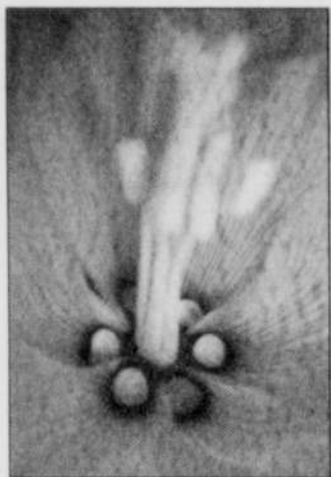


Continued from Page 35


**STAFF
PICK**
"Glow"
Becky Bilyeu (see page 31)

I have no idea what kind of flower this is. Many of us looking through the photos debated the authenticity of this picture because the subject is almost too amazing to be real. After realizing I was willing to bank my entire photo contest judging profession on its genuineness, I realized I don't need to know the Latin name to enjoy this flower's and this photo's beauty.

The first thing to grab me was the brilliant orange. I should say "oranges" because the flower's blood orange lines run outward from the center along the motley of yellowish to pure Crayola orange petals.

The most distinctive feature of the image has to be the six white bulbous nodules at the base of the stamens. They glisten like wet coconut jelly beans and give an otherworldliness to the flower.

The crisp focus on the nodules creates a fine contrast with the blurred stamens and pistil in the foreground. It acts to anchor the flower onto the page, lest any of the messy and surely alien-planet pollen shake off in front of your nose.

I also liked the way the photographer blurred the focus around the edges of the image. The effect may be subtle for others, but I chose this photo as my staff pick because I tend to feel like a bee drawn in by instincts beyond my control when I look at it.

MALKA GEFFEN
 Staff Writer


**STAFF
PICK**
Untitled
Moonrose Doherty

This photo cuts to the honesty of the morning after. The stark shot reveals deeply shadowed eyes, soft lines around a mouth and a look of exhaustion. I imagine this woman the previous night, launching cleavage, fastening baubles and applying eyeliner with razor-sharp precision. Bar-thirty inevitably sounds, the unwelcome sun rises, and light reflects harshly on skin once taut with promise.

JAYMEE R. CUTI
 News Editor


**STAFF
PICK**
"Tenacity"
Bonnie Backberg

After the Bonsai exhibition at the Japanese Gardens last month, I've been noticing roots buckling the cement as I walk down the sidewalk. The root system in this photograph reminded me of those miniature trees as well as a recent trip to the coast. There's a small beach trail, hardly marked, off Highway 101 called the Hobbit's Trail. The trees along the trail are just as precocious as this one, and as the trail winds onto the beach, the erosion exposes black roots along the sides of the half-submerged path. I also find black-and-white photography striking, and here it lends a barren atmosphere.

ANABEL RAMIREZ
 Art Director


**STAFF
PICK**
Untitled
Dianna Christensen

I chose this photo because it reminds me of our dog. He thinks he's human. Unfortunately, he's a Great Dane and so he is the size of a human! He enjoys sleeping in the bed, just like the dog in the photo—with the covers pulled over him and his feet stretched out. This causes a little discomfort as there ends up being three of us in a queen-size bed. The dog in the photo looks very relaxed and happy. Many times, as our dog tosses and turns to get comfortable, he'll yawn and groan just as a person would do when trying to ease the stress of the day. The dog in the photo looks content, as the bed is the place where he is always welcomed and he belongs. That's totally a depiction of our dog, except that he would ultimately like us to snuggle with him and hold him!

KARI TATE
 Advertising Representative

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