



## Accent

Local author speaks on outer limits at Viking Con.

## Sports

Hall-of-Famer Goodrich named athletic director.

/5

## News

Tanks, talks mark Peace and War Week activities.

/3



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# The Western Front

VOL. 79, NO.20

WESTERN WASHINGTON UNIVERSITY, BELLINGHAM, WA 98225

FRIDAY, APRIL 17, 1987

## AS ballot issues approved

Western students who want a chance to express opinions have the opportunity through the Associated Students' referendum election.

So far, three referendum items have been approved by the AS board for the ballot May 5 and 6 on Western's campus.

Should Western maintain a "negative check-off" system or change to a "positive check-off" system, is a question voting students will be able to answer for themselves.

Currently, with the "negative check-off" system, students automatically are charged a fee to support non-profit, off-campus student-approved groups if they don't check the box to waive the fee at registration.

Shall students pay fees--such as locker fees for students enrolled in PE classes--in addition to tuition and operating fees that would be used to help pay for the cost of instruction is another question that will be on the election ballot.

Should students' faculty evaluations be a required part of yearly faculty performance reviews, also is a subject students will be able to address.

Another referendum may be coming out of next week's AS Board of Directors meeting, AS Director at-Large for Communications Jeff Chandler said.

One referendum that didn't make it out of Wednesday's board meeting asked whether Western should be home to Greek sororities and fraternities.



U.S. Sen. Brock Adams (D-Wash.) answers questions at an open forum Tuesday afternoon.

## Senator confronts priorities

By Rebecca L. Duce  
staff reporter

Education is going through hard times because of the Reagan administration's proposals to eliminate work study, student loans and educational opportunity grants, Sen. Brock Adams (D-Wash.) said in a question-and-answer period on campus Tuesday.

Adams said if financial aid legislation passes Congress, Reagan probably would veto it, which Adams opposes.

"Everyone ought to have a chance at an education," he said. "We're not going to educate just the poor or the rich."

Adams spoke on topics including educational funding, Strategic Defense Initiative (Star Wars), minimum wage, the new Highway Bill, Central America and the space shuttle program.

Adams, an advocate of arms control, said it is in the self-interest of the Soviet Union and the United States to reduce the production of missiles or risk being unable to compete economically on the world market.

Too much of the United States' talent, money and natural resources are going toward the arms race, he said.

The reason the Japanese produce better quality and quantity of products, Adams said, is 1 percent of their gross national product is put into defense. The United States puts 3 to 6 percent

—see ADAMS, p. 2

## Rules clear campaign trail

By Daniel C. Webster  
staff reporter

Students considering running for Associated Students' Board of Directors positions may have questions regarding campaigns.

"It is time for those questions to be answered," wrote AS Election Board Chairman Michael Degginger in a memo to prospective candidates.

The election board has been established to help students and candidates through the election process, Degginger wrote.

According to the memo, problems can occur during elections, but the hope is that the election board will help keep problems to a minimum.

"Candidates can come to me if they have a problem," Degginger wrote. "They should not hesitate to file a complaint if they have a grievance. The election board will try to handle the problem fairly."

Those interested in filing for a place on the AS

election ballot must go through several steps.

First, they must pick up a candidate's packet at Viking Union 227 and fill out the registration form.

Second, they must have a petition signed by 25 Western students who are registered for courses this quarter. Prospective candidates must then pay a refundable \$10 deposit in the Finance Office, VU 202.

Degginger recommended candidates read the job description for the position for which they apply, and then read the entire election code.

Included in the code are regulations concerning campaign materials and expenses. Candidates may spend up to \$60, none of which is provided by the AS, as was reported in Tuesday's *Front*.

Deadline for filing is 5 p.m. Thursday. A mandatory meeting for all candidates will be at 5 p.m. April 27 in VU 219. Students who wish to file for office may do so in the Associated Students' office, VU 227.

## Shifting ground cuts power to Ridge

By Tim Millard  
staff reporter

Students sit around a flickering candle, laugh at the pulsating stairwell lights and the ghost stories being told. In the distance is the low roar of a generator. Down the hall someone is softly swearing because there isn't enough light to study a psych book.

This was the scene in many of the Ridgeway residence halls this week as students waited out the power outage that started Sunday about 4 p.m.

Pete Harris, director of Western's physical plant, said "settlement of the ground under Service Road between Ridgeway Saga and Delta had sheared a metal conduit containing electrical wires, causing them to fuse together and short out."

This blew the fuse for all of Ridgeway, causing the power outage.

Harris said physical plant personnel

were notified of the power outage and were on the job within 30 minutes. They worked through the night trying to isolate the problem. They came back at 8 a.m. Monday to continue the search.

Harris said power was restored to all the residence halls except Gamma and Kappa by Monday.

Tuesday afternoon the problem area had been isolated to within a few feet, Harris said. Workers had gone down a manhole near the suspected problem area and pulled out the electrical wires in the metal conduit. Once the wires were out they were able to measure off the distance to the problem area.

During this time they changed fuses and started up the power. The fuse was blown again, but they had isolated the problem to the Ridgeway Saga and Kappa area.

Kappa Resident Director Tina Fuchs said candles and blankets in Gamma and Kappa were available from the university.

Emergency generators also were keeping stairwell lights on.

Kappa was most affected and was not expected to have full power until late yesterday. A generator provides partial power during the day, but the residents have been told not to use heat-element appliances like curling irons, blow dryers, refrigerators and popcorn poppers.

Kappa resident Carrie Rysdorp commented on the "no curling iron rule."

"I'm tired of braiding my hair."

The generator also has its drawbacks. Kappa resident Kathy Carlson said, "The generator exhaust is right outside our window and it reeks really bad. It's also really loud."

But, Fuchs said, "There haven't been any conduct problems, but instead it's drawn people in the hall together."

The "roughing it" atmosphere has even caused some residents to call the dorm "Camp Kappa Theta."

Fish owners had concerns and frustrations during the power outage. Rich Wailes and Pat VanDerHyde said their floor harbored 12 fish worth about \$300. Without the electricity to keep the water warm, the fish eventually would die.

The residents gathered all the fish into one large tank in their room, Wailes said. They then hooked the tank to the emergency lights in the hallways.

