

# Coin-op arcade extravaganza

## Wunderland

**Tayo Stalnaker**

*The Clackamas Print*

Over the weekend I went to a couple of local Wunderland arcades in the Portland area to see if they're any fun. I must say, I was pleasantly surprised. With the arcade scene slowly withering away, Wunderland is a chain that's trying to keep it alive.

My first stop was the Milwaukie 3 in Milwaukie. It was recently converted into a Wunderland, though it still shows movies. When I first walked in I was impressed by the cleanliness and the friendly staff at the ticket counter.

I bought my ticket to get in, which was only \$2.50, and went into the back where all the games were. I was expecting it to be pretty small, but it was actually fairly large. They had a good selection of games, ranging from racing games to the ever-popular "Dance Dance Revolution."

My only issue was that they had too many of the carnival games where you win tickets for lame prizes, a carnival prize machine that said "white power" when you put a nickel in it, only one fighting game ("Tekken 4"), and only one pinball machine ("Lord of the Rings").

I must say that the best games they had were "Dance Dance Revolution," "Guitar Freaks," and "Time Crisis 3." I could spend hours playing all three of those games, especially "Dance Dance." My peer Jeff Sorensen and I squared off on "Dance Dance" for a few rounds. Witnessing two large men play "Dance Dance" is a sight to behold. I'm just surprised we didn't break the machine.

I will most likely be going to the Milwaukie 3 Wunderland many more times in the near future.

## Bullwinkle's

**Jadon Triplett**

*A&E Editor*

Of all the local arcades on this page, Bullwinkle's Family Fun Center in Wilsonville is undoubtedly the most mainstream but diverse destination for video gaming in the Portland/Clackamas County area.

With two floors of video games, Bullwinkle's houses the most up-to-date collection of machines of the arcades on our list. The first floor includes a pizza parlor (where outdated animatronic Rocky and Bullwinkle perform for diners), a children's pipe-crawl and a design-your-own-rollercoaster virtual simulator. The second floor houses a laser-tag arena.

Those who aren't playing video games will be found outside, playing mini-golf on one of two surprisingly nice 18-hole golf courses, or racing on the go-kart track. There are also batting cages and bumper boats for the little ones.

Located near the bowling alley and Regal Cinemas, Bullwinkle's is in the heart of the "date district" of downtown Wilsonville. This only adds to the problem of crowds on weekend evenings.

Besides the crowds, Bullwinkle's suffers mainly from two other problems. One is the vaguely artificial atmosphere. The other problem is the service. The employees of Bullwinkle's should only be trusted to deliver good service as far as they can be thrown.

Bullwinkle's is good as a family or date destination. However, thrifty video-game nostalgia seekers would do better to visit one of the other arcades reviewed on this page.

## Ground Kontrol, easily our favorite



Photos by Jeff Sorensen Clackamas Print

**Jeff Sorensen**

*The Clackamas Print*

It's possible that when Ponce de Leon sought out the fountain of youth, he was searching for a way to re-live the glory days of his past. Well, video gamers may be getting older, but the games we grew up on have found a fountain of their own on W 6th Ave. and Couch St., just one block north of Burnside. It calls itself Ground Kontrol (GK).

By day, GK offers classic video games for all ages, and in just about every genre. The games range from original (not super) "Mario Bros.," "Missile Command" and "Joust," all the way up through "Mortal Kombat," "Virtua Cop 2" and even the modern classic "Hydro Thunder." There are platform games, puzzle games, fighting games, racing games and shooting games, and that's just the main floor.

The upstairs hosts an impressive selection of

pinball machines both current and classic including "King Pin" (1973), "Solar City" (1976) and "Star Trek" (1978). Then there are newer titles like "Stargate" and "Batman Forever" (both 1995), and "Independence Day" (1996), just to help younger crowds remember this is much more than the arcade their parents frequented in college.

As if that weren't enough to draw a crowd, every night at 7 p.m. GK turns into a 21-plus venue with all the games still available for play, but with the added bonus of serving 11 different types of beer until 1 a.m., every day of the week. Their website claims that in 1972, Nolan Bushnell intended for his first video game "Pong" to be played "after a drink or two," and the site suggests that GK is trying to keep up that tradition.

GK's website, [www.groundkontrol.com](http://www.groundkontrol.com) has much

more information about the shows and their pinball league. The appeal of a place like this can only be found by stopping to simply taking a look around the bar and the Atari 2600 on one side, the 51 original op cabinets on the other and a hefty array of pinball machines above, it's truly an incredible for an old gamer's sore eyes.

As far as price is concerned, there's no cover or admission charge. Of all the classic forgotten treasures of video history to choose from, every game is just 25¢ per play, just as their design intended.

So, on the day one finds themselves stepping through GK's front (as everyone definitely should), a sure thing that the hardest they'll have made that day is which machine to play first.

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 Eric Tshuy (503) 491-7469  
[Eric.Tshuy@mhcc.edu](mailto:Eric.Tshuy@mhcc.edu)  
**Application deadline: March 31, 2006**

### The Stay in Germany

In addition to time spent at and in the vicinity of our sister school, *die Berufsbildene Schule Stadthagen*, our students choose from among trips to Hannover, Bremen, Hamburg, Berlin and others. Your host family will provide free room and board including sack lunches for outings.

### Getting to Stadthagen

Your instructor will help you make your own arrangements to get to nearby Hannover by June 16\*. Your host family will pick you up from the train station or the airport, make sure you arrive at daily meeting points, and will return you to the airport or train station on July 7.

\*Round-trip fares have for June and July have recently sold for between \$1200 and \$1500. Individuals may be able to find better offers.

The CCC / MHCC program officially ends on July 7. You may, however, choose to extend your visit on your own.

### CCC college credit:

CCC students can earn up to 3 CCC Independent Study credits for their travel to Germany through projects of various kinds.

### Hosting the German Students

Participants are asked to host a German student during their visit to Oregon, during fall term, 2006.

Host families provide meals, including sack lunches for outings. They are also asked to provide transportation to and from meeting points or to assist their guests in using mass transit.

There are 2 gatherings of all host families and guests, one near the beginning and one near the end of the visit. These can involve a potluck at someone's home or a gathering at a restaurant.

### Typical sites visited:

(CCC students welcome when space permits)  
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