

Sasquatch festival will be better than last year's

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GONZAGA PREP

Sasquatch Music Festival: An event during Memorial Day weekend at Washington's Gorge Amphitheatre where indie kids and hipsters from the general Northwest congregate to hear some sweet jams, try to look cooler than everyone else, and get down. Without a doubt, the Gorge will once again be filled with un-showered kids who turn up their noses at anything that doesn't look like it could be found at Urban Outfitters. Oh the joys of overpriced camping and alcohol-induced affairs! Grab your carefully mismatched sweaters, unconventionally large sunglasses and skinny jeans, hop in a car with six other people and head to the Gorge Amphitheatre for one delightfully indie weekend!

Here are some highlights of the big event. Although all acts are worth a view, these are some of the big ones.

The Breeders: The genius who is Kim Deal (better known as the girl in the Pixies) stars in one of the coolest all-girl bands ever. Get set for baggy t-shirts, catchy mechanical guitar

riffs and a middle-aged woman who is cooler than you will ever be. Recommended listening would be: "Cannonball" or "Oh!"

The Cure: The legendary top goth/new wave band of the century. Although Robert Smith is now overweight and as old as my father, I am still in love with him. Check them out in stereotypical teenage anthems such as: "Boys Don't Cry," "Just Like Heaven," "Pictures of You," "Inbetween Days," or the ever-enchanted "Love Song."

Okkervil River: One of those new country/folk-ish bands with a nice punk undertone being wailed on mandolins or a standup bass. Most songs are slow, heart stopping and with mind-blowing lyrics about love, loss, mothers, death and being alone. Although these topics may sound like they were stolen from your 9th grade diary, Okkervil River twists their music into chilling sequences and poetic verses that are actually somewhat meaningful. My Favorite: "Westfall."

Flight of the Concorde: Like many other informed kids out there who appreciate awkward and subtle comedic attempts, I love Flight of the

Concorde. New Zealand's fourth most popular folk parody duo makes an appearance at Sasquatch probably as the most sought-after act to attend. Look them up on YouTube and watch their series. Recommended listening includes "Business Time," "Bowie," and "Hilarious Misunderstanding."

R.E.M. – R.E.M. is the band that did the song "It's the End of the World As We Know It." Besides that, they write intelligent lyrics and Michael Stipe, their lead singer, has what I personally believe to be a really obnoxious voice. Listen to such hits as: "Everybody Hurts," "Losing My Religion," or "Orange Crush."

Built to Spill: '90s indie rock gods. Comparable to such acts as Dinosaur Jr. and Pavement, Built to Spill holds the title of one of the neatest indie rock bands. Get a taste of their newest album with "Just a Habit" or get into their harder stuff with "Carry the Zero," which uses math to talk about failure in love.

The Hives: They dress in matching black and white outfits. Famous for garage rock combined with fantastic dance beats, the Hives are perhaps most recognized for Howling' Pelle

Almqvist's screaming dance voice and their outrageous live performances. Loud, cool looking and Swedish, the Hives are appealing to just about everyone. Get moving with "Tick Tick Boom" or "Hate to Say I Told You So."

Death Cab for Cutie: I don't like them. But if you don't want to be the last one at the MySpace booth to have heard "Plans," check out "Crooked Teeth," "Soul Meets Body" or "Somebody You Will Be Loved."

Cold War Kids: This band spans the range from dance, to jazz instrumentation to just simple drums and bass with harmony vocals. Always promising a catchy melody and new ideas as far as instrumentation is concerned, Cold War Kids are a good bet for anyone who appreciates a catchy and well crafted tune. I'd recommend "Hang Me Up to Dry" or "God, Make up Your Mind."

Modest Mouse: Everyone already knows about Modest Mouse due to recent bouts of "selling out." Although this remains largely debated amongst hipsters worldwide, Modest Mouse is definitely worth watching. I'm a big fan of "Polar Opposites."

Stephen Malkmus and the Jicks:

Stephen Malkmus was lead singer of Pavement (an influential '90s indie rock band who basically engineered the Northwestern indie scene) That fact alone makes it worthwhile.

The Flaming Lips: Famous for their outrageous live shows, ethereal themes and just overall groovy-ness, the Flaming Lips are a huge attraction for any indie music guru. Hit: "Do You Realize??" Also catch: "Feeling Yourself Disintegrate."

M.I.A. – A girl from London who can be classified as "dance-house," "electro," "hip-hop" and about four hundred other things. Listen to: "Paper Planes."

The Mars Volta: A progressive rock group with a little bit of jazz, a lot of psychedelic-ness, and some insane vocals. They apparently put on quite the show. Hit: "The Widow."

The New Pornographers: Power-pop that I would be embarrassed to listen to if they weren't considered to be so indie (or if Neko Case wasn't in the band). They actually try to sound this way, however. How about: "Myriad Harbour" or "Sing me Spanish Techno."

'Rx' may be the 'Go Ask Alice' of our time

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"Rx," by Tracy Lynn, follows a grade-obsessed teenage girl though her foray into the world of pill popping and dealing. Like most youth literature, "Rx" is full of awkward slang, improbable names (Thyme, Geneviva, Lida), and of course, catchy gimmicks: "Thyme Gilcrest is an honors student. Thyme Gilcrest is on student council. Thyme Gilcrest is a drug dealer."

However, this diary of a teenage pill dealer is still genuine in its approach to the difficult topic of teen drug use, perhaps even more so than the iconic "Go Ask Alice." While "Alice" is touted by counselors and parents as the Jesus Christ of drug stories, it was also written and published before ecstasy was even invented.

