



**bow**  
**wow**  
**wow!**



Chester and his court

## Search for ugliest canine turns up some real dogs

By BRETT OPPEGAARD  
*Columbian staff writer*

**S**tart with Chester's eyes. Owner Elizabeth Bogacz of Vancouver acknowledges that they look pretty comical and in some ways kind of creepy. The whites are swirls of brown, like the brindle of the pug's coat. "One goes one way, and one goes the other," Bogacz says. "Plus they pop out of his head more than I think they should."

Chester walks bow-legged, like a lad Charlie Chaplin impersonator. His tongue hangs out so far that he could wipe his runny smashed nose with it. His tail looks like a clump of matted fur on his back, and when he gets excited, he makes a sound like a duck playing a kazoo.

For those characteristics and others, including a severe weight problem, Chester hereby has been named Clark County's ugliest dog.

After an extensive search of every residence, gas station, farmhouse, henhouse, doghouse and outhouse in the county, we found a variety of pooches that would never win a traditional beauty contest but still deserve recognition for their distinctive looks nonetheless.

Why only celebrate the pretty ones? To have beauty, do we not also need ugliness for comparison and delineation? Considering such quality, we chose to acknowledge the less commemorated but equally important half — finding attractiveness below the fur in even the most unsightly of mutts.

Chester seems the best example. He's quite fat, and that doesn't both-

er him a bit. Bogacz has tried to put Chester on a variety of trendy diets, but the pug sneaks food from the other pets in the house, including a gorgeous Hi-malayian cat, named Yoshi, who takes pleasure in knocking the homely pug around at every opportunity.

"I guess the cat realizes he's beautiful, and Chester's not," Bogacz said. "And he won't let Chester forget it."

Yet Chester never retaliates or nopes. He lets Yoshi box his ears, while he keeps on grinning, like he knows something the cat doesn't.

Bogacz even has tried to put Chester on an exercise routine, but the 2-year-old dog just obstinately stops whenever he gets tired, no matter how far the two might be from home. Bogacz always ends up carrying him the rest of the way.

Whenever Bogacz leaves for any length of time and returns home, though, Chester never seems too worn out to dance. He will hop around on his hind legs for several minutes in joy, and he likes to walk upright when he's especially happy.

At night, when Bogacz falls asleep, Chester invariably nudges his way under her covers to snuggle with his close friend. Often, Bogacz will hold her pudgy little dog in her arms like a small child and rock him back and forth. She says she treats Chester like a kid.



Pee wee



J.D.



Nannie



Herbert

"He has the best personality of any dog I've ever had," Bogacz said. "The poor guy can't help that he looks so hideous."

In Chester's court of the aesthetically challenged are these lovable dogs that at least deserve honorable mention in our competition for Clark County's ugliest:

### Pee wee

Some of his former co-workers are claiming discrimination because they say Pee wee recently was fired from his office job at Meyer Sign Co. of Oregon mainly because of his odd looks. He also doesn't smell that great, owner Frank Moore of Salmon Creek acknowledges.

But Moore explains Pee wee's dismissal this way: Moore took Pee wee to his job at the Tigard sign company just about every Friday for nearly four years. Recently, though, Pee wee kept asking to go out, and when Moore obliged, Pee wee wouldn't come back in the building when his break was over. Moore considered that insubordination and fired Pee wee himself.

John Meehan, one of the co-

workers who nominated Pee wee for this honor, says he was flabbergasted when he first encountered Pee wee face to face at the office, saying the 7-year-old Boston terrier looks like a combination of a frog and a bug-eyed Sprite motor car. Moore says Pee wee has always looked a little unusual, appearing more like a guinea pig than anything else as a puppy. But Moore also notes the advantages of Pee wee's muscular frame and huge mouth in playing fetch, one of their favorite pastimes together.

Moore said, "He really likes playing ball and listening to '80s rock 'n' roll."

### J.D.

J.D.'s old, has bad breath and enjoys rolling on the carcasses of dead mice the cockapoo finds in his half-acre yard, but his owner, Terri Governor, says the 14-year-old's lack of appealing looks stems primarily from his unmanageable hair. "It's really curly and coarse," she said, "and it's tough to keep it combed. No matter what I do, I can't get his hair to look nice or pretty. He always appears sort of scruffy and

messy looking. "When his hair gets really long, he looks just like a Muppet," she added. "All you can see is his nose and a black line where his mouth is."