Monday they were told to unhook the fish tank from the emergency lights. That night they kept the tank covered with sleeping bags and blankets to try to keep it warm. They also pumped air into it with a bicycle pump every half hour before they went to sleep, VanDerHyde said.

The generator was brought to Kappa the next day so the fish owners had no problems during daylight hours. But in the evening the manual pump process had to be repeated.

So far the fish seem OK, Wailes said. But many may have become ill.

# Adams: curb arms, build education

ADAMS, from p. 1  
of its GNP into defense.

The Japanese train twice as many engineers as the United States and place only one-tenth of them in military production.

Adams had harsh words for Reagan's SDI.

"(SDI) won't work," he said. "It is an enormous waste of money for the next decade or two. Maybe in the year 2025 it will, but you're draining resources to put it in SDI."

Five billion dollars will go into SDI next year and \$5 billion will be cut out of domestic areas to do it, Adams said.

Adams was asked that if SDI doesn't work, why are the Soviets so adamant about making it a major issue in the nuclear arms talks. He responded that the Soviets are not adamant about it and, actually, they just dropped it as a major issue.

"The Russian economy is faltering and they do not want to

continue to pour money into the missile gap," he said.

Adams said the Soviet Union cannot keep up with the United States on a technological level of building more sophisticated missiles.

Adams said by spending less on defense and more on technology, education and manufacturing improvements, we can combat the trade deficit and go into a "breaking of trade-barriers war."

Adams said the United States will distribute \$300 million of aid to the four countries surrounding Nicaragua to raise the poverty level and prevent the violation of human rights in those four countries.

On the issue of the space program, Adams said the United States should continue to explore space but not to use the space shuttle. He views the shuttle as purely a research vessel and "incredibly dangerous" for passengers.

# Former hostage relates story

By Marne Stoneburg  
staff reporter

To some, Rev. Benjamin Weir's first reactions as he was kidnapped in Beirut may have been a bit out of the ordinary.

"Well, this is a new experience. Somehow I must be in the hands of God," were the ex-hostage's thoughts as he was abducted May 8, 1984.

Weir recalled his hostage experience in a forum Tuesday in the Viking Union Lounge.

Prior to his capture by Shiite Moslem extremists, Weir and his wife Carol served as Presbyterian missionaries and fraternal workers in Lebanon for 32 years.

Weir was held captive for 16 months, the first 14 in solitary confinement. He was released September 14, 1985.

The kidnapping occurred on a Tuesday morning as Weir and his wife stepped out of their apartment. She was on her way to work and he had to attend a meeting.

A young man approached and Weir asked what he wanted. The man said he wanted him, Weir said.

Weir was shoved into the back seat of a car while a man in the front seat pointed a pistol at him and told him to get down on the floor.

When the car finally stopped, a plastic bag was put over Weir's head, and his hands and feet were bound in adhesive plastic tape. The kidnapers then stuffed him in a box and loaded him into a truck. He was taken to the room where he spent the next 14 months.

He was blindfolded and ordered never to take it off in the presence of his captors, or he would be killed.

"I felt my faith was very frail," he said. Weir later asked a guard to find him a New Testament. On his 35th day of confinement, the door was unlocked, a guard came in, closed it and left. On the bed was an Arabic New Testament.

"I kissed it," he said. "It meant so much to me."

Weir had little communication with his captors. The extremists hoped holding him hostage would lead to an exchange involving Weir and other hostages for 17 Iraqi prisoners in Kuwait. Weir said he didn't learn of the proposed trade until a couple months after being captured.

From the first day of confinement, Weir kept track of the date, through a mental calendar based on pock marks from nails driven into the wall.

At the end of the 14th month Benjamin Weir was led to another space, which he shared with Father Martin Jenko.

He and Jenko later were joined by two other hostages. The guards gave the men a full English Bible.

Weir was the only hostage released on September 14, 1985.

Weir said the U.S. government must take conditions that have led to hostage-taking more seriously. Some nations are angered at what they perceive as America's one-sided support of Israel at the expense of neighboring countries.

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**WESTERN WASHINGTON UNIVERSITY OFFICIAL ANNOUNCEMENTS**

**PLEASE POST**

Deadline for announcements in this space is 4 p.m. Friday for the Tuesday edition and 4 p.m. Wednesday for the Friday edition of Western Front. Announcements should be limited to 50 words, typewritten or legibly printed, and sent through campus mail or brought in person to the Publications Office, Commissary 108. Do not address announcements directly to the Western Front. Phoned announcements will not be accepted. All announcements should be signed by originator.

**SPRING QUARTER DEGREE/INITIAL CERTIFICATE CANDIDATES:** All students expecting to graduate and/or receive a teaching certificate at the close of spring quarter must have an evaluation on file in the Registrar's Office, OM230, by Apr. 21. An appointment must be made in that office.

**CREDIT BY EXAMINATION** applications for spring must be received by the Testing Center, OM120, by Apr. 27.

**JUNIOR WRITING EXAM** will be given at 3 p.m. Apr. 20, 21, 22, 23, 24, 27, 28, 29, 30 & May 1. Students must pre-register in OM120. Bring picture ID.

**LAST DAY TO ENROLL** in the student emergency illness/accidental injury plan for spring quarter is Fri., Apr. 24.

**INFO SESSION ON FALL QTR. STUDY IN GREECE** will be held at 4 p.m. Wed., Apr. 22, in AH202. Staff will show slides and answer questions. Everyone welcome.

**COUNSELING CENTER** spring groups are: **Bulimia Group**, Mon. starting Apr. 13, MH277 (preliminary one-hour interview required); **Math Anxiety Reduction**, Wed., Apr. 15 to May 6, 2-4 p.m., MH372A; **Overcoming Speech Anxiety**, Thurs., Apr. 23 to May 31, 3-5 p.m.; **Overcoming Text Anxiety**, Tues., Apr. 14 to May 12, 3-5 p.m.; **Women's Support Group**, Wed., 3-5 p.m., MH277. To sign up, contact the Counseling Center, MH262, 676-3164.

