

Experience unique culture of salsa dancing

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Staff Reporters

The Satin and Latin Dance Studio in downtown Portland is a great place to spend a fun and unique Friday night. It provides a wonderful opportunity to meet friends and try something new. The studio teaches all levels of dance, with no experience required. You will be introduced to many people who are in the same position as yourself. The dances taught vary from salsa, meringue, cha cha, samba, to ballroom dancing.

Remos Reynosa is the owner and director of the dance studio and also the owner and director of the Reynosa School of Dance. A few of his accomplishments include winning ten national dance championships, and being a regional dance champion at the Harvest Moon Ball, in Chicago, Ill. Reynosa also danced in the original cast of "West Side Story" on Broadway. He's a very experienced and talented dancer, and will teach you everything you need to know about the style of dancing you chose.

The atmosphere of the studio has a very warm and inviting feeling. The walls are painted a deep romantic red color and the studio was filled with people who have a passion for dancing and experienced instructors. Many walk-ins were strong dancers, others were first timers, but no matter what level, Reynosa makes you feel important. He personally dances with each person to evaluate what they have learned and to give you pointers to improve. Part of his evaluation is to recommend that you move up a level



Satin and Latin dance studio students try out a new dance to a free beat at the end of the class. Instructive classes are held at 7:30 p.m. every Friday night in the downtown Portland venue.
Photo by Morgan Joscelyn

with more experienced dancers if he feels it is an adequate fit, otherwise he will continue to teach you the culture and style of salsa at the beginner level.

Reynosa's way of teaching was very detailed and rather strict which caught us off-guard. The

instant we entered the class, Reynosa assigned us partners, pairing us up with unfamiliar people. It was awkward at first dancing with someone we didn't know, but it was a great way to force us to come out of our comfort zone and meet others. He may have been

a very exacting teacher, but the experience itself is fun. We learned a complete new genre of dance, and added it to the list of fun things to do with our friends.

The Satin and Latin dance studio is located on 707 NE Broadway Suite 210. For more information call (503)

281-6691. The dance classes are every Friday at 7:30 p.m. and it costs only \$5. If you're looking for a fresh, new way to enjoy a Friday night, we highly recommend trying something new and learn to salsa dance at Reynosa's Satin and Latin Dance Studio.

Chess club ties for fourth at State, shares favorite pieces

Chess Club

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At meetings, they enjoy competing in a variety of different chess games, including blitzing — a quick paced game, usually taking less than 15 minutes for each person and blindfold chess which is literally blindfolded chess. Participants either do not face the board while in play or are blindfolded.

Their personalities vary

as do their favorite chess pieces. The queen viciously attacks, the knight is used in wise ways and the pawn goes unnoticed but sometimes proves to be deadly.

"The pawn is my favorite piece, it's not static, it's dynamic!" Kirsch said. Levy quickly countered, saying that the knight has more strategic moves. Other players placed more value on looks rather than strategy. "I like the knight because it looks the

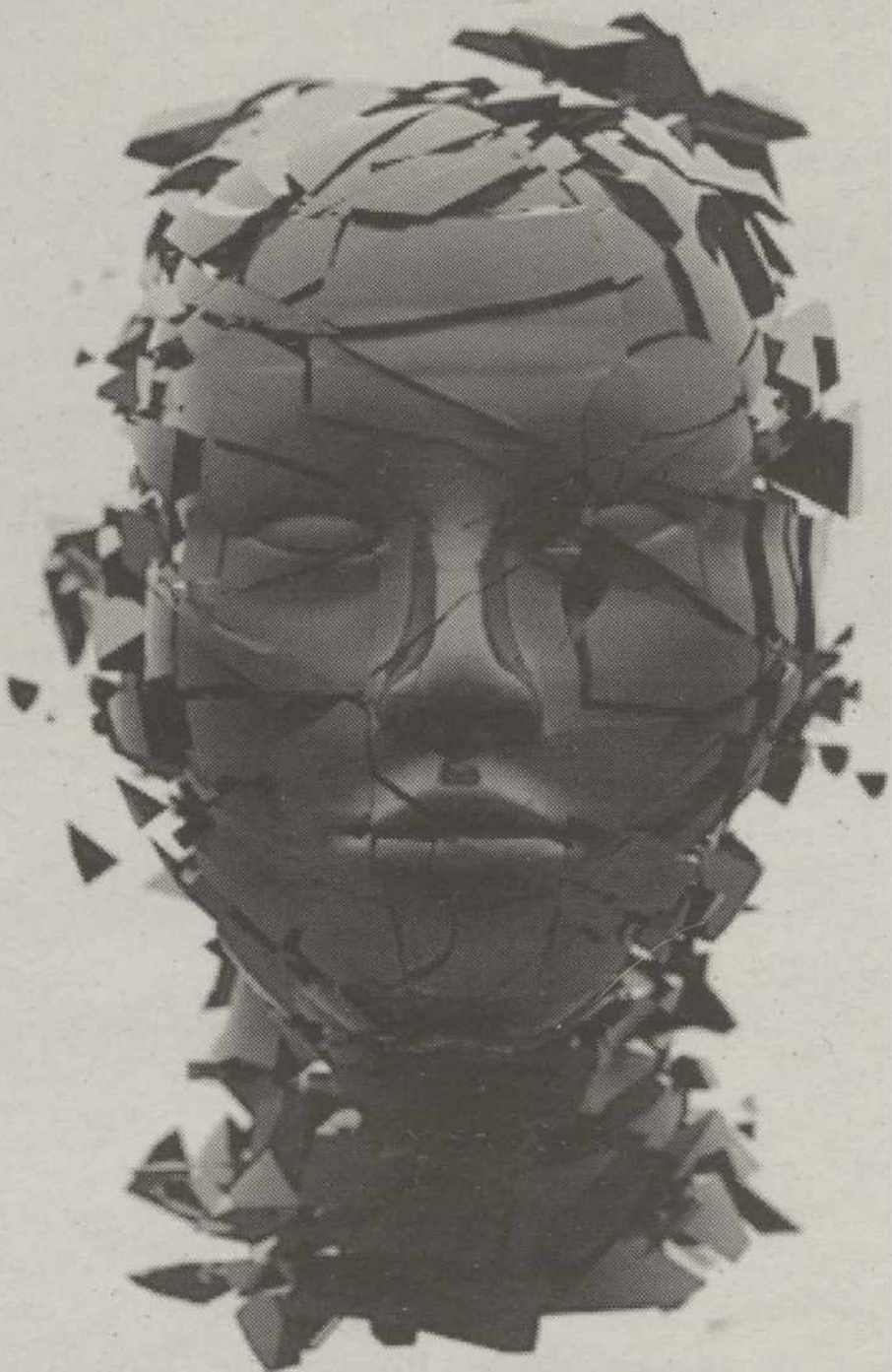
coolest," Shepherd said.

Since January, the team competed as part of the Portland League. They took second place and advanced to State where they tied for fourth, along with fellow Portland League rival Lake Oswego.

"State was not good, at least not as good as league," Shepherd said. "Kids who didn't compete in league showed up at State and that may have thrown us off.

Teams got unlucky and we got unlucky."

The phrase the team uses to describe its success this year is "Ghoti" which is an inside joke amongst team members. The team's biggest accomplishment this year may have, in fact, not come in competition, but in simply rejuvenating an interest in chess at WLHS. As for the age old question of "chess or checkers?" It is obvious that checkers faces checkmate.



It feels like Everything is coming apart

In times of stress do you have someone you can talk to? Someone with life experience?

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- Having problems with peers at school
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