Because of health-related issues, the sweet-tempered and timid J.D. had a haircut just before getting his picture taken by The Columbian, but Governor has plenty of snapshots showing her dog's various wild hair styles.

She once had J.D. trimmed like a French poodle, but when the dog came home, he seemed embarrassed by his new look.

"It was really funny, and we all had a good laugh over it, but we could tell J.D. didn't like it," Governor said. "So we shaved the pom-pom off of his head, and that made him feel better. ... He definitely prefers the Muppet style."

### Nannie

Upon arrival at The Columbian photo studio, Tonic Enright remarked that if the newspaper could be scratch 'n' sniff, her dog Nannie

Photos by  
**Milan Chuckovich**  
of The Columbian

UGLY DOGS, page D3

## Navy getting ready to drop 'time ball' for new millennium

By BLAINE P. FRIEDLANDER JR.  
*The Washington Post*

WASHINGTON — It's a party for the century.

The U.S. Naval Observatory will officially ring in the new millennium with an open house celebration capped off by dropping a replica of its historic "time ball" from the observatory's Main Building at the stroke of midnight on New Year's Eve.

The Washington time ball dates to 1845, when the city's inhabitants and the ships on the Potomac needed to know the precise time. The observatory then was located in the Foggy Bottom area, where it was easy to see from the river.

Every day, precisely at noon, the ball would drop. In the mid-1880s, the observatory moved to its present location on

## Don't throw away those thin ties

In some circles, it's hip to wear jackets with rolled-up sleeves. The sounds and styles of the '80s are enjoying a revival by enthusiasts of the Era of Excess. Here are some icons and chart-toppers that dominated the decade.

<p><b>Television</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>"Cheers"</li> <li>"The Cosby Show"</li> <li>"Hill Street Blues"</li> <li>"Miami Vice"</li> <li>"Moonlighting"</li> </ul>	<p><b>Songs</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>"All Night Long," Lionel Richie</li> <li>"Lady," Kenny Rogers</li> <li>"Like a Virgin," Madonna</li> <li>"Physical," Olivia Newton-John</li> <li>"You Give Love a Bad Name," Bon Jovi</li> </ul>
<p><b>Games/Toys</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Cabbage Patch Kids</li> <li>Frogger</li> <li>Pac Man</li> <li>Rubik's Cube</li> <li>Trivial Pursuit</li> </ul>	<p><b>Fashion</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Bargy bracelets</li> <li>Legwarmers</li> <li>Parachute pants</li> <li>Stonewashed jeans</li> <li>Thin ties</li> </ul>

## '80s revival won't let us forget From 'The A-Team' to Billy Idol, the Me Decade is back

By NICOLE ZIEGLER DIZON  
*Associated Press writer*

CHICAGO — When Jay Schwartz and his brother started a vintage clothing and memorabilia shop eight years ago, retro meant '60s and '70s. Nowadays, though, Schwartz's customers also are looking for parachute pants and Cyndi Lauper trading cards straight out of the '80s.

As much as those who lived through the decade might like to forget it, the '80s are awesome again, with music, fashion and television celebrating the Era of Excess.

"What's really selling for us is images of the '80s," Schwartz said. "Garbage Pail Kids are huge. 'The A-Team' is huge. Pee Wee Herman is huge."

Fashion designers have added legwarmers and ruffled skirts to their 2001 collections. Cable TV is rerunning such "classics" as "The

Facts of Life" and "The A-Team." And a growing number of radio stations are switching to all-'80s formats of Billy Idol, Duran Duran, Boy George and the like.

It's all an attempt to appeal to a lucrative market — young professionals who wax nostalgic about their teen years, and current teens crazy about anything retro.

Lisa Johnson, manager of The '80s Server, a Web site devoted to the decade, established her site in Overland Park, Kan., in 1995, when she sensed a movement away from the depressing look and sound of "grunge" music and toward happier, bouncier times — the '80s.

She figured people in their late 20s and 30s would visit but was surprised by the influx of teen-agers too young to remember much of

EIGHTIES, page D3

# CDs are soundtrack for the holidays

By RICHARD HARRINGTON  
The Washington Post

It's beginning to sound a lot like Christmas, everywhere you go. What you're hearing is the soundtrack of December, when the traditional flood of seasonal compact discs peaks, only to start receding Dec. 26 before petering out completely at 12:01 a.m. Jan. 1. For those who have to keep up with it all — record store clerks, radio programmers, poor old critics — there is no sanity clause. For the rest, forewarned is forearmed. Among this year's crop:



Too much: Vonda Shepard is too much and featured too often on "Ally McBeal: A Very Ally Christmas."

