

Ike Says...

From page 3

Bay for the first time. It was interesting to see all the boats that were crabbing. I think there were more boats than crabs. Actually, there were a lot of crabs, just few legal-size males. We were crabbing an afternoon tide and I have been told that a morning tide is usually better. We all got to eat crab, just not as much as we wanted. A person can experience this Northwest tradition without owning a boat. There are several establishments at Nehalem Bay that will rent you a boat, bait and crab rings. If

you save some of your salmon carcasses they make good bait, also.

We rented a boat at Jetty Fishery, and four crab rings, which is just about the right number of rings. We used the boat to shuttle the rest of our party over to the sandy beach on the north side of the bay, across from Jetty Fishery. You can build a fire there, then take turns in the boat pulling the crab rings. The girls had a great time playing with the crabs that fell out of the ring into the bottom of the boat. We could have just about broken even if we

had bought our crabs at Jetty Fishery, but we would have missed out on all the fun. By the way, Jetty Fishery will also cook your crabs for you when you get back at the dock.

I wrapped up my kayak season (my season ends when hunting season begins) this year with the most challenging river yet, the middle section of the White Salmon River. My friends, Mike, Stephanie and I, put in at BZ corner. I had just purchased a new paddle and I flipped in the second rapid on the run. I managed to roll up on my second attempt and Mike

had a funny look on his face when I paddled up to him. He isn't used to seeing me getting flipped like that and we had a long way to go, but I reassured him that it was just my newness with the paddle that had tripped me up. The middle White Salmon has a lot of drop to it and many continuous sections of rapids. In one particularly nasty drop, Stephanie was caught a little too sideways and

got window-shaded (kayak term denoting how an old-style window shade flops around and around when suddenly let go). She made two revolutions, then flipped end-over-end. Mike and I looked on in amazement as Stephanie was upended and we could see her hand emerge from beneath the water surface to grab the spray skirt grab loop. Soon we were pull-

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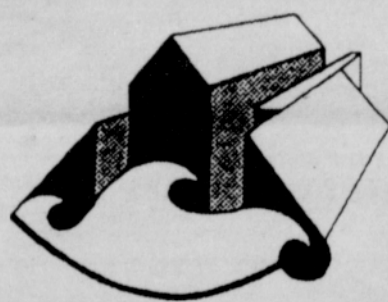
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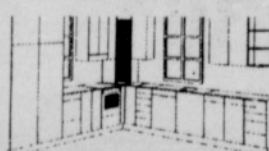
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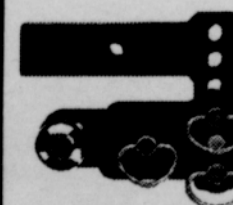
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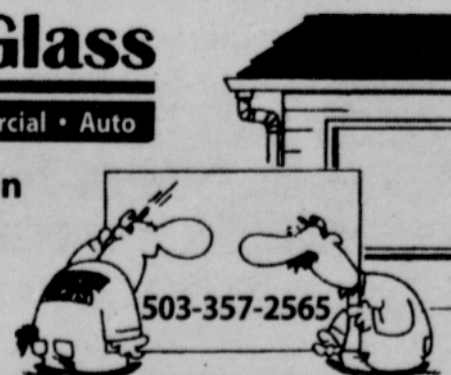
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