Northwest

Volume 18, No. 10 Nov. 21–Dec. 10

Can Animals Make It in the most "Liveable" State?



**Up Against** the Shah

**TURMOIL IN IRAN** 



Bellingham Libra

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Musical Machismo

A Fan Looks at Rock

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### Features

A Long-time pregressive music fan explores sexism ignored in Rock music... See page 16.

Iran: Part II explores the attack on the Shah by a wide coalition of Iranians. See page 8.

The Passage contacted wildlife experts throughout the state to discover how bird and mammal predators who were here at the turn of the century are doing

See page 11.

Puget Power zaps ratepayers with a 22.7% rate hike request. See page 10.

#### Shorts

Squatters in Capitol Hill houses are squelched in court by Judge Yanick. See page 4.

"Women Take Back the Night" is the home of a group of angry Capitol Hill residents who have organized against rape. See page 4.

National results of the recent election raise hopes and confirm

See page 7.

The aesbestos industry's coverup on health hazards is finally made public after 40 years. See page 7.

A whale outmaneuvers the nuclear power industry and beco comes the "one that got away." See page 6.

Georgia-Pacific and the AWPPW union have still not settled a strike which has lasted 4 months. See page 5.

#### Reviews

Lord of the Rings reviewed by one who knows little about Tolkien but knows what she likes in animation.

The Wallflower Order Dance Collective bring their cultural workers' perspective to town. See page 18.

Apologies

To a few dozen of our subsribers: You have been the victims of human and technological errors. We are really sorry that your Passages mysteriously stopped coming in the mail. Somehow your names were dropped from our mailer's computer list. You now should be receiving your Passages regularly, and we have advanced your expiration dates to credit you. for issues missed. Please let us know if there are any further problems.

# Letters

Dear Passage,

We have been living in a sturdy, beutiful, 50-year-old house on Bellingham's South State Street, fully aware that it, like others on the street, was doomed to be torn down so apartments can be built there instead. Hell our landlord has plans to stuff 20 units onto the site -- don't ask me how. How could our house possibly stand in the face of so much potential profit?

So, when we finally got the word to move, we figured the time was ripe for a bit of organized opposition. For the last two months, we have been taking some initial steps in community outreach posters, newspaper articles, meetin with community organizers. But we

made some fatel errors. One was in waiting until we were under the gun before we did anything. Another was in trying to get Bellingham's tenants to rally around our house when half of them are busy struggling with the same damn problem.

But the most deadly problem we encbuntered was that of simply trying to survive. Suddenly, we were all facing such obstacles as unemployment, trying to find a new job, fending off voracious utility companies, struggling to finish school, and trying to find a new home. Attempting to do all that while keeping up an accursed house has proved to be too much for most of us. One by one, we have been beaten down and driven

out by the system. Of the six who were living there when we were ordered to move, only two full-time residents live there now. And we will move when our time runs out at the end of November.

After that, i don't know what will happen to the house. At first, our landlord told us that it would be torn down immediately so that construction could begin. Than, he told us he just wanted us out so he could rent it to somebody else. Now he tells us its none of our business. If he rents it out again, it'll be to someone he can kick out easily -probably students (poor exploited bastards). Let them be forewarned.

(cont. on p. 23)

# Do You Think We're Appealing?

Northwest Pass SPECIAL SECTION

ing a Passage worker on the job full-

The overall benefits are an improved Passage more stable and responsive, and available to more people.

Meanwhile, we'll be doing what we we can to raise money on other fronts. Subscription drives, benefits, ad campaigns. We'll keep you posted on our progress, and of course you can count on us making semi-regular appearances on these pages to drum up \$upport.

Sincerely,

the Northwest Passage collective

# We Are.

Do you feel the Passage is getting better? Sharper graphics? Engaging informative articles?

We do.

We're pleased with the contributions of new writers and photographers. And we're pleased with the efforts of people working on advertising and distribution. Our current press run is 6000 papers. It was 3000 two years ago. And advertising is up 50% in one year.

Despite these improvements we'd like to go further, but we need money. Unfortunately our increased income has been matched by equally rising costs of printing, supplies, and mailing. So we feel compelled to turn to you our readers to help fund important projects for the paper.

The paper is currently being sold at over 200 points throughout the state. But there are still many areas where it is unavailable. Over the next year we'd like to place 100 new coin-boxes on the streets of

Washington cities. However, they cost \$50 each.

We'd also like to pay a minimum salary to a couple workers doing distribution, advertising, bookkeeping, office work, and news co-ordinating. It may surprise ... some of you, but we are a newspaper put out almost entirely by volunteer labor. The result is these jobs are now done in people's spare time. This work needs more than spare time, and we don't like to see people burning themselves out just getting the basics done.

We're hoping to raise \$15,000 over the next year. We have already raised \$4150 from close friends of the paper. But there are limits to what the personal friends of the paper can do. So we're asking you.

We believe our readers know the role a provocative and uncompromising political newpaper can play in people's lives,

Give what you can. Help us buy a coin box; or become a regular sustainer -- contributing towards keep-

# ith a cause

That's the Northwest Passage. We're not like any other newspaper in town. We cover news of the anti-nuclear power movement, women's activities, community organizations, labor struggles, and much more. And we don't hesitate to take sides. Subscribe to the Passage, and help support the Northwest's lively alternative.

send to Northwest Passage, 1017 E. Pike, Seattle, WA 98122 sub. rates: \$8/yr. Institutions; \$16. Free to prisoners

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# Northwest Passage

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Editorial Deadline is Sunday, Dec. 3, 12:00 p.m. in Seattle and Bellingham.

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Back Cover by J. Pennelope Goforth

# **Odell Bennett:**

# 11 Years And Still No Parole

In Memphis, Tennessee on October 15th, 1967, Odell Bennett was arrested and later convicted of forgery and transportation of stolen money orders totaling \$250. He received a particularly harsh sentence for a 23 year-old first offender-10 years in the federal pen. According to those now publicizing his case, the judge and all-white court officials were incensed at this young black man's outspokenness and audacity to plead not-guilty, requesting a jury trial, while his co-defendants all pled guilty. In comparison to Bennett, his co-defendants received terms of 6 months to 3 years.

Bennett's sentence was further lengthened following charges brought against him while in Leavenworth penitentiary, Kansas. After a prisoner uprising in 1973, he, along with eight others were selected by inmates to address the media and prison officials with the prisoners' grievances. Although public attention was momentarily drawn to the conditions existing within the prison, after the press conference the prison was locked down and the grievance committee sent to the hole. After 6 months in solitary the prisoners were handed charges relating to the prison uprising. Odell was among seven prisoners singled out, basically for their activities in calling attention to conditions there.

Their trial came to be nationally known as that of the "Leavenworth Brothers". Given only one month to prepare their defense, the trial was generally recognized as a 'railroading'. The Washington Post called them an "embattled collection of 'political' prisoners." Though some of the charges were dismissed because they were so completely flimsy, others stuck, and most of the "Brothers" were sentenced. For "attempting to cause a riot", Odell Bennett received 10 years.

Shortly after, Odell was again brought up on two charges of 'resisting' officials. These allegedly occurred at an earlier date when a petition he had filed, was due in court. According to Bennett, upon refusing to submit to the prison's mandatory rectal search, or 'finger probe' (a supposed security measure taken with prisoners traveling to court), he was beaten by guards, handcuffed, beaten again, searched, and dragged to court. For this he was charged with resisting federal marshalls and resisting medical staff, two separate counts. By the end of the trial he had been given 6 more years, three on each count. In the meantime, many state courts have ruled mandatory 'finger probes' unconstitutional and illegal.

Bennett says of himself, "it seems that each minute, hour and day of this grueling eleven years in federal captivity has been spent resisting the efforts of mindless bureaucrats and sadistic jailors to force my conformity and

acceptance to a system that is generally recognized as inhumane."

Having served 11 years in prison, Odell Bennett now finds himself in Seattle's King County Jail. He is being held while awaiting action on a legal case he filed with this region's Federal District Court. Besides his legal case, in which he is contesting disciplinary charges filed by officials at the McNeil Island Penitentiary in Washington, he expects to go before the federal parole board in early December. It is for this hearing that Bennett is currently trying to build public support. The parole board will decide if Bennett will be released, or serve two more years on what is now a 26 year sentence, until his next possible parole hearing.

In the past Odell has gotten support from a number of groups, the American Civil Liberties Union, the National Lawyers Guild, prisoner support committees and friends. But it was not enough to get him paroled at his only prior parole hearing in 1975, despite a favorable recommendation from the 'treatment team' at McNeil Island that pre-screened his record. In looking toward his upcoming parole hearing, the Seattle law firm that has been handling his case, respects Bennett enough to have offered him a job as legal aide, pending his release. Also records of his case are being sent to Amnesty International, an organization that acts in behalf of individual political prisoners and victims of torture worldwide.

But Odell fears this may not be enough. He and his friends believe the balance could lie in community support. in the form of letters to the parole board. In an appeal being circulated, they suggest that the following points might be addressed: (1 his original conviction was for a non-violent crime; (2 we do not support penalties for responsible activism for prisoners' rights; (3 the institution recommended release in 1975; and (4 over ten years is an unconscionable period of time to spend in prison for these actions.

"Write: Audrey Anita Caslow, Commissioner, U.S. Parole Commission, 330 Primrose Rd., Burlingame, California, 94010, urging release on parole. Odell would appreciate having a copy sent to him, care of his attorney, Stephen K. Strong, 2111 Smith Tower, Seattle, Wa. 98104 By Bill Patz

The Supreme Court reversed the Ap-

(cont on page 22)

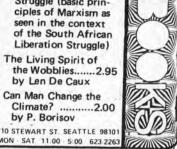
peals Court's decision, and reaffirmed the



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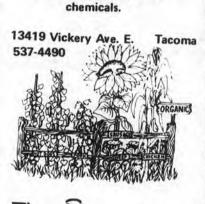
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WITH THIS AD

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The Supreme Court of the State of Washington recently decided (October 26,1978) that the Northwest Passage was guilty of violating RCW 9.26A.090, reversing a not guilty decision of the Lower Court Of Appeals. violated the Freedom of the Press What is RCW 9.26A.090? Simply stated, it is a law which outlaws publication of information regarding coding of telephone company credit card charge numbers.

It all began in the March 17-30, 1975 issue of the NWP when an article appear- law. ed which 'educated' the reader as to how to make up their own credit card numbers, thus by-passing direct billing for their long distance phone calls. The article broke down the code system in detail, enabling anyone who could read the article to do-it-themselves.

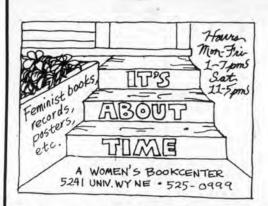
Criminal charges were brought against the NWP, and on Jan. 20,1976, the Superior Court for Whatcom County entered a judgement of guilty. The violation was a gross misdemeanor, with a \$1000 fine which was suspended. Instead, the Court ordered the paper to pay costs for printing and distributng an inventory of community resources in Whatcom County.

The case was next taken to the Gurt of Appeals which reversed that court's decision and declared the law unconstitutional on the grounds that it guarantees of the first amendment. In legal terms, the court found the law to be 'overboard'; for example, persons interested in systems of secret writing may be deterred from publishing their knowledge due to fear of violating this

But Pacific Northwest Bell is not one to rest their case. (Neither is the NWP.) The next court in line is the State Supreme Court, so that's where it ended



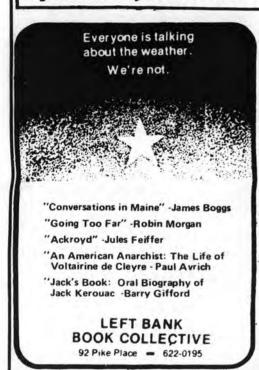




We've had an enthusiastic response to our new store: 350 households have joined already. If you haven't stopped by, come check us out. Our prices are the lowest for natural foods on

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Poor Judge Yanick. First it was the two Lesbians who poured blood over S.O.M.E.'s file cabinets last summer. Now this: six people arrested for occupying the long-empty houses across from Capitol Hill's Volunteer Park.

More political symbolism. Property destruction. Anarchism.

Worse, these people are always trying to explain in court why they did what they did. First the Lesbians, now these so-called "urban homesteaders". What can a good liberal judge do?

Except...disallow all the material evidence of the defendants (including statistics on the number of homeless in Sea- ion."

ttle), disqualify their expert witnesses (including Marie Crocker of Country Doctor who has come to testify about what happens to people without homes, and Sharon Feigan of the Tenant's Union) ...and simply try the six on a charge of criminal trespass.

Everybody has a right to a fair trial. but "the courtroom is not a political forum," at least not her courtroom.

Poor Judge Yanick. Poor jury. They have been chosen because, though they might have read something about the occupation and the arrests, they haven't, in the court's opinion, "formed any opin-

How they're supposed to form any opinion from the evidence they are given at the trial is anyone's guess. The prosecutor trots up, in succession: John Blankenship, the attorney representing the Parkridge Corporation, which has tried unsuccessfully for six years to demolish the row of houses in order to build an apartment building; Dwight Henderson, one of the owners of the eight houses; the Sargeant and the police officers who made the arrests. The prosecutor asks them for their version of the events of September 5 and 6 and they give it.

Cross examination is a little more difficult. Every time the defendants or their lawyers ask a question like "How lone. have these houses been empty?" the prosecutor shouts "Objection," and the judge returns, "Objection sustained."

Poor defendants, unable to state their moral justifications. Poor Judge Yanick, trying to keep these people in line. They can't seem to understand that they are only going to be tried on the basis of whether they were on someone else's property on a particular date. They continue to think that "houses are made to live in." She has to admonish them. "Mr. Zilsel, I'n admonishing you," she threatens, pointing a finger at one of the most argumentative.

Poor judge. Poor jury, having to decide this case. Two of them want to vote not-guilty, in spite of the fact that the six were most certainly trespassing. But, according to rumor, the bailiff tells them that they cannot come back into the courtroom with a hung-jury decision so soon. They will have to wait until at least ten p.m. unless they find the defendants quilty.

Ten p.m. is six hours away, and they have been here since eight this morning. The jury finds Paul Finley, Michael Seraphinoff, David Jones, Robert Macquarrie, Paul Zilsel, and Guila Howard guilty of criminal trespass. Judge Yanick gives them a suspended sentence and fines them each \$100.00.

Case dismissed. Poor Justice.

By Barbara Wilson

# Jackson: "Top Cold Warrior

An article in a recent issue of New Times by Andrew Kopkind has named Washington senator Henry Jackson and his assistant, Richard Perle as two of the ten men running the Cold War.

The article, in the October 30 issue, chronicled various Jackson maneuvers designed to heat up the Cold War.

These included a Jackson rider attached to the first interim SALT Treaty. The rider specified that future arms agreements should contain assurances of nu-

merical equality of missiles between the

But more sophisticated disarmament diplomats, Kopkind observed, argued for a criterion based on quality as well as quantity.

Kopkind concluded: "The gravest threat to U.S.-Soviet relations isn't Russian malfeasance, but rather a small group of unreconstructed hawks determined to derail detente.

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# Women Take Back the Night

Have you ever been raped?

Well, you're just about to be.

According to Robin Simpson, one of e organizers of "Women Take Back the Night", this dialogue preceded one of the most brutal rapes which has recently occurred on Capitol Hill in Seattle.

The man approached the 19-year old woman behind the Safeway on the corner of 14th and John, hit her over the head with a bottle, broke her arm in the struggle and used the broken bottle in the rape.

She escaped and went to a nearby hospital to return to her apartment, the man grabbed her again, pulled her into an alley, and threatened her for reporting the incident to the police. He then stabbed her in the head. She escaped again and reported to the police.

When Robin Simpson listened to the news report of the incident the next morning, she was angry. She works in the area where the incident occurred.

"It makes me furious to think it's so close. It's time for us to fight back. I'm tired of hearing about this type of

Simpson and two other women who work in the area. immediately organized a group of concerned citizens to prevent further crimes of violence in the area. The group, known as "Women Take Back the Night", is named after similar groups throughout the world which have recently marched to protest violent crimes against women.

The group met for the first time Nov. 9, at the Cause Celebre coffee house. Made up of both men and women, the group divided up into committees to deal with various aspects of rape prevention in the neighborhood.

Committees focused on specific issues such as: neighborhood tactics to prevent violent crime, rape prevention education in the schools and merchants' responsibility in offering protection to victims. These committees are open to concerned citizens.

Several women in the meeting related incidents of being threatened while walking on Capitol Hill. They voiced

anger and frustration at the constant fear which plagues many women who are alone at night. This concern raised the issue of increased foot patrols in the Capitol Hill area.

