

PHOTOS BY LINDA KLEWER



Dragon boat racing takes coordination, strength and spirit, and the Amazon Dragons practice three times each week, from April—when the dragons' eyes are opened in a special ceremony—through the races in June. Asked what she likes best about dragon boat racing, Mack replied, "A number of things: Being around lesbians. Being on water. I like being active and working hard together." This year, the Amazons finally broke a paddle, which is considered a sign of success in this sport.

The Amazon Dragons are coached by Marcia Fagin, who says they were "hot on the heels of [the] first-place team." In the first race of three this year, the Amazons were only 2.39 seconds behind the first-place team—which, Fagin points out, has competed in international races.

The races this year drew teams from Australia, New Zealand, Germany and Canada, as well as nearly 60 local teams. Although the LCP team has not competed in any races outside of Portland yet, and has no immediate travel plans, Mack says she "expects our goals for '95 will change, due to coming in second."

Clockwise from top: Coach Marcia Fagin and Amazon Dragon Team; lesbians and friends lapping it up; team members Les Kingsbury and mom Tally Kingsbury; preparing for take-off; Pam Baker