**STRATA** is open from 8 a.m. to 4 p.m. daily. Stop by for coffee or tea. • **Brown-bag lunch** is held from noon to 2 p.m. each Wednesday in VA460A. Apr. 22: Margaret Lerner (education), "Implications of Baby 'M' Case." • **Adult social:** 5-7 p.m. today (Apr. 17), Teriyaki Bar, 119 W. Holly. • **Family social:** free cartoon show with free popcorn at 4 p.m. Sun., Apr. 26. • **Special events:** Day at Stanley Park zoo, Sun., May 3; trip to Longacres racetrack with buffet dinner, Fri., May 8; Victoria get-away weekend, including transportation and hotel, May 15-17. Call 676-3460, X/26, for prices and additional information.

**THE SPRING BOOK OF THE QUARTER** is *How Free Are We? What the Constitution Says We Can and Cannot Do* by John Sexton & Nat Brandt. First panel, "Freedom's Foundation and the Exercise of Liberty," is 4-5:30 p.m. Tues., Apr. 28, in the WL Presentation Room. Admission free.

**Career Planning & Placement Center Recruiting Schedule**  
Seniors must have their files established in the Placement Center prior to sign-up for interviews.

**Kelso School District**, Mon., Apr. 20. Elementary, special ed, English majors. Sign up in OM280.  
**Farmers Insurance Group**, Tues., Apr. 21. Business majors. Sign up in OM280.  
**First Investors Corp.**, Thurs.-Fri., Apr. 23-24. All majors. Sign up in OM280.  
**Bakersfield City School District**, Fri., Apr. 24. Elementary/junior high/bilingual/special education majors. Sign up in OM280 beginning Apr. 17.  
**Hawaii State Dept. of Education**, Mon., Apr. 27. Education, other majors. Sign up in OM280 beginning Apr. 20. Group meeting required—8:30 a.m. or 1 p.m. Apr. 27, OM280.  
**Godfather's Pizza**, Tues., Apr. 28. Business-related majors. Sign up in OM280.  
**U.S. Naval Investigation Service (civilian)**, Tues., Apr. 28. Law enforcement. Sign up in OM280.  
**IBM**, Wed., Apr. 29. Business/computer science majors. Sign up in OM280 beginning Apr. 15.  
**Radio Shack**, Wed., Apr. 29. All majors. Sign up in OM280.  
**Russell Stover Candles**, Thurs., Apr. 30. Business-related majors. Sign up in OM280 beginning Apr. 16.  
**Puyallup School District**, Fri., May 1. Education majors. Sign up in OM280 beginning Apr. 24. Group meeting required—9 a.m. or 1 p.m. May 1, OM280.  
**WA Fair Share/Central America Peace Camp**, Wed., May 6. All majors. Sign up in OM280 beginning Apr. 22.

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# 'Dialogue' investigates all sides of war

By Barry Rogowski  
staff reporter

The National Guard will roll onto Western's campus Monday.

Rather than quell student protests against the university's grading system, however, the Guard is part of a week-long "Peace and War Dialogue."

The forum is an attempt to bring the military, Veterans of Foreign Wars and peace advocates together to share their views about past and present eras of peace and war in the nation's history.

The forum's opening ceremonies will begin at noon Monday in the plaza outside the Performing Arts Center, where the Veterans of Foreign Wars' color guard will raise the American flag.

Western President G. Robert Ross will then appear for a welcome and introductory speech to the week.

Each day, the forum will recognize different segments of society, the roles they

play and their views on peace and war.

Most of the week-long educational forum will take place in the Viking Union Lounge, in case of rain. Admission to the week's events or speakers is free.

Tuesday is Military Day. Bellingham's Air National Guard will display tactical communication equipment, and the Bellingham National Guard's 286th field engineering company will display combat-oriented field engineering equipment.

Speakers from various segments of the armed forces also will be present to speak about different topics through the day.

Wednesday, psychologist Emmett Early is scheduled to give a speech on the "Psychology of the Warrior." The speech will entail what goes through a combat veteran's mind before, during and after battle.

Also Wednesday, veterans of World War I, World War II, the Korean War and the Vietnam War will gather in Red Square for a reunion and a memorial name-reading of more than 1,300 men and

women killed or missing in action during the Vietnam conflict.

"The name-reading memorial will be an emotional event," said James Green, a Vietnam veteran.

Veterans, friends and family members will read the names of acquaintances killed in Vietnam. Green said he will read the names of three of his friends during the memorial.

"Green won't admit it, but he's the guy that started the idea for this whole event," said Randy Hansen, Veterans Outreach Center coordinator.

"Four months ago Green came into the center with an idea about a multi-media show. Now the idea has grown into a week-long dialogue," Hansen said.

Currently, the Veterans' Outreach Center, The Peace Resource Center, The Men's Resource Center, Global Peace and Education Center, the Associated Students and the history and political science departments have contributed to the week's

agenda, Hansen said.

"Once people heard about what was going on, they wanted to get involved," he said.

Friday's speakers include a variety of community leaders, professors and ministers who will speak during the day individually, in panel discussions and in audience participation sessions on the theme of world peace, volunteer Lynn Allen said.

Allen sees herself as a catalyst for peace. She said she volunteered time because she believes it is very important to connect a number of different individuals who are working toward the common goal of world peace to share ideas.

"Information-sharing is action for peace," she said. "When individuals remain isolated and uninformed, they also remain immobilized and ineffective to accomplish a common goal."

For more information about the "Dialogue on Peace and War," contact the Veterans' Outreach Center in VU 221, or call 676-3460.

## ASP films survive board inquiry

By Clay Martin  
staff reporter

Judging from the crowd at "A Clockwork Orange" Wednesday night, it seems hard to believe the AS films program is losing money, but the program is \$7,000 in the red so far this year.

With movies such as "Manhattan," "The Kids Are All Right," "Stand By Me" and others that have a wide appeal on college campuses, the question is why is the program losing money.

"Many are under the assumption that people don't come to the films, and that's just not true," Madeline McCambridge, AS Productions film coordinator, said Wednesday. "About 8,000 to 10,000 people attend the movies each year. The program brings in more people each year than any other program, including football."