According to police office Margot Wade who attended the meeting, there is little chance for increased police protection through foot patrols. Her advice is if someone attacks, "fight and make your flight" because the police will probably not be able to help in time.

Simpson is currently working with Susan Stanton and Sheryl Stamey to organize a candlelight parade to protest violent crimes against women. The parade will take place Friday, Nov. 24th. Participants should meet at 7:00 p.m. at the corner of 15th Ave. and Mercer St.; the march will begin at 7:30 p.m.

The next general meeting of the "Women Take Back the Night" group will take place Friday, Dec. 1 at 7:30 p.m. The location has not been decided. For further information on both the march and the meeting, call 322-5750.

By Barbara Crook

The Red Green Revolution

by Rick Swann

In the People's Republic of China there is no garbage. As Roger Blobaum commented, "Everything is used, everything has value." So every day the barges that bring food into China's large cities, carry out refuse-or, should we say, fertilizer.

Blobaum, an agricultural expert from the Midwest who's toured China twice, gave a talk on the Chinese agricultural system for the Northwest Rural America Conference in Seattle. The picture he drew was of a food-producing system in remarkable contrast with our own.

eil

China, with about 1/4 of the world's people, 950 million, has been food self-sufficient since 1972-on less agricultural land than the United States. China is the world's number one producer of rice, number two producer of wheat, and the third largest producer of corn. This is achieved mostly with intermediate technology and 70% organic fertilizer.

#### FOOD NUMBER ONE PRIORITY

How has China managed this? Blobaum claimed that the government has made and kept agricultural production as its number one priority.

Their system, though, has little in common with our own energy intensive (mechanized and relying heavily on chemical fertilizers) Green Revolution.

For one thing, China increases food production simply by continually increasing the amount of land under tillage. As Blobaum said, "it seemed like all land was planted." Examples of farmland creation ranged from stories about leveled mountains and re-routed rivers to slides of small gardens at street intersections.

The farming methods also are different from our own. Because the Chinese get the most from their land by companion planting and double and triple cropping (number of crops per year), food production is heavily labor intensive.

Companion planting, for instance, is the planting of two crops in the same field. Fruit trees with a grain growing around the base is an example of this. The heavy use of machinery would be apt to hurt one or the other of the crops, so the work must be done by hand.

Often double and triple cropping can work only if crops are transplanted from seed beds. Since the Chinese have as their main criteria total food production and not cost-effectiveness, hand transplanting becomes a possibility.

It is triple cropping, by the way,

that usually leads to the use of chemical fertilizers. The organic methods cannot replace nutrients rapidly enough.

#### 650 MILLION RURAL PEOPLE

What this means, of course, is that people must live in rural areas. China has maintained a policy of non-migration to cities since 1969.

There are also several other types of work which encourage rural living: many goods are manufactured on a small scale and on a regional level, and many of the art-related jobs (goods for export-jade carvings, etc.) are located outside of cities.

A national system of day-care centers allows all parents to work.

This is all part of the government's attempt to make opportunity in the countryside equal to opportunity in the city.

#### **CHINA AND ENERGY**

An interesting sidelight of the agricultural system is the lack of energy it consumes. In fact, Blobaum claims, "we use for air conditioning as much energy as China uses to run the entire country."

Their tractors are small. The food system is a fresh food system, and a local one. Food is not shipped across the country, the local diet is based on locally produced food. Even medicines are grown locally behind every hospital.

What foods are shipped within the regional framework, are shipped on a very small-scale: most of it is moved by either barge or bicycle.

Refuse is used as fertilizer or fed to hogs which many people keep in their backyards.

Even the energy they produce is often from renewable sources. Hydro-electric power is produced from water flow through the irrigation ditches; methane digesters produce energy from organic wastes.

While the U.S. has some 100 methane digesters, China has four million.

Although Blobaum was high on the Chinese system, it certainly is not perfect. It's hard to imagine this country going to unheated homes and schools. And many people would not want to see our mountains leveled, nor to be told where to live.

On top of that, the Chinese system itself seems to be changing under the leadership of Hua Kuo-feng --becoming-more like our own.

The thought of five million bicycles in downtown New York, though...

# Mill Workers Still on Strike

by David Henderson

On a chill, rainy day a semi stops in a graveled lot that looks down on the Georgia-Pacific mill that has long dominated Bellingham's waterfront. A teamster driver detaches the trailer from his cab and drives away while a G.P. management person drives up in a company cab, hooks on the trailer and drives back down through the gates.

The driver does not stop for the picket signs leaning against the curb. The driver does not look at the two women on picket duty hiding from the rain inside their parked car.

The strike goes on as it has since July 10th when talks broke down between the AWPPW and GP and 850 workers went out on the streets along with 15,000 fellow west coast paperworkers in 29 mills.

What progress has been made in the strike during these four months? Some mills have settled, the majority haven't. In Bellingham the weather's gotten colder, the town's gotten poorer with its largest payroll not being paid; union members have found themselves pumping gas or commuting to work in Seattle's shipyards.

The strike has been working its effects silently for several months, with little publicity, after a scuffle between police and a Labor Day picket line ended up in court.

But now the frenzied build-up to Tuesday Night Fever where all the politicians tried to learn a new dance called the 'Tax-Cut' has subsided. The strike can again appear on the front page of our local chain-owned newspaper as the unions try to break the silence.

Union locals 194 and 309 of the Association of Western Pulp and Paper Workers (AWPPW) have issued a letter, a hand bill, and advertised in the Bellingham Herald's Sunday sports section telling their side of the strike and asking for their friends and neighbors to help force G.P. to the bargaining table.

At the beginning of the strike, the major difference seemed to be that the company wanted a three-year contract and the union wanted only a two-year contract. This would better protect union members from inflation and allow all the contracts in the forest industry to expire in 1980 so all the

unions would be in a better position,

But now the union has backed down and is willing to negotiate that and negotiate wages. The major obstacles now are over pensions, the right to respect legal picket lines, whether management will continue to fully pay the health plan, whether the workers will continue to have Labor Day off, whether management will be able to do away with seniority, and whether the plant maintenance will remain the province of the AWPPW. Figure out who wants what.

The union isn't trying for any new benefits; it is fighting to preserve the benefits it has 'won. Management is not talking seriously, so bumperstickers appear on cars in town, "G.P. unfair to local 194 AWPPW". A boycott of G.P. products begins and bitterness sets in.

A G.P. worker taking our money at a gas station says he isn't going back, he's through with that and is gonna take up ranching. He feels betrayed. And the union writes to G.P. in an open letter. "Do you think when this is over you can wave a magic wand and have everything just like it was before...?"

There is no action. Where there is no action, rumors grow. The talk is about management trying to bust the union, G.P. and Weyerhauser in cahoots trying to tame the AWPPW whose union paper is called THE REBEL.

The local says in its letter, "You've proved your point Georgia Pacific, we know you're still the boss and we still want to negotiate." The union sounds left out in the cold, and so she seeks the peoples' support just so the company will I isten to it.

Two weeks ago I attended a reception for Michael Harrington, discoverer of poverty in America, socialist writer and chief guru of the Democratic Socialist Organizing Comittee, the organization that bills itself as "the left wing of the possible." On the back wall of the room in the union center signs were saying PATRONIZE THESE. UNION ESTABLISHMENTS. One sign was missing. In a trash can by the door a friend found that sign. It was for Columbia Valley Hardware, owned by G.P. Its glass face was shattered.

# **Goodbye 2,4,5—T; Hello 2,4—D**

Use of 2,4,5-T has been curbed in many rural areas thanks to citizen opposition and adverse publicity. In many instances though, this has led to an increase in the use of 2,4-D, a very similar herbicide.

Together, 2,4,5-T and 2,4,D made up the herbicide Agent Orange of Vietnam War fame. The mixture has been linked to birth defects among other things.

In King County, since 2,4,5-T was dropped by the Department of Public

Works after the County was cited for illegal and improper use of the chemical, the use of 2,4-D has apparently increased.

Wells are a primary source of water in the area of the spraying, and citizens are concerned that the chemical might enter the water table.

Seattle Audubon reports that at least one miscarriage occurred after a County spraying and that the possibility of a connection does exist.

The County claims it needs more time to study the issue.



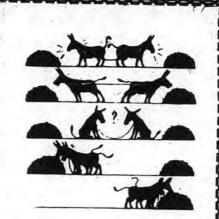
"Interiors"

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1103 11th St. B'ham 733-4433



# Terminal Illness in the I.D.

The old Union Station, immediately adjacent to Seattle's International District, may be on its way to becoming a modern Intermodal Transportation Center, at least if certain, forces within the Port of Seattle have their way. The old brick building, now housing the "Antique World' store, would become the hub of transportation activities for the city's private and public buses and trains. The present plan is to procure \$350,000 for a feasibility study from a number of sources, including the City Council Transportation Committee, the City Council, and the Federal Department of transportation.

However, residents and friends of the mainly Asian International District are less enthusiastic about the idea. In fact, two groups, the International District Housing Alliance and Inter\*im (International District Improvement Association) are vehemently opposed to funding of the study. In their view, the feasibility study is a "how to" rather than "whether to" have a center study. They feel that the ID has already had its share of public use development: first, in 1965, when I-90 cut a swath through its center and then in 1971 when the Kingdome wiped out a large percentage of housing in the area. Small businesses in the ID are joining this opposition because they are finding the congestion from Kingdome events is reducing rather than increasing their accessibility to custo-

If this is beginning to remind you of a scenario from a San Francisco Mime Troupe performance, you may

# **Grassroots Technology**

While alternative energy sources are integral to an alternative lifestyle, in Eugene, Oregon, they've gone the furthest in fusing the two-with the use of marijuana in the local electric generating plant.

Six tons of confiscated high-grade marijuana was burned by the local water and electricity board producing (although the plant was off at the time) an estimated 4,000 kilowatt hours of electricity.

According to the newsletter Power Line, Eugene officials were impressed with the fuel's staying power but felt that "despite its excellent burning qualities, its future as a fuel was dim because of expense and uncertain supply."

There were very few complaints about the smell from the plant, that day.

# Military Digs In

Thousands of acres of prime agricultural land could soon be (literally) undermined by a new missile system proposed by the US Defense Department.

According to the current Oregon-Washington Farmer's Union newsletter the missile system in question, MX Milestone II, would utilize a kind of shell game tactic to deceive military opponents: rather than staying in one location, the missiles would keep moving through an extensive series of underground tunnels.

Vast areas of prime farmland along
S. Platte Plain have been listed as
'suitable' for the missile system in a
draft Environmental Impact Statement.

be right; it seems to be a classic case of the Displacement Syndrome which is attracting so much attention in the city now. The ID is home for approximately 1400 mostly elderly, mostly Asian residents; it is also the center for Asian social and cultural eventsthe place where everybody goes shopping on Saturday. Since 1960, the ID has lost 3500 housing units or 75% of its available housing; the total downtown area has lost only 47%. As in the Central and South Seattle areas, the displacement seems to indicate a defacto racism in urban politics. whereby large developments tend to find their way into minority communities. However in the ID it is large scale economic development rather than individual housing interests which is causing displacement.

According to Elaine Ko, from Interim, there are three major concerns about a transportation center plan: air and noise pollution, traffic congestion, and land speculation. The third concern, land speculation, on its own could be the death knell of the ID. Inter\*im has been working on rehabilitating and developing low income housing in the ID. Because of the transportation center plans, owners of the resident hotels in the district are becoming less

interested in government supported rehabilitation of their property and more interested in large scale tourist and commercial use.

Two small reprieves were recently granted to the ID; the City Council and its Transportation Committee has postponed hearings they were to have held in late November, and the Federal Dept. of Transportation returned the Port of Seattle's application for funding for lack of sufficient community input. The project is far from dead, however. It is still expected to go before the City Council. When it does, some of the questions ID residents will be asking are: why is the feasibility study for a single use of Union Station rather than multiple use which could include community alternatives; why doesn't the City of Seattle do an independent study on transportation centralization versus decentralization rather than supporting the Port of Seattle's transportation center study; and most difficult of all: why the ID rather than another area?

If you are interested in supporting the Housing Alliance and Inter\*im, you can call 624-1802, write letters to the Seattle City Council, or come to the hearings November 22 and 27.

-Pat Diangson

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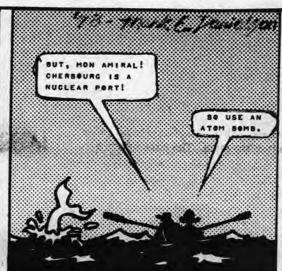
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# **Whale Occupies Nuclear Port**

A whale has accomplished what most human activists have only fantasized about: an occupation of a nuclear port.

On a Monday morning in early September, workers at the arsenal in Cherbourg, France, were surprised to see a large fin jutting up through the waters of the nearby nuclear harbor. Hundreds of curious workers stopped work and gathered around the basin to watch.

They found that the fin belonged to a 13-foot-long pilot whale. Named for their globe-shaped heads, pilot whales usually travel in herds of hundreds. Whales are sometimes found stranded on the coast when their acoustic navigation system (sonar) is troubled by parasites. But few have been known to occupy ports, especially nuclear ones.

The news spread quickly. The Queen Elizabeth II, scheduled to call at Cherbourg, was forced to retreat because of the whale. Arsenal authorities became anxious over the drop in productivity due to worker interest in the port's intruder. Following instructions from a specialist, the French military tried in vain to frighten away the animal by firing blanks and throwing grenades.

On Thursday night, a team special-

izing in capturing marine mammals arrived from the Marineland at Antibes. All Friday morning, team divers tried to coax the whale into getting caught. In the afternoon they resorted to a 100-foot long weighted net. Five zodiac boats, a motor boat, and two large tugboats were called into action to corner the marine adversary. As onlookers laughed, the whale would blithely appear at the surface while divers searched for it in the nets below.

After a final abortive attempt, the Marineland team gave up and left for home. The admiral of the arsenal conceded defeat, declaring that the whale could choose to leave or face starvation. By Sunday morning, rumors were circulating that the whale might be killed, despite a ministerial decree banning the destruction of pilot whales in French waters.

As it had all week, the whale kept the upper fin in the matter. Its mission apparently accomplished, the 'fish' simply swam from the port as discreetly as it had entered.

> -from an article by Remi Parmentier in Greenpeace Chronicles

# Winners, Losers **Election Roundup**

"I can't wait to get out of this chickenshit outfit"

-retiring U.S. Senator James Abourezk

While Initiatives 13 and 350 and the Cunningham-Lowry race got the frontpage treatment they deserved, many interesting election results got buried in the back pages of the Times and P-1. So here's a rundown of some important but lesser-publicized electoral outcomes.

\*The True Majority: 63% of citizens eligible to vote chose not to do so in the election. The 37% turnout was even lower than that of the Watergate year of 1974, though it failed to match the record low of 32% in 1942. Montana and S. Dakota, the states with the most enthusiastic electorates, still saw little more than half (54%) of their eligible citizens cast ballots.

\*Gay Rights: The Briggs Initiative, aimed at making it easier to fire gay teachers and teachers defending gay rights, was voted down by 57% of California's voters. For the second time, 60% of the voters in Dade County, Florida (Anita Bryant's home base) opposed a gay rights measure.

\*Nuclear Power: Montana voters approved a set of very tough restrictions on the construction of new nuclear power plants- so tough that pro-nuclear spokespeople charged they would effectively bar nuclear plants from being built in the state. The citizens of Lewis County in southwestern Wash., in a purely advisory ballot, voted 2-- l against nuclear plants being built in the county. New Hampshire Gov. Meldrim Thompson, arch-foe of antinuclear activists at Seabrook, failed to win Reelection partly because of voter anger over utility rate increases needed to finance construction of the Seabrook nuclear plant.

Frank talks by Ed #2

**Run from** your life! **Escape the terror of** everyday life, the boredom of work, the tedium, the blahs, the complications, at the COMETTAVERN. With its extensive wine list, ood listening and easy going atmosphere, the COMET has long been the hangout of people just like yourself fugitives from the everyday world.



922 E. Pike, Seattle

Our list of French wines has got to be one of the finest of any tavern in the city. with Italian bottles coming and sum oolers for the hot weather ahead.

\*Tenant Power: Berkeley passed a measure requiring landlords to roll back rents to their level on June 6 (the day Proposition 13 passed) and to refund 80% of Prop. 13 savings next January. Voters approved a similar measure in Davis, but pro-tenant issues lost in Palo Alto, Santa Cruz, and S. F.

\*Rolling The Union On: Missouri's electorate defeated a "right to work" measure that would have banned labor contracts calling for compulsory union

\*Death Penalty: 70% of Cal's voters approved of extending the state's death penalty provision to include more crimes, and Oregon voted to reinstate the death: penalty for some crimes.



