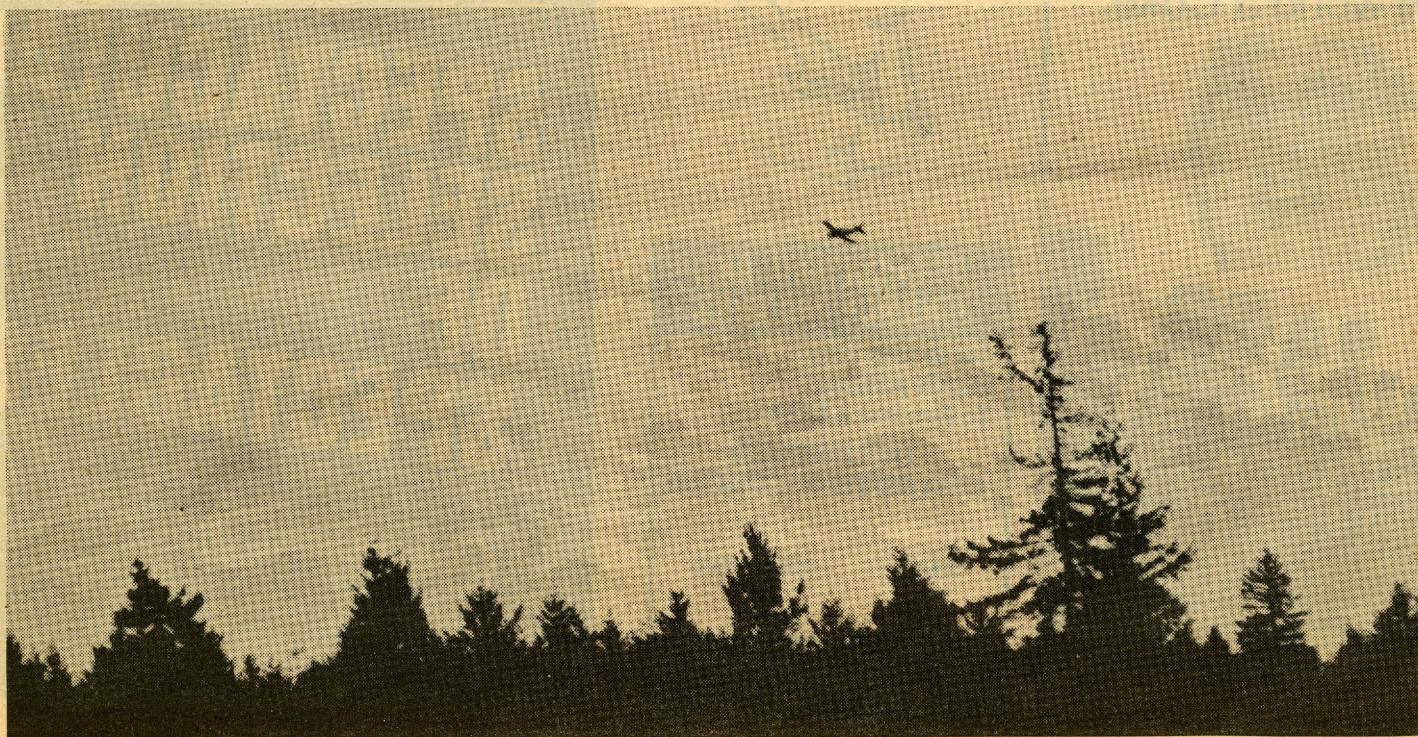
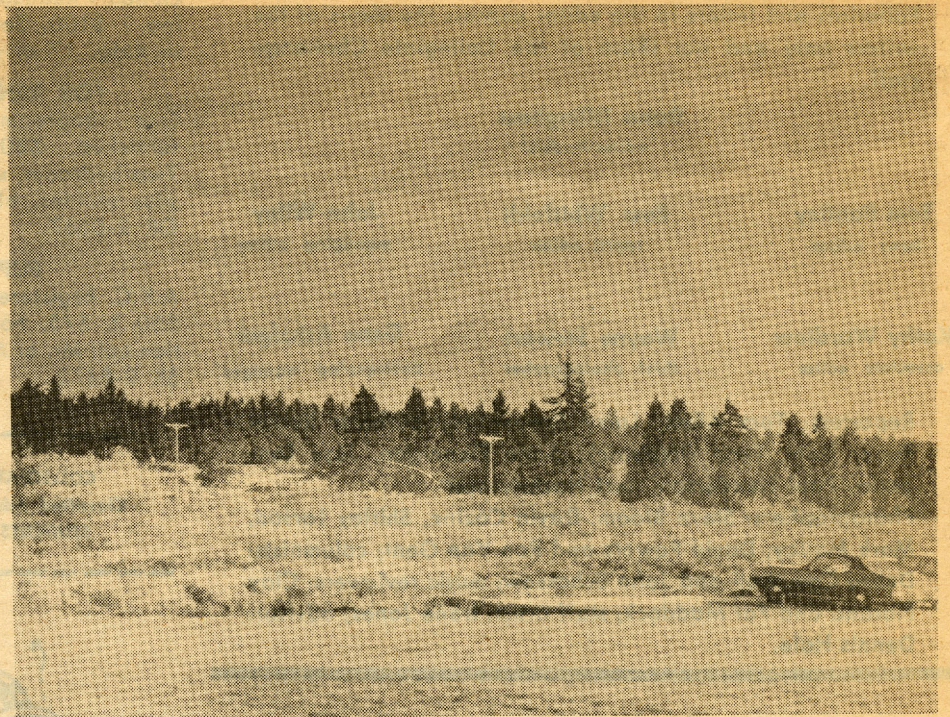
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— photos by Steve Bloom



