



## Mmmm, massage Luxury for your back

The refrain is all too familiar: "Oh, my aching back." Athletes and secretaries, students and executives all share this common malady.

But in Eugene, sufferers can also share a cure. For about \$20, professional masseuses (women who practice massage) and masseurs (men who practice massage) can ease knotted backs and tired muscles.

True, massage in America has a bad name: garish parlors in back alleys with "madams" giving "full" massages. In Eugene, the sleazy reputation is certainly unfounded. Masseuses and masseurs must be licensed in Oregon, so the business is strictly on the up-and-up.

The most common massage performed is Swedish. Swedish massage employs long flowing strokes, and clients are rubbed with oil. This style is very popular, and many places only do Swedish massage. In Eugene, a variety of massages in a variety of settings can be found.

Favors, 845 Willamette St., offers a wide-range of massages in a luxurious setting. The spacious lobby sports a plush sofa, racks of clothing and a make-up counter. Massages are performed privately separate rooms. Rates vary from \$22 to \$38 for an hour to an hour-and-a-half massage.

Nina Cherry, the masseuse at Favors, says she works on a lot of University students, frequently athletes for rehabilitation purposes. Once an Italian biker visited Favors the day before his race. The next day, he called Cherry and excitedly told her he'd won the race.

But are massages really that magical?

"Naw," she said, "It wasn't the first race he'd won."

Most places in Eugene stay right in that \$20 range.

The Sauna, 99 W. 10th St., offers one hour Swedish massages for \$20. Masseuses and masseurs at The Sauna also perform Shiatsu, and have developed a special program for people weighing close to 200 lbs. This massage features a masseuse or masseur walking on a client's back. To avoid injury, The Sauna insists clients weigh at least 200 lbs.

Masseuse Holly Nelson, who works inside the Reflections building, 292 West 8th St., offers only Swedish massage, but with variations. She specializes in deep tissue work and also deals with pain control for athletes. Nelson charges \$20 for a 45 minute massage.

Nelson says she also sees University students. About half her customers are regular, and



Photo by Mark Pynes

Nina Cherry, masseuse at Favors, says she works on a lot of University students — especially athletes. Here, dance student Chris Goulding benefits from Cherry's expertise.

some come in every week.

"Some people I've worked on five years," she said, "and they're friends — not just clients."

Nelson says some of the ideas people have about the massage business really rub her the wrong way.

"We have to let people know

that we do not give sexual massages," she said. "We're not in the business for sex."

Reflections alleviates this misconception by screening potential clients — "Just to let them know about this — that we don't give sexual massages," Nelson says.

Rebecca Jacobsen

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## Book Continued from Page 3B

*a cloud is softly flowing  
on the bottom of a river  
above the white cloud  
fish swim*

Another one of the book's contributors, Steven White, recently spent a year in Chile on a Fulbright grant putting together an anthology of Chilean poetry. In his "Letter from Chile," White presents "a brief panorama of the current situation facing poets in Chile." He reveals an inside picture of the complexities of cultural life in a country in which there's a lot of repression and poverty. In

such a context, the problem of the relationship between personal artistic vision and collective political reality is much more acute than it is for most poets in this country.

Following this is a selection of White's translations of poems written by Aristoteles Espana when he was in a concentration camp on Dawson Island, Chile. Even in such a place the poet manages to catch glimpses of the light. "A Kind of Song" concludes:

*I've learned to see  
the transparent abysses of*

*what's human,  
the cold splendor of  
compassion,  
the other dimension of hope.*

Juan Epple, another contributing poet, has edited two anthologies of recent Chilean literature. In his poem, "Exile," he laments his friends: "some disappeared in their cells/others traveled to remote countries."

*But few people know that even  
before  
the bullets and the oblivion I  
stayed here  
in this land which belongs to us*

*today it seemed to slip between  
my fingers.*

I have only skimmed the surface of the sea of material in "Third Rail 6." There's a lot more, including photos and other illustrations. A striking photo of Julian Beck and Judith Malina, co-founders and co-directors of the Living Theatre, sends its energy out from the glossy cover.

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Alfred Gross

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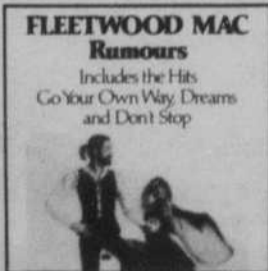
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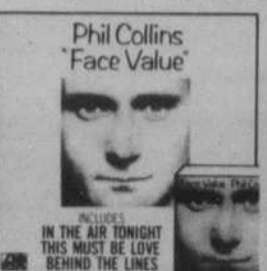
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