Cal. Chief Justice Bird: right-wing target

\*Women: Connecticut's Ella Grasso became the first woman to be reelected as a governor. California's Rose Bird, the first woman to serve on the state's Supreme Court, was reelected despite heavy opposition from rightwing forces. Half of Maryland's eight winning Congresspeople were women.

\*Dis-Integration: Massachussetts voters by a 3--I margin favored a measure to prohibit the assignment of pupils to schools on the basis of race.

\*Bring Back The Bottles: Measures to place deposits on beverage bottles were soundly defeated in Nebraska.

\*Bring On The Oil: Despite opposition from environmentalists, Cal. voters approved the spending of \$163 million to build an oil terminal at Long Beach to receive Alaskan crude oil for shipment by pipe to Texas.

\*The High Cost Of Health: Using their earnings from existing medical fees, the medical industry helped to defeat a North Dakota measure that would have set maximum charges for health

\*Smoking: a)Tobacco: A Calif. measure to set up anti-smoking regulations in some public places was defeated after massive spending against it by the tobacco industry. b) Marijuana: San Fransisco voters passed an initiative calling for a halt to the prosecution of users of pot. Ed Pattison, a N.Y. Congressperson who had admitted to Playboy that he had smoked pot, was defeated.

The Right To Choose: Oregon voters rejected a measure that would have banned the use of state money to finance abortions for women on welfare. The director of Vermont's anti-abortion movement lost a bid to get elected to Congress.

Give Me That Old-Time Corruption: "Vote White" advocate Frank Rizzo was decisively rebuffed in his effort to have Philadelphia's charter altered so that he might try for a third term as mayor. This despite charges that in 225 Black voting districts the machines jammed when voters pulled the "No" (anti-Rizzo) lever. A pro-Rizzo voting commissioner was arrested on charges of moving a polling place.

Orange County Turning Pink?: California's Orange County, a renowned bastion of the right wing, for the first time registered a majority of Democratic voters.

George Murphy Memorial: Upholding a recent tradition, California voters once more elected an entertainer to statewide office. This time it was Mike Curb of Mike Curb Congregation (a singing group) fame. The new Lieutenant Governor is a protege of Ronald Reagan, formerly the host of "Death Valley Days" on TV. Curb's home boasts gold and platinum records of such luminaries as Debbie Boone and Shaun Cassidy.

-Doug Honig

# **Heat on Asbestos Coverup**

All the articles in the recent slew of articles on chemical hazards have exposed go back as early as 1934 when Johnsthe common fallacy that the dangers from continued exposure to certain chemicals 'are just now being realized'. This new information might lead to another slew of articles- this time on industry cover-ups of the known (to them) dangers to workers who would be exposed to chemical substances.

Last week, the Washington Post reported one such cover-up by the asbestos industry. It showed that health hazards in working with asbestos were known have filed a law suit seeking all the proabout back in the 1930's.

The asbestos workers and the rest of the public, on the other hand, were informed about it only recently.

Documents detailing these charges include internal memoranda, files and sworn statements from former asbestos industry officials. The letters and files Manville and Raybestos-Manhattan, two of the largest asbestos firms, suppressed information about the harm asbestos was doing to their employees

Forty per cent of the people who have worked with asbestos in the last 30 years may die of cancer and seven per cent may die of asbestosis, a chronic occupational lung disease which may lead to cancer.

An interesting sidelight to this is that the workers at two California shipyards fits estimated at one billion dollars-made since 1938 by 15 of the nation's major asbestos manufacturers. The suit charges the manufacturers with conspiring to conceal the hazards of which they allegedly were aware since 1938.

#### **Africans Were** Metallurgists

The Haya people, from what is now Tanzania, Africa, were 19 centuries ahead of European metallurgists in producing high-quality medium carbon

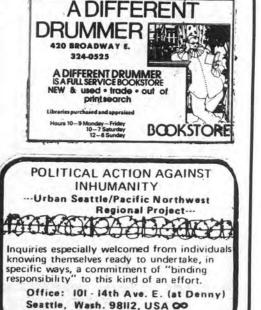
Recent "discoveries" by anthropologists Peter Schmidt and metallurgist Donald Avery have established that the the Hayas were able to produce the steel in pre-heated, forced draft furnaces in a dry run. as long as 2000 years ago. Similar

technology was not developed in Europe until the 1900s.

The Hayas discontinued the manufacture of steel when low cost European steel hit the market, but Haya elders, who pass their complex heritage orally from one generation to the next, remember the process and were able to to recreate it for Schmidt and Avery

info from Time magazine





Phone: 325-4947, 325-7049

The Shah's Opposition: Religious Fanatics?

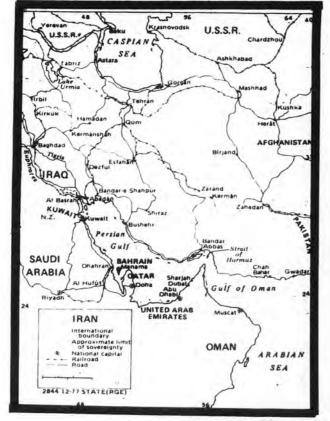
By Marlene Nienhuis and Penelope Goforth

This is the second part of a three-part series on Iran. The first part described how the Shah's Western image as 'champion of modern times' conflicted somewhat with his more feudal policies at home. This part explores the Shah's claims that his opponents are merely religious reactionaries.

An interviewer for US News and World Report "Nobody can overthrow asked the Shah this summer if he felt threatened by his opposition. "Nobody can overthrow me," said the me. . . . I have the power Shah. "I have the support of 700,000 troops, all the workers and most of the people. Wherever I go I see and the opposition cannot be these fantastic demonstrations of support. I have the power, and the opposition cannot be compared in strength with the government in any way."

The army's behavior during the riots was the "subject of much conjecture", wrote Don Schache in the Los Angeles Times. "Some observers believed that the government had deliberately kept the army on a leash allowing the weekend chaos to grow in order to make the imposition of a military government seem necessary," he explained. "When rioters ignited the small but luxurious Waldorf Hotel, neither firefighters nor the army offered any help." Thanks to a courageous construction worker who lifted hotel guests from the roof of the hotel to the street with a hoisting crane, no one got killed." The Portland Oregonian echoed these reports with its own, saying after the rioters left, it took half an hour before army or firefighters appeared.

Some government analysts were quoted as saying that the Shah better move quickly from rule to reign, give more power to elected officials and sponsor a "vigorous crackdown on corruption". "Military rule only suppresses



compared in strength with the government in any way." the Shah problems," said one Pentagon spokesman, "it doesn't

deal with the strain underneath." Apparently following

officials and civil employees arrested on corruption

these suggestions, the Shah had more than 35 government

charges. Pledging an end to the corruption in his govern-

ment on a nationwide television broadcast, the Shah said that "liberalization would continue and the promised elections for June '79 would proceed as planned." In the last days of October, however, more than half of Iran's 65,000 oil workers went on strike, joined soon thereafter by employees of Iran Air and Iran Telecommunications. Transportation, communications, and the nation's \$22 billion a year oil industry were crippled by these workers who not only demanded wage increases, but an end to martial law, release of political prisoners, a trial for the head of SAVAK, and removal of non-Iranian employed by Iranian Oil Participants, the 14

company consortium which buys most of Iran's oil. American officials began to express doubts about the Shah's abilities to "hang on as a ruler", as the Wall Street Journal put it.

After the strike had begun, throngs of Iranian protesters poured through Teheran's streets. They burned the British Embassy, broke bank windows and ignited buildings in which foreign companies had leased space. Two days later, the Shah imposed a military government in Iran saying that he had tried to form a coalition go: vernment with his opponents but that they had refused his offers. His decision was met by strong support from President Carter and several Pentagon officials who pointed out that the new head of the government was "a great friend of the United States."

General Gholam Reza Azhari, America's great friend, was trained for his duties at Ft. Leavensworth in Kansas and Ft. Gordon in Georgia. One of his three daughters is married to an American doctor and lives in Virginia. According to a report in the Los Angeles Times, Azhari takes great pride in his pistol marksmanship.

The current commander of SAVAK' General Nasser Moghadam, has become Minister of Energy. Moghadam, who replaced the brutal General Nematollah Nassiri as head of SAVAK, introduced more liberal measures in

that police agency. Le Monde reported last month that prisoners are now treated 'courteously' during interrogation. His duties as Minister of Energy include getting the oil workers back to their jobs. So far, he doesn't seem to have been terribly successful; the latest reports indicate that Iran's oil output is only half of the six million barrels formerly produced before the strike began.

General Gholam Ali Oveissi, the new Minister of Labor and Social Affairs, is charged with getting industrial workers back to their posts. Oveissi, who put strikers down in a bloody confrontation a decade ago, has been unable to prevent wildcat strikes so far, and the Wall Street Journal reported chaotic conditions as late as November 18.

Immediately after his speech, many political opponents were arrested, some of whom had been freed as a conciliatory gesture to the opposition on the Shah's birthday in October. One of those arrested was Karem Sanjabi, the 7I-year old leader of the opposition National Front Party who had just returned from Paris where he had visited with Ayatollah Khomeiny, a prominent Moslem leader in exile, Sanjabi was about to hold a press conference on this meeting in Paris when SAVAK agents enered his house and took him away in front of a crowd of stunned foreign journalists. Sanjabi had been a minister during the last democratically elected government in Iran which was headed by Dr. Mohammed Mossadeque. He told a recent team of Americans visiting Iran for the International Commission of Inquiry that "Iran is under a dictatorship. The nation's wealth from oil has been squandered. Corruption is rampant. The popular struggle is against dictatorship and corruption, and for freedom and independence."

Like many other moderate opposition leaders, Sanjabi had until recently held the view that "the geopolitical situation" prevented the Shah's abdication. He told Le Monde's correspondent Jean Guyaras last month that since the Shah was strongly backed by the United States, his ouster could not so easily be expected but that the return to an elected Parliament was imper-

The awareness of "geopolitical realities" is still shared by the Shi'a Moslems in the holy city of Qom, 90 miles south of Teheran. Ayatollah Sharietmadari, another leading opponent of the Shah who had kept silent on the political developments since the September demonstrations, spoke to foreign journalists last week. He said that he did not agree with those who called for the Shah's abdication but did warn that he planned to call for a nation-wide strike among his followers if the Shah would not come up with a government acceptable to his people soon. "Any delay will cause disaster", said the Shi'ite leader, "since the public is incited enough and people cannot be calmed down by words."

Page 8 Northwest Passage

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#### Shi'a Sect is Minority Among Moslems

The power the Shi'ite leaders have over their followers is considerable. This is not surprising in the light of the role Islam has played in Iranian society. The lower clergy, the mullahs, are not only the religious leaders, but exert a great deal of influence in social, educational and economic matters, too. They are advisers in personal or family conflicts, educators of Iran's children, and they distribute the taxes paid by Moslems to those unable to take care of themselves. The influence the mullahs have over their followers islargely determined and circumscribed by the respect they earn as social leaders. The concept of justice is a very important principle among the Shi'ites who have proven to be difficult opponents of monarchs who did not uphold these or other Islamic principles.

The Shi'a sect is a minority within the Islamic community and make up only 10 percent of all Moslems or about 40 million people, most of whom live in Iran. 93 per cent of Iranians are Shi'ites. Most Moslems live in Arab countries and adhere to the Sunni sect. Iran is not considered an Arab country; about only 5% of Iranians are Arabs. The Sunni are considered the more orthodox among the Moslems; they in turn see the Shi'a as heretics. The Sunnis are the ones who have reinstated the amputation of the left hand for thievery, not the Shi'ites. Forbes Magazine's statement that "the Shi'ites want to be governed by the harsh edicts of the Koran as is the case in Saudi Arabia and Lybya was quite incorrect.

The Western perception of religious authority is based on the Roman Catholic example where an infalible pope stands at the top of the hierarchy and decides on issues such as abortion, divorce, and birth control. This does not hold true for the Shi'ites. The nullahs have one additional layer of clergy above them, the ayatollahs. The ayatollahs are elected by the mullahs in recognition of the respect the ayatollahs have among their followers.

Different ayatollahs have widely divergent points of view on social, political, economic and religious issues. Some are extremely conservative, much like the Sunni; others are progressive, while a range of opinions exists in between. To speak of the Iranian clergy as religious reactionaries is, therefore, a gross generalization which gnores the reality of social and religious life in Iran.

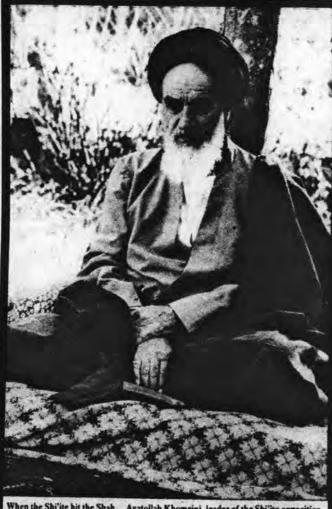
Ayatollah Sharietmadari, for example, is not opposed to the Shah's monarchy, provided that he returns to jovern by the Iranian Constitution, as was the case before 1953. Ayatollah Khomeiny, on the other hand, nsists the Shah has to be ousted, and has regularly called or actions to hamper the Shah's ability to function as a monarch. The fact that Khomeiny, is seen by the West is the leader of the Shi'a sect is not too surprising; he certainly is the ayatollah most often quoted by Iranian opposition. However, this may reflect more accurately the profound feeling against the Shah rather than Khomeiny's supposed authoritative position. Khomeiny has the same position as all the other ayatollahs within the slamic clergy.

Jean Guyaras, who interviewed Khomeiny for Le Monde last month, quoted an Iranian intellectual as saying "They love Khomeiny because they loathe the Shah and his system... [Khomeiny] has now become the ymbol of rejection, of resistance to despotism. He's sopular because he has been the only one calling for the Shah's departure for I7 years...[but] ...His social and solitical analyses are simplistic and hard to accept. What does he have to propose besides the Shah's departure?"

#### **Demand for Constitutional Rule**

While specific proposals on how to recreate an Islamic tate seem to be lacking, the Shah's opposition is clear on one thing: they all want to return to an elected government provided for in Iran's 1906 Constitution. This Constitution is based on the French model, and principles such as freedom of speech, assembly, press and teaching are included, as is equality before the law, the right to a fair trial, and the right to property. The Constitution provides for a Senate, for a lower house of parliament, the majlis, and for the nation's power to rest with elected representatives.

The mullahs had a hand in the creation of the Constitution which is reflected in the provision of a committee of five Mujtahids. These doctors of theological



When the Shi'ite hit the Shah. . . Ayatollah Khomeini, leader of the Shi'ite opposition, now in Paris, says only the Shah's fall can satisfy him and his followers. Khomeini does not rule out constitutional monarchy by the Shah's heir.

law could test new laws introduced by the majlis, the Senate, the Shah, or the Cabinet, for their conflict with or observance of Islamic principles. They could veto new laws which they felt were unacceptable. Specialists in the field of Islamic law, however, have written that this veto power remained largely theoretical.

In fact, today much of the Constitution remains theoretical. Most decisions are still made are still made by the Shah rather than by elected officials. The 1977 Middle East Annual Review remarked tartly that "the Pahlavis never had much time for the Constitution".

The popular demand for nationalization of the British-exploited oil concessions in Iran has brought increasing power to the majlis. This reached its peak during the pre-ministership of Mossadeque, a strong proponent of Iran's economic and political independence from both Britain and the Soviet-Union. Mossadeque,



Shi'ite Leader Ayatullah Sharietmadari

though overwhelmingly reelected in 1953, was deposed that same year. According to hearings before the United States Congress on the Foreign Policy of Multinational Corporations in 1974, the CIA played a significant role in Mossadeque's overthrow.

With the ouster of Mossadeque, the Constitution was abolished. The Shah has since ruled as an absolute mon arch. What the Shi'ites want is a return to elected government as it existed during the time of Mossadeque.

#### Status of Women in Iran

The Ministry of Tourism and Information, which handles press releases for the government, has stated on numerous occasions that the Shi'ites would like to see women walk 3 steps behind the man wearing the chador (the traditional head to toe veil). Ironically the chador is now worn by even the educated and westernized women who drape It over their jeans and teeshirts as a symbol of protest against the Shah. One such woman said she resented "the extent to which the Shah was squandering oil revenues on the military instead of education.;" explaining that only 44 per cent of school age children can attend classes due to the lack of schools and that more than 150,000 students have to go abroad to study.

A young Iranian woman contacted by NWP last week. said that the Western cultural definition of women as sexual objects was one of the by-products of the Shah's modernization program. "With the influx of technology came the technologists," she said, "the weapons experts, the Bell Telephone workers. Many Iranian women have become the victims of the 'love 'em and leave 'em style' of Western machismo. Pregnant by Westerners who do not offer them support, these women and their children face a life of social ostracism. To support themselves and their children they often turn to the streets where they have to deal with the same Westerners. Teheran is becoming known as the Saigon of the Middle East." "We want to be respected," one woman said, "We want to be modern but what we do not want is the degrading aspects of western culture." It is this cultural imposition that the Shi'as are opposed to.