## Making It

by Debra Campbell

### 'Gobbleday'

The other day I was discussing Thanksgiving with my friend Dennis, who can't stand the taste of turkey meat. "If you cook turkey don't expect me to come over for dinner," he said.

"Come on," I said. "Be reasonable. Everybody has turkey for Thanksgiving. That's the whole idea - to emphasize our forefathers' friendship with the Indians."

He replied vehemently, "Oh come off it! What's turkey anyway but a gaudy, overweight chicken? Besides you've got 'gobbleday' all wrong. I'll tell you the real, little-known reason behind Thanksgiving."

So here it is; the unblemished account of my second favorite holiday from the lips of a turkey-hater.

...A long time ago in England there was a group of reactionaries known as the Puritans. They couldn't get along

with anybody so they decided to split to the New World and live off the land. They also took a bunch of prison inmates along with them. Somebody had to do the dirty work aboard ship.

In due course, they came to the shores of America. The first thing they saw when they stepped on land was a big, ugly rock which they promptly named "Plymouth"; why they did this has never been discovered and it remains one of the great mysteries of our time.

Their plan to live off the land was soon shattered and they were lucky to meet some friendly Indians under the leadership of Chief Samoset. They helped the Pilgrims (a pretentious title they gave themselves) to find game, showed them where and how to fish and shared their own food with them.

The puritannical Pilgrims established a colony and were then known as colonists.

It wasn't too long before the colonists got the idea to con the Indians out of their land. It was obvious that the heavily wooded country, filled with game and natural resources would double in value within the next ten years. The white men kept bugging Chief Samoset to give them thousands of acres of land. Finally he humored them by putting his mark on a piece of paper while laughing to himself. He knew that the land could belong to no man. It came from the Great Spirit and the Great Spirit was a boundless as the sky.

In return for the chief's amiable nature the colonists invited the Indians over for dinner. And while scheming on ways to convert the Indians to Christianity so they too could become good, they chanted in unison, "Thanks for giving us your land."

3rd Annual  
Bellevue

Tip-Off  
Tourney

Sammamish  
High  
School

November 24 - 26

Get behind  
the  
Titans!

### Little Quakers win one

"They must have seen us coming," was the general attitude of the Challenge Little Quakers after last Saturday's forfeit game at Green River.

The little Quakers travelled to Auburn, where they were to take on the Green River news staff. After an hour, it became evident that the Current staff was not going to show.

The team went through a few drills on the Auburn campus' swampy field and then went home to listen to the Husky game.

"It was a great disappointment, as we were really ready for that game," said Tom Pantley, "All-star" halfback from Lincoln. "Besides, our refreshment fund had been tapped and we were not able to celebrate the easy victory," stated "All American" wide receiver John Wiley, a Bellarmine product.

This week, the Little Quakers take on a co-ed team from Edmonds on the TCC gridiron. Maybe.

### Cafe es Espanol

by Jose Longoria

Were you aware that your local campus cafeteria was named after a Mexican retail store? That's much right.

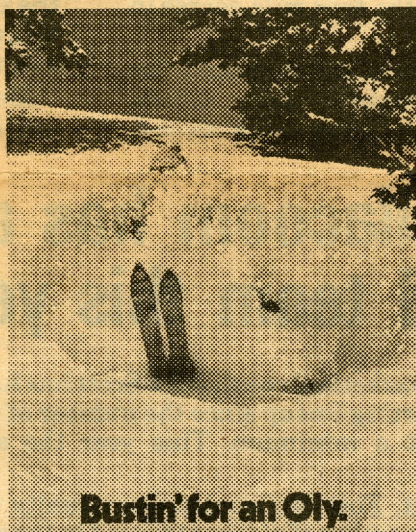
The original cafeteria was a Mexican shop which dealt almost exclusively with the vending of the "cafe" (brown) colored product.

