

Nelson huffs up mountainside

by Scott Wyland
Feature/Arts Editor

Most people who have never climbed a mountain envision it as pure elation standing at the pinnacle of a rocky summit gazing out at a view magnificently far-flung, feeling like some exalted being looking down across the entire expanse of the world.

But the more that climbing instructor Gary Nelson fills the ears with actual, firsthand experiences, the more a rugged element of reality pervades these romantic images, much the way a granite peak busts through a heap of clouds.

Even as he was being interviewed, Nelson was stepping up and back off of a wooden box in order to build up his climbing stamina. Drenched with a healthy coat of sweat and speaking in between slightly gasping breaths, these were some of the things he had to say about "getting to the top":

"When you get to the top you're only halfway there - it's getting back down that's the hard part. At the top your mind is going so fast - thinking about what you're going to do next - to really evaluate anything.

"When you've huffed and puffed to the top and you feel like you're going to puke, you don't really feel like you're having fun. It's not until you're all the way back off the mountain that you can better evaluate the experience."

Nelson described himself as "process-oriented" and on several occasions stopped short of the top rather than being "like others who go just to bag the top" and disregard the danger signals of fatigue or imminent adverse weather.

Whitney's electricity felt

by Stephani Veff
Opinion/Copy Editor

After arriving on the pop music scene two years ago with the debut of her first album, Whitney Houston played to a sold-out crowd at the Coliseum, Monday, Oct. 12. As one would expect Houston arrived glamorously in a sequined gown of emerald green after a brief overture of a few of her hits.

Although at her entrance, the screaming crowd looked to be ready to stand throughout the concert and dance with Houston (who performed in-the-round), few of her fans actually did so. It is hard to say why the audience preferred to just sit, watch, and listen, but it was quite a disappointment to those who would have enjoyed "getting into the music" if the people in the rows behind didn't complain about not being able to see.

There were a few moments when the audience did get to its feet, but it wasn't until Houston began the first bar of her debut hit from her second album, "I Wanna Dance With Somebody (Who Loves Me)," that the audience stood and danced throughout the song, which happened to be her last.

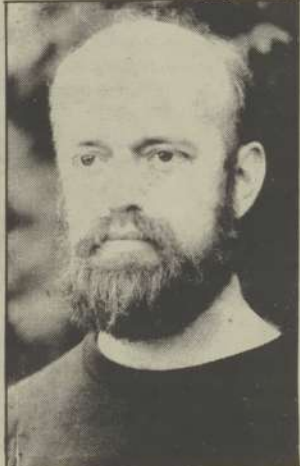
One of the remarkable things about Houston is that while she

When asked why he climbed, Nelson didn't echo the old mountain climber's cliché "because it is there," but instead replied: "Climbing is a sport you can suit the mood you're in - like if you're in a mood for a challenge - or it can be a relaxing experience."

In any case, Nelson said he preferred it "to be an individual experience shared with just a few others" and not a huge social event with "a big generic party and radios blasting everywhere."

Nelson started climbing in 1975, and since then has climbed in the Swiss Alps, Northern Scotland, the Tetons and the Himalayas.

His most challenging climb



Gary Nelson was Monty Rosa in the Penine Alps in Switzerland. He reflected: "It was one of my first snow climbs. I suffered from altitude sickness, and we did it without any maps or route descriptions. It was mostly inexperience that made it so difficult."

In 1980, Nelson flew over to

Russia from England - via the same plane as the British Olympic team - to visit his sister and brother stationed in Moscow in the diplomatic corp.

Although he didn't do any mountain climbing there, he discovered that even training in Russia can be a somewhat harrowing, if not a different experience:

"My sister and brother lived in this 12 story building. It was convenient to work out by climbing the steps to a balcony at the top, and then coming back down."

"Once, I paused at the top maybe 15 or 20 seconds, and before I got halfway back down I was met by two uniformed

"When you get to the top you're only halfway there - it's getting back down that's the hard part."

policemen that escorted me back to the top floor.

"There I stood with one guy standing by me making sure I didn't do anything funny while the other checked out the area - you see, there was electronic surveillance equipment on the top floor which they used to keep an eye on tenants."

Yet despite whatever sophisticated knowledge Gary Nelson might have acquired in his world travels, the thing he still stresses most to his climbing students is good old common sense:

"Common sense is a commodity you must employ all the time because (with climbing) there is no second chance."