Hundreds of liquor stores, nightclubs and porno cinemas have been destroyed by the Moslems this past year in defense of their traditional Islamic way of life which forbids them to drink alcohol, make images of the human body, or gamble. In the most recent demonstrations, hotels, liquor stores, nightclubs and scores of porno houses have been burned by Iranians protesting this protrayal of women.

As part of his liberalization program the Shah created a cabinet post for women in 1975. In August, this post was the first to go down the drain as a "concession to the religious conservative opposition" according to the government.

Ayatollah Khomeiny maintains that an Iranian Islamic Republic would be based on "universal suffrage" and "the same personal freedoms for men and women". "Now, as many women as men fill Iranian jails," he said in an interview with Dutch journalists last summer, and "that's where their freedoms are threatened."

A New York resident who is married to an Iranian citizen had this to say about women's liberation. "Iran is a terribly male-dominated society, there's no doubt about it. You can't turn the clock back though, because of the impact the West has had there already. Men and women are now united on one thing only: the Shah has to go." "And," she reflected, "like in any liberation movement, women's liberation is the last one to be considered."

The Shah himself had this to say about women when he was interviewed by the Italian journalist Orianna Fallaci, a few years ago: "I wouldn't be sincere if I stated I had been influenced by a single one of them. Nobody can influence me, nobody. Still less a woman. Women are important in a man's life only if they're charming and beautiful and keep their femininity. This business of feminism, for instance, what do these feminists want? What do they want? You say equality. Oh. I don't want to seem rude but... you're equal in the eyes of the law but not, excuse my saying so, in ability.. You've never produced a Michelangelo or a Bach. You've never even produced a great chef. You've produced nothing great, nothing!"

Next issue, Part 3: The Shah's western connections: arms, agriculture and oil.

# Puget Power Rate Hike 22.7% now, 22% next year, 20% the year after...

by Brian Siebel

Imagine yourself as a renter. Your landlord owns 20 apartment buildings now, and wants to build 40 new luxury apartment complexes in the next 10 years. But he needs a loan. So he comes to you and asks if you'd mind your rent being doubled to cover his new debt. After all, he says, we need those new apartments!

Puget Power, the largest private electric utility in the state, wants a 22.7% rate increase this year - worth \$46.5 million per year to them. In 1976 they received a 19% increase. Over the next five years, if Puget Power is successful, utility rates will more than double.

Half of this year's rate increase is to pay for eight new turbines on the Rock Island Dam in Chelan Co. These new turbines will soon supply electricity. This article is concerned with the other half.

Puget Power, in conjunction with other utilities, plans to begin a massive thermal power plant construction program. 7 new plants, 5 of them nuclear, are on the drawing boards now, to be built over the next 10 years. These include twin nuclear plants in Skagit Co., Wa. and Pebble Springs, Oregon; one of two nuclear plants at Satsop, Wa.; and twin coal plants at Colstrip, Montana. The total cost of these is nearly \$8 billion. Puget Power's part in these plants will cost more than \$2 billion.

\$2 billion is a lot of capital. Ordinarily, a private utility raises capital by selling long-term mortgage bonds, payable when electricity is flowing from the new plants. They also sell short-term debt, and stock in the company.

But, in this case, Puget Power simply wants to grow too fast. According to Puget's Vice President of Finance, in the next "5-year period the Company's total capitalization will grow to almost 3 times its present size". This represents \$1.3 billion in new debt in five years. Too much debt in a company increases the investors risk of not getting paid back. Unless Puget Power can generally improve the "quality of its earnings", banks won't buy this risk. (VP-Finance, Puget Power) Through the rate requests, Puget's present customers are being asked to supply cash now, to maintain Puget Power as a "quality" investment during its crash building program.

The charge to ratepayers comes in two ways. First, Puget wants to put Construction Work In Progress (CWIP) costs into the rate base from which rates are figured. A utility's rate base generally includes the original cost of its electric generating plants less depreciation. It is allowed, through rates, to recoup the cost of these plants at about a 10% annual rate of return when the plants start producing. In addition, it directly passes on all operating expenses.

Under CWIP, Puget Power would put the \$2 billion cost of constructing 7 new plants into the rate base, as the money was spent. In other words, Puget's customers would begin paying Puget a profit now, on plants not generating any electricity until at least the mid-1980's.

Further, if a utility is guaranteed profit on all costs incurred during construction, it limits their incentive to keep a lid on those costs.

The percentage of unproductive plants in Puget's rate base is projected to steadily increase, becoming nearly 50% of all plants by 1981. This will be deadweight to be carried by present electricity users, to the tune of roughly \$60 million per year by then.

Given these points, it is not surprising that initiatives disallowing CWIP in the rate base have won in both states that ran them: Missouri in 1976, and Oregon this year. In most other states, Utilities Commissions have disallowed CWIP, or allowed a limited version of it. This leaves only 4 states that allow it outright. In Washington, the ex-head of the Utilities and Transportation Commission (the body that reviews rate requests), Don Brazier has called CWIP "a rip-off of the consumer."

In addition to CWIP, which assumes 15% of this first rate request, Puget wants to charge \$9.3 million for the "cost of money". Here enters the concept of "interest coverage", or before tax income vs. interest charges on debt. "Interest coverages are considered as a very



important measurement by bond rating agencies, investment bankers, large institutional investors and investment analysts generally." (J.H.King, Puget VP-Finance) The investment community's word is that income must be 2 to 2.5 times interest before more debt can be incurred. If it is not, they consider the bond an unreasonable risk. By not buying, banks send a warning of overextended credit.

Puget's answer is to shift the risk to present ratepayers through "cost of money" charges. Ratepayers are being asked to raise Puget Power's before-tax income more than two times the cost of interest on new debt. These charges have nothing to do with service, or real costs to Puget. Instead, as was mentioned above, they are there to maintain Puget Power as a "quality" investment.

#### WHAT IS A QUALITY INVESTMENT?

By Puget Power's corporate report, "In spite of it all, Puget Power had a remarkable year. Our Company turned in both record revenues and net income." Again, in 1978, by the Seattle P-I, "Puget Sound Power & Light Co. chalked up sizeable gains in profits in the third quarter. . . Net income in the nine months (of 1978) rose to \$34.9 million or \$1.74 a share, from \$27.1 million, or \$1.18 a share, in the same period last year.

Under Puget Power rate requests, these "remarkable" profits will become even more remarkable. Puget admitted during testimony for the rate hike, that if even parts of CWIP weren't allowed in the rate base, "an annual return on common equity of 16% to 17% would be required from 1980 to 1982 to produce the same cash flow." This profit doesn't include increased profits based on the cost of money charges, which are greater than CWIP charges in this rate request. And Puget had said, "to maintain coverage (i.e., profits) necessary to permit issuance of these securities will require timely, adequate, and continuing rate relief." Under this system Puget ratepayers can expect 20% rate hikes to become commonplace.

Another aspect of Puget's "quality" is their ability to charge taxes to ratepayers, yet avoid paying them to the Federal government. In 1977, for example, roughly \$10 million is listed as Federal income tax under Puget's operating expenses — a "cost" passed on directly to consumers in rates.

Looking deeper into Puget's corporate report shows only \$441 thousand of this was actually paid to the Federal government. The rest was deferred by invest-

ment tax credits. The money then shows up in "additions to utility plant", but could have been spent on almost anything.

This procedure is common for Puget. (In 1976, they paid no tax, and instead received a \$1.3 million credit from the Federal government.) It is also common for other utilities. According to columnist Jack Anderson, "From 1962. . . through 1976, privately owned utilities have been allowed to write off an astonishing \$4.3 billion in taxes which they collected from the citizens' pockets but failed to pass on to Uncle Sam." As this windfall is based on credits for investing, Puget's building plan assures continued taxless years.

#### IS ALL THIS NECESSARY?

The "need" for 7 new power plants is based on Puget Power's guess that electricity use will grow at a 5.3% annual clip over the next 15 years. In contrast, a study commissioned by northwest governors anticipated 4.3% under "high growth" conditions, and only 1.44% in "low growth" times. The study goes on to say, "If... new state and local energy conservation policies are adopted and successful, energy growth rates would be expected to be still lower than those show n."

Already, the difference in projected growth rates means a big difference in power needs for the next 10 years. Puget's projections would lead to a 50% increase in power demand in just 8 years. This is what they're building with. Yet, under the governors' study's low growth picture, we wouldn't use a 50% increase for almost 30 years.

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Power needs can be met in ways other than building expensive new thermal plants. Conservation supplies power too, as a kilowatt saved is as good and warm as a kilowatt generated. According to a Bonneville Power study, a kilowatt hour saved through conservation costs only one-sixth as much as a kilowatt hour produced by new generation. The potential for conservation is significant in the northwest, partly because we use twice as much electricity per capita as the rest of the nation.

In Puget Power's terms, conservation consists of advertisements with George Burns telling us, "a man of my age doesn't get to be a man of my age without knowing how to conserve energy." This is cute, and no doubt fosters a good public image of Puget Power. But money for conservation comprises only 4% of their investment in new plants.

In contrast, Seattle City-Light is beginning a program of free energy checks, to spot heat loss and insulation

Continued on Page 19

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# A Wildlife Report Card



# How Bird and Mammal Predators Are Doing in the State of Washington

#### by Ed Newbold

It's been about eight years and thousands of high school graduations since the first Earth Day celebrations signaled the New Age of Ecological Enlightenment.

Earth Day itself went nowhere—though its gravestone will forever admonish us not to litter—but environmental awareness has since penetrated nearly every nook and cranny of social interaction. It has been so successful that now, the question of whether to build an addition at the 100 foot level of the Space Needle is an "environmental" one.

But while consciousness of the environment has increased, most of the forces that were chipping away at the environment in the '60s are still at it in the '70s, although by all accounts they are filing more Environmental Impact Statements.

The environmental scorecard can therefore be a confusing one. In Washington the confusion is compounded by a governor trained in biology who generally lumps environmentalists into the same category as Mafia hit men, while assuring us that the eco-sphere can take care

of itself. Meanwhile national magazines pipe up with the nonsensical assertion that our environment is pristine, while at the other end of the spectrum a popular resident duck, Dipstick, runs through a littany of northwestern environmental atrocities and asks, rhetorically, "I wunner if people is tired of livin here with the rest of us?"

One possible way to get a handle on what is going on in the environment is to take a look at what's happening to the "rest of us": the animals that have to live in the environment after we've put it to use. This is certainly not the only or the best way to gauge the environment—aesthetic, health, social and land-use criteria are equally valid—but it has merit of its own, since the environment would not be the same without the species which inhabit it.

The following pages contain an inventory of the status of some bird and mammal predators in Washington. The choice of these animals was somewhat arbitrary, but not entirely, since predators are often the first to feel the effects of human presence. The reasons for this are that predators are less common than prey

animals, and require more territory per individual; they are sometimes sensitive to even small changes in prey populations; they often suffer from environmental contaminants which are concentrated at the top of the food chain; and they are sometimes the victims of intense eradication efforts. The public attitude towards predators, once condemned as a villainous and blood-thirsty group of animals, tends to be an indicator of public attitudes toward and understanding of the environment as a whole.

In order to find out how these animals are doing in Washington, the *Passage* contacted various professional and ammateur biologists in the state who were recommended as experts in their field. The information is often sketchy because so little study has been completed on most of the animals in question. Few of the biologists were willing to make categorical statements about population changes. "Put an 'it appears' or an 'it seems likely' before every generalization you make," was the way one biologist put it.

# Peregrine Falcon

Sports Illustrated is not known for its coverage of birds. But in May 1977 an article appeared which chronicled the plight and prospects of America's birds of prey-falcons, eagles, hawks and owls.

It wasn't really an illogical place for the article: "Falcons," noted author Donald Jackson, "are the super-jocks of birddom." Jackson went on, "The sight of a falcon in flight is one of nature's glorious excesses, a spectacle so compelling it demands an encore."

The peregrine falcon, a favorite of falconers, is generally described in superlatives. A spectacular aerialist, it "stoops," or dives, on shorebirds and ducks at speeds that can range upwards of 150 mph. Never a common bird, the peregrine falcon prefers to nest on high cliffs, usually in the vicinity of water.

### Status

In the 1940's, the future looked bright for peregrine falcons. The Sun-Life building in downtown Montreal, Canada, had been adopted as a surrogate cliff by successful nesting peregrines, and the species had also made attempts to nest on skyscrapers in New York and Philadelphia. (Unfortunately, the latter birds raised shackles among pigeon breeders, including the Brando character in *On the Waterfront*.) Ornithologist Richard Bond wrote in 1946: "The ability of peregrines to maintain themselves in Massachusetts and around New York City speaks well for their future in the younger West."

In the thirty odd years since Bond recorded this optimistic assessment, the eastern subspecies of the peregrine falcon has vanished from the earth, and the species has suffered serious declines in other parts of its range as well.

The loss shook the ornithological community, which was soon able to finger the culprit: DDT and the related chlorinated hydrocarbon pesticides. The pesticides caused egg shell thinning and embryonic mortality in peregrines, as well as other predatory birds. While mature birds lived out their natural lives, production of young peregrines in the East and parts of the West simply ceased. By 1968, there were no more breeding peregrines left in eastern United States.

A person trying to find out about peregrines in Washington is generally referred to Bud Anderson, a Seattle resident who works construction six months of the year. The other six he studies falcons under the academic supervision of Dr. Steve Herman at Evergreen State College.

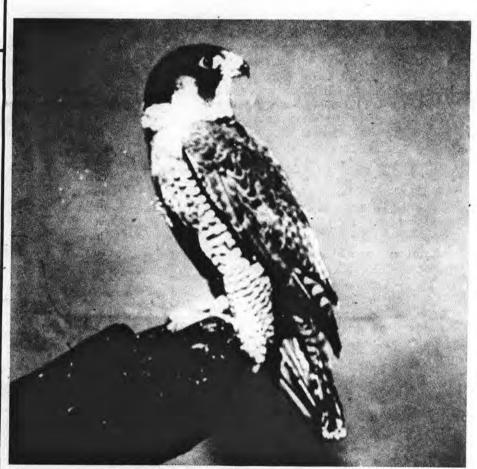
"There is very little historic data on breeding peregrines in Washington," asserts Anderson, "But the records that exist do not indicate a dense population of breeding peregrines. There has never been more than four *known* peregrine eyries [nests] at one time in the state."

A nesting survey conducted by Anderson and associate Jim Fackler in 1976 and 1977 turned up only one active eyrie in the state, although there may be more.

There is, however, a considerable wintering population of peregrines in Washington, and for these birds, shooting—although strictly illegal—may be a significant mortality factor. Two peregrines are known to have been shot in Washington in the last 6 months, according to Anderson. And despite the ban, DDT may still be a factor, as people continue to use DDT purchased before the ban.

In the last few years, several programs to breed peregrines in captivity and reintroduce them into the wild have met with initial success. Over 200 birds have been released in the East, parts of the West, and Canada.

One program, directed by Richard Fyfe of the Canadian Wildlife Service, is now reintroducing the peregrine into the business districts of three Canadian cities, including Montreal.



Peregrine Falcon: a super-jock?

# Goshawk

Goshawks represent a group of hawks which, like falcons, have carried the art of flying to some sort of natural limit. Unlike falcons, however, "accipiters" are secretive birds which make a practice of flying at tree-top level in wooded areas. With short rounded wings and long tails, these hawks combine speed-flying with an uncanny ability to avoid protruding limbs and branches. The goshawk catches birds up to the size of blue grouse.

## Status

Tom Knight is an ex-State Game Department employee whose work involves designing and building custom homes in Olympia, Washington. In his spare time, he visits nests to keep track of goshawk and other raptor populations in the state. It's not easy work.

"In all the literature it's mentioned that the goshawk is extremely protective of its nest site," says Knight, "well, that's an understatement." Knight estimates he has been hit upwards of 50 times......continued on next page....



eagle, bald eagle, prairie falcon,

osprey, and goshawk.



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by infuriated female goshawks. (As in all species of hawks, eagles and falcons, the female is about one third larger than the male and generally more aggressive. Goshawks average a four foot wingspread.)

Knight won't wear a hard crash helmet, which he says might injure the bird's talons, but instead wears a leather helmet and a ski jacket when climbing nest trees. Additionally, a friend is employed to stand on the ground and tell him when to duck. Sometimes he is left with a useless ski jacket.

Knight is optimistic about the goshawk population in the state, which he says has been "stable in the 10 years I've been working with them." In the northwest goshawks require 50-75 acres of dense tall woods for nesting purposes, and most shun areas where human activity is great, according to Knight.

