



Newspapers In Education and the Washington State Fair present

# IT'S TIME TO ... FLY HIGH

This year the Washington State Fair is bringing in a new coaster, Rainier Rush, to accompany the Classic Coaster and the Extreme Scream. Check out the facts and the history of these thrilling attractions. Which ones will you dare to ride?

### CLASSIC COASTER FACTS

- **Years built/rebuilt:** Built in 1935, rebuilt 1950, 1970, 1999 and 2009-13
- **Coaster designer:** John A. Miller (deemed the “Thomas Edison of roller coasters”)
- **Materials:** Structure is wood with steel rails
- **Height:** 55 feet
- **Height of longest drop:** 52 feet
- **Maximum speed:** 38 mph
- **Track length:** 2,650 feet
- **Angle of descent:** 63 degrees
- **Duration of ride:** 1 minute and 45 seconds
- **Seating capacity:** Pilot car and eight two-passenger cars
- **Passengers per hour:** 1,300
- **Trains:** Three trains named: Ol’ Yeller, Blaz’n Blue, and Or’nry Orange



### HISTORY

Edward H. Bollinger was a Swiss immigrant who built and operated a kiddie airplane ride and a 45-foot Ferris wheel in 1932 at the corner of Ninth Avenue Southwest and Fifth Street in Puyallup. When Bollinger built the coaster in 1935, the Douglas fir beams were fashioned by the Brew Manufacturing Plant on Pioneer Avenue, and brought to the grounds on horse-drawn wagons. A Model-A automobile was used for hoisting the beams into position. The trains were designed by Frederick Church of Venice, Calif. The only change since it was built was replacing the box-like cars with the open ones in use today. In 1950 it was redesigned by Walker Leroy. A fire in 1970 destroyed a portion of the coaster, and it was rebuilt. A major construction was completed in 1999, which cost approximately \$100,000. A multi-year reconstruction will be completed this year, at a cost of approximately \$1.25 million.

### AUTHENTIC ACE COASTER CLASSIC

The American Coaster Enthusiast organization has deemed that there are approximately 20 original wooden roller coasters left in the U.S. The authenticity of the cars of the Classic Coaster puts the coaster into the esteemed category of “ACE Coaster Classic.”

### OPERATION TIMES

The coaster operates at the Washington State Fair for 17 days in September and during the four days of the Spring Fair each April.

### WHAT IS A G FORCE?

G force, or gravitational force, is a measurement of acceleration. The number of Gs is the number of times the force of gravity is felt at a particular point. When you roll down on a roller coaster, gravity pulls you downward as you feel the acceleration pulling you upward. These forces cancel each other out, causing you to feel weightless. So moving downward on a roller coaster you experience negative Gs. When you are accelerating upward, acceleration and gravity work together to make you feel very heavy and you experience positive Gs.

### RAINIER RUSH FACTS

- **Arrival:** September 2013
- **Ride dimensions:** 180.4 feet by 66 feet
- **Footprint:** 190 feet by 70 feet
- **Height:** 62.3 feet
- **Track length:** 1,772 feet
- **Maximum speed:** 50 mph
- **Maximum G force:** +5.8 G
- **Trains:** Three
- **Cars:** Three per train
- **Total seats:** 36 riders
- **Track capacity:** Two trains run simultaneously on the track



### HISTORY

This looping inversion coaster is the only model of this ride in the United States, and guarantees a stomach-twisting experience you won’t forget. It will take you more than 60 feet in the air, then send you downhill around wild loops, along wavy tracks and bendy curves. The 80-degree banked inversion is unique, and offers a fear factor exciting for every family member. It features smooth coaster action, in spite of its +5.8 gravity force!

The ride was first purchased in 1998 by Santa’s Village Amusement Park in Dundee, Ill. It was refurbished in 2005, and installed in Southern California in 2011. Finding that space was not adequate for the ride, it was sold to the Washington State Fair in 2013.

### EXTREME SCREAM FACTS

- **Arrival:** 1999
- **Height:** 20 stories (185 feet)
- **Propulsion:** Air-compression pump
- **Speed upwards:** Approaching 3 G
- **Speed downward:** Negative 1 G

At 20 stories tall, the Extreme Scream is the ultimate in daredevil excitement! An air-compression pump propels 12 riders to the top and holds them there. Riders rocket into the sky at a speed approaching 3 Gs. They reach the top of the structure and pause a moment to enjoy the view from the tallest spot in Puyallup. Then the ride operator lets them drop, and the passengers plummet at speeds of -1 G!

### DID YOU KNOW?

- It is the highest structure in the city of Puyallup.
- The view of Mount Rainier from the top on a clear day is stunning.
- The most unusual item dropped from the top was a pair of dentures. Believe it or not, they survived the fall!
- There have been two marriages that took place on the Extreme Scream.
- This is the same thrill ride you see on the top of the Stratosphere in Las Vegas.