"Rx" could be this generation's "Go Ask Alice," that is, if it came anywhere near a cautionary tale. To say how it is not would give away the juicy ending, but lets just say that, like in real life, it's only illegal if you get caught.

The story is told chronologically over the course of Thyme's junior and senior years at an elite New Jersey high school. She studies obsessively, seeing her academic achievement as her only chance at recognition in a community of perfect kids.

Thyme starts using Ritalin as a "study aid" and quickly grows dependent on its attention focusing abilities. She begins dealing as a way to help her fellow students, diagnosing their disorders with facts from the Internet and "prescribing" to them what she can get from her mother's bathroom or purse.

It is hard to tell if even Thyme believes her own rational for using and dealing. She spends much of the narrative ranting about her parent's and teacher's own hypocritical drug usage, and the seemingly limitless abilities of medications and pills, as if trying to convince herself what she is doing is right. Or, at least, that she is doing it for the right reasons.

Drugs quickly consume Thyme's life, second only to her first love: over-achieving. To her, academic success is

the antidote from the anxiety she tries to quell with pills.

In her world, as in many teens', every kid is a mini-adult, already jockeying for positions at law firms and development agencies.

"Great jobs only come from going to good schools," Thyme says. "Getting into a good school means getting good grades ... But it also means getting a good score on the SATs, which I hadn't even begun to think about yet. Shit, I need to sign up for that Kaplan information seminar. Hope there's still space ... Otherwise, how would I get the corner office? End of my junior year was rapidly telescoping into my thirties, and the rest of my life."

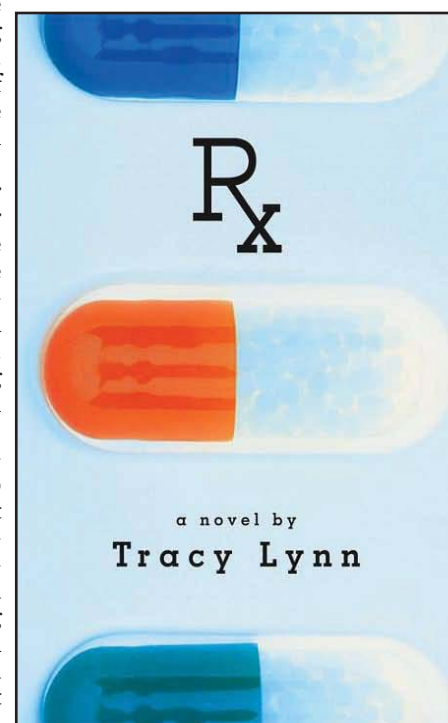
Thyme's drug dealing is a regression: a juvenile act that removes her from the too-heavy burden of being forced to grow up so fast. Only when she slows down and tries some simple, normal teenage activities like babysitting and candy-stripping does she feel even a modicum of relief.

"Rx" could hold the answer that parents, educators, and counselors have been searching for since the "war

on drugs" began. Perhaps all these rich kids who have it all are not using drugs out of boredom or immaturity. Perhaps drugs are the symptom of an inability to cope with that intense pressure to succeed, the American push for more, more, more.

In one chapter, Thyme and her boyfriend Will are discussing their futures and possible dreams. Thyme says she wishes she could just move to Venice beach and sell the jewelry she makes for fun, as if this idea is too crazy to even contemplate. Thyme and her friends are having mid-life crises, and they aren't even out of high school.

"Rx" has no moral and no message, which is a refreshing change to the predictable preachiness of most drug tales. It is, however, easily related to by all kinds of people, meth addicts and WDFY members alike, and is especially strong for its engaging and honest writing. After all, when reading about a topic as convoluted and multi-faceted as drugs, the last thing you want to be is lied to.



Natural Start Bakery offers organic food, comfortable setting



Rachel Cox / Staff Photographer

Not only an environmentally friendly bakery, Natural Start is also a popular hangout for students as it offers free wireless internet and a drive through.

RACHEL COX
Staff Reporter
RIVERCITY LEADERSHIP
ACADEMY

Natural Start Bakery opened this past February and has greatly expanded the horizons of our local coffee enthusiasts. The name "Natural Start" has proved itself true. Their current facility, located on Hamilton just north of Safeway, is in a house built in 1912.

"When it came to remodeling, we wanted to emphasize our 'Natural Start' motto. In order to minimize our carbon footprint, we used recycled newspaper insulation, recycled granite countertops and recycled paint," owner Gibran Sharpe said.

Along with their eco-friendly facility, they have organic, fair-trade coffee. Customers can also buy a variety of exotic chocolates like chai or raspberry-rosehip.

"We really want to promote everything that is organic and

local," Sharpe said. All dairy and grain products used at Natural Start are organic and from Washington. Bakery items, which are baked on-site, range from raspberry oat bars and pumpkin cream cheese muffins to quiche and focaccia breads.

Being organic and local is not only limited to food. Paintings and artworks of local artists line the walls of Natural Start and bring in a more community atmosphere. There are tables to play chess and a room which can be reserved for groups. The free wireless Internet is great for studying.

With its location so close to the Gonzaga campus, it is a great spot for students. Many students look for cafes with free Internet for studying, or a drive through if they are on-the-go. Fortunately, Natural Start has both.

The next time coffee calls, succumb to your inner caffeine hound and stop at Natural Start Bakery. Your body and taste buds will thank you.

one day, I'll

What's your dream? Write it down here. Then post it on your mirror or your bulletin board as a reminder of what you want to achieve. When you're ready to take the next step contact us to find out how, together, we can make it happen.

Your "one day" can start today. Check out startsomethingbig.org to share your dream and get started.

www.startsomethingbig.org



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