Tom won't rule out the possibility that extensive clearcutting, especially in the south Cascades, has reduced goshawk populations somewhat, but notes that logging shows have been very cooperative in not logging around nest sites.

Other raptor biologists concur with Knight's cheerful assessment of the goshawk's situation.

Note: Goshawks and other raptors only "divebomb" humans if they feel their nest is in jeopardy. Biologists unanimously agree that raptor nests should not be disturbed or visited in the breeding season by untrained observors.

# Bald Eagle

The bald eagle hardly needs an introduction: it is the symbol of our country. Over the years it has often been used to symbolize other things as well. An advertisement in Aviation Week, for instance, boasts that the McDonnell Douglass F-16 jet is "built to fight where others fear to fly." Behind the F-16 looms a huge, angry bald eagle.

But John Wayne to the contrary, big does not always mean macho. The bald eagle's principle food item is dead fish, and when it does take off after something alive, it is hunting, of course, not fighting.

Bald eagles are a mottled brown until age 3, when they acquire the famous white head and tail feathers. Wingspreads are in the seven foot range.

#### Status

Nobody disagrees that the bald eagle is having a hard time in the lower 48. DDT and related pesticides have affected populations, as has the loss of wetlands, disturbance around nest sites, and illegal shooting.

Washington state has a fairly large population of breeding bald eagles -about 100 active nests, acording to Bud Anderson, who conducted an aerial survey with Terry Grubb in 1975

Nevertheless, raptor experts agree that breeding populations have dropped over the years Logging and real estate development are the critical factors behind the decline, Anderson suspects, since the birds require old-growth stands of douglass fir for nest sites. Such stands are few and far between in much of southern Puget Sound.

Washington also hosts a large number of wintering birds, which are a familiar sight in the San Juans, Skagit valley and elsewhere. There is some evidence that this population has also experienced a gradual decline. The loss of natural runs, and their replacement by hatchery runs, may be the problem for some of these birds. "The natural run fish spawn and die along the river banks," says eagle watcher Walter English, curator of birds at Seattle's Woodland Park Zoo, "but the eagles never see the hatchery runs."

# Golden Eagle

The golden eagle is a close relative of the bald, but has quite different habits. Partial to dry and high-country, the golden eagle hunts middle sized mammals, principally jackrabbits and hare in Washington. It is strong enough to also take badgers, marmots and lambs-the last item earning it the undying wrath of sheep ranchers.

Keen eyesight in raptors is the rule. This bird has no trouble identifying a ground squirrel at 2 miles.

#### Status

The news on golden eagles "isn't too encouraging," according to Rick Knight, who is a raptor biologist with the Game Department in Olympia. Knight, a "7th shirt-tail cousin" to Tom Knight, has made preliminary study observations indicating that golden eagles are not producing enough young to replace natural mortality in Washington. Causal factors are likely to include disturbance at nest sites, such as road building, and declining prey due to loss of habitat.

Golden eagles are regular breeders in the Cascades and on the east side, and are occasional breeders in western Washington, but, Knight points out, Washington is the only western state that does not run an aerial winter census of its golden eagles.

The osprey is a large eagle-like bird with a striking black and white pattern. It drops in in on medium sized fish from high above lakes, rivers and bays. Unlike waterfowl, the osprey has no oil on its feathers to keep it from getting wet. So, like Rover, the osprey shakes itself off after a plunge, and generally loses about ten feet of altitude in the process.

#### Status

"We still have ospreys in the state," understates Rick Knight. Indeed, osprey nests in Washington overlook many a four lane highway, and a pair of ospreys were within easy watching distance when Crabshell Alliance marched to the town of Elma in protest of the Satsop nuclear plant last June.

Not every state is so lucky. On the eastern seaboard, pollution in the marine system caused a serious decline in osprey populations in New Jersey, Long Island and Massachusetts in the '50s and '60s. Presently the DDT ban and some cleaning up of water pollution has allowed for a small comeback in some of these areas.

In Washington, the presumed health of the osprey population can be attributed to a "fairly clean system," according to Knight. And it doesn't hurt that ospreys seem to be fairly oblivious to non-threatening human activity around their nests.

#### OTHER RAPTORS

Other raptors in Washington state include the conspicuous large red tailed hawk and the marsh hawk, a middle-sized mouser that, true to its name, favors marshes. Falcons that

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cruise Washington's airways include the diminutive kestral or sparrow hawk, the pigeon sized but very self-confident merlin, and the prairie falcon, which is the dry-country counter part of the peregrine. The goshawk has two smaller cousins—the sharp shinned hawk and the coopers hawk.

Most of these raptors are doing pretty well in Washington, according to biologists interviewed by the *Passage*. The Prairie falcon has escaped the peregrine's fate because it tends to feed at the top of a shorter food chain, and thus absorbs fewer contaminants.

# **Mountain Lion**

Also known by the names puma and cougar, the mountain lion is a leopard-sized cat that preys largely on deer and elk in Washington state. A pastmaster at staying out of sight, the cat hunts alone, at night, using typical feline tactics: a quiet stalk followed by a "furious charge," during which it often covers 20 feet in a single bound.

#### Status

The mountain lion once had the most extensive range of any western hemisphere mammal: from northern Canada south throughout the entire land mass to the tip of Patagonia in South America.

The arrival of Europeans changed all that. Like other large predators, the cat inspired fear and loathing among the new inhabitants, although it rarely if ever attacks humans. When Theodore Roosevelt called it "the big horse-killing cat...the lord of stealthy murder," he was probably expressing a relatively benign view for his day.

Mountain lions were systematically exterminated east of the Rockies, and today hang on only in New Brunswick, south Florida, Texas/Louisiana, and apparently in the southern Appalachians, where they are making a surprising comeback.

The mountain lion is doing OK here in Washington, according to Dave Brittel of Centralia, who is studying native cats for the Game Department. While logging can eliminate escape cover, it has significantly enhanced deer and elk populations in the state, and this, Brittel feels, may have resulted in an overall increase in mountain lion densities here.

Cougars are most frequent in the northeastern part of the state and the Olympics, but they occur in most counties. "Every year we get reports of mountain lions inside city limits," says Brittel, who reports a sighting by Forest Service personnel inside the Edmonds city limit this year. Another had to pose for photos before being allowed to escape from a tree inside the limits of Morton, south of Centralia.

The lions must cope with hunters in Washington. 180 were taken last season out of a roughly estimated population of 2,000. Overharvesting in the Olympic Peninsula may account for recent low harvests in that area. But the biggest threat to its future status, suggests Brittel, is the nibbling away of wilderness and rural habitat: "Someone knocks out a hedgerow here, someone adds a few acres of wheat there..."

# Bobcat

About twice the size of a housecat, the bobcat is a lynx species, with all the typical lynx features: a bobbed tail, tufts on its ears, big feet and a somewhat stumpy appearance. Like most successful predators, the bobcat will take what it can get in the way of small game, and occasionally tackles young or weak deer. In western Washington bobcats commonly dine on mountain beaver and snowshoe hare.

#### Status

There's two sides to the question of how the bobcat is doing in Washington: the east "side" of the Cascades and the west "side."

"We feel very comfortable with the cats on the west side," says Brittel, who is currently conducting a telemetry study on bobcats around Centralia. (Brittel trees the cats with dogs, shoots them with a tranquilizer, and then fits them with a radio transmitter that allows their movements to be monitored.) West side cats have fairly high densities and the preferred habitat is clearcuts in early successional stages, a habitat that isn't hard to find in western Washington. Bobcat pelt values have soared phenominally in recent years, but west side populations, Brittel thinks, are withstanding the increased trapping pressure.

East of the Cascades, it may be a different story. Pelt values are higher—to \$400—and many areas are more accessible to trappers, whose harvest in recent years has far surpassed historical levels. Even worse, however, is the wholesale conversion of scablands and sage brush country into huge wheat fields. Bobcats need cover in order to hunt, notes Brittel, and it is unlikely they get much use out of these areas.

A telemetry study on bobcats is getting underway near Pullman, and the results should be interesting. The bobcat situation bears watching.

# Pine Marten

The pine marten belongs to an ancient line of carnivores—weasels and their allies. Built low to the ground, the pine marten tends to walk with a waddle. But the animal moves at high speeds through the treetops, where it tends to be nature's answer to the red squirrel. Martens are no heavier than a house cat, and sport an attractive buff and pink coat.

## Status

Pine martens are native to the higher climactic life zones in Washington, and aren't often found below 3000 feet. "Martens aren't real common, but they aren't rare or endangered, either," says Mike Thornely of the Game Department in Olympia. Thornely contends that marten habitat has remained very stable over the years, since it is generally too high for development, although he concedes that "logging is reaching back higher and higher."

# Fisher

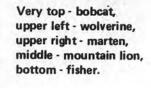
The fisher is another low-slung member of the weasel family, mid-size between the marten and the wolverine. Its name is off-target, since the animal doesn't usually catch fish, although it avidly consumes fish washed onto shore. Fishers prey on rodents, birds, frogs, insects, nuts and eggs, and have no compunctions about eating their close relative, the marten. It is the only North American predator that has learned the fine art of porcupine hunting.

## Status

Many of our historical records indicate that there were numerous fisher in the state of









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Top to bottom: river otter with frog, gray wolf, coyote approaching mouse, red fox, killer whale in Elliott Bay.

Opposite page: Black bear, harbor seals.



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Washington in the early days of this state. But today, the fisher is a fairly rare animal, although it does occur in the Cascades. No one seems to know for sure just what went wrong here for the fisher, but Richard Taber, a wildlife science professor at the University of Washington, speculates that the animal may require virgin timber habitat in the Northwest.

The fisher has been reintroduced and is now prospering in Pennsylvania, New York, and New England.

# Wolverine

The wolverine is the largest member of the weasel family, a heavy bodied animal with very convincing teeth and claws. In the far-north the wolverine apparently has a bad reputation with trappers, who accuse it of endless crimes. Among the charges leveled against the wolverine are: systematically robbing trap lines; springing traps and burying them in the snow; and burglarizing cabins, generally leaving them in shambles, with food stolen, rifle barrels bent, and everything else "ripped apart and sprayed with musk."

No wolverines were available for comment.

#### Status

The wolverine is the archtypical wilderness animal, one that requires tremendous amounts of terrain and lots of "elbow room." It may therefore come as a surprise that a few wolverines are sighted or killed every year in Washington. (It is illegal to kill wolverines here, and at least one recent killing resulted in a conviction and fine.) Last year a wolverine was killed in an orchard near Yakima, and another was killed by a train west of Pullman, miles from the nearest woods. There are also regular sightings in northeastern Washington.

No one, however, will venture a guess as to whether this animal's numbers are presently waxing or waning in the state.

## River Otter

Writers seem to agree that otters are a fun loving bunch. "Bellywhopping down steep mud banks into the water is a favorite otter diversion," according to one, who adds that this toboganning pastime provides fun for the whole family, including the pups. The otter is a fast and well adapted swimmer. Another weasel, or "mustelid," the otter catches fish and amphibians by pursuing them in the water. Adults stand only 9 inches high, but last for three feet and weigh up to 25 pounds.

#### Status

Western Washington is in many ways ideal for otters, which regularly occur along reasonably undeveloped rivers, streams, lakes and marine shores. (Choice otter areas include the Skagit and Nisqually rivers and deltas, the San Juans, and the coast, but they occur throughout western and much of eastern Washington.)

While there is no evidence of any serious decline in otter numbers, there is room for concern about the otter on two counts.

On one hand, trapping pressure on otters is increasing in response to a modest rise in pelt prices. A record projected catch of 1,290 last season was more than double historical levels.

On the other hand, choice habitat is being removed. Ron Hirschi, the Game Department' otter expert, notes that construction and other human disturbances are concentrated along shorelines essential to the river otter's survival.

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The two factors may not bode well for the river otter. "I suspect that otter populations will not be able to recover as rapidly from overharvesting in the future due to habitat loss," writes Hirschi, who is embarking on a major study of the river otter. Overharvesting in the past, notes Hirschi, has always been followed by a swift recovery.

Hirschi suggests a closure on the otter trapping in certain areas, both to protect against overharvesting and to allow Washington residents more opportunity for otter watching. (Trapping and shooting, besides affecting populations, can also alter an animal's habits, making it more secretive and thus harder for non-hunters and trappers to see.)

# Sea Otter

The sea otter is a large relative of the river otter that has adapted to an off-shore marine environment, where it floats on its back amidst kelp beds, and dives for clams, crabs, sea urchins and other marine invertebrates. A dense coat of fur, which must be carefully preened, keeps it warm.

## Status

Sea otters were once plentiful on Washington's oceanic coast. Severe overharvesting for the fur trade drove the species to near extinction, but a remnant population was able to survive in an isolated area along the California coast.

Under protection the California population has increased, and a few animals have been transplanted to Oregon and to Washington in 1971. The Oregon transplant has failed, and the Washington population has suffered a decline, but may be holding on, with present numbers under 30.

# **Gray Wolf**

The wolf is known to all, a social dog that once ranged throughout the northern hemisphere. Somewhere along the line, wolves got a whole lot of bad PR. But not only do they not dress up in grandma's clothing, they do not even attack humans, except in rare and poorly documented cases. Like other dogs, however, wolves do a lot of bluffing, and this may have gotten them into trouble. Wolves travel in packs of from four to 35 individuals. Wolf admirers claim they have a sophisticated language of barks and howls.

#### Status

The gray wolf seems to be gone from Washington state, although occasionally a straggler wanders in. One wolf was killed in the state, illegally, in 1974. These wolves could come from Canada, where the nearest known wolf populations are north of Rebelstoke, 100 mile miles from Washington's border.

Although wolves never occupied Washington in great numbers, they occurred throughout the state. At the turn of the century wolves still roamed the back country of the Olympic peninsula, but the last ones died out in the 1930's. Richard Taber suggests that an aggressive extermination campaign by cattle and sheep men probably resolved the wolf's fate in Washington state.

# Coyote

Also well known, the coyote is less social than the wolf and considerably smaller. It is the western counterpart of the jackal of Asia and Africa.

#### Status

"You can quote me on this," Mike Thornely assured the Passage, "The coyote is doing extremely well in Washington."

Coyotes are among the "subclimax" animals in Washington that have prospered since the cutting of the old growth forests in western Washington gave grasses and rodents their big break.

Coyotes are also "generalists" and "opportunists" in their food habits, meaning they seldom pass up anything that could pass for food. Furthermore, they have an uncanny ability to avoid "life threatening situations," as Thornely puts it. The result is that Coyotes are likely to be present in greater range and density now in western Washington than in times gone by.

(Incidentally, Washington's canids are an antagonistic bunch, with the larger ones regularly eating the smaller ones. Where wolves prosper, coyotes may falter, and likewise where coyotes expand, foxes may suffer. Coyotes seem to be getting the best of this situation in Washington.)

Coyotes are trapped intensively in Washington, with yields regularly in the 80,000 range.

## Red Fox

Foxes are the smaller, solitary hunters of the dog family. The star of the family, Reynard is the one that appears in cartoons and the only fox species that occurs in Washington.

#### Status

The lowland fox of western Washington is an introduced red fox, which made its debut in the 1930's when the bottom fell out of the fox-farm fur market. This turn of events led discouraged fox breeders to simply let their animals go.

This newcomer now occurs throughout the west side, but is decreasing with the proliferation of the coyote.

The only fox that is a true native is the "Cascade fox," a subspecies of the red fox that is smaller and more often black or silver than other red foxes. The Cascade fox is a highland species which occurrs to the timberline in the Cascades.

Keith Aubry, who is beginning a doctoral thesis study on the Cascade fox, as yet knows little about the animal other than that it is "scarce." "But then," he adds, "Its always be been scarce."

# Black Bear

From a taxonomists point of view, bears are merely large, tailess dogs. Although carnivores by classification, they have developed an omnivorous diet which includes lots of nuts and berries. Killing black bears has often conferred masculine status, and thus their size tends to be exaggerated: adult males usually weigh between 150 and 250 pounds.

#### Status

Like the coyote, the black bear is a sub-climax animal that may have expanded its population after logging came to Washington. However, today the black bear population seems to be in a significant decline. A State Game Department report observed that the 1977 bear harvest of 2,650 was only 27% of the '49-'56 average. The report concluded that "declining habitat, in part, is responsible," and added that the problem was most severe on the west side of the Cascades.

# Grizzley Bear

The grizzley bear is very big by terrestrial standards. A hump at the shoulders and a "dished" face distinguish it from the black bear. A number of documented cases of lethal attacks on humans by grizzlies are on the books. However this six to seven foot long animal is more of a scavenger and omnivore than carnivore in its eating habits.

