

## Locally owned Typhoon! brings Thai food!, deals for students

AUSTIN CUMMINS

Recently opened in West Linn, Typhoon! serves quality cuisine from all parts of Thailand in a relaxing environment and with subtle charm.

The restaurant is decorated in a modern Asian atmosphere, designed to capture the essence of Thailand. From the live orchids to the large tree in the lobby that really grabs your attention as you walk in, the place really brings a sense of relaxation and peace.

Service was quick and you are seated at a table almost immediately. The waitresses are very nice and the manager makes it a point to greet all of the seated customers.

I ordered the stir fried ginger chicken with rice and my friend had the Pad Thai,

one of Typhoon's signature dishes. Business was slow and it took no longer than 20 minutes to prepare. Drinks were served in glasses shaped like bamboo, which I thought was a nice touch to the scenery.

The ginger chicken was delicious, loaded with vegetables that were beautifully arranged. It was definitely some of the best Thai food I've ever eaten.

The Pad Thai was a bit too salty for my taste, but since that is the way that good Thai food is supposed to be, I wouldn't hold it against them.

From our table by the window I had a great view of the rest of the West Linn Central Village. The Blue Sage Cafe (the previous occupant of the building) had put shades over the windows to provide a lounge ambiance,

but Typhoon! did a great job of opening the place up and letting in the light. Another interesting thing was the smooth river rocks in the bathroom sinks. I'm not really

sure why they were there, but they really added to the zen atmosphere.

Overall the meal totaled to about \$30 (including tip). This seemed like a bit much to me

for two people. Most entrees are at least \$10. However, the portions given are definitely worth what you pay for.

If you are on a tighter budget, you might try the "happy hour" where you can get entrees for a lower price than usual. Also, not only do West Linn High School students receive a 15 percent discount at lunch if they have their ID card, but they can also text their orders ahead of time so they can be picked up without having wait and waste most of your lunch period.

Overall, I would give the West Linn Typhoon! a nine out of ten. With great scenery and delicious food, it's definitely a great find for Thai food. Don't let the higher prices turn you away when considering going to Typhoon! for lunch or dinner.



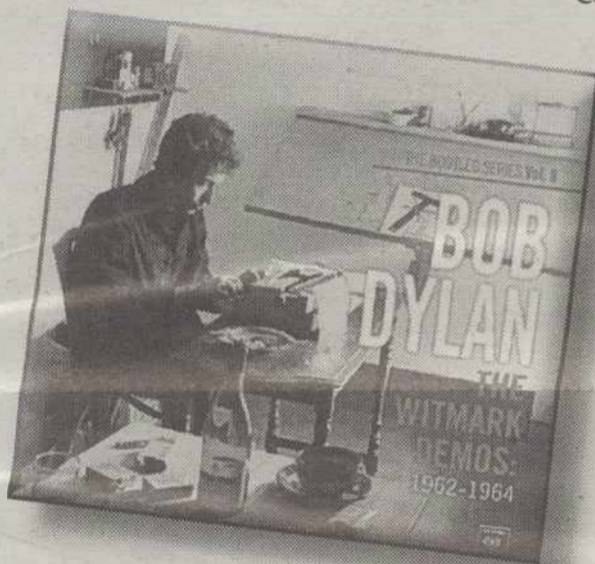
Photo by Austin Cummins

Typhoon serves Thai food in a unique atmosphere with exciting variety. WLHS students can text in their lunch orders ahead of time to beat the lunch rush and they will receive a 15 percent total discount by showing their ID card.

## New Bob Dylan demo recordings give light to old songs

ELISE BROWN

Bob Dylan's songs are often regarded as masterpieces. Songs like "Mr. Tambourine



Courtesy of Columbia Records Bob Dylan's newest release, "The Bootleg Series, Vol. 9," contains the original versions of some of his most well-known songs, as well as previously unreleased material. It is available for purchase on iTunes, Amazon.com and in music stores.

Man," "The Times They Are A-Changin'," "Hurricane" and "Like A Rolling Stone" formed a foundation for later folk, rock and even pop music. One may wonder, listening to the Bard at work, how those masterpieces came to be.

Thanks to "The Bootleg Series"—so called because the songs on these albums were previously bootlegged material—we can see how Dylan's songs came to be. Volume nine of "The Bootleg Series" is now available for purchase, with demo recordings from Dylan's first years restored to extremely high quality.

These rough drafts of his well-known songs are just as good as the versions that are most recognized by Dylan fans and the songs that were unknown to everyone but the bootleggers until now are further proof of Dylan's genius.

