

CENTRAL OREGON'S BEST SELECTION OF CLASSICAL MUSIC ON COMPACT DISC

BIS
EMI
PHILIPS
LONDON
ARCHIVE
CHANDOS

DEUTSCHE GRAMMOPHON
HARMONIA MUNDI
WINDHAM HILL
L'OISEAU-LYRE
HUNGAROTON
TELARC

Musique Gourmet
Catering to Discriminating Compact Disc Collectors

— FROM \$9.95

Located inside **BRADFORD'S** on the Mall
150 W. Broadway OPEN SUNDAYS NOON-5 **343-9000**

Yen Jing
RESTAURANT

Besides Chinese Cuisine, we specialize in the Northern gourmet of Peking.

Lunch Mon-Fri 11:30-2:30
Dinner Mon-Sun 4:30-10:00

1775 West 6th • 484-6496

Beer/Wine Major credit cards accepted

Traditional Experience in Fine Cuisine

UO Bookstore

You can't beat our low, low photo prices

Film & Photo Processing

Guaranteed Lowest Prices
We'll match or beat the price of any local photo coupon.

One Day Service
In by 4 p.m. — back by NOON the next day (C41 color print film).

Enlargements, Reprints & Slides
Great service and prices in your full service Photo Dept.

Your full service Photo Dept.

Your store since 1920

UO BOOKSTORE 13th & Kincaid
M-F 7:30-5:30
SAT 10:00-4:00
686-4331

RESUMES Give your resume a professional look, by having it typeset at Letter Perfect Graphics. 300 EMU 686-5511

ENJOY!
this weekend
at Fifth Street Public Market

Live Music:
Fri. evening 6-8 pm Lori Venturi (Jazz)
Sat. evening 6-8 pm Dennis St. Germain (Jazz)
Sunday noon-2 pm O'Carolan's Consort (Irish)

Delicious Food & Desserts:
Market Cafes now open!
Mon.-Sat. until 10:00 pm
Sunday until 6:00 pm
Fifth & High, Eugene

PUBLIC 5th STREET MARKET

automatically by a static line or other device. Broadwick made more than 1,100 jumps during her career.

The most incredible single skydive of all time was made in 1960 by Joseph W. Kittenger. He leaped from a gondola 102,000 feet above New Mexico. During his four-and-a-half-minute free fall to 18,000 feet, he reached an almost unbelievable terminal velocity of 702 m.p.h. The average terminal velocity of a diver is only 120 m.p.h.

But gone are the days of daredevils like Broadwick and the round parachutes that offered little control and left the jumper at the whim of fickle winds. Today most skydivers, excluding the military paratroopers, use ram air canopies or airfoils, called "squares" in skydiving circles. These squares actually fly, according to Wright, and have a forward airspeed of between 20 and 35 mph and are greatly maneuverable. "We could throw a frisbee out in the parking lot, and I could jump out of a plane at 12,000 feet and land on it," Wright says.

The relatively recent airfoil innovation has made skydiving more like flying a plane than floating to the ground under "a huge airbrake," the term Wright uses to describe the big round chutes the airfoils have slowly replaced in the past 10 or 12 years since their emergence.

The square chutes are shaped and act like an airplane wing, Wright says, and the jumper lands stalling the chute just before touching down just as a pilot does with the wing of an airplane when landing.

Scott Piel, another local jumper with 550 jumps to his credit, suspects the reason the airfoil has become so popular is because of the maneuverability and the extremely soft landing one can get. "It's like stepping off a curb," he says.

Both Wright and Piel, who were both taught the sport by Wright's father, Jim, say the

sport is very safe today thanks to improvements in technology. "If one obeys the rules of the sport it is very safe," Wright says. The times one hears about accidents, he says, is when someone has been violating the doctrines or recommendations set out by the United States Parachute Association. These doctrines are not law but only suggestions about safety prac-



tices that should be followed. "You can't live without them," Wright says.

Compared with other sports, skydiving is surprisingly safe. On average, according to statistics in the United States, about 35 fatalities occur yearly. In 1982, for example, 900 people were killed in bicycle accidents, 7,000 people drowned and 1,154 died of bee stings.

Wright has taught nearly 1,000 students to skydive and says that out of all those the only injuries have been two twisted ankles.

The classes he teaches take "two short days," and if all goes well and the student has learned everything he or she needs to know and has learned it well, the student will make the first jump on the afternoon of the second day. The first five jumps are made on a "static line" attached to the plane and to the rip cord of the student jumper. On those jumps the student has no choice, the chute is pulled when the student comes to the end of the tether. This ensures the inexperienced diver doesn't panic

and forget to deploy his chute.

Skydivers keep learning long after their first freefall (without the static line), Wright says. "Even after you freefall you've got a lot of things to think about." A diver has graduated from student status, Wright says, when they can do three things on their own: decide the proper moment to jump so they hit the drop zone, pack their chute and put all the equipment on properly.

Despite the statistical safety of the sport, Wright says things can go awry.

Wright's father was killed last year when for no apparent reason he failed to open either his primary or reserve parachutes.

He was on the jump when his father perished, and despite witnessing the accident, he believes the sport is extraordinarily safe. Wright said he, his father and two other jumpers had just broken up from a formation, called reserve work, and everyone but his father, ironically the most experienced of the group, opened their chutes.

Jim Wright had made more than 3,500 jumps in his more than 30 years of skydiving.

Dave Wright says he thinks his father, who was 52 at the time, had "some kind of medical problem."

"Whether he blacked out or went unconscious I don't know — we'll never know," he says.

Wright says his father knew everything there was to know about the sport and adds, "If there was anything he could have done he'd have done it." Although technically it was a skydiving accident, Wright doesn't consider the incident that because there was no equipment failure. His father's equipment was analyzed and found to be in perfect functioning order.

Aside from freak accidents like his father's, Wright and Piel note two things that skydivers need to know how to deal with when jumping. The first is when nothing comes out when the rip cord is pulled — complete failure. This may seem rather a severe problem, but it is not that serious, Wright says, because nothing is in the way of the reserve chute.

The second is when the chute may come out tangled — partial failure. In this case a jumper can clear a path for the reserve by releasing the tangled primary with a special release cord. In either case, Wright says, you've still got your reserve chute, and the odds of both the primary and the reserve chute failing is less than that of being hit by lightning three times.

Both Wright and Piel note that in their more than 1,000 combined jumps neither has ever had any sort of problem, and they expect to continue skydiving for a long time.

— B.J. THOMSEN

NEW CAMPUS LOCATION

the **STEREO WORKSHOP**

Buy • Sell • Trade
• Repair Service •

1621 E. 19th (19th & Agate) 344-3212
1409 Main St. Springfield 741-1597
Mon-Fri 10-6