Webster calls it "a restaurant in which food is displayed on counters and patrons serve themselves," or as Cuyas puts it—"un restaurant donde los parroquianos se sirven a si mismos."

For those women-libbers, who may look upon cafeterias as male-chauvinist institutes, I must add that "cafeteria" is of feminine gender.

Next week I will spread a little savvy on Mustangs, Pintos and Vegas if you know what I mean.

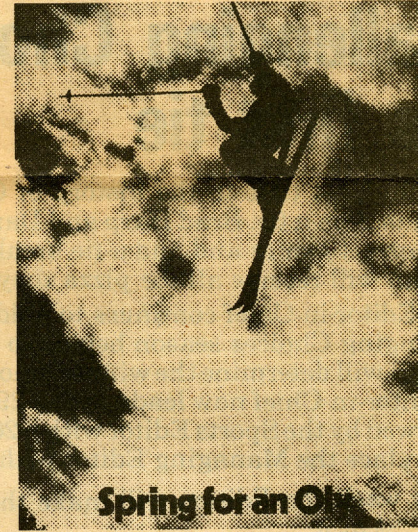
# Here's an offer for powder buffs.



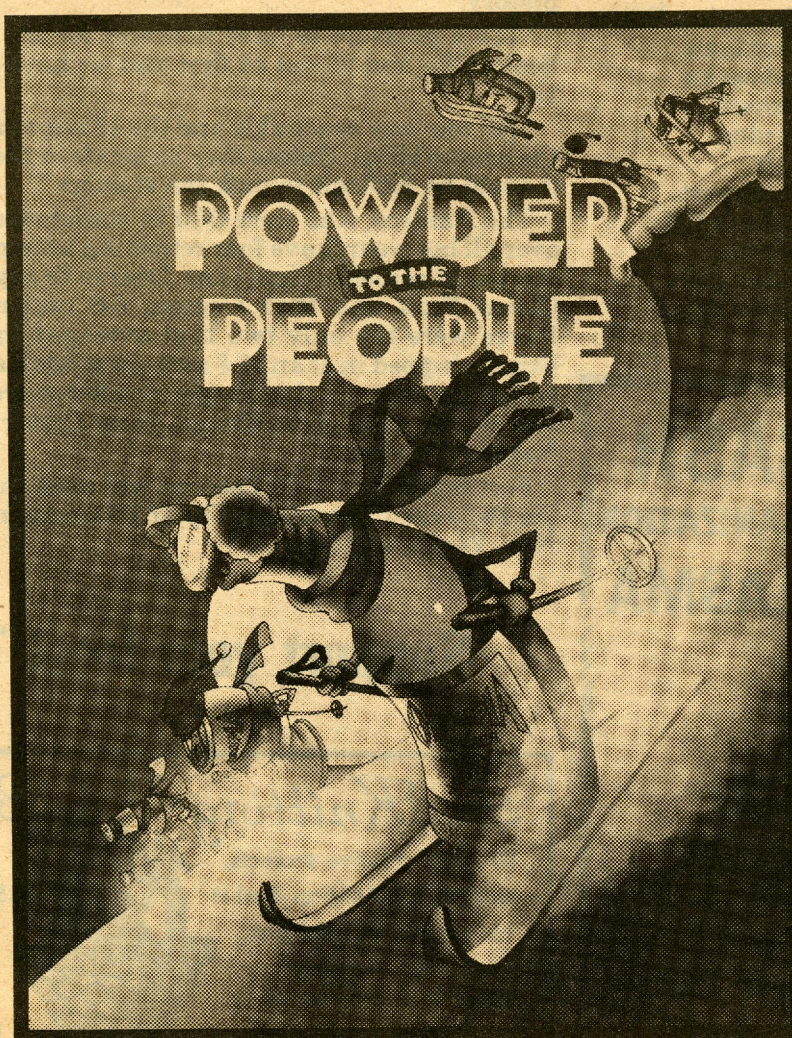
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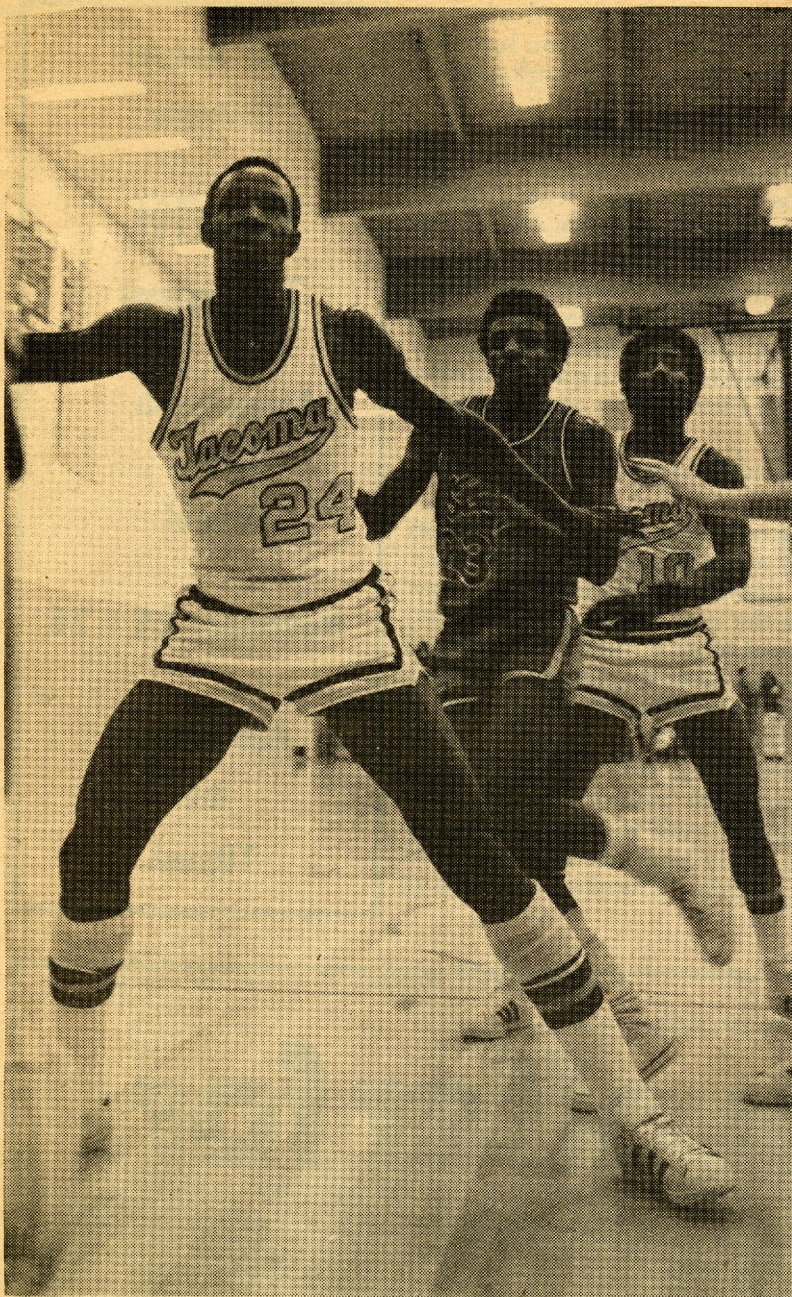
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The M.V.P. in '71 Tip-Off