#### Status

Grizzley bears are among the animals which do occur regularly in Washington state—but we may have more left-handed U.S. congressional representatives than actual year-round resident grizzlies. According to Zeek Parsons, a biologist with the State Game Department in Olympia, about five grizzlies wander into the general area of the North Cascades National Park, and another five bears regularly visit in the Selkirk mountains in northeastern Washington.

The bears used to range widely in Washington, although they were apparently never common. The reason for their demise seems to have been extermination by humans.

# Harbor Seal

Seals and sea lions belong to a group of marine mammals that share a common ancestry with carnivora (weasels, dogs, cats, etc.). The harbor seal is a puppy faced, spotted seal of Washington's shorelines that can reach five feet in length.

#### Status

As usual, the historical data on harbor seal populations is vague. But a population of 5,000 or so through the '40s and '50s is a "guesstimate" that Bob Everett, a wildlife biologist with the National Marine Fisheries Service, feels comfortable with.

Everett, who has been studying the seals for two years, recounts that the Washington seal populations hit a low of about 2,000 seals during the 1960's, when a \$5.00 bounty was paid for dead seals. The seals were apparently no more popular then than Judge Boldt is today with gillnetters, who complained of damage to gear and chunks of flesh missing from netted fish. The Game Department apparently was content to side with the fisher-people in the matter and enforce the bounty.

In 1972 the Federal Marine Mammal Protection Act came along and threw the bounty out the window. Under full protection, the harbor seal made a rapid comeback. Today, Everett estimates the harbor seal population at a very healthy 6,000 in Washington waters, of which about 4,000 live on the coast and the Columbia River estuary.

Most of the rest, about 1,700, are found in Hood Canal, the north Sound and the Strait, according to Everett.



Harbor seals have abandoned certain areas of the Sound—particularly around Seattle—and numbers elsewhere in southern Puget Sound are low. Critical factors identified by Everett include loss of habitat—particularly loss of undisturbed shoreline areas—and water pollution from urban areas, which may be causing premature pupping and infant mortality. The seals are "fairly sensitive to people pressure," according to Everett and eventually will leave areas with constant boat and human traffic. At the Nisqually delta, a small population of harbor seals could be affected by Weyerhaeuser's proposed deep water port.

Everett, who conducts aerial surveys of harbor seals from a Cessna 172, asks that people who come across pups not disturbe them, but instead report the sightings to the Marine Mammal Division of the National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration.

# Killer Whale

Actually a porpoise, or dolphin, the killer whale is well known in western. Washington. Orca, the more appropriate name used by Northwestern Indians, is thought to be very intelligent, but researchers have yet to come up with an IQ test that is free of culture-bias. Don't hold your breath.

Orca reaches 30 feet in length, and travels in packs, called "pods." A few pods remain in inland waters of Washington and Canada, and ocean going pods casually join them.

#### Status

The evidence that is available indicates that killer whales are as abundant as they've ever been in Washington and elsewhere, according to Dr. Albert Erickson, a professor of wildlife at the U.S. College of Fisheries.

This pleasant situation—so unusual for a large marine mammal—is largely explained by the absence of commercial exploitation in the history of the killer whale. Orca has always been to few and too fast for the whalers, explains Erickson, who has studied the animal in Puget Sound.

While Erickson isn't sounding any alarms, he notes that oil spills, water pollution and noise pollution in the water are all future potential threats to the killer whale. High pitched noises could have an insidious effect on Orca's sophisticated "sonar" system, by which it navigates and hunts.

# "I'm a Road-Runner, Baby...

By Sarah Stearns

'Leaves are falling all around It's time I was on my way. Thanks to you, I' much obliged for such a pleasant stay." -- Plant/Page, 'Ramble On'

After ten years of listening enthusiastically to various forms of rock and semi-rock music, I began to really listen to the words (or attempt to find written lyrics, when the words were incomprehensible). I almost wish I'd just stuck to the music.

It's preuty hard to listen to rock lyrics and feel good about being a woman. Or more accurately, the rock definition of a woman.

The themes I was hearing in the lyrics finally got so distracting I decided to see if I were overreacting, or hearing something that wasn't there.

I found some lyrics (printed above) that were illustrative of one of those the mes I thought I'd identified, that of the 'rambling man'. The rambling theme isn't unique to rock, but in rock music it's taken to an hysterical extreme not found in other forms of music. The lyrics I chose were a pretty innocuous sample, considering all those available.

Then I asked two friends, male and female, to simply read the lyrics, without knowing who wrote them or hearing the music (which, being Led Zeppelin, would probably have produced an artificially strong reaction, I thought.)

My male friend, a generally non-sexist type in his 20's, read the lines and said 'Yeah!' appreciatively.

He explained the lyrics to me. 'This guy's been staying with this woman for the summer, maybe longer, and it's time to go. He can't stick around forever. He's got things to do. She probably hasn't played too many heavy games on him or he wouldn't be thanking her. But they don't know each other too well, either. If he stayed longer, they would, and it would be harder for him to get away. Either he'd fall in love with her, or she'd expect him to, which would be worse. So he wants to go before either of those two things happen.' His voice had the tone of someone who thinks the picture he's painting is that of a reasonable man, simply doing what he has to do to survive in this world (i.e., getting out while he . can).

My woman friend read the lyrics and said 'Yeah...' bitterly.

'Another roadrunner, huh? The guy in the song probably won't be 'on his way' for a while, he's just warning her so she won't get any ideas about commitment. He also probably won't go more than a couple of blocks before he meets another woman who'll be willing to put up with him for a while. And why do the guys in songs always leave

Rock is almost totally male-oriented . . . they don't give us what we want to hear, but what men want to hear about us.

in the fall? It's like there's some sort of cosmic schedule for rock love affairs: they start in the spring, go great in the summer and then in the fall the guy gets itchy and leaves. Although, she said more hesitantly, 'why should he stick around when there's always more women out there waiting for him? May be I'd do the same thing.' As she handed the lyrics back she looked cynical and depressed.

Obviously, these people not only heard the same thing I heard in the lyrics, they read even more into the one sample they were given than the words said. It was like they'd looked at the words through some sort of 'frame' they'd been given ... so they went right to the details of the song and reacted to them without having to waste time stepping back to construct their own frames.

The most important part of the frame they'd accepted was the assumption they both made: that the singer of the song was male. Neither had any doubt about that, though the lyrics contained only the word 'I' to describe who was speaking.

And the rest of the frame was the 'universal' attitude they took to the lyrics. The man spoke as though the hero of the song (and he appeared to feel the guy was a hero-type) was the prototype male, or at least the prototype rock music male, and his desire to 'ramble on' was an essential part of his maleness rather than an action of a particular individual. The woman reacted similarly. She showed resentment on the part of all women toward all men who rambled.

They both seemed to be reacting to

some sort of perceived 'truth'.

But whose truth is it that they, and we, are buying with our dollars and minds in record stores and concert auditoriums? An experiential truth we've learned from their own lives, or a manufactured truth we've been fed?

I think it's mainly the latter...manufactured by the people who, as Joni Mitchell sings, '...stoke the star-making machinery behind the popular song." The songwriters, the record producers. the graphic artists who devise the album covers and ad layouts for the albums, and the groups who write and/or sing the songs. These people have defined the man/woman relationship for all time, judging from the songs that are sold to us. In almost no instance is there a deviation from this rock 'party line' on women. Even most woman rock singers follow the line; they may protest their treatment, but they don't deny the underlying assumptions that cause it. And the all-women groups who don't buy the line are too few, and get too little radio play or promotion, to have much impact on the general record audience.

So rock is almost totally male-oriented...not only dominated but oriented, since they don't give us what we want to hear but what men want to hear about us. What we as women get is the packaging: a macho singer or guitarist in tight pants, a presumably sexy growl in the voice, and 'Baby's' by the dozen (as in '... Hey Baby...').

Other forms of music are also maledominated, but most give women more space in which to raise their voices. Blues and western lyrics are sexist but a woman listening to either still feels

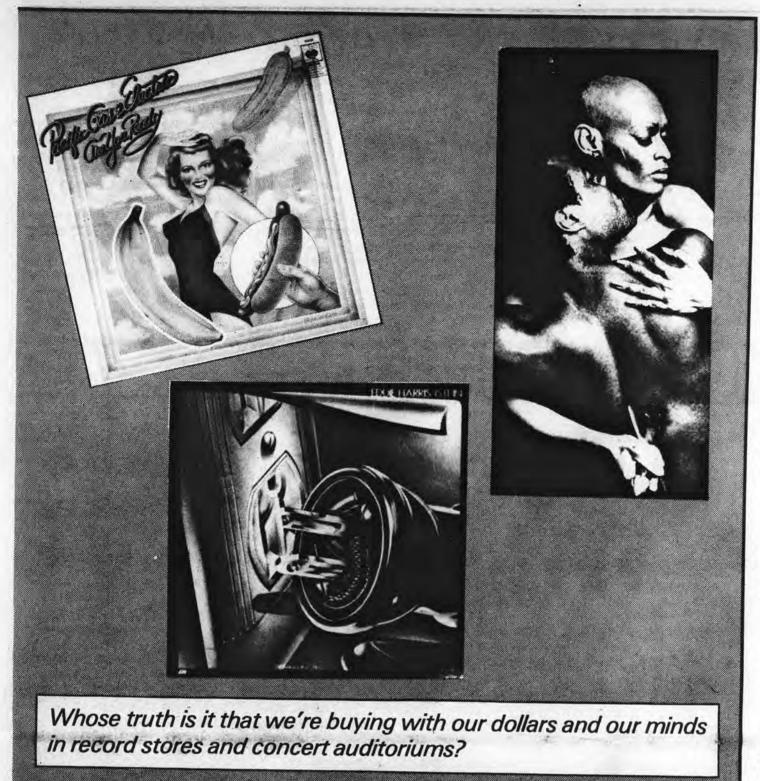
like she counts in a human way. And women blues singers have had a prominent place in the genre. In fact, blues lyrics complaining about men are almost as numerous as those complaining about women. Neither type of complaint is particularly praiseworthy, but at least, we get equal time. The woman blues singer who says, 'If you don't like my peaches, don't shake my tree' is not easily trivialized or dominated.

But in the rock music of the last decade, the voice is almost always that of the man, even if the singer happens to be a woman...because the lyrics of a song are the real voice. My two friends heard that male voice clearly, even without hearing an actual singer. The man is the arbiter, the constant, the magnet to which the female filings are attached. And when that attachment gets too heavy, the rock dictum says he's got to punish her and/or 'ramble on.'

Who is this woman he's trying to get away from? She appears in many guises, none very pleasant.



We're venuses, to be sure, or we couldn't 'trap' men to begin with. And it's usually conceded that we don't always mean to devour our men...it's just our nature as women. So a man has to protect himself from being swallowed, by leaving. Two excerpts from Rod Stewart songs betray real fear and resentment



about this supposed womanly characteristic:

'I was born loose, runnin' wild Keep your hands off me, lady, cause you're too late, too late... Some tried to train me, one tried to maim me,

but you can't keep a good man down'
--Rod Stewart, 'Born Loose'

and

"...Is it you again, comin' round for more?

Well, you can love me tonight if you want,

but in the morning make sure you're gone.'

--Rod Stewart, 'Hot Legs'

The Southern bands are more courtly in their means of expression (except for stridently macho Black Oak Arkansas), but no less concerned about male freedom. Lynyrd Skynyrd warns,

"...this bird you cannot cage..."
--Van Zandt/Rossington, "Free Bird"

and the Marshall Tucker band says
'I'll be back someday...

but darlin', please don't wait for me too long...'

-- Caldwell, 'Long Hard Ride'

Greg Allman cites overall angst as an excuse from intimacy;

"..." ve had a lover...don't think I'll risk another, these days...Please don't confront me with my failures, I'm aware of them..."

--Allman, 'These Days'

The Stones also flaunt the male prerogative of freedom:

'I'm free to choose who I see any old time-

I'm free to bring who I choose any old time-

I'm free any old time to get what I want...' --Jagger/Richard, 'I'm Free'

Jagger/ Hichard, 1 m Free

and they complain

'Seems very hard to have just one girl,

when there's a million on the world; Who wants yesterday's papers? Who wants yesterday's girl?' --Jagger/Richard, 'Yesterday's Papers'

If she doesn't shape up:
'I'm sorry, girl, but I can't stay
feeling like I do today
staying here is too much sorrow
guess I'll feel the same tomorrow.'

-Jagger/Richard, 'The Last Time'

Led Zeppelin's songs mention rambling often:

'...Baby, you know I'm gonna leave you...leave you when the summer comes along...really got to ramble...' -Page, 'Babe, I'm Gonna Leave Yo

-Page, 'Babe, I'm Gonna Leave You'

'...Baby, I got to fly...cause you know I got to get away from you, Babe...' --Page, 'Four Sticks'

So woman in rock is someone to escape from. But before we're left, there are a few functions we're supposed to perform.

## Woman As Socket

We're supposed to be socket to the man's plug, for one. This is probably the least heavy of the roles laid on us, in my opinion, since it's at least clearly defined (confined as it is to a certain region of the body, with almost total disregard of the head). However, if we don't measure up...on second thought, it can be a heavy role.

There are so many examples of the socket function in rock lyrics as to make them extremely repetitious, so I'll mention only a few. The old James Gang band sings exhuberantly,

'...wanta take you home, do things to you...don't wanna break you, just wanta make you...'

-- Fox/Peters/Walsh, 'Woman'

This is characteristic of the first type of socket lyrics, because it reassures the woman that the only business involved is mutual fleshly pleasure. Fog Hat gets more specific:

'I don't want you to make my bed, I don't want you to bake my bread, I don't want you to be true...

I just wanta make love to you...'
--Dixon/Dixon, 'I Just want to
Make Love to You'

The other type of socket lyrics illustrates the man's fear of possible emotional involvement. He feels it necessary to make plain that he not only wants no 'wifely' (i.e. bread-baking and fidelity) relationship...he doesn't want the woman to be anything but available. The Stones say:

'I don't want you to be high I don't want you to be down Don't want to tell you no lies Just want you to be around...'

--Jagger/Richard, 'Back Street Girl' Woman as quintessential socket is captured most poignantly in the words of Stiv Bators of the Dead Boys:

"...I don't wanna have no romance... Girl, I just wanna get in your pants'

This is probably one of the most delicate verses in punk rock...punk rock being what it is.

The next category is not even remotely funny.

## Woman As Demon

A woman listening to demon lyrics can, alternately, feel completely helpless in the face of their sheer venom, and also disbelieving that this guy is singing about her. Germaine Greer said in The Female Eunich, '...Men do not themselves know the depth of their hatred (of women)...'. After really listening to some of the rock lyrics of the past 10 years, I would say they now have a pretty good idea.

The least malignant, as usual, seems to come from the Southern bands who make heartfelt but rather mild complaints, like Marshall Tucker:

'...Can't you see...can't you see... What that woman, she been doing to me...'

-Caldwell, 'Can't You See'

whereas the old Humble Pie band sings of actual witchcraft in 'I Walk on Gilded Splinters':

'...Why don't you throw away my coffee...

You put poison in my cup...'
--Dr. John Creaux

and Led Zep declares:

'...the soul of woman was created below...'

-- Page, 'Dazed and Confused'

The most frightening lyric I've come across in this vein is by Rod Stewart, who in 'You're Insane' proposes what will happen to this 'demon woman':

'...One of these nights, child, it won't be long...

Somebody, some where, who's big and strong

in a dark alley, a blood-stained coat he'll stick his long thing right down your throat.'

Now that we've got it clear just what dangerous creatures we are and what can happen to us if we step out of line, let's look at our 'main duties'.

# Woman As Mother/Lover

Actually, this function could be called 'lover/mother/wife/little girl/ general incestuous love-slave', because they all interlock. And when this overlapping collection of categories is mentioned in rock lyrics, it's usually made plain that the male is either fucked up and needs someone to ease his pain, or that he's done something to the woman and now wants to 'apologize' by letting her ease his pain...which turns out to be about the same thing, I guess.

The classic version of the old blues song 'Loan Me a Dime' done by Boz Scaggs and Duane Allman illustrates the alcoholic's-remorse syndrome, calling for a good little girl to make things right:

'...I know she's a good girl, but at that time I just didn't understand.. Somebody better loan me a dime, I need my baby here at home...'

And Bob Dylan in his new album asks: '... Can you cook and sew, make flowers grow... Can you understand

my pain?'
--Dylan, 'Is Your Love in Vain?'

Continued next page.



When asked about the questionable sentiments of the song, he explains, 'Criticism of that song comes from people who think that women should be karate instructors or airplane pilots... when a man's looking for a woman, he ain't looking for a woman who's an airplane pilot. He's looking for a woman to help him out and support

him, to hold up one end while he holds up another.' - Rolling Stone, 11-16-78

Guess who defines what the two 'ends' are, and who should hold which end up.