"The Bootleg Series, Vol. 9" includes rough draft recordings of "Blowin' In The Wind," "A Hard Rain's A-Gonna Fall," "Mr. Tambourine Man" and "Girl From The North Country,"

among other songs that are essential to the Bob Dylan fan. Between these recordings and the ones in Dylan's official canon, it can't be said whether the version is better than the other, but differences and similarities can be found. These comparisons only emphasize the greatness of the song, never diminishing

For example, the "Bootleg" version of "Hard Rain" has a lyric change, but sounds essentially the same. "Mr. Tambourine Man" has the exact same lyrics, but uses a piano instead of a guitar, with a very different rhythm. It takes a while to get used to, but it absolutely works. Even songs that were released on previous "Bootleg" collections have distinctions: "Talking John Birch Paranoid Blues," originally from the first "Bootleg" collection, has a couple lyrical changes, which in my opinion make the song even more hilarious. It seems that Dylan always makes his songs sound good, no matter how he plays them, making his musical genius more audible.

Some of the tracks are brand new discoveries to those who don't dabble in Dylan bootlegs. "I'd Hate To Be You On That Dreadful Day," "Poor Boy Blues," "Standing On The Highway" and "Long Ago, Far Away" (which is my personal favorite song from this collection) have been released to the public in a legal album for the first time, after they've only been known to the most serious Dylan fans. We only have Dylan and Columbia Records to thank for making these incredible songs more available.

My only complaint is this: why doesn't Dylan's harmonica appear until the second disc? It's a bit of an acquired taste, but I like Dylan's harp playing very much, and I am very

surprised that it isn't heard on the songs that normally include it, such as "Mr. Tambourine Man," "Talking Bear Mountain Picnic Massacre Blues" and "Blowin' In The Wind." While the recordings are remarkable as they are, adding the instrument would have enhanced the songs even so much.

"The Bootleg Series, Vol. 9" should be on every Bob Dylan fan's iPod or CD shelf. Even those who are new to his work should check it out. Dylan's songs, as always, showcase magnificent lyrics and skillful musicianship. These acoustic, raw recordings show the evolution a Dylan song goes through to get to the version

that plays on the radio, and they show his musical talent incredibly well. Fanatics and casual listeners, rejoice: Dylan has released a collection that will no doubt satisfy you.

This collection is available from iTunes for \$20 and from Amazon.com starting at \$12.46. Check your local CD store for copies.

## Indie Rock fits Portland like a glove

DANNY MCGARRY

The White Stripes, Modest Mouse and the Black Keys are all bands that have one thing in common: indie rock. Originally, "indie" stood for independent as in not signed with a major label. Now indie has become a genre of music.

Indie rock can be very hard to describe because its music is always changing



Photo by Lauren Monaco The Thermals, a three person indie band from Portland, plays in New York City. Portland is a hot spot for new and upcoming indie bands like Blitzen Trapper and "Portugal. The Man."

and morphing into something new. But overall, it's like alternative rock, a type of rock that doesn't fit into any other category, because it's not metal, it's not hard rock, it's just alternative. Indie rock is a place where two people can make up a band, and individuality is expressed through not just lyrics, but also through their instruments.

"Portugal. The Man" has toured with several popular bands like Cake. Blitzen Trapper, another Portland product, produces a soft alternative sound, almost folk you could say. Indie rock is becoming more popular, and Portland is in the middle of it.

Indie rock didn't start here though. It actually started in England, but the more famous term was indie

pop. The Temper Trap, best known for its song "Sweet Disposition," is from Australia. Bands like Arctic Monkeys, Franz Ferdinand and Oasis are famous not only in United Kingdom, but around the world.

Alternative radio station 94.7 KNRK hosted "December to Remember," a charity event that ran five days in December. Two bands played each night, for a total of 10 bands. The event helped the Portland Police Sunshine Division, a non-profit emergency food relief organization. Not only do indie rockers bring good music, they also help people around the country, like all artists should.

Not all of you listen to this music, I understand that. But if you want to get started, I can help. I recommend the White Stripes for an introduction to indie. The Black Keys are good if you want a blusey, raw sound. Arctic Monkeys are famous for the honesty in their songs and they produce a fast beat, sometimes even good for dancing. If you're looking for an almost electronic sound, Broken Bells may be for you.

I love music. Not all music, but most. I'm glad that I live in a place where the music I love is cherished, celebrated and show how it is individuality that is supposed to make up the music industry, not money. I hope that indie music lives on.