# Bellevue Tip-Off only a week away; intersquad game Monday

by Ross Whitfeldt

With the Bellevue Tip-Off Tourney only a week away, Coach Don Moseid has yet to pick his starting five.

As the Titans prepare to defend their crown seven members are battling for the top five positions.

Tommy Williams (6'2"), Keith Young (6'2"), and Gary Juniel (6'3") are in tight competition for the guard positions.

Tommy and Keith are two-thirds of the Titans' returning lettermen as Earnest Ramsey has left the team due to personal problems.

Mayhard Brown (6'5"), Jeff Marelich (6'4"), Steve Johansen (6'8"), and Conrad Lewis (6'7½) are battling for a position in the front line. Coach Moseid hopes to pick his starters after Monday's intersquad

game to be held in the gym at 7:00 pm. With the tallest team in TCC's history (the average height is 6'4"), Moseid plans to run an offense that will take advantage of the height.

Height is not the only factor in favor of the Titans, according to Moseid the players have a very positive attitude and are putting a great deal of effort into practice.

Moseid rates host Bellevue as the team to beat in the opening tourney; "They are tall and experienced but we are quicker and should be able to beat them."

Some coaches shy away from an opening season tournament, but Moseid feels "it has helped us build confidence in the past two years. It also gives a team valuable tournament experience in case a team does make it to the State Tourney."

# Cross-country's long road ends; Bronson paces Titans at State

by Tom Allen

The Tacoma Community College cross-country season came to a close last weekend in Spokane with the annual Northwest CC conference cross-country title at Wandermere Golf Course.

In the yearly tussle of Washington's community college cross-country squads, the Spokane Sasquatches dethroned defending champion Mount Hood by placing five men in the top ten. Curt Beckman won the individual championship by running the four mile course in 23:19.5.

Bruce Bronson once again paced the Titans to a fourteenth place finish. Bellevue Community College took second,

Spokane Falls third, and Everett fourth. Green River placed seventh, with Bob Skar finishing 19 and Willy Brown 23. The 1971 champs, Mount Hood took sixth.

