



Vol. 82 No. 48 Puyallup, Washington

Actor William Windom performed both on stage and on the tennis courts at PLU this week

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THURSDAY, APRIL 22, 1982



## JAKE

He's easier to train than humans

by Lori Price

The big black and tan German Shepherd named Jake reacted flawlessly to the staccato spoken and hand commands of his master. He went forward, stopped, sat, waited, even crawled to the almost imperceptible signals. At last, he left his master on command and went to a distant parked truck where he waited patiently until his owner showed up.

Training dogs to perform like this is easy, said Ron Pace, owner and trainer at Cahyon Crest Kennels, 5602-152nd St. E. It's the dogs' masters who are difficult to train.

Pace offers lessons in obedience and protection training, as well as a host of other services — such as guard dog sales and rentals, dog boarding and AKC German Shepherd service. He also performs dog grooming for larger breeds and supplies a balanced, all-purpose diet for them.

He has taught 1,000 persons during the past five years in all phases of obedience and protection training, he said. He has worked with the Pierce County Sheriff's canine unit and with individual owners to help them take advantage of the dog's natural ability to protect and defend his master.

This type of specialized training is something he "kind of picked up on his own," Pace said, beginning when he acquired Jake as a puppy five years ago. He took the dog to obedience school and worked with him in between classes. So well did the two work together that they won a \$1,000 scholarship for further training.

"Before long, we were bringing their dogs to me to have me help them learn to work like Jake. In six months, I made \$4,000 working part time doing something I really enjoyed, so I quit the cabinet shop where I was employed and got into this business."

He and a friend went into partnership and built

the kennels. Within a short time, Pace bought out his partner. It's been nothing but success ever since. He now has two assistant trainers, Rebecca Jennings and Jim Jumper. With Jumper, he put Jake through the attack phase of protection training.

"We don't train a dog to attack on his own," he explained. "Only on command. We want him to bite someone or kill someone, but not be mad at them."

Pace has some definite ideas on dog training. A dog tends to run free within an enclosure; he should never be tied. If you strike your dog, there is something wrong. Can every person be trained to master his dog? No, says Pace. Can every dog be trained? You bet.

Training is not a one-class-a-week thing, Pace declared. It is a constant working with the dog. His private three-week obedience and protection

courses require everyday sessions the first week, and two to three sessions a week thereafter.

"Dogs can outsmart you," he explained. "The training has to be consistent in order for it to be effective."

The first five lessons build up the dog's confidence in his master. After that, you start turning them off. Only then can the dog learn to follow, without deviation, the commands of his master.

And the master learns how to control his dog so that the relationship is of greatest benefit to both of them.

Jake, whose sobriquet is "The Wonder Dog," has appeared with Pace on television shows in the Pacific Northwest. Even though he is "part of the family" and the basis of his successful business, the big dog is still under the control of his master.

That's the only way to live with a dog, Pace believes. "We train people, not dogs," he reiterated.



Jake is something of a wonder dog. When trainer Ron Pace puts the tan and grey German Shepherd through his paces, (above, right) the big dog amazes onlookers with such talents as fence walking. He's trained to protect his owner and will attack on command, but not out of anger. With the help of fellow trainer Jim Jumper, (above, right) Pace shows how Jake will discourage any attacker. Yet Jake can be a gentle companion who likes to go for a ride with his master (lower left).

photos by Milt Putnam



## Library dedication set in Bonney Lake

Bonney Lake's new library, no stranger to the city's bookworms, will be dedicated Sunday during an afternoon ceremony.

Festivities are scheduled for 2 to 4 p.m., at the library, 18501-90th St. E.

Though its official unveiling was delayed until this weekend, the library actually opened several weeks ago, culminating the work of its supporters.

The new facility, a branch of Pierce County Library, was built last year with funds from a \$200,000 bond voters approved in 1980. It replaces an older building that was leased. The lease agreement was due to expire shortly after the bond was approved.

Architectural and interior features of the new library include ample window space and a wood-burning stove.

The move of about 10,000 volumes of printed material from the old facility was delayed several weeks when shipments of shelves from a California manufacturer were late, postponing the new building's original opening date of Feb. 1.

## Sumner adopts optional city code

by Pat Jenkins

City government should soon become "easier" for Sumner officials.

The city council voted unanimously Monday to switch its town's charter from third-class to an optional municipal code, a change Sumner's city attorney said is a real dream for administrators.

By adopting the optional code, Sumner officials can make use of all the powers provided the state's biggest municipalities. Sumner will retain its mayor-council form of government, but the city now has available all the administrative powers invested in first- and second-class (bigger population) cities.

"It's a more flexible way of doing business," said City Attorney Gordon Scraggin. "Many cities in the state are going to it. I can think of no disadvantages in doing it ourselves."

There's a bonus for residents, too. Citizens can now attempt to create or repeal city laws

via initiative or referendum, respectively.

But most of the direct benefits of optional guidelines go to the city administration. Among them are the mayor's new-found right to designate additional employees who may approve expenditures of city funds. At present, some routine purchases must wait if the mayor or city clerk are out of town.

Other new options now available to Sumner administrators include:

- The use of a hearings examiner to consider land-use appeals and create a planning department. Those duties now are handled by the Planning Commission, which could spend its time on other planning-related matters.

- An extension of deadlines for adding and deleting names of residents on petitions seeking local improvement districts.

- The ability to incorporate small "islands" of land that are inside city limits, but

technically aren't part of the city.

- The choice to impose a merit system for all city employees except police officers and firefighters.

- An expansion of the Park Board beyond its previous limit of three members.

Sumner is the third city in Puyallup Valley to adopt the optional code. Fife was the first, about 10 years ago, and Puyallup followed last year.

Scraggin, who also is Fife's city attorney, earlier said he has never encountered drawbacks in that community's use of the optional rules.

The change in systems in Sumner was quiet. After being discussed for the first time at a council meeting Feb. 3, the proposed switch was announced in legal notices published in newspapers, and with no objection from the public, the council voted to drop their city's third-class status and go optional.