I think the one song that expresses all these concepts, and in a fashion so palatable that it's almost impossible for a woman *not* to enjoy the song, is Jackson Browne's 'Take It Easy':

"...Goin' down the road trying to loosen my load

Got seven women on mind...
Four that want to own me,
Two that want to stone me,
One says she's a friend of mine...'

I've sung along with this song often and never fully realized before that / can't be the real singer...the hero...of the song. I could only be, if anything, one of the women who are trying to own/stone/befriend him...the male. Even changing the gender mentioned in the song (... I got seven men on my mind...') doesn't work, because I can't imagine that song being sung by a woman. Maybe my consciousness hasn't been raised enough. Or maybe it's been raised too much.

But there is one thing I can imagine. The recognition of the pervasive sexism in rock hasn't changed my enjoyment of the music, which is the important thing. That's what comes through on

the records despite the sado-masochistic album covers, the male-power lyrics, the stylized phallic-guitar lunges And what I can imagine is that the power, the energy, the electricity, the life-force of rock music can be redefined as human, the natural expression of both male and female bodies wanting to announce to themselves and others that they are 'there'. It's that 'thereness' that is to me the soul of rock, not the maleness that is being sold to us.

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Until that redefinition...I think Rod Stewart can probably get along without this woman listening to him anymore...

# So Much To Do and Feelings

# **Wallflower Order Dance**

by Birny Birnbaum, Carlyn Orians and Rick Swann

How does the collective process survive in a competitive system? With a lot of diversity and power--or so you'd think watching the Wallflower Order dance.

The all-women collective from Eugene gave intense performances in Bellingham and Seattle that relied heavily on music, acting and speech as well as dance, with the dance itself displaying a variety of styles.

For one thing, the group constantly switched from unison movement to highly individualistic ones.

Complementing the evident emotional support the members gave each other, particularly with the unison movements, physical support--at times the dancers slowly rolling over one another's backs--recurred throughout the evening.

Smiles, dialogue and eye contact broke down the traditional performer/viewer space.

It was the dancers' power that came across most strongly, though. Foot stomping accompanied unconcealed heavy breathing. Solid movements often appeared to be traditionally male movements.

One piece, "Rainbow," incorporated Kung-Fu.

Dance movements were not the only non-traditional approaches used by the collective. Music and dialogue were certainly used differently than in conventional dance.

"Rainbow," prior to the Kung-Fu movements was a running dialogue on being gay. "Mother Song" consisted simply of all six members seated and singing. "Prison Piece" --stunning--was primarily drama.

#### THE COLLECTIVE PROCESS

To a large extent the diversity of the program reflects the collective's history.

Originally the collective was formed out of need. None of the women felt they had either the necessary self-confidence or experience to do their own choreography, but they found that together, with mutual support, they could choreograph.

And while their styles have grown out of this common experience, this has also led to a certain amount of discussion concerning individual/group conflict. This is further complicated since they now choreograph on their own. As Susie Milleman said, "as a collective member you feel responsible for what goes on in your space."

A lot of this friction actually becomes incorporated into the dances: "So Much To Do and Feelings" powerfully demonstrated the collective process.

Five members of the collective moved in and out of unison, several times stopping in confusion, other times going off into individual things. Often they coupled up, with the odd member strikingly alienated. There was a lot of body contact.

One thing the members of the collective were pretty much in agreement about: a certain amount of individuality had to be maintained, but within the context of the group.

They achieve this on several levels: their dances allow for individual movement; they lead fairly separate lives.



# CULTURAL WORKERS IN A COMPETITIVE SYSTEM

The Wallflower Order members have made a committment towards being "cultural workers". By this they mean using dance as a tool towards developing political consciousness--to "perpetuate and support cultures that normally aren't supported in the arts (gay rights, women's issues...)."

The group's politicization has evolved steadily. Originally involved with women's issues, feminism has gone from being their "focus to becoming a basis to work out of."

Attempting to achieve a balance between art and politics, while making clear political statements, their political pieces ranged from the satirical and the humerous (with one-liners like: "If I told you one of us was straight, would you spend the whole night trying to figure out who it was?") to a piece such as "So Much Has Been Done" which is a dance "reinactment" of a liberation battle in Angola.

Some of the dances stand by themselves as dances, others depend upon their political statement.

The collective's view of culture is not as higher art, but culture within a larger framework--less fragmentized--where art, dialogue and politics interact.

There was disagreement among the collective members as to how many poeple and of what backgrounds, their work could reach. Presently they are hoping to perform for the high schools in Eugene. Some of the members talked about performing for prisoners.

And while there have been bad audiences along the way where, as Krissy Keefer remarked, "they couldn't get through the armpit hairs to see the dance," in Bellingham and Seattle atleast, they brought down the house.

# **Lord of the Rings Reviewed**

by Meristem Murray

If you don't know much about the works of J.R.R. Tolkien, but are curious about the new film "The Lord of the Rings" because you enjoy animated films, then I might be your reviewer. If, however, you want to know how faithfully the film portrays the book, you will have to look elsewhere. Here you will find the impressions of the uninitiated.

The story of the Lord of the Rings could be seen as an allegory for the current battle about the feature length animated film. On one side are the good guysthe hobbits--who represent old-fashioned, charming, hard-working, cartoon-style animation, and who in turn are wonderfully represented by it. Bilbo Baggins the elder hobbit is a triumph of animation art. He is alive with personality and idiosyncracy; his face is a constant flux of changing thoughts and emotions. The background scenes of the Shire and points along the journey are utterly satisfying--the streams sparkle, the snow glistens, the inn exudes warmth and comfort, and the old castle is perfectly ancient and austere in its midnight blueness. The more typical he-men, Aragorn and Boromir, and the beautiful Galadriel don't come

across as successfully as the hobbits. Their faces are dead. Being a paragon beauty or he-man doesn't allow much room for individual personality. Gollum, however, is delightful. Not being straightjacketed by either beauty or nobility, he is slimy, greedy, sycophantic, and proud. Like Bilbo's face, his whole body is in continual flux.

The bad guys, on the other hand, a nameless horde of grotesque creatures, represent the modern techniques of quick and easy pseudo-animation and were unfortunately represented at length by it. Video processing if used skillfully and sparingly, can be very effective, as indeed it was in the first part of the film. The Black Riders were rendered exquisitely evil by touches of video processing which added a startling weirdness, chilling the viewer with the other-worldly power. However, the use of video became increasingly heavy-handed. Long battle scenes were monotonously repeated. It lost all its effect and looked like nothing so much as very badly filmed television--dark endless, pointlessly repetitive and confusing.

This was just the first of two installments. At this point it appears that our hobbits are losing. But maybe if we complain loudly enough our heroes can make a comeback in the next installment.

# Rate Hike Continued

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requirements. City—Light will then pay \$50 of insulation costs, and give homeowners a three-year 6% loan to cover the balance.

A concerted effort to conserve energy might include insulation of old and new structures; energy conscious building designs and codes; reduction of outside air demand in buildings; elimination of aluminum beer and pop cans; solar space and water heating; solar greenhouses; and a way to make these improvements available to everyone, especially those who can't afford them.

Another point on the "need" for new plants is that Puget Power sold 2.4 billion kilowatt hours of electricity out—of—state in 1976, or 16% of overall sales. This was up from 10% in 1975.

Finally, the conclusion of a study of northwest electricity needs by the Federal General Accounting Office stated, "Our policy set analyses showed that if NEPP's (the governors'study mentioned above) moderate forecast procedure proved more realistic than the high forecasts of regional utilities and moderate conservation incentives were adopted, the thermal generating plants already approved for construction would be sufficient to meet regional demand growth through 1995." None of the plants Puget intends to build, with the exception of Satsop (Puget 5% interest), have been approved for construction.

Now remember, your landlord is really just a good guy looking out for you. He's serving the needs of the people. Housing! After all, luxury apartments are housing. You'd be a good friend to pay his loans for him. You see, he's just not sure about the new tenants...

POWER—Peoples Organization for Washington Energy Resources is a coalition of community groups and concerned citizens organizing against these rate hikes. There are chapters throughout Puget Sound. They need your help. In Whatcom Co. call Doug at 734-5121; in King Co. call 464-5911; in Kittitas Co. call 925-1448; in Pierce Co. call 572-3113; for Statewide POWER in Olympia call 943-6530.

There will be public hearing on the rate request, before the Utilities and Transportation Commission in four cities: Bellingham, December 21 at 9:00 am at the County Courthouse, 2nd floor, 311 Grand St.; Olympia, December 18 at 10:00 am in the Commission's Hearing Room, Sixth Floor, Highway-Licenses Building; Bellevue, December 19 at 10:00 am in the Council Chambers, Bellevue City Hall, 111-116th S.E. Ave.; Mt. Vernon, 2:00 pm at Cascade Natural Gas, 1520 S.2nd St.



# Thomson Trips on CWIP

"We whipped CWIP!" election workers chanted at Democrat Hugh Gallen's headquarters.

The 53-year-old used car salesman had stopped archconservative Republican Meldrim Thomson's bid for an unprecedented fourth term as New Hampshire governor. The defeat, which should have a national impact on the financing of nuclear power plants, was also a victory for grassroot consumer forces in New Hampshire.

Gallen engineered his campaign around one issue—opposition to Construction Work In Progress (CWIP) rate charges, which have been pinching New Hampshire electric consumers for almost a year. The financially-strapped Public Service Company of New Hampshire (PSC) has said it must have annual CWIP charges included in its rate base in order to finance construction of its controversial \$2.5 billion Seabrook nuclear plant.

Pleading poverty and the potential doom of Seabrook, PSC won the largest rate hike in its history last spring—\$30 million, with more than half of it going for CWIP and boosting people's electric bills 17 to 32 percent.

The state legislature passed a bill banning CWIP, but vehemently pro-Seabrook Thomson, with characteristic flourish, signed the veto at the Seabrook site.

Currently, PSC is asking the Federal Energy Regulatory Commission for permission to pass CWIP along to its wholesale customers. It's joined in this request by 12 of the nation's most powerful privately owned electric companies, including Commonwealth Edison of Illinois and Commonwealth Edison of Boston. The consumer affairs office of the Department of Health, Education and Welfare is among those opposing the FERC request.

New Hampshire is the only state in the nation with-

out income or sales taxes and Thomson's promise to fight so-called "broad-based taxes" propelled him into office three times. But Gallen grabbed that issue and threw it in Thomson's face, arguing that CWIP is a "broad-based tax", forcing consumers to pay for costs normally picked up by investors in a private company such as PSC.

Fuel was added to the anti-CWIP flame this summer when PSC announced 12 percent dividend gains for its stockholders, primarily gleaned from CWIP charges. Thomson attempted to waffle on his pro-CWIP stand, saying he would oppose any future CWIP charges. But after a private meeting with PSC officials he revised that stand, saying he would oppose any CWIP rate hikes that exceed cost of living increases.

Gallen refused to take a stand against nuclear power—specifically Seabrook—but he was strongly supported by the Campaign to Fight the Rate Hike of the Granite State Alliance, a loose coalition of progressive New Hampshire groups, including chapters of the Clamshell Alliance. The Campaign to Fight the Rate Hike launched an anti-Cw P fight more than a year ago with members of the Clam helping in door-to-door canvassing and the collection of thousands of anti-CWIP cards.

The financial future of Seabrook is now in serious doubt. Gallen's election does not guarantee an end to the project, but PSC may be forced to sell off a large chunk of its 51 percent ownership. Considering the shakey history of Seabrook and the growing tendency of investors and electric utilities to move away from nuclear, this may be difficult.

-Reprinted from In These Times, by Cathy Wolff









#### SEATTLE

Tues. Nov 21, Winterproofing Your Home. A free workshop on insulation, weatherstrip ping, caulking and storm windows sponsored by the Washington Energy Extension Service. Held at Queen Anne High School, 215 Galer, Rm. 201, 7:30 pm-9 pm.

Fri. Nov 24, Women Sharing Thanksgiving. 8 pm-12 midnight. Potluck party, sharing traditions, music, poetry, stories, games. At Innerspace Womyn's Coffee House, 5241 Univ. Wy NE. For Women.

Fri. Nov 24-Sun. Nov 26, Harvest Festival and Christmas Crafts Market presents oldfashioned food, entertainment and crafts by people from Cal. to Can. in the Exhibition Hall, Seattle Ctr.

Sat. Nov 25, Tilth General Meeting including an exchange of book knowledge, a slide show on agricultural water rights and governmental subsidies of agribusiness, plans for Good Shepherd Agri. Ctr, report on NW Rural Amer. Conference & potluck, 1pm at the Good Shepherd Ctr, 4649 Sunnyside N.

Sat. Nov 25, A day of remembrance for the years of hardship Japanese Americans endured in American concentration camps. A caravan leaves at 12 noon from Sick's Stadium parking lot at Rainier Ave. S. and Mc Clellan and is due to arrive at the Puyallup Fairgrounds . at 2 pm. There will be a potluck dinner 6pm. at Camp Harmony, once home to 7,200 Japanese Amer's. For more info, call David Ishii, 622-4719.

Sun. Nov 26, Benefit for Crabshell Alliance featuring square dance and music by Flash in the Pan, an old-timey string band, at 7 pm. at St. Joseph's, 19th E. and E. Aloha. Donations .50 to \$3. For info call Jeff Spann at 634-0377 or. 524-7407.

Tues. Nov 28, Current Political Situation in Iran discussed at free forum at 7:30, HUB Aud. at the U. of Wash. Speakers on the panel incl. Ali Shokre, former officer in the Iranian Air Force, & a rep. of Payan Danshjoo, Iranian student newspaper.

Tues. Nov 28, Harlen County, U.S.A., Barbara Kopple's 1976 documentary feature, airs on Ch. 9 at 10 pm. Chronicke of Kentucky coal miners' strike.

Tues. Nov 28, Boycott Coors Committee holds strategy meeting at Oddfellows Hall, 915 E. Pike, Rm 426, 7:30 pm. For more info, call Scott, 524-0741.

Dec. 1 & 2, Seattle Housing Convention will examine solutions to Sea.'s housing crisis. Workshops on land-use, displacement, low cost housing, tenant rights. Fri. session, 7-9 pm at First A.M.E. Church, 1522 14th Ave. Sat.'s from 8:30 am- 5 pm. at Langston Hughes Hughes Cultural Ctr, 104-17th Ave. S. For info call, 632-1285.

The Family Circus is coming soon.

Thurs. Nov 30, Neighborhood Technology Coalition sponsors informational meeting on \$100,000 Block Grant Program to promote neighborhood tech. Interested groups should attend at 7:30 pm. Langston Hughes Ctr, Yesler Wy & 17th Ave. S. Call Lucy Gorham 447-3625 or Susan Appel, 625-4492.

Thurs. Nov 30, National Day of Protest against export aof a Westinghouse nuclear reactor to the Philippines. Noon protest at Federal Office Blg, 2nd & Marjon. Sponsored By Crabshell Alliance, Live Without Trident & Friends of the Filipino People.

Fri. Dec 1, Seattle Men's Center Collective presents "Rape Culture," documentary about male power & perpetration of rape. Poetry, music & theatre. \$2 at American Friends Service Ctr. 4001 9th Ave. N€, 7:30 pm.

Fir. Dec 1, Innerspace Womyn's Coffee House holds "OPen Mike & Poetry Reading-Story Telling" from 8-12 mdn. 5241 Univ. Wy NE. Call 525-0999 for info.

Dec. 2 & 3, The 1st N.W. Regional Conference on Men & Masculinity will explore men's roles & issues. Workshops, displays, play-



shops, entertainment. For men and womeh. Registration \$9. Metrocenter, 909 4th Ave. Seattle, call 447-4551.

Dec. 2 & 3, Women in Solar & Appropriate Technology Conference to exchange skills and info. Contact Ecotope Group, 2332 E.

Sat. Dec 2, Family Circus Theatre from Portland Or. presents "Rip City Follies," original musical satire abbut struggle of 2 old vaudeville performers to keep the only home theyve known, their hotel room. tap dance, comedy, juggling, at Washington Hall, 153 14th Ave. 8:30 pm \$2.50.

Wed. Dec 6, "Seasons of the Basque," KCTS special on culture & cyclic trek of America's Basque sheepherders airs at 8:30 pm on Ch. 9.9

Wed. Dec. 6, "Backstreets," a documentary examining problem of community - based treatment for the mentally ill airs on KCTS Ch 9 at 8 pm.

Wed. Dec 6, Live Without Trident Educational on how militarism affects our civil rights at Amer. Friends Service Ctr, NE 40th & 9th NE.