In a year of hardships during the meets, coach Ed Fisher's athletes performed admirably throughout the season. "All the boys worked extremely hard all year on both distance and speed during practice," said Fisher. Their efforts were somewhat overshadowed in the meets, but they did the best they could. The dedication in this sport is greater than that of any other sport."

Meanwhile, the Titan harriers will continue to practice for the 1973 season.

# Challenging Choices has first tie

For the first time in the history of Challenging Choices there has been a tie. Brad Harp and Dan Bryant both picked eight correct games and had a tie breaker of 180. Both Brad and Dan will receive all the pizza they can eat.

The Editor-in-Chief continues to hold a strong lead as the Challenging Choices season begins to come to its end. This weekend will determine the winner among the editorial staff. The Editor-in-Chief now leads with a 29-11 (72.5%) record, he is followed by the Sports Editor with a 26-14 (65%) record, and in last place the Managing Editor with a 24-16(55%) record.

This week the Editors will make their picks just for the \$(&!\$\*\*% of it:

Editor	Sports Editor	Managing Editor
Michigan	Ohio St.	Michigan
Oklahoma	Nebraska	Nebraska
Cornell	Princeton	Cornell
Indiana	Indiana	Purdue
Yale	Yale	Yale
Cincinnati	Chicago	Cincinnati
Oakland	Oakland	Kansas City
N.Y. Jet	Detroit	Detroit
Pittsburgh	Minnesota	Pittsburgh
Washington	Washington	Washington

# Fort Steilacoom has a balanced team this year

In the past, head basketball coach Jack Scott has had little trouble setting a starting lineup since the number of players turning out was at a minimum. This year the story is different.

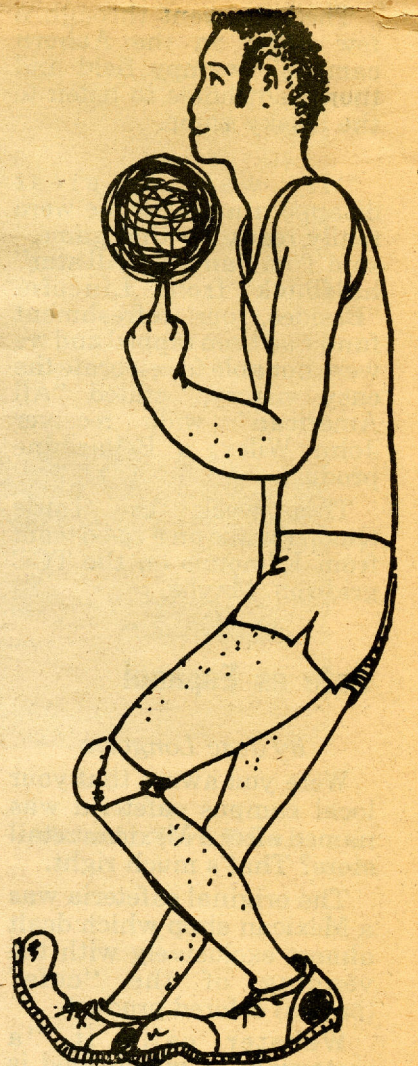
According to Scott, Fort Steilacoom Community College has had the highest number of players turnout in the school's history.

"It's a pleasure to have numbers for the first time," said Scott. "We had 26 out at first and we have since cut that to 15."

"All are very coachable and the 15 remainders have about the same ability. Unless they separate in the next few weeks, it could be difficult to pick the starters."

The Raiders, who were 6-10 in conference play and 11-15 over all last year, have four returning lettermen, all of whom started at sometime last year. Dennis Brady, 6-0 guard from Clover Park and Rick Carson, 6-6 center from Franklin Pierce were the only two that averaged in double figures. Brady chipped in at an 11.8 average while Carson netted 11.6 points per game. John Trageser, a 6-0 guard from Puyallup and 6-5 forward Mike Crouch from Clover Park were also frequent starters.

Fort Steilacoom and Tacoma will open their seasons with the Bellevue Invitational Tipoff Tournament at Bellevue on Nov. 24, 25, and 26.