**Cyrus Chestnut and Friends, "A Charles Brown Christmas" (Atlantic)**  
A tribute to both the late Charles Schulz and the 35th anniversary of Vince Guaraldi's vibrant score for the "Peanuts" Christmas TV special, Chestnut's album captures the warmth and whimsy of its inspirations while also working on a straight-ahead jazz level. The pianist's lighthearted approach is particularly effective on "Peanuts" classics like "Skating, "Linus and Lucy" and the reflective "Christmas Is Coming," and he uses his many guests to great effect, including vocalist Brian McKnight on "The Christmas Song," guitarist Pat Martino on "Linus and Lucy" and flutist Herb Lovelle on "Fur Elise."

**Rockapella, "Christmas" (J-Bird)**  
This a cappella quintet, best known for its Folger's coffee commercials, serves up rich, inventive doo-wop harmonies and supple pop-rock jazz arrangements of seasonal standards, as well as three strong originals by chief arranger Scott Leonard, the best an aching, breaky ballad, "Christmas Without You."

**"Sobbed That Earl An American Song Quilt" (Novels Records)**  
This original-cast recording comes from the 1998 Christmas Revels performed in Washington, D.C. It's a wonderful collection of late 19th-century fare: African-American spirituals, early gospel tunes, stark shape-note hymns, elegant fiddle fantasies, work songs, children's play songs, brass band blasts and migrant folk carols. It celebrates the richness and diversity of American culture, as well as the season's nurturing spirit.

**Ally McBeal: A Very Ally Christmas" (Sony)**  
At 73 tracks, the overbearing Vonda Shepard gets a bit too much disc time here. And since every actor on this popular TV show

seems to have a contractual dispensation to sing, we get mediocre rock from Jane Krakowski, vapid R&B from Lisa Nicole Carson and a flat reading of Eartha Kitt's "Santa Baby" from the eternally coquettish Calista Flockhart. What saves the album: Macy Gray's sweetly shurred "Winter Wonderland" and Robert Downey Jr.'s raspy, Huey Lewis-like reading of Jon Mitchell's "River." In light of what's happened since he sang it on the show, there's added poignancy when Downey wishes he had a river he could skate away on.

**"King Island Christmas" (King Island Record Co.)**  
This fascinating oratorio, with a libretto by Deborah B. Brown and music by David Friedman, tells the true story of a remote Alaskan village whose beleaguered residents come together to brave harsh winter weather and tall, ice-covered mountains in time to celebrate Christmas Mass. The story is inspirational, the music (performed by Broadway veterans) charmingly accessible and you'll find yourself faithfully following the libretto as the 50-year-old story unfolds with present-day tension.

**Billy Gilman, "Classic Christmas" (Epic)**  
The assured 12-year-old country star with the big angelic voice seems to have latched on to arrangements from the '50s that would make Johnny Mathis proud. Gilman's strong, clear vocals are choirboy clean, soaring on selections like "Silent Night" and "O Holy Night," playful on the Brenda Lee-like "Rockin' Around the Christmas Tree." Charlotte Church, "Drums a Dream" (Sony Classics)  
Sure, this 14-year-old Welsh soprano has an angel's crystalline voice, but she could've been up a bit on inherently fluid tunes like "Winter Wonderland" and the needs-to-be-gentle "Christmas Song." Church all but buries poor Billy Gilman on an overblown title track that borrows a Faure melody, and the London Symphony Orchestra does the same to her on two major tracks.

## Eighties

Teens who were just kids then are embracing retro culture

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the decade in which they were born.

Jonathan Hennington of Tacoma, who was just 7 when the '80s ended, said "I-shirt" featuring "He-Man" cartoon characters are a cool fashion statement among his friends.

On Monday, the 17-year-old stopped by Schwartz's to pick up a pack of Garbage Patch Kids trading cards, the gross-out parodies of Cabbage Patch Kids that he collected as a child.

"Man, I had a stack of these of about that big," he said, opening his hands wide and grinning.

Schwartz's customers also snatch up '80s heavy metal T-shirts as fast as he can put them on the rack.

The catwalks at this fall's Fashion Week in London and New York, a showcase for top designers, had a smattering of '80s-style pleated skirts and one-shoulder tops.