McCambridge said the reason for the monetary deficit is not low ticket sales, but high production costs. Paying security, ticket-takers and media productions have consumed a large portion of

the \$1,500 budget allocated to them each year.

"The intention of the film program was to be self-supporting, but that's no longer feasible with the proliferation of VCRs," she said.

Some critics of the film program have claimed it is losing money because McCambridge has not shown enough "mainstream" movies that have a massive popular attraction. Instead, she has chosen predominantly alternative and foreign movies with a more esoteric appeal.

April 8, the AS Board discussed a possible referendum that stated, in effect, the AS film program should be cut if it can not be self-supporting. The proposal provided the opportunity for some of the board members to express their criticisms of the program.

Jeff Chandler, AS director at-large for Communications, said he thinks the AS has not shown enough "popular" films.

"I know all the films are culturally enriching and all that, but

not many students are going to them," he said.

McCambridge disagreed.

"I've combined films I think are culturally enlightening and entertaining, possibly educational. I think that's the method that works best. It would be ridiculous to show only big films, because they cost too much and people have already seen them," she said.

"You've got to be discriminating, but you've got to stick to your values," she said. "I'm not going to waste the money on 'Friday the 13th, Part XIX.'"

At the AS board meeting Wednesday the proposed referendum was dropped without debate.

McCambridge said the AS films program has lost money each of the past five years, and the \$7,000 deficit this year is a great improvement over the \$24,000 lost last year.

The movies are shown in the Performing Arts Center or Lecture Hall 4 every Wednesday and Sunday.

## Egyptian visitors study water plans

By Stephen John

staff reporter

The wet world of Western Washington hosted visitors from a slightly drier region of the world recently.

A group of 10 Egyptian post-baccalaureate students interested in water management were the guests of the Huxley College of Environmental Studies this week.

Bellingham was the first stop for the group after a short stay in Washington, D.C., where they were joined by their State Department escorts. They will continue a tour of the United States, which will include sites in Nevada, Arizona and Tennessee.

The tour is sponsored by America-MidEast Education and Training Services, a non-profit group that gives students from the Middle East and North Africa opportunities to join study groups. It also helps students from those regions attend universities in the United States.

Robin Matthews, chairwoman of the host committee formed by Huxley College, said the organization was interested in giving the guests a chance to see a diverse cross-section of America.

Apparently, someone in Washington, D.C. had heard of Huxley College, she said. Bellingham probably was chosen as the first stop because of its contrast with Egypt's environment, she added.

The group was chosen from about 300 applicants, Nagwa Badr said during a potluck given for the visitors at Lakewood. Badr is a chemist working for the National Research Center in Cairo, writing her master's thesis on the agricultural uses of waste water treatment.

She said the trip will familiarize them with American technology in the field of water treatment and management, and also will allow the group to share Egyptian views on the subject.

Matthews planned an itinerary that will give the group a chance to see the varied resources of the area. The students attended a Huxley class on stream ecology and a seminar on water treatment techniques given by Peter Willing, director of Whatcom Water District 10.

The students left the classroom long enough to visit the Nooksack River and Mt. Baker, where they put their engineering expertise to use in a snowball fight.

The group also toured the Georgia-Pacific plant in Bellingham and finished its stay with a trip to the San Juan Islands.

Hesham El Badry, who was trained as a civil engineer but is a lecturer at Ain Shams University in Cairo where he teaches irrigation and fluid mechanics, likened the Bellingham area to places he has visited in Scotland and Italy.

## Harassment panel begins Affirmative Action Week

By Shanna Gowenlock

staff reporter

Widespread sexual harassment of men or women is a problem society needs to address before it can be eliminated.

This was the consensus Monday afternoon in the Viking Union Lounge as Affirmative Action and the Associated Students' Women's Center sponsored a panel discussion on the topic.

"(Sexual harassment) happens everywhere," said Lacey Lewis-Smithson, a therapist for Northwest Women's Services, a non-profit counseling agency.

Smithson said males typically are the harassers and females are the most likely victims of sexual harassment, which can range from innuendos, to sexual jokes, to physical contact, to physical assault and rape.

Connie Copeland, assistant vice president to the dean of Student Affairs, added that men also can be victims of sexual harassment.

Men also have come to Copeland to complain on behalf of women being harassed.

"In at least 50 percent of the cases coming to me, they (women) are coming to me because their boyfriends bring them, or they call to see if I'm a safe person to come to," she said, adding she never takes action against an accused harasser without the victim's consent.

More men than women complain to her about hearing sexist jokes told in classes, Copeland said.

She said a reason for this is women live with sexist jokes all their lives.

"We just don't hear them anymore," Copeland said.

"If you want to know if a joke is sexist," offered Ann Simons, a Western student who was sexually harassed at another school, "replace the 'girl' part of the joke with 'person of color.' Is it still funny?"

Simons said, while a lot of people would be offended by a racist joke, sexist jokes enjoy widespread acceptance.

Copeland said men are increasingly more aware of how damaging sexual harassment really is.

"(Men) feel it; they see it, because they are more aware of it. They see it happen to their mothers, sisters and friends," she said.

Smithson said sexual harassment involves fear, manipulation and/or violation of a trust relationship.

"Sexual harassment is unwanted attention imposed upon a person in an unequal power situation," she said.

Simons recalled her feelings when a professor she had come to regard as a mentor made sexual overtures toward her.

"I was dumbfounded. I didn't know what to do," she said. "I didn't want to make an enemy of this person, or jeopardize my 'A' in the class."

Copeland said one of the most common questions people have is, "is it really sexual harassment?"

Simons said she had to stop and ask herself, "Is it really what I think it was?"

Simons said one answer to this question is to "listen to your gut feelings. If you feel uncomfortable, you most likely have a reason to be."

Western does have a sexual harassment policy, and students who believe they may be experiencing sexual harassment can seek advice from Copeland in the Office of Student Affairs, Old Main 390, or Maurice Bryan, Affirmative Action, Old Main 335.

## Students, university prepare for parents

It's Showtime, and Western's audience is ready and waiting for the first act.

The festivities for this year's annual Parent's Weekend, themed "Showtime," begin at 6:30 p.m. April 24, when Western President G. Robert Ross throws down the welcome mat for parents and other campus visitors in the Viking Union.