Pop star Whitney Houston

It is no wonder that Houston turned out to have such a beautiful voice - her mother, Cissy Houston, a gospel singer recorded the gospel song "I Believe" 15 years ago. Houston

performed a glorious rendition of this song saying that, "It's where I come from, it's where I started."

While most of the songs Houston chose to sing were ballads, the evening was well-balanced by her special guest, Jonathon Butler. Butler, known mostly for his recent hit single, "Lies," was greeted enthusiastically by the crowd. His performance included many upbeat tunes with some creative, jazzy instrumentals mixed in that left the audience wanting more.

Although Butler got away without an encore, it was quite clear that Houston would not be allowed to do so. After at least five minutes of clapping, cheering, and stomping by the crowd, Houston re-entered and performed her hit "Greatest Love of All," brilliantly to say the least.

Monday's performance was Houston's last before she goes on a two week break, but hopefully it won't be her last in Portland, as she is destined to reach a stardom unparalleled by any other and the Rose City would be disappointed if it were unable to see Houston later on in her career as she only gets better with each new song.

New school year spawns two new campus clubs

by Sherri Michaels
News Editor

The beginning of the new scholastic year brought about two new clubs, the Baptist Student Union and the Athletic Booster Club.

The BSU will be the first Christian fellowship program on campus for the last two years. The BSU is part of a larger organization - the collegiate movement of the Southern Baptist Convention. The BSU will be holding weekly bible study meetings on Wednesday in room B114, at 11 a.m. The BSU will also be involved in activities that other Baptist Student Ministries sponsor in this area.

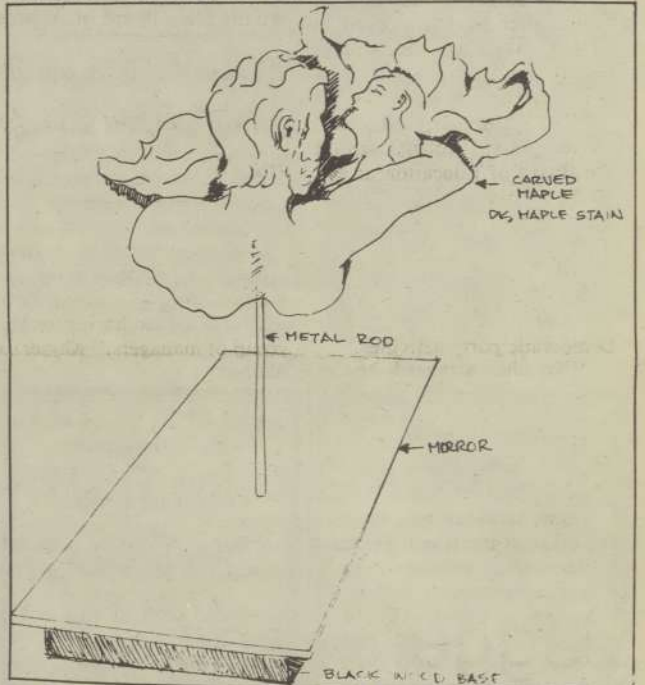
The BSU is open to anyone interested in Christian fellowship.

The Athletic Booster Club has been put together to help support and promote athletic events on campus. According to Dale

McGriff, Athletic Director and advisor for the club, it was also "created for fundraising."

Along with these new clubs there are several returning clubs. Skiing will be coming up late fall and early winter term. The Drama Club has already started their fall production, but could always use some help with stage and general work. Spanish Club, which runs continuously through the year in order to create a social gathering featuring Spanish culture, can also be added to this list. These are only a few of the many clubs that Clackamas has to offer.

All of the clubs are open to anyone who wishes to participate in them. If you would like to know more about the different clubs or would like to form a new club, contact Paul Kylo in the Student Activities Office.



Return sculpture

Members of the Art Department faculty are asking for the return of a sculpture that was taken from the Pauling Gallery on or after Oct. 4.

The piece, entitled "Leda and the Swan," took 35 hours to create, and is not insured. It was part of the Faculty Art Show.

This is the first time anything has been taken from Pauling Gallery.

If someone knows of the whereabouts of the piece, faculty members ask that the person return it to any official on campus - no questions asked.

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