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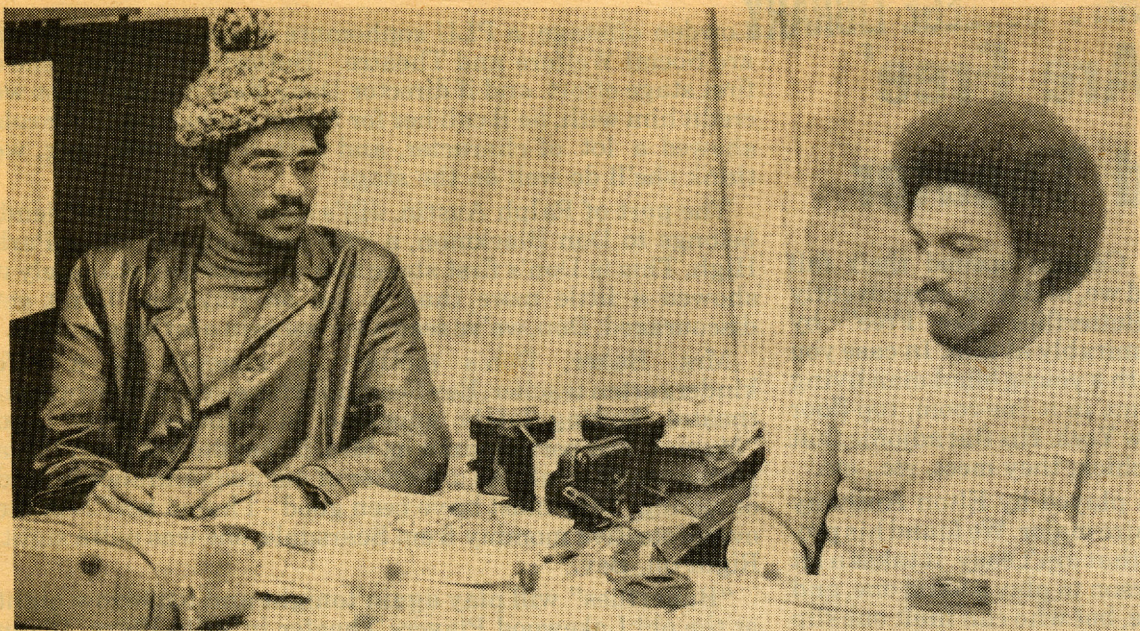
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Bellevue

**Tip-Off Tourney**

Nov. 24-26

**Sammamish High**



Larry McIntosh (right)

## Ethnic Studies Lab aims to aid campus unity

by Lola Alakija

The Tacoma Community College Ethnic Studies Lab, directed by Larry McIntosh, has been in existence for two years.

According to McIntosh, running the lab involves a lot of problems. The main one, he said, is the same one he faced when the lab began. That is "non-participation on the part of the faculty and students." He blames student non-participation on the teachers whom he says do not send students to the lab to make use of the materials that might be relevant to their courses.

McIntosh said that each year since the lab started, faculty members have received copies of the lab catalog, and so they should be aware of what materials are available.

Among the materials available are 16 mm films on African Art and Culture, which is recommended for art, history, geography, and sociology. There are other films on Mexican-Americans, slavery and the slave trade, Latin America and other subjects.

McIntosh said there are also sound film strips, tapes and slides dealing with

minority groups of the world. There are also overhead projectors, a 35 mm camera and projector, and photography equipment.

McIntosh stated that although non-participation is the major problem, there is also that of "insufficient funds to have the place quipped the way I would really like to see it." He said that although the lab has good materials, there are several others that could be purchased to improve service.

Another problem McIntosh stated is the lack of space. The Ethnic Studies Lab consists of three rooms of which one is McIntosh's office. If as many as 15 or 20 people are in the lab at the same time, McIntosh said, there is very little room left to move around in.

Among his various duties, McIntosh said, he helps set up equipment, select material for whoever wants them, offers technical help in the use and maintenance of equipment and sometimes he tutors and counsels.

McIntosh said that the lab "is open to anybody and everybody," but that he is displeased that off-campus people use the lab more than campus members do.

## Morris heads nursing program

Several weeks ago, it was announced by the administration that TCC's application for an associate-degree nursing program (ADN) had been approved by the State Board of Nursing. Although informal planning for the program had been established late this past spring and applications from over 400 persons had been accepted in anticipation, the formal announcement initiated a detailed groundwork for the ADN program.

Initially, a full-time nursing instructor, Joan Morris, has been hired to arrange curriculum for the classes which start next April and to aid Joan Royce, a registered nurse who is the program planner. Also, as a result of the program approval, TCC has been awarded a \$30,000 federal planning grant and a \$30,000 state operational grant. Tentative accreditation will be effectual for the preliminary two years of the program, which is the usual probationary period, after which consideration will be given for permanent accreditation.

TCC has been involved in nursing since its inception in 1965, by providing science courses for students of the St. Joseph's Hospital and Tacoma General Hospital Schools of Nursing. The college administration first seriously considered establishing an ADN program when St. Joseph's Hospital decided to close its nursing school. As a result of that planned

closure, the local need that was created permitted TCC to fill the vacuum, allowing no loss of nursing supply in the Tacoma area.