After Ross' greeting, the celebration will slide into the night with light jazz from David Friesen in the VU Coffeeshop. Friesen is brought to Western by the Associated Students' Productions and Mama Sundays.

The sixth-annual Western Jam lip sync contest then rocks

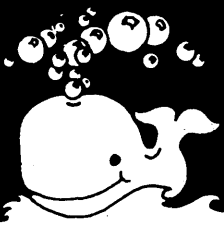
Saturday's AS brunch features Western Vice President for Student Affairs Sandra Taylor, AS President Terri Echelbarger and Bellingham Mayor Tim Douglas giving their views on the "community spirit" at Western.

Highlighting the weekend is the "Western Showtime" talent show Saturday night in the VU Lounge, featuring various stage acts.

AS Director at-large for Communications Jeff Chandler said a handful of acts already have signed up for the show, but those still wanting to audition should contact him as soon as possible at 676-3460.


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# ACCENT Magazine

By Rebecca L. Duce  
staff reporter

As I walked to class this morning, I couldn't help overhearing the conversation of the people walking behind me. They were discussing whether a transporter beam, when scrambling molecules, kills the transportee and recreates an exact duplicate.

"Philosophy students," I assured myself.

Later, at the Viking Union, I saw two cloaked and hooded figures run by with scepters and swords. In the VU Coffeeshop were a 10th-century English lady, a Romulan Federation commander complete with raised eyebrows and pointed ears, and several unrecognizable characters who insisted they were not from this planet. Who was I to argue?

These bizarre sightings can be explained by Viking Con, Western's annual science fiction and fantasy convention. The convention, in its eighth year, begins today in the VU and continues through Sunday.

Viking Con VIII is presented by Western's Science Fiction and Fantasy Club (SFFC), an Associated Students organization.

Duane Jensen, convention director, said Viking Con provides people with similar interests an opportunity to get together and compare viewpoints.

SFFC member John Gresbrink said, "It's an experience you'll never get in any other place unless you invent time travel. Once you go, you'll want to go back."

The guest of honor at this year's convention is Alan Dean Foster, a science fiction and fantasy novelist.

Foster's long list of published work includes some "Star Trek" and "Alien" novelizations.

Other guests include: graphic artist Julia Lacquement; science guest of honor Paul Swanson, who has worked with jet propulsion; Steve Jackson, inventor of the "Car Wars" game; Greg Cox, former Western student and a Viking Con founder; short story author Frank Catalano; and Bellingham author Sara Stamey.

Viking Con VIII also offers panels and presentations on science, science fiction and fantasy. Video rooms, trivia contests and role-playing games are planned, as well as a

scavenger hunt, an Easter egg hunt, a masquerade dance, a merchant's room, an art show and an auction.

Jensen said Viking Con started with "a bunch of people who thought, 'Hey, the AS has money. Let's use it.'" Since then, Viking Con has had an uneven career.

Viking Con V was saved by two last-minute guests, Leonard Nimoy and James Hogan. The year after that, the guest of honor and all the scheduled writers cancelled.

Robert Quigley, a Western physics professor, said he became involved in the first Viking Con because he knew the students who organized it. This year he is scheduled to be on a panel,

discussing intelligent life elsewhere in the universe. Quigley said one reason he enjoys the conventions is that they draw intelligent guest speakers.

He also mentioned "Footfall," a science-fiction novel by Larry Niven and Jerry Pournelle, in which Bellingham is destroyed. Quigley said they decided to destroy Bellingham after a visit to Viking Con IV.

Viking Con has had "a little impact on the outside world," Quigley said.

Sara Stamey, local author, will be a guest on some panels. She said panel topics can range from hard science or censorship under the Reagan administration, to

sex and fantasy stories.

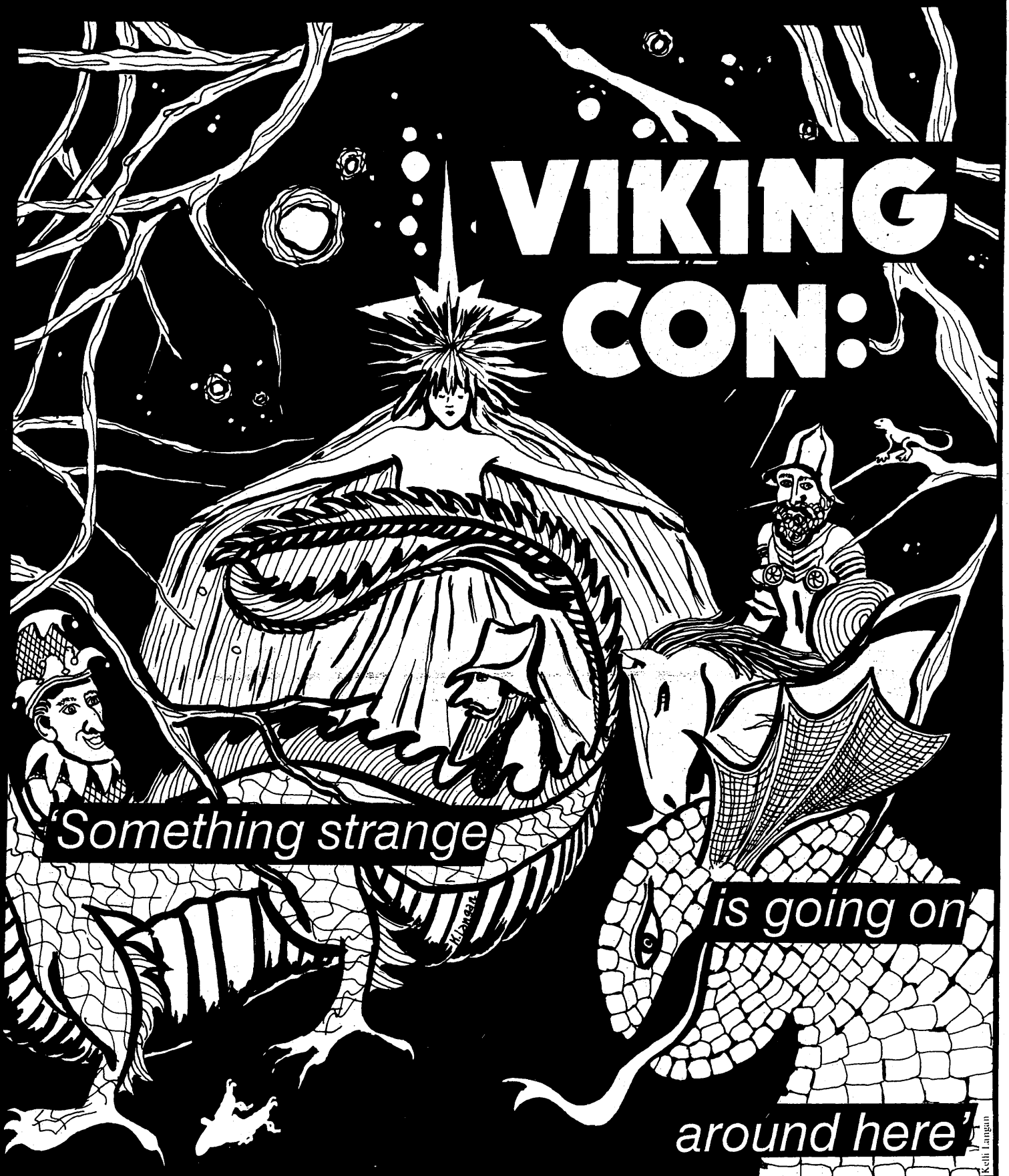
"There are a lot of fascinating ideas floating around," Stamey said.

