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We're not just reminiscing this week. Check out our list of [current odd events](#).

Thank God, It's Odd!

All the Best of 1998: The Top 10 Odd Events of the year

For our faithful TG10 readers, we hope you'll enjoy strolling down the memory lane of this year's strange happenings. For those new to our beloved column, here's a peek at what you've been missing.



Birthdays suits are the preferred attire for the Bare Buns Fun Run.

Bare Buns Fun Run

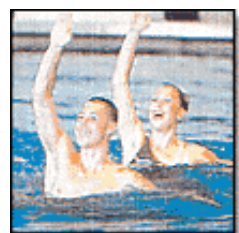
(July 11, 1998)

Every year, a crowd of fitness buffs wearing nothing but socks and shoes take to the road jogging, jiggling and giggling their way through the woods of Fraternity Snoqualmie nudist camp, on the way to a positive body image, self-acceptance and severe chafing. And you thought they were just exhibitionists.

Fetish dinners

(Saturday nights at Beyond the Edge Café)

We've included fetish dinners on every *Thank God, It's Odd!* column since we found out about them back in May. How could we not? Diners come dressed in their best fetish gear and, for a little extra money, can sit downstairs in "the dungeon" or "the playroom" where three tables face a bondage rack and a cross. One of our staffers attended a dinner this summer and he assures us that, yes, this is a very odd event indeed.



Thank God for Esther Williams!

Jantzen National Synchronized Swimming Championships

(April 30 - May 3, 1998)

Stop laughing. Even those who view curling as a real sport consider synchronized swimming the punchline of amateur athletics. This is one of the few Olympic events in which grace, balance, timing, strength, floating skill and a Y chromosome matter. We were shocked to learn that men

are generally not allowed to compete in this graceful sport — and we thought that the exclusion of women from the luge event was a scandal! However, this competition offered a rare opportunity to watch the water stylings of Bill May, the first male synchronized swimmer (pictured above).



The Rev. "Bob" Dobbs, the living avatar of slack.

The Church of the SubGenius

(March 15, 1998)

On a West Coast recruitment tour last spring, the Rev. "Bob" Dobbs and his team of a dozen or more ministers ranted about bizarre topics, attempted to resurrect Jesus Christ and claimed to exorcise the audience of all demons. Those who signed up for membership with the Church got this guarantee: "Eternal salvation or triple your money back!"

Ugly Chicken Contest / City Chicken Contest

(September 1998)

Who knows what was in the air a few months back, but for some reason September was the month of chicken comparisons. Seattle Tilth honored the city's loveliest fowl with a sash and tiara, just weeks before the county's homeliest chicken was crowned at the Puyallup Fair.



The Flying Elvi, complete with sunglasses, side-burned wigs and bell-bottom jumpsuits

Sea 'N Sky Fest

(July 18-19, 1998)

Sea 'N Sky Fest itself wasn't anything out of the ordinary; it was the festival's entertainment this year that made the TGIO Top 10. The Las Vegas-based Flying Elvi, a team of Elvis impersonators that jump out of airplanes together, showed Whidbey Island its stuff.

Extraterrestrial Event

(Aug. 16, 1998)

August brought UFO experts and alien abductees to Seattle Center to share their stories with others who believe. (We'll let you decide if the gathering's proximity to the Space Needle was just coincidence.)



Meet Sassy. How could anyone resist this face?

Adopt-A-Turkey

(ongoing)

Here's a chance to clear your meat-eating conscience and save one lucky turkey from slaughterhouse doom. Just \$15 sends your new-found feathered friend to the Farm Sanctuary ranch where the livin's easy: free food and no curfew!

Tubapalooza

(Oct. 9, 1998)

The highlight of Fremont's Oktoberfest weekend was actually the Friday night before. Tubapalooza celebrated the magical combination of beer and tubas with a pub crawl, Chicken Dance Marathon, Wind-up Wiener Dog Race and Bavarian Brat Toss.

Seattle Polyfidelity Support Group

(every second Saturday in odd numbered months)

Talk about one-stop shopping! Where else in town can a person share feelings, potato salad and sexual partners but at this bimonthly potluck dinner?

Bare Buns photo courtesy of Fraternity Snoqualmie; synchronized swimming photo by Dan Helms; Flying Elvi photo courtesy of The Flying Elvi, Inc.; Adopt-A-Turkey photo courtesy of Farm Sanctuary

— Compiled by [elke Peterson](#). TGIO is updated every Tuesday. Sometimes new events are added during the week, too. Bookmark it, or add it to "My Page," and you'll always have the freshest version of eccentricity.