When it starts classes in April, the ADN program will utilize the campus science building, although a more adequate special facility is expected to be constructed in the future as the enrollment in the program increases. The program will initially be limited to 40 nursing students, and the faculty, in addition to Joan Morris, will be increased by another full-time instructor and possible one part-time teachers.

But a larger student enrollment is inevitable because of the high impact of St. Joseph's nursing school closure, as indicated by the many applicants interested in TCC's program. The number of students TCC will deal with will be dependant on several factors, but primarily on the cooperation the program will have in local clinical facilities. Some of these organizations that have been contacted for experiential use of their facilities are the Ft. Lewis Child Care Center, Good Samaritan Hospital, Madigan General Hospital, Lakewood Hospital, Allenmore Medical Center, and several convalescence homes.

The ADN program has the potential of becoming the largest branch of TCC's Allied Health Dept. Programs already established in that department include the Respiratory Care, Medical Records, X-Ray, and Emergency Medical technologies.

## New language courses offered winter quarter

Two new courses, Spanish 220 Conversational Spanish and Spanish 221 Reading and Writing Spanish, will be offered for the first time at TCC during winter quarter.

Conversational Spanish (Spanish 220) is a course designed primarily for students interested in developing a speaking ability in Spanish. The course content includes discussions in Spanish on controversial subjects such as "La desobediencia civil" (civil disobedience), "La herencia y el medio-ambiente" (heredity and environment), "La legalizacion de las drogas" (legalization of drugs), "El matrimonio abierto" (open marriage) and "La musica clasica y el rock" (classical music and rock). Prerequisite for course is one year of college Spanish or three years of high school instruction in the language.

Reading and Writing Spanish (Spanish 221) is a course designed to give students the essentials of effective writing in Spanish as well as an appreciation of Latin-American and Spanish literature. Prerequisite for the class is Spanish 201 or four years of high school Spanish.

Students wishing more information on these courses should consult with the language instructors involved: John Tuttle (French) and Mario Faye (Spanish).

Beginning courses in French and Spanish, French 101 and Spanish 101, will be offered on an independent study basis winter quarter. According to Mario Faye, chairman of TCC's Language Department, "Programmed materials will be used for instruction in both courses, allowing students to study at their own learning pace." The beginning courses may be used to fulfill the admissions requirement in foreign languages for four-year colleges.

Students who start a language winter quarter will be able to finish it summer quarter, Faye said. Spanish 102 and French 102 will be offered spring quarter, and Spanish 103 and French 103 will be offered summer quarter.



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Theatre Things

by Larry Bommarito

# 'Butterflies Are Free' at Lakewood Theater

Fort Steilacoom Community College opened their fall production last Friday night, and we, of course, were in early attendance. They're doing "Butterflies Are Free" by Leonard Gershe, and doing it admirably at that. In case you don't know, the story has to do with a young blind man living away from home for the first time in a one-room, top-floor walkup on East 11th Street in New York. His flat adjoins that of a scatterbrained but lovable chick, they meet, etc., etc.

The blind dude, Don Baker is played by Elton Anthony Cormier, a Fort Steilacoom theatre major. We found his portrayal to be nearly flawless, and that ain't easy. It takes a lot of concentration for a sighted person to play a blind one, and we noticed Cormier slip only once, but who can fault one slip on opening night?