Writers, editors, scientists and people who are interested in science fiction attend the conventions, Stamey said.

"I've made some really good friends who share the spirit of writing," she added.

Another Viking Con activity is "The Rocky Horror Picture Show," a popular cult movie. It will be shown tonight at 7, 9 and midnight and at midnight tomorrow.

Membership rates are \$18 for the full three days and \$12 for a single-day pass. The convention opens officially at 3 p.m. today.







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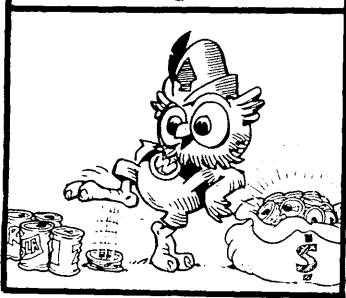
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4 ACADEMY AWARDS  
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EVES 7:05, 9:00  
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**is it live?**

"Pastels are in and peach is hotter than pink."

The cashier at Jay Jacobs announced this confidently, and one glance around the fashion Mecca of Bellingham confirmed her proclamation.

Spring fashions have arrived, and for about the price of one quarter's tuition you too can make your own fashion statement.

Jay Jacobs, Place Two and Maurice's abound with clothes the colors of wedding-reception mints. Washed-out, wimpy shades of pink and green await Bellingham's fashion-conscious youngsters turned loose with their parents' plastic. The spring selection at Jay Jacobs will certainly present them with a wide variety of color choices: peach, peach, slightly darker peach, and peachy-pink.

Clothing adorned with cryptic phrases appears to be another indispensable statement maker this spring.

Place Two offers shirt and short sets, patterned like the result of someone's fifth tequila, printed with slogans such as "face plant," "lipped off" and "scopin' adventure." Totally bitchin', for sure and only \$59 plus tax for the entire ensemble.

Jackets, in the artfully faded denim as ubiquitous this season as pastel peach, also boast the attraction of cryptic writing. Emblems are very much in, the cashier said, adding they are inspired by the movie "Top Gun."

Ah, there's nothing like a movie to make people want to spend large amounts of money on stupid fashions. Remember "Flashdance" and ripped sweatshirts?

This spring, for only \$75, you can buy a plain denim jacket adorned with "Top Gun"-inspired emblems that say "Code Bleu." Just \$135 will purchase a denim "Dual Control" jacket festooned with narrow strips of leather on the shoulders. How much do you suppose a "Singal Control" jacket would be?

Don't ask us how everyone can afford to be "with it" every year. We're still wondering what people do with last year's styles when they still look new but aren't so "rad" anymore.

But, when standing in the doorway faced with the nightmarish pastel monochrome of this season's fashion uniform, remember what the saleswoman in Maurice's said:

"Everyone has their own style, I believe. That's what makes us all different."

**CORRECTION OK, YOU CAUGHT US AGAIN!!!**

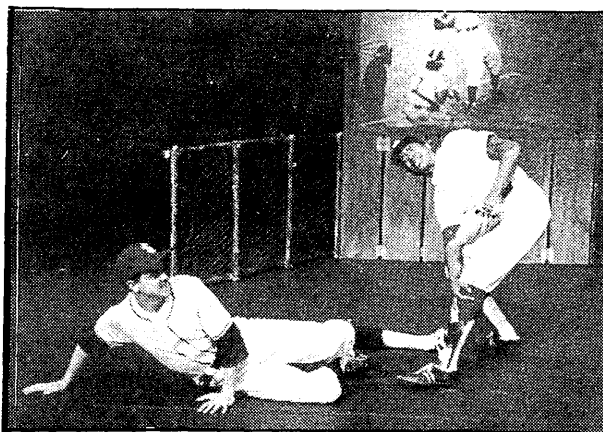
Last week's anonymous review of "Among the Living," the new album by the group Anthrax, was written by Jeff Braimes. We apologize for any confusion, *distress* or *paranoia* the missing byline may have caused.

ACCENT magazine is a weekly pull-out supplement to The Western Front.

Accent Editor: Julie McGalliard

Assistant Accent Editors:

Jeff Keeling Bill Freeberg



Left to right: Kevin Reese as Enos Slaughter and Dorien Wilson as Jackie Robinson.

