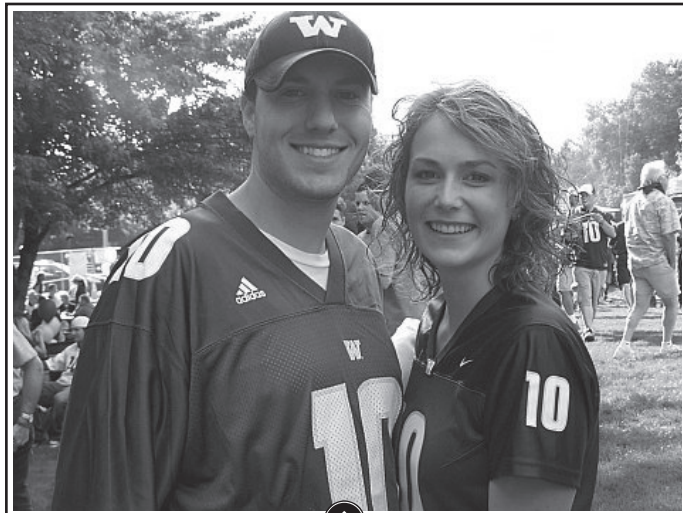


## TYEE MEMBERSHIP CONTINUES TO GROW



ABOVE: New Tyeer Haleigh Hawes with her boyfriend, Gary Gautreau (Photo courtesy of Haleigh Hawes).



ABOVE: New Tyees Ivan and Andrea Haas (Photo Courtesy of Ivan Haas).

By Christian Caple

There are Husky football fans, and then there are season ticket holders.

But even possessing seats to each and every UW football game doesn't quite measure up to the thousands of fans like Ivan Haas and Haleigh Hawes, both of whom experience everything a Husky football game day has to offer.

That's because both just recently became full-fledged Tyeer members, and it's donations like theirs that are helping the athletic department in its goal to increase the Tyeer membership by 1,000 people this year. The ultimate goal is to expand the membership to 10,000 people total.

Haas, a member of the UW marching band during his time as a student from 1995-1999, said it came down to simply wanting to support the school from which he graduated. He'd had season tickets up until last season, but wanted to join the Tyeer this year.

"Even though the times are tough—I don't have a job myself, at the moment—that's when you still have to contribute and try and to step up and make things better and give back to the school," Haas said.

And if you take a look at the guy's car, you'd know there's no questioning his loyalty. Haas drives a 1981 Volkswagen Vanagon, which he had painted metallic purple with a gold pinstripe.

"I took it to Maaco about eight or nine years ago, and they did it up for us," Haas said. "We get a lot of thumbs up and, 'Go Dawgs!' and all kinds of compliments on the way into the lot, or when we drive in from Bothell."

Hawes is a 2006 graduate, and said she had student tickets the whole time she was at the UW. After taking a year to get some financial stability, she decided to become a Tyeer. "To me, it's just a way to support a program that is helping kids do what they love to do and play a sport that they love," Hawes said. "They might not be able to play professionally, but at least they get this experience to continue past high school in a grander arena."

The grandest of arenas, arguably, is the tailgate scene on Montlake the day of the game. That's one of the biggest reasons Haas wanted to become a Tyeer member: to get priority in the parking lot. "It kind of goes back to the tailgating," Haas said. "We wanted to ensure ourselves a spot in the parking lot for next year. My wife is from Nebraska and they come here a year from today and we're going to have a pretty good sized tailgate party. We wanted to guarantee ourselves that spot."

That's what makes Tyeer membership special—the entire experience. "Having hundreds and thousands of people surround you and playing games and having awesome food... just the atmosphere surrounding one individual sport is pretty incredible," Hawes said.

It's the kind of atmosphere that Tyeer members fully understand. "Family and friends come from all over the state," Haas said. "And having that tailgate party in the E-1 lot is an important part of the whole day for us."