Dec. 8-9, Benefit Flea Market & Bake Sale for Live Without Trident .Call for more info

Sat. Dec 9, "Revolution in the Revolution," a forum sponsored by Freedom Socialist Party held at 8 pm, Freeway Hall, 381 5-5th Ave. NE. For more info, childcare, transportation, call 632-7449/1815 or 323-5328.

Sat. Dec 9, "Different Dance" will move in all kinds of ways to all kinds of music, at ACDC Performing Studio, 2320 1st Ave. 9 pm-1 am. \$2. call Jeff, 323-4756.

Mon. Dec 11, NW Women's Cultural Festival holds open meeting to plan multicultural event to incl. music, dance, poetry, painting, mime, etc. Innerspace Coffeehouse, 5241 Univ.

Thurs. Dec 14, Radical Women Meeting featuring report on growing nationwide socialist feminism at Freeway Hall, 3815 5th Ave NE, 7:30.



#### BELLINGHAM

Tues. Nov 28, Family Circus Theatre will perform "Rip City Follies" at the WWU at 8 pm. \$2.50. See Seattle events.

Sun. Dec 3, Blackwell Women's Health Resource Ctr holds Benefit Raffle at YWCA, 1026 N. Forest, 11 am. Tickets \$2.

Dec. 9, The Nursing Home Ombudsman Program needs volunteers to visit long-term care facilities to help residents resolve problems. Trn'g provided at NW Regional Council Office, 1000 Forest St. B'ham. Call 676-6749

#### **OLYMPIA**

Thurs. Nov 30, Fmily Circus Theatre will perform "Rip City Follies" at the Evergreen State College, 8 pm. \$2.50. See Seattle events.

Wed. Dec 6, Olympia Announces the formation of the Community Skills Exchange . Intro meeting at the Olympia Community Ctr 7 pm. People with skills professional to mundane should come and share. call 866-1087.

Sat. Dec 9, A Workshop on Violence Against Women sponsored by the Olympia Women's Health Ctr will be held at 218 1/2 West 4th St. from 9- 4 pm. Call 943-OWCH'







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Thurs. Nov 16, Exhibition of Color Xerox Works previews at And/Or Gallery, 1525 10th Ave, Sea, 7:30-10 pm. Continues thru Dec. 3.

Sun. Nov 26, Seattle Concert Theatre, cornor of Fairview and John St. presents "Fantasie", a quartet with music by Gershwin and sonatas by Loeillet, Bach at 8 pm. \$3 general, \$2.50 students-seniors.Reservations call 624-2770.

Mon. NOv 27, "Appalachian Ebeneezer", play by Randi Douglas is presented by Empty Space Theatre at 8 pm in the NE branch of the Seatle Public Library, 6501 NE 35th St.

Sat. Nov 30, "Black Folk" film program sponsored by the Market School at 1916 Pike Pl. 8 pm \$3.

Sat.Dec 2, Zimbabwe Cultural Education Night offers Shona dinner, speaker Nkosana Maraire, and Mbira, traditional music of Zimbabwe, featuring Dumi. At AFSC, 814 NE 40th, \$5. 633-3517.

Sat. Dec 2, Jim Page in Concert at Seattle Concert Theatre, Corner of Fairview N. & John, 8 pm. \$3.

There will be a general body Above Board contemplating suicide Wanted: sympathy. Wanted: refuge. a paper waits on the porch; Every morning the delight of nations a umosme of the Gross National Product, the figures of the nothing all those smiling faces, enters my life, a limosine and yet I have nothing but full color portraits of the rapes in Iran. The woman on the left has been made to watch.

the woman on the watch.
They used to call the Society Page
the Women's Page
the Women's Page
the Woman who is being made to watch
but now they call it style.
If the woman who is being the woman over her mouth,
If the woman over her mouth,
has her hand over hardish?
has her hand over again?
Should the photographs
is that considered stylish?
be done over again?
Will they change her makeup
or is she just the next in line?
There will be a general body
There will be a general body
anytime you want.
anytime you want.

They say the woman was an informer. Did she inform them of the typographical error or was what she had to say on page 37 Perhaps her father is Chinese. more important? Perhaps he will instruct her to lay back and enjoy it the person being raped? or is her father For sale or rent the world has turned to which it had been committed, from the natural purposes that silver-tone cigarette lighter that suver-tone cigarette ugnter design, with the embossed Baroque design, and that limosine, they feed on suicide. They lease it by the mile. "We need a sympathetic government My friend says: in the Middle East to stem the tide of Communist influence it helps keep gas prices down." Is the government in Iran sympathetic to the woman who is about to be raped or would they prefer that she offer no resistance? Wanted: sympathy. Wanted: refuge. Ricky Rankin

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#### BELLINGHAM

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Thursday November 30 Evergreen State College Near Library Lobby 8 P.M. SEATTLE
Saturday December 2
Washington Hall
153 14th Ave. (at Yesler)
8 P.M. \$2.50

4

ALSO: FREE workshop in Bellingham Wed. Nov. 29
Fairhaven College Auditorium 2-5 P.M.

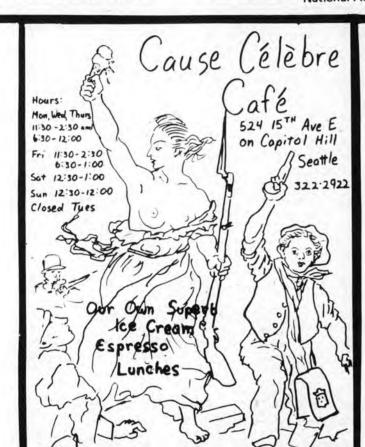
SEE CALENDAR FOR MORE DETAILS ABOUT THE SHOW

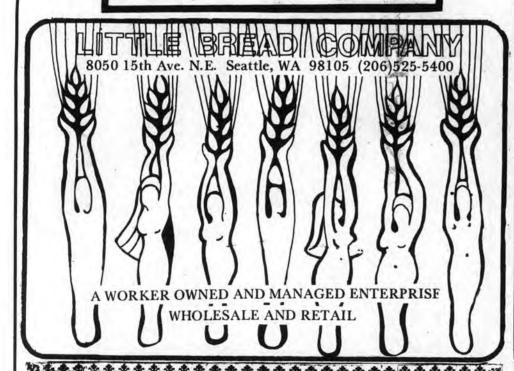
# Dumping on Yosemite

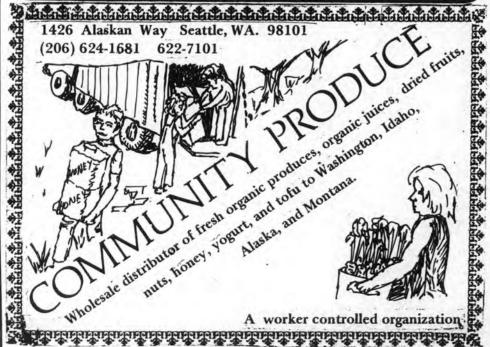
It's been suggested that garbage dumps not only serve as a depository for our society's wastes, but as an allegory, too. Now it looks as if some National Parks can qualify for these honors, as well.

Consider the following list of items found in Yosemite National Park during an annual clean-up:

six human skeletons (partial); 487 pairs of glasses; three auto bodies; 109 single shoes, boots, sneakers, slippers, and wedgies; 16 toupees and partial hairpieces; tour tull wigs (one or urem turquoise); two plastic Jesus statues; 36 animal collars (one inscribed: "To baby with love from Daddy"); a WW II gas rationing book; 123 tape cassettes; five tape cassette recorders; 10688 haircombs; two television sets; 22 cameras (including one 1931 stereoscopic with undeveloped film inside); 4,028 lipstick dispensers; 41 sleeping bags; an extension telephone; a bathtub; two cnurch pews; foun typewriters; a recording of Debussy's 'Afternoon of a Faun'; a 35-mm movie projector with one reel of 'The Little Foxes'; and eight full-sized flags, including one from Lithuania. National Audubon







#### Page 22 Northwest Passage

# Saudi Correspondent Unveils Sexism

The daughter of a former Saudi ambassador to the US has quietly revolutionized that country's communications system. Naila Al-Sowayel is the first female full-time correspondent here for Saudi-Arabia, their first woman to appear without a veil on Saudi television screens and the first Arab woman to interview King Hussein of Jordan.

Naila, who is 25 years old and expects to receive her PhD in international affairs from John Hopkins soon, moves back and forth between the conservative, religious world of her country and the competitive, secular world of Washington DC journalism with considerable ease. Here, she wears Western clothes and drives her own car, neither of which she can do at home. "Even if I could drive in Saudi-Arabia I wouldn't," she said, "because the roads are so bad. I wouldn't drive in Mexico either!" On the plane back home she changes back into her veil until she gets back to the West.

Naila insists that in some ways discrimination against women is worse in the West than in Saudi-Arabia though some aspects of modern life are vast improvements. "Our country should move quickly into the modern world when it comes to hospitals and schools but I do think we should preserve our religious customs," she explained. She added that when she applied to Harvard Law School an official who turned her application down explained that "by the time she graduated she'd get married anyway and put her law degree in a drawer". She also noted that when she worked at the World Bank it became clear that women had to be at their jobs for 25 years before they got a chance to do interesting work while men would get these right away.

Fascinated with the power of the American press to"make and break things", Naila created her own job by persuading the Saudis that she could do writing and television assignments. These have since expanded into a full-time occupation. The journalist said that one of the reasons why the Saudis accepted her was that they felt confident that she could handle the changes between the two cultures.

by staff NWP

# N.W.P. VS. P.N.B.

(cont. from page 3)

the orginal decision of the Whatcom County Superior Court. In the Supreme Court's opinion, the law is not overbroad when the "balancing test" is applied. This court feels tuat the statute is sufficiently concise, since it deals only with PNB codes. The judges concluded that the statute doesn't substantially restrict freedom of the press, when judged in relation to the law's legitimate function of preventing fraud.

The defense presented on the part of the NWP argued that an existing law, RCW 9. 45240, already protects societal interist. This law forbids the use of a false credit card number to place a call. The NWP also attempted to raise more general questions concerning the operations of PNB, but the Court would have none of that. To quote from the majority decision, authored by Justice Rollins:

"Defendent also argued the matter could be resolved if telephone companies would change their business practices and procedures. It is an argument of questionable grace and no merit."

Testimony at the trial on behalf of PNB earned sympathy from the judges, however, when they were told that a \$70,000 revenue loss over a 9-month period was a result of such fradulent credit number use, and that the loss must must be made up by the rate payer (who

Eight Supreme Court judges held that prevention of this fraud is in sufficient societal interest. The one dissenter, J. Rosellini, explained his no vote as an affirmation of the Court of Appeals decsion, that publication of information in a newspaper is conduct entitled to protection under the First Amendment to the U.S. Constitution and to Article I, Section 5 of the Washington Constitution.

The NWP lawyer John Anderson intends to pursue the case as far as possible, which means filing a motion for reconsideration with the Washington State Supreme Court.

While not having been directly involved in the orginal violation, the current Passage staff supports appealing the State Supreme Court decision. At this time the question of condoning a past act is moot. The issue at stake is rather a question of precedents for the treatment of particular privately owned businesses. Does a company deserve to be singled out for specific protection in a state law? Is not the overall statute concerning protection of private property sufficient? And if not, then what inferences can be made concerning the impact of corporate money on law-making?

By Chris Minerd

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# Connexions

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R.Rama Jules Blair no. 36540-136, H.H. P.O. Box 1,000 Steilacoom, WA 98388

William Barbarin no. 14200-116 P.O. Box W Lompoc, Calif.

Charles Buckaloo no. 40837-II5 P.O. Box 1500 El Reno, Okla. 73036

Francis Hall

P.O. Box 34550 Memphis, Tenn. 38134

Ronald Norwood P.O. Box 2247 Carson City, Nev. 89701

Paul J. Griffin Jr. no. 97086-131 P.O. Box 1000 Leavenworth, Kansas 66048

Gay prisoners, in state and Federal prison. If you are in a prison that allows prisoners to receive gay publications, please! write and tell me the name of the prison. I am a prisoner at Oregon State Correctional Institution and I am filing a law suit against the Corrections Division because I have been refused permission to receive gay publications. Stanley Murphy, no. 7689, 3405 Deer Park Dr. S.E., Salem, Or. 97310

Now we are two. 2 men against sexism trying to form a Men's house. All ages and sexual preferences invited. Call George for more info: 329-7449.

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#### JOBS

Never had a paper route before? It's fun, and you can suppport your favorite newspaper. Distributor needed for Port Townsend, Kirkland, Bellevue and maybe your own neighborhood. 2 to 3 hours every 3 weeks. Call or write Rick or Bill at NWP office Seattle, IOI7 E. Pike 98122. 323-0354.

Olympia Intern: The Passage is looking for a writer in Olympia to report on goings on at the State Legislature this winter and to write and solicit articles on Olympia news. No formal journalism experience necessary, but the ability to write fairly well and an interest in politics are musts. No pay, but a full term's credit available for Evergreen students. Interested people should write to Doug Honig c/o NWP, 1017 E. Pike, Seattle 98122. The Passage welcomes help in writing and layout from any interested readers in the Olympia area. Contact our Seatlle office to volunteer

Typists: The Passage needs more volunteer typists to prepare articles for layout.. If you can spare a couple of hours every third week and can type about 50 wpm or more, give us a call at our Seattle office. 323-0354.

#### **ANNOUNCEMENTS**

Gurdjieff/ Ouspensky Centers accepting students. Call 285-3560 and (604) 226-7578.

Women in non-traditional skilled professions or apprentice programs are invited to join the Non-Traditional Careers Support Group. Group meets bi-monthly to discuss difficulties we encountered and provide support. More info, call Laura Walker 937-8480 or Nia Corlach 878-7044/ 937-8480. Seattle

1979 Food Co-op Calenders available now, Nutritional information on regional foods. Local artwork. \$3.50 each. Discounts for quantity and for coops. Write F.O.O. D. Co-op. 121 N. Columbia, Olympia, Wa. 98501

Women's Divorce Support Collective in B'ham invites women in beginning stages, process, or aftermath of separation/divorce to join our group. Info on credit, community resources, dissolution petitions, lawyers. Meetings Tues. eves 7-9, call 733-4521 or 734-4282 for info and childcare. -Bellingham

Lesbian Mothers Nat'l. Defense Fund- spon sor benefit Bike-A-Thon from Seattle to California, Sponsor, can pledge \$per mile in sup port of bikers. Contact LMNDF P.O. Box 21567, Seattle, 98111 or call 325-2643

Innerspace Womyn's Coffee house - available for rent to women's groups for meetings, rates, events negotiable. 525-0999; Seattle

#### (cont from p. 3)

Losing the house to someone else would not be that bad. Watching the house beingdestroyed is what will hurt the most. Its destruction would be a loss to the entire community.

I feel bitter about it, and a lot of other people feel bitter about it too. Just about everyone I talk to reacts with sorrow and/or anger upon hearing of this. That's because they'se seen it happening all around them and they know that it'll happen to them if it hasn't already. And Homeowners are watching their taxes rise, their neighborhoods deteriorate, and the price of buying a new home soar out of site. I have heard tell of homeowners

who, sitting on particularly luscious pieces of real estate have been pressured into selling by the combined efforts of realtors and the city government.

As uncontrolled development continues, and it becomes harder to distinguish Whatcom County from New York's Weschester county, all the reasons for living in this area begin to fade away. Only the combined, organized efforts of all types of residents can put the reins on a runaway situation. I'm not saying that we can stop it entirely, and it isn't just tenants who are being affected. that Whatcom County can be developed to suit our wants and needs. Common people don't have that much power in this society. But we can make things very uncomfortable for those in power.

As a community organizer once said, "If you think that you can beg your way into decent housing, think again. The Man does not respond when he

sees the light, but when he feels the

Stephen Grimes Bellingham



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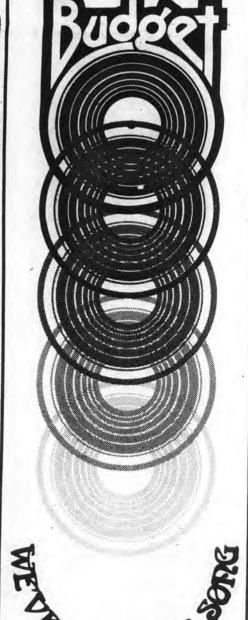
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the 19 Food No-op

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TWO RODENTS (SEX UNKNOWN) OCCUPYING TREE--NO VISIBLE REMAINS

ATMOSPHERICS: BAROMETER 3.8 HOLDING

WIND OUT OF SOUTHWEST, 7 KNOTS

TEMPERATURE 17 CELSIUS

POSITIVE ION COUNT OVER MAX RANGE, RISING 8/13/78 PHOTO AND DATA (RELUCTANT) COURTESY U.S. ARMY INTELLIGENCE