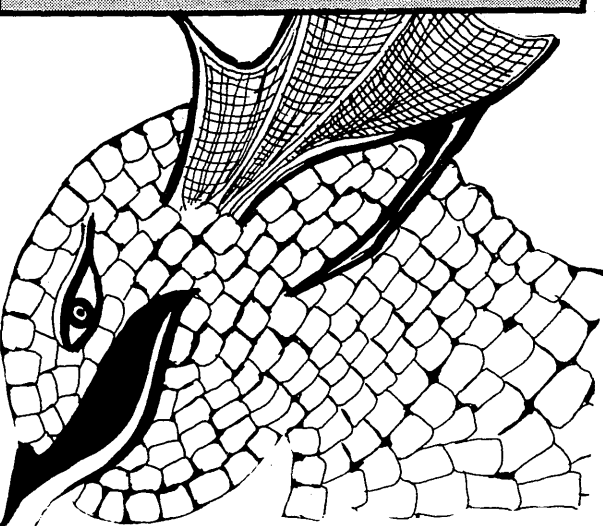
**Most Valuable Player**

Western Theater offers a special evening of children's theater tonight at 7:30.

"Most Valuable Player" is the story of Jackie Robinson, the first black major league baseball player in the United States. The production covers Robinson's early bitter confrontations with prejudice as well as his greatest moment of triumph—being named baseball's Most Valuable Player in 1949.

"Most Valuable Player" is a production of the internationally acclaimed California Theater Center. The group specializes in children's theater.

Tonight's one-time showing is in the Old Main Theater.



**Musicians folk around at Mama Sundays**

By Tore Slette  
staff reporter

This evening Mama Sundays presents the Ferryboat Musicians, a duo that plays traditional and modern folk songs from the British Isles and America.

Kathryn "Kat" Eggleston, 29, from Vashon Island and Steve Guthe, 32, from Massachusetts comprise the Ferryboat Musicians.

"We got started by playing on Washington state ferries 'street music style,' hence our name," Eggleston said.

The musicians use the hammer dulcimer and the penny whistle, two traditional British in-

struments, in their act. The guitar, the banjo and the mandolin round out their repertoire of instruments.

"We play a conglomerate of modern and old songs. I was into Irish, Scottish and English music, and Steve was into American folk music when we met," Eggleston said. "We combined our interests and now we're playing around the Seattle area and doing some private engagements as well, such as weddings," she added.

One wedding they'll certainly play is their own, which Eggleston said will be soon.

The Ferryboat Musicians have released one tape, a self-titled concert recording. They

also can be heard on a Northwest folk music compilation album, along with notables Jim Page and Kendra & Barry. Victory Music Organization produced the album.

Though not widely known outside limited music circles, hammer dulcimers and penny whistles aren't hard to acquire.

"A lot of acoustic music stores carry them," Eggleston said. "In fact, the only company that makes hammer dulcimers in the United States is located in the Fremont District in Seattle."

Tonight's show begins at 8 in the Viking Union Coffee Shop. Admission is \$1, childcare and refreshments are free.

# Homegrown writer tries novel approach to SF

By Jeff Keeling  
Accent assistant editor

The agricultural planet of Poindros is galaxies away from rural Whatcom County, but Bellingham native Sara Stamey drew on her experiences growing up here when she created the planet for her first novel.

Stamey, 34, will be on hand at the annual Viking Con festival on campus this weekend with copies of her science-fiction novel "Wild Card Run," and also will participate in several panels at the convention.

A former control operator at nuclear reactors in Hanford and San Clemente, Calif., Stamey said her science background and experience working at the reactors are reflected in the novel.

"It was an interesting job," she said of the reactor work, "but I began having my doubts about it."

Stamey studied chemistry and other sciences at the University of Puget Sound during her first stint at college.

"I'd been wanting to write all along, but everyone convinced me science was something I would do well at," she said.

After quitting her job as a control operator, Stamey returned to school, this time at Western, and received an English degree in 1981.

Most of the jobs Stamey has held so far in life don't betray her field of study. In addition to working in the nuclear field, she has for several years taught scuba and skin diving in the Caribbean and the Mediterranean.

"I've got ideas for books set in some of the areas I've taught," Stamey said.

Even while earning a living teaching scuba, Stamey said she read and wrote quite a bit.

She said the novel was something "I'd been thinking about for a long time. It just seemed the story that wanted to be told."

"I had been kind of intimidated by the project's length, but finally I just did it."



The novel has two main threads running through it, both of which reflect Stamey's past experience.

The planet Poindros is in a galaxy ruled by a disembodied computer system. The rulers, called Cybers, run the galaxy according to a strict plan, placing limits on human freedom. Stamey said her work in the reactors helped her to create a realistic system of this kind.

When the Cybers force heroine Ruth Kurtis to return to her native Poindros, the part of the plot dealing with personal relationships develops. Poindros is a polyandrous planet (women have multiple husbands), and the men work the land, like drones in a hive.

This part of the plot deals with Ruth's return to her mother's household and the problems she experiences with her different "fathers."

"In a way I like to deal with relationships, so there's a lot of that sort of thing in there," Stamey said.

She grew up in a large extended family, which influenced the aspect of relationships in the novel. The rurality of Bellingham also influenced her choice of Poindros' features, she said.

"Bellingham's really changed a lot since I grew up here," she said. "It's kind of sad in a way."

Stamey lived near Happy Valley, much of which she said was bulldozed to make what is now Valley Parkway.

"Wild Card Run" was published by Berkley Publishing, and Stamey has a contract with the company for a second book.

"The whole process is real interesting," she said of the steps involved in publishing a book. "Rewrites, copy editing and the other things you have to do were all new to me."

Marketability was one aspect of professional writing Stamey hadn't encountered before.

She felt her editor had some good criticisms, but that "I was sort of compromising some of my original ideas and themes because of some of her recommendations for making the book marketable."

Another difficulty Stamey had with the publishers involved the book's cover, which she felt didn't fully represent the content of the book.

However, she said, "You have to realize that when you get into the marketplace, it's really a cooperative effort to get a book out."

The science fiction genre recently became a more profitable one, at least for some writers. An agent told Stamey a recent trend, setting novels in

a fairly realistic near future, has proven popular to more mainstream audiences.

"Blade Runner type stuff," she explained.

She cited statistics concerning the meager average earnings for writers, but said this trend shows "there is hope for some people as far as making a living at it."

Stamey explained it is impossible for writers who don't have a "name" yet to do things entirely their way, but also believes some well-known writers become self-indulgent and begin to feel they don't even need an editor.

