

# Rolling on the river: Astoria to Oregon City



Skipper Alfred Alexander, above, shakes hands with Jerry Herman while on board the fishing yacht Alika. Throughout the day the group traveled more than 150 miles on the Columbia and Willamette Rivers. Photos by Nolan Kidwell



Prepare to mash . . .

## Halloween dance slated

Get out your Halloween costume and get ready to do the "Monster Mash" because this Friday, Associated Student Government (ASG) is sponsoring a Halloween dance from 8 p.m. to midnight in the Community Center.

"We've actually had a lot of people coming in and asking for a dance," said Paul Kylo, student program specialist.

"We hope that the people who

have been requesting it actually show up," Kylo said.

The group "New Verses" will perform live at the dance.

"We had a dance with the last year and thought they had done a great job," said Kylo.

Costumes are not required but prizes will be awarded for the best costume. Admission into the dance will be \$3 for singles and \$5 a couple.

The view from the Alika onto the Columbia River was enough to make even a land lover want to board.

## River trip a 'not miss' for future

by Nolan Kidwell  
Staff Writer

Jerry Herrmann, director of the Environmental Learning Center, slid into the seat of the crowded little Ford Taurus, next to where I was sitting. We were soon off for Astoria for a scenic river cruise down the Columbia.

Herrmann, who was to be our tour guide throughout the day, began to give a brief, yet thorough, geographical history of the area we were driving through. Soon the other three passengers on the cruise, our driver - a friend of Herrmann's - and myself were all looking at the basalt formations on the sides of the road in a whole new light. We were even fortunate enough to see a group of antelope on the side of the road.

The real tour actually began though, when we boarded the Alika. This small fishing yacht belonged to Alfred (Alex) Alexander, our skipper for the day. He welcomed us onto his boat and we began our journey which would take us down 129 miles of the Columbia river and 24 miles of the Willamette river.

"This is one of the most beautiful places on earth," Alexander commented. As we cruised past islands and singularly unique shorelines in the early morning sun, we all began to see what he meant.

We stopped in St. Helens for lunch and a further discussion of the geological rarities which we had seen so far on our river trip. While there we also checked out a small Oregon museum which is in

the St. Helen court house.

Our tour continued up through the Portland shipyards where we saw every form of freighting ship and tug boat imaginable. The majestic super tankers made our Alexander's tiny craft seem almost microscopic.

The voyage ended with the

unique experience up through the locks near the falls in Oregon City. Jumping from one river to another in a series of five locks was incredible.

None of us relished the idea of leaving. Everyone involved agreed that it was an experience not to miss.

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