

# Local writer gives poetry reading

**C.J. Ciaramella**  
The Clackamas Print

Students and faculty alike were treated last Thursday to a poetry reading by Judith Barrington in the Literary Arts Center.

Barrington, a local writer, was reading from her latest book of poetry, "Horses and the Human Soul," which was recently announced as a finalist for the Oregon Book Award. The poems that she read were varied as far as subject was concerned, but many contained a recurring image, which led to the title.

"As you probably guessed from the title, there are quite a lot of horses in these poems," said Barrington.

Horses only appeared briefly in many of the poems, but in others they were the main theme, such as in one of the first pieces she read, "Living without Horses."

"To live without horses is to carry them with you always: the one who lifted you over the tiger trap, the one who kicked you when you deserved it, and the dappled grey one who lay down under you and died as you ran away," read Barrington.

Besides horses, Barrington's poems were rich with fresh imag-



C.J. Ciaramella Clackamas Print

Local writer Judith Barrington talks to faculty member Linda Vogt at the Literary Arts Center after reading from her latest book of poetry, "Horses and the Human Soul."

ery and topics. Her subjects and settings ranged from the political to the personal, from rural

England to underwater seascapes. Some of her more personal poems included "Before I was

Born," the story of her birth during an air raid in England during WWII. The poem described "The

Germans grumbling in, dropping bombs," and the people looking the sky for "the barrels of death they tumbled through the sky."

Another of her poems entitled "The Dyke with No Name," documents her travels to Spain dealing with being a lesbian.

On the political end, many of Barrington's poems dealt with environmental and peace issues. One of the best poems of the reading dealt with, as she put it, "the difficulty of embracing realities."

The piece describes a walk in nature and the impact of President Bush initiating war on Iraq, and it ends with the ominous image of a shadow falling across "middle-eastern sand."

Barrington's poems show a keen ear for rhythm and metrics, even though itesch devices like conventional rhyme schemes.

"I like rhyming - slant-rhyme, half-rhyme, off-rhyme," said Barrington. "I'm not necessarily a fan of direct rhyme."

After her reading, Barrington opened the event up to questions, where she entertained the audience with her writing habits and thoughts on various issues. Afterwards, she took time to autograph books for her fans.

# Night Stalker rises from dead; will it outlive the original?

**Ben Maras**  
Co-Editor-in-Chief

It can only go uphill from here. Situated in the competitive 9 p.m. slot on Thursday nights, ABC's newest thriller "Night Stalker" roughly (key word here) based on the 70's cult hit "Kolchak: The Night Stalker" has some big shoes to fill, and some unrealistic expectations. It also may soon suffer the same tragic fate as its predecessor.

I have quite the emotional attachment to the original. Watching reporter Carl Kolchak chase zombies, demons, vampires, and peat moss monsters on reruns when I was but a wee lad is what sparked my interest in journalism and galvanized my fate as a newsroom junkie.

The show's only downside: it was cancelled after less than a year, leaving slim-pickins for second generation fans.

One could easily imagine my excitement when I heard the news of a remake in the works. The heavens opened up and choirs of angels began singing, for now was the time of the night stalker's arrival.

But alas, the name seems to be where the similarities end.

Gone is Darren McGavin's bumbling demeanor and rumpled clothes. The new Kolchak (played by Stuart Townshend) is suave, sexy, and everything McGavin wasn't.

Also changed is the city (from Chicago to L.A.) and the tone of the show (now "Night Stalker" adopts a much darker tone), among many other changes. Most notably that the new Kolchak lacks McGavin's signature hat, which became such a icon among fans that reproductions are now sold on the internet for 200 dollars.

The pilot was iffy at best. Focusing on Kolchak's sketchy past, the monster du-jour was seemingly straight out of a B

movie — and not in the good way.

Without the story development of the original, the "pulse pounding" climax was little more than a "look, a scary monster!" moment.

