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Seattle has more to offer than just the Space Needle

Seattle is, without a doubt, the culture haven of the West Coast, as well as the birthplace of grunge, post-grunge and the beginnings of Northwest pop culture. The stereotypical natives of this town are twentysomethings in



Jan Montry Reporter

pseudo-trendy clothing wielding espresso like a religious sacrament to their dying religion of Generation Y. The reality is, however, that Seattle is the greatest city in the West: rainy, exciting and big. Furthermore, a lot can be packed into a day, so the trick is to use time wisely. The first traditional stop while sightseeing in Seattle is the famed Space Needle, standing 605 feet high and allowing viewers to see the entire sprawl of Seattle. Natives will probably roll their eyes, as the Space Needle is the generic tourist symbol. The great thing about the

Space Needle, however, is it never seems to get old going that high in the air. An elevator takes you up, and when you get sick of the view you can always sit down for a steak at the Space Needle restaurant.

Seattle is also home to the Seattle Aquarium. The aquarium features an underwater dome that visitors can walk through to view a 400,000-gallon tank from all views. The dome is also open for dining at night when the underwater lighting highlights the fish. An IMAX theater is also located at the aquarium, which is an incredibly experience. The 180-degree screen captures a vivid picture from all angles, using Omnimax film technology and advanced surround sound.

Visitors who wish to roam the historical and cultural centers can check out Pike Place Market (where the aquarium is located) and Pioneer Square.

Pike Place Market, developed in 1907, is a combination of Saturday Market, Farmer's Market and the Fifth Street Public Market. With 100 farmers, 150 craftspeople, more than 200 local merchants and 50 performers, Pike Place is regarded as Seattle's pre-

mier downtown market district.

Further into the city, visitors can find Pioneer Square, which offers a variety of art galleries and bookstores. Sports fans may be especially interested in this part of the city because Safeco Field and Seahawks Stadium are also in this area. Pioneer Square is a great place to wander around, see the people of Seattle and visit local shops.

For museum fans, a trip to the Seattle Art Museum is a must. The museum offers nearly 23,000 exhibits, from ancient Egypt to contemporary America, and is especially concentrated in Asian and African exhibits, as well as modern and European art.

No visit to Seattle would be complete without a night of drinking and debauchery. Try Club Medusa for dancing and drinking, Funsters for gambling and live music, or Jazz Alley for jazz in a relaxing atmosphere. Seattle has a great variety of clubs, so don't be shy to end the night with a valiant mission to see them all.

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Schmidt

continued from page 1

college and beer. Hard to believe, but all is possible on the Willamette River.

Here's the deal. Go to a local tire shop and ask the nearest overweight grease monkey for their selection of inner tubes. It'll cost about ten bones, but the giant tube o' fun is well worth it.

Next, get a mesh laundry bag that has a draw sting. Now, go grab a half rack of beer — any beer, just make sure it's in a can — at the local grocery store.

Haul the necessities over to Springfield, go east on Franklin Boulevard to the river, then go across the bridge. Take the first right and head on down to the water. Tie the bag around one of the tubes, toss the beer in and go.

The great thing about floating down the river is the element of nothingness. Floating demands nothing, except an occasional

paddle. Sprawl out in the center of the tube and let the river carry you upstream.

Before the Interstate 5 bridge is a mini-waterfall that drops about three feet. It's a challenge to land face up, but, thankfully, the water is only about three-feet deep; it's easy to recover if you capsize.

The other high point, and I do mean high, is the Knickerbocker Bridge. Beach yourself on the south side of the river and climb to the bridge to test your Superman skills. The jump is about 20 feet and, while it is possible to touch the bottom of the river, it isn't likely. The jump is pretty intense, but it's well worth the amount of time taken standing on the bridge, contemplating what life, as you know it, means to you.

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Jones

continued from page 1

grade to the top, where a grassy meadow fans out down the hillside. From this point one can see the Creswell Valley to the southeast of Eugene and the Willamette River as it winds down the valley.

The vista point is shaded by a large oak tree and is spacious enough for a small picnic. The butte to the left is Spencer (elevation 2,054 feet), and the highest point in the distance to the west is Mary's Peak (elevation 4,097 feet). This site is great for mid-mornings and sunsets, when shade is still abundant. But be sure to bring a flashlight for those sunset jaunts as the trail can be quite dark coming down the hill.

Baldy can be a very nice place to bring a pet or some friends on an idle summer eve for a miniature getaway.

Contact the photo editor at adamjones@dailymerald.com. His opinions do not necessarily represent those of the Emerald.

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Horoscope by Linda C. Black

TODAY'S BIRTHDAY (Aug. 1). This year, you'll learn about authority: how to obey and how to lead. You'd prefer the latter, of course, but you'll first be asked to master the former. To do it, you'll also learn patience.

To get the advantage, check the day's rating: 10 is the easiest day, 0 the most challenging.

ARIES (March 21-April 19) Today is a 6. You're passionately fascinated, yet you're constrained. Your fantasies are stalled, objectives thwarted. Keep a lid on your exuberance till Saturday.

TAURUS (April 20-May 20) Today is a 7. You may not be able to further your agenda, but you can block the opposition's progress. In this case, that's a definite win.

GEMINI (May 21-June 21) Today is a 6. Even simple tasks may be difficult now, as you encounter one frustration after another. Postpone travel and errands until Saturday.

CANCER (June 22-July 22) Today is a 7. Discuss plans with friends, but don't get impatient. Take time to find potential problems early, before they get any bigger.

LEO (July 23-Aug. 22) Today is a 6. You and your mate will be frustrated over the next day or two. Don't talk idealism; talk bottom line, to a person who's blocking your progress.

VIRGO (Aug. 23-Sept. 22) Today is a 7. Travel beckons, but it isn't that great an idea. There's too great a chance you'll encounter detours and delays. Secret messages can get through,

though. Try those.

LIBRA (Sept. 23-Oct. 23) Today is a 7. Committee plans may have to be put on hold for a while. Follow through on what's already been promised.

SCORPIO (Oct. 23-Nov. 21) Today is a 7. For every move there is a countermove. Every step forward seems to force a step back. You could complain, but why waste breath? Instead, pretend you're dancing.

SAGITTARIUS (Nov. 22-Dec. 21) Today is a 7. Most things that can go wrong today will, with one important exception. You may not make much progress now, but prospects for the future are improving.

CAPRICORN (Dec. 22-Jan. 19) Today is a 7. Fierce negotiations may affect your money, but they can't inhibit your affections. You're either shrewd enough to negotiate without paying much attention, or you just don't care. Better protect your investments, though.

AQUARIUS (Jan. 20-Feb. 18) Today is a 5. Something you want isn't gonna happen. Not today, anyway. And not without cooperation that you aren't receiving now.

PISCES (Feb. 19-March 20) Today is a 7. There's plenty of work. That's the good news, and maybe the bad news, too. There's no time for anything else. Rearrange your schedule.

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