

NEWS

The Evergreen State College

Olympia, Washington 98505 866-6128

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Tacoma architect Robert Price, designer of the new Recreation Center at The Evergreen State College, has presented the institution a large concrete sculpture created by Harold Balazs of Mead, Washington.

The ten-foot-tall sculpture, which weighs about one ton, was placed on a pedestrian bridge connecting the upper levels of Evergreen's Recreation and College Activities Buildings.

Price said he hopes the sculpture --- made of Columbia Buff concrete to match the colors of campus buildings --- will be the forerunner of other gifts of art works to Evergreen.

Balazs, who calls himself an "architectural craftsman," has done extensive work for Price's firm and has won numerous awards for his sculptures. In 1966, the American Institute of Architects named him recipient of a Gold Medal for a Collaborating Artist. The national award is conferred to artists who do outstanding design work in conjunction with architectural projects.

His architectural art works may be found throughout the Northwest, including such locations as the Norton Building in Seattle, the Burien Public Library, and on the campuses of the University of Washington, Pacific Lutheran University, and Seattle Pacific College. He currently is working on a large sculpture for Spokane's Expo '74.

Balazs, a 1951 graduate of Washington State University, says his sculpture at Evergreen is "an abstract design relating to recreation and depicting a combination of many of the seemingly disparate elements in the world around us." The intricate art work is designed to "compliment the extensive and simple treatment of concrete surfaces" on college buildings, he added.

The Evergreen sculpture --- which Balazs has not named --- was brought to the campus in 14 sections and assembled on the site.

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Dick Nichols, Director
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