The high point came from a three-second shot of McGavin — dressed in his trademark attire — smirking knowingly at the camera and seemingly packing up his things. It was a touching homage to the past, but not enough to save it from its own dry dialogue and shallow scare-factor.

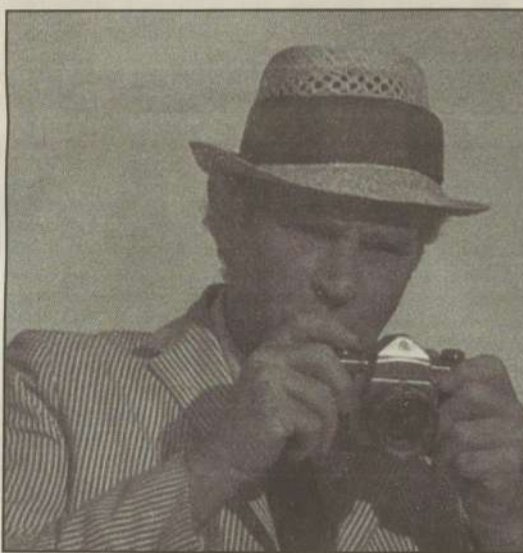
But luckily, each episode has consistently gotten better than the one before, using more elaborate story lines, better use of suspense, plot twists and dark humor. But, I fear, change comes not fast enough.

Criticism is rampant, especially by those who were expecting an exact remake. Coupling that with a lack of publicity (the only marketing I've seen has been done by Apple, who is featuring it in their new video section of iTunes) ... I smell defeat again.

But, "Night Stalker" fans, put away the razor blades, lock up the key to the liquor cabinet and hide the bottle of Valium — it will be ok, I promise. There are a few things we can hope for from this.

First one being that "Night Stalker" lasts long enough to go through the proper character development and plot maturing. Then, we may have a really good show on our hands, one that could last and grow to stand on its own to legs.

Secondly, it could be adopted as the methadone for those pining for their X-Files fix. And last, but not least, that reruns of "Kolchak" will be boosted by this new "remake." All in all, it's really a win-win situation, and it only shows signs of getting better.



Internet Print

Can Stuart Townshend (above) portrayal of Carl Kolchak live up to Darren McGavin's original Night Stalker (left)?

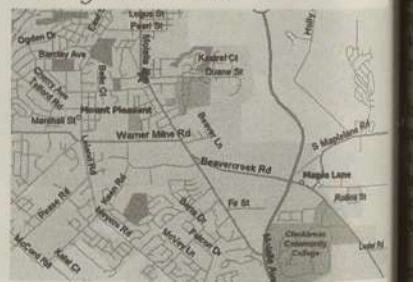


## The Everhart House Internet Cafe

### General Services

- \*\* State-of-the-Art Internet Cafe
- \*\* 12 workstations and 18 additional network connections
- \*\* High Speed Internet Access
- \*\* Membership Programs
- \*\* Games and LAN parties
- \*\* E-mail, printing, scanning, fax, CD burning
- \*\* Word processing, Slide Show, Spreadsheet software
- \*\* Web hosting and developing
- \*\* PC Repair Service
- \*\* Event Nights
- \*\* Professional and Consulting Services
- \*\* Sun Microsystems Developer and Reseller
- \*\* Geographical Information System Software

The Everhart House Internet Cafe serves Fair Trade, Shade Grown organic coffee and espresso from Longbottom Coffee's and participates in their "Coffee for kids" program. Our location is less than 2 miles from CCC just north and across from The Grocery Outlet Store.



855 Molalla Ave. Oregon City Oregon 97045  
Phone Number 503.722.7416

Open Monday - Friday 6:00 am - 8:00 pm  
Saturday & Sunday 8:00 am - 8:00 pm

The Everhart House Internet Cafe  
855 Molalla Ave. Oregon City, Or. 97045  
Phone Number 503.722.7416

On top of the hill, just North of the Grocery Outlet Store  
**\$1.00 OFF Coupon**  
Any Coffee Drink, Italian Soda, or Frappé  
Expires 12/31/05