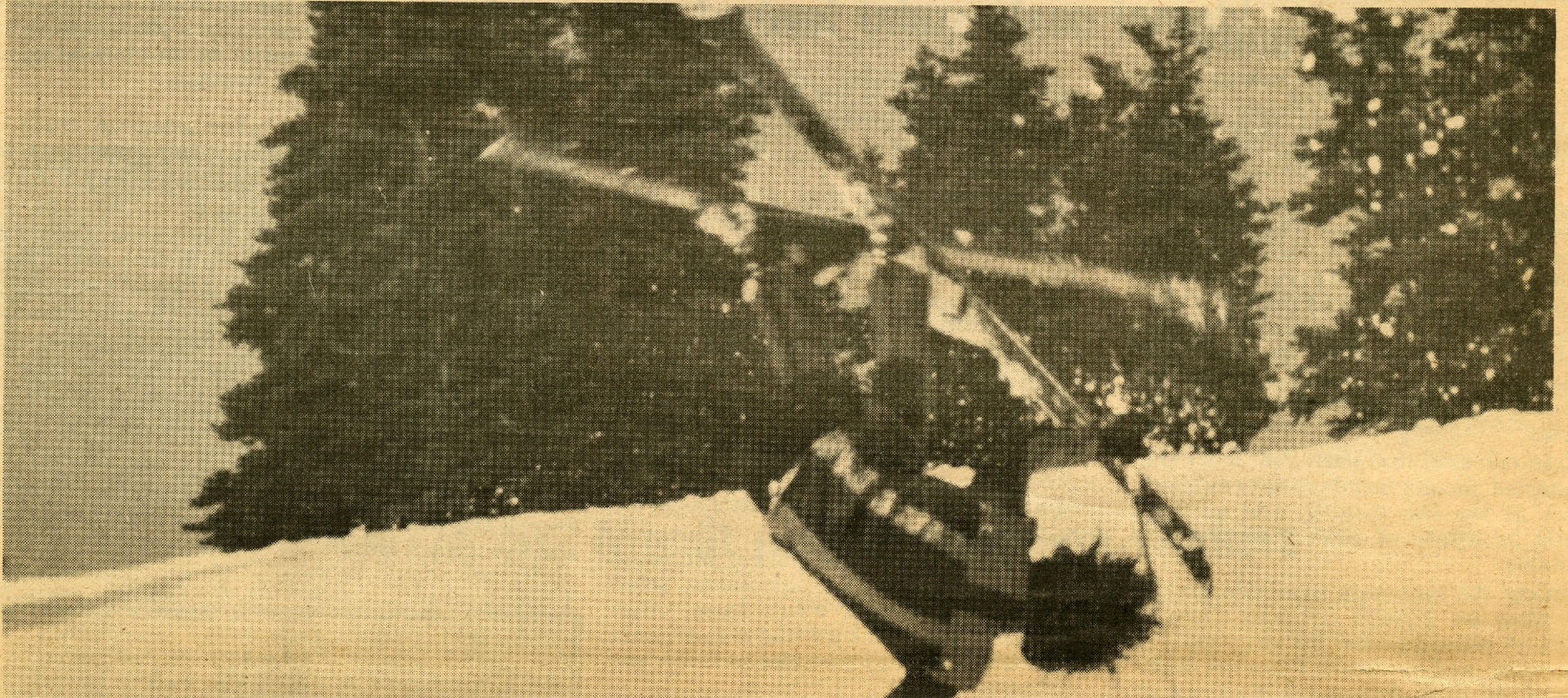
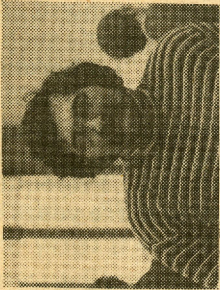
The chick in the next room, Jill Tanner, is Raydene

Lowden offstage, a PLU sophomore whose major interests are Social Welfare and Theatre. "Butterflies" is Raydene's first stage effort, and if director Doug Kerr has the sense we credit him with, he'll call her for future productions. Her role showed a lot of character, and with a little coaching, we think she'll do well on the stage.

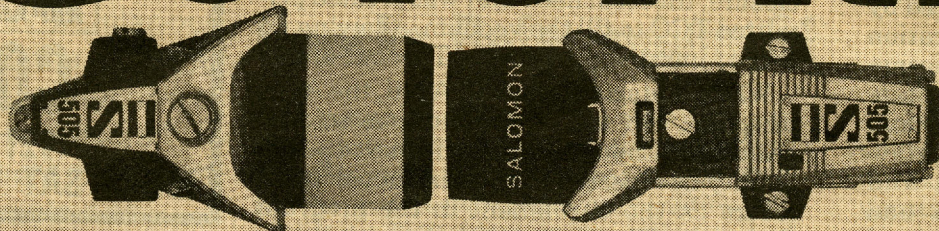
The part of Ralph Austin, Jill's screwball director-friend, belongs to Don Blackmon, a 1968 graduate of Clover Park High. This is Don's first stage trip, too, but unfortunately it showed a little more than it did on Raydene. Don't get discouraged, Don, we've seen a lot worse in a lot bigger roles.

Mrs. Baker, Don's mother, is enacted by a Fife kindergarten teacher, Bev Scoggin, who is very active in local theatre, having lately appeared in "Blithe Spirit" and "Mame". Her performance as Mrs. Baker did not seem like a performance at all. As a mother of our acquaintance is fond of saying, "She must have been good - I hated her!". As the overprotective mommy from Scarsdale, she was outta sight. Right on, Bev.

"Butterflies" will play again tonight and tomorrow night at the old Lakewood Players Theater in Villa Plaza. If you dig boy-meets girl, boy-loses-girl, boy-gets-girl stories, see this show. It's a good one.

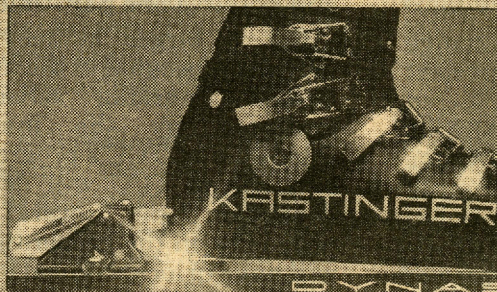


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