"We had a company come to us, and they wanted to have us sell

their parachute pants on our site," said Johnson, laughing at the memory of the noisy zipper-be-decked nylon pants. "I don't want to be responsible for bringing back that trend."

Last week, Chicago's WXCD-FM switched from classic rock to '80s music, the second station in the area to try the format. Radio stations in such places as St. Louis and San Francisco have done the same.

"There was a tremendous amount of music that was just not getting played on the radio," said Bill Gamble, WXCD's program director. "We'll play Joni and we'll play Prince."

The taste for the '80s, though, may be short-lived.

Robert Thompson, a professor of media and popular culture at Syracuse University in New York, said cable television has made nostalgic instant hits. TV shows from the '80s never really stopped being shown, and radio stations started doing '80s blocks almost as soon as the decade ended.

"The great thing about nostalgia, it was like going up in the attic and opening a box that hasn't been opened in 20 years," Thompson said. "Now it's as if the box never went up to the attic."

its descent will trigger a cannon shot to re-create other means to disseminate time. It will be followed by a fireworks display.

Although many celebrated the new millennium last New Year's Eve, according to the Gregorian calendar it actually begins January 1, 2001, says Dick. A digital clock at the main entrance to the Naval Observatory is still counting down to the millennium, he says.

The U.S. Naval Observatory, which maintains the Master Clock of the United States, is also reactivating its around-the-world time ball drop, successfully carried out last New Year's Eve at 20 sites in eight countries on six continents. As the new millennium sweeps around the world beginning at the International Date Line, the drops will be coordinated with the Global Positioning System of satellites, for which the Naval Observatory provides the time.

Those interested in more information can call 202-762-1467 or visit the Web site [www.usno.navy.mil](http://www.usno.navy.mil).

## Ugly dogs

Despite their looks, owners say these pups are plenty lovable

From page D1

would win this contest, nostrils closed. She didn't get any argument from us.

Nannie not only has an exceedingly strong odor, she also looks bers, gurgles, has a flaky skin condition and snores so loud that Enright's husband, Tom, won't allow her in the bedroom any longer.

This English bulldog had a bloodshot eye and some of a sniffle from a cold on the day she had her picture taken.

Her constant snoring, though, was unrelated, Enright said. That's just the way she sounds.

Nevertheless, the Enrights of Vancouver, including son Tadd and daughter Jamie, would never trade in their 9-year-old for a prettier model.

"Her looks attract people," Tadd says. "If I take her to a park, everyone in the place wants to talk to me about her."

"People always tell us that she's so ugly, she's cute," Tomie Enright said. "They also always think she's a boy. Most people don't think anything ugly can be a girl. Nannie proves them wrong."

## Herbert

Nicknamed 'Herbie the Love Pug,' this wrinkly Salmon Creek dog has lots of unappealing habits.

He snorts when excited, with droplets of moisture shooting out of his nostrils like a mister. He eats everything he can fit in his mouth, which left him with a green face one Easter when he discovered a bowl of egg dye left unattended on a table.

Plus, owner David Kilpatrick claims that Herbert snores louder than any human is capable.

"He practically rattles the windows," Kilpatrick says. "We kicked him out of the bedroom, and he put his face down by the crack of the door, which made it sound like he was snoring through a megaphone. We finally had to put him in the garage at night."

Kilpatrick's 12-year-old daughter, Autumn, says Herbert more than makes up for his physical peculiarities, though, by being the family's best friend.

"Whenever I'm sad, he gives me that look like he feels sorry for me," she said. "He makes me feel loved."

David Kilpatrick added, "Besides, if we ever have a rough day or are feeling sorry for ourselves, we can always look down at Herbert and see how tough things could be."

### Randolph Itch 2 a.m.

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## New Year's

Present-day ball is 4 feet in diameter, made of aluminum

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Massachusetts Avenue, near the British Embassy. The time ball, however, was relocated to the Old Executive Office Building, where it continued to be dropped every day until 1936, says Steven Dick, an astronomer with the observatory. That time ball hasn't been seen since. Some speculate the ball, a wooden frame wrapped in canvas, was simply discarded.

"Everyone knows about the ball in Times Square," says Dick. "They don't realize that it was a historical method for disseminating time. ... Their time ball was originally synchronized from here."

The present-day ball is four feet in diameter and made of aluminum. Secretary of the Navy Richard Danzig will give the order to drop the ball this New Year's Eve, and

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