Though she plans to write a third book, Stamey is not sure whether she will pre-arrange a contract with a publisher for it. Her commercial writing experience leaves some doubt in her mind about how well she likes it.

"I'm kind of sitting back now and thinking 'what do I really want to do, do I want to be commercial?'" she said.

She described her experience of having her novel published as "a process of loss of innocence."

In spite of her dissatisfaction with aspects of commercial writing, Stamey doesn't believe she's finished writing books.

"I realized through the process there's a lot of areas where I need to grow as a writer, and I think that I have improved," she said.

## REVIEW

### Moonpins shine on tape

By Jeff Braimes  
staff reporter

The first thing a Bellingham band has to do to make it big in music is to get out of Bellingham. Perhaps Bellingham's most likely candidates for out-and-upness, The Moonpins, are in the process of doing just that, and their recently completed debut demo tape surely will aid that cause.

Entitled "The Moonpins," the eight-song demo is an excellent initial representation of an excellent band. Recorded at Fairhaven Studios and engineered by Eric "Not My Fault" Janko, the tape is tremendous musically and technically, and shows the diverse talents of the band well.

The music is extremely varied—progressive, kind of funk/pop, sometimes psychedelic, often bordering on fusion. Influences from Joe Jackson, the Talking Heads, the Fixx and even Rush can be heard, yet the music is fresh and original.

One reason for the diversity in the Pins' music is the number of contributing musical voices in the band. The singing and writing duties are shared by bassist Matt McClinton, guitarist Mike Kilpatrick and singer Harley Tat, and three distinct vocal styles give the band's sound variety.

Another contributor of diversity to the

tape is utility musician Rick Haykin. Haykin plays all keyboards and synthesizers on the tape, as well as some mean sax. His saxophonic talents are especially evident on "Things" and an instrumental, "Grapefruit," which he wrote and arranged. Haykin and Kilpatrick also play flute, a resource used well on "714."

Perhaps the best musical performance on the tape, however, is turned in by drummer Jack Wolfin. His intricate, often exotic beats provide a colorful rhythmic base for the band to build from.

That's probably the most striking thing about the Moonpins' music—rhythms. They are brutal rhythms, but ultimately dancable. With the melody often in the keyboards, the guitar becomes a beat instrument. Kilpatrick gets some great rhythm sounds on this tape, as well as a very hot acoustic bridge on "Pictures."

McClinton's funky slap bass style also adds to the shake-your-groove-thang nature of the music, especially on "Pictures" and "Tokyo Funk."

The quality of songwriting on the tape also is very good. The songs are mature and professional, and the melodies and breaks sound like a band not from Bellingham, Wash.—a good sign. Out and up, but first Buck's tonight and tomorrow at 9. Be there.

### NY duo brings reggae to VU

By John Wycle  
staff reporter

Casselberry-DuPree, a reggae duo from New York City, will perform a benefit concert for The Women's Center at 9 p.m. Thursday in the Viking Union Lounge.

The duo began on the alternative music circuit eight years ago, harmonizing reggae standards from musicians such as Bob Marley and the Wailers.

Judith Casselberry and Jacque DuPree met at Erasmus High School in Brooklyn, New York. After years spent performing in New York City, they

moved to the Bay Area where they contributed to the Academy-Award-winning film "The Life And Times Of Harvey Milk."

In 1983, they moved back to New York and performed a variety of benefits for organizations such as The International Treaty Council and the Women of Color Press.



CASSELBERRY-DUPREE

Currently, the duo is promoting its new album, "City Down," on Icebergg Records. It includes political and socially conscious

songs blending reggae with American folk, gospel, jazz and soul.

The album includes clever arrangements of Dory Previn's, "Does Jesus Have A Baby Sister?" and The Eagles pop classic, "Take It To The Limit."

Concert tickets are available at the information desk and Budget Tapes & Records. They are \$8 for students and \$9 for the general public.

# calendar

## Tonight

The Moonpins play rock 'n' roll at 9:30 p.m. at Buck's Tavern. Cover is \$4.

Bunny Hop Night with the Northwest Singles' Club will be hosted by the Bel-Airs from 9 p.m. to 1 a.m. at Nendel's Inn Ballroom. Admission is \$6 and no jeans allowed. For info, call 733-4084.

Rumors hosts a benefit for Animal Advocates at about 8:30 p.m. Voluntary donations.

A fashion show featuring clothing from Golden Rule and The Grandchild begins at 8 p.m. at the Blue Max. Free.

Louis Fontaine and the Rockets play music from the '50s, '60s and '70s, as well as contemporary rock 'n' roll, 9 p.m. at Lord Cornwall's. Cover is \$2.

The Cruisers play top-40 music from 9:30 p.m. to 1:30 a.m. at Swing Shift on Cornwall. Free.

Christina McCarty and Julie Waters perform flute duets at Tony's Coffee. Free.

Mama Sundays presents the Ferryboat Musicians in the Viking Union Coffee Shop at 8 p.m. Admission is \$1.

## Tomorrow

Moonpins continue glowing at Buck's. Cover is \$4.

Rumors hosts a birthday show for Mr. and Miss Gay Bellingham beginning at 9 p.m.

Louis Fontaine and the Rockets continue at Lord Cornwall's. Cover is \$2.

Marcia Guderian sings and plays guitar at Tony's Coffee. Free.

The Cruisers continue at Swing Shift. Free.

Almighty Dread play from 9 p.m. to midnight in the Fairhaven Lounge. Cost is \$3.

## Sunday

The movie "The Fly" at 6:30 and 9 p.m. in the Performing Arts Center. Admission is \$2.

Steve Murray performs at Tony's Coffee. Free.

Rumors hosts an impromptu Easter show at 8 p.m. Free.

Louis Fontaine and the Rockets continue at Lord Cornwall's.

## Wednesday

Erin Corday, a local folk guitarist, will perform a concert at 7:30 p.m. in the Roeder Home (2600 Sunset Drive, Bellingham). A \$2 donation will be accepted at the door. For more information, contact 733-3958.

Spoiler and Karate Church at Buck's. Tunes start at 9 p.m., cover is \$2.

The San Juan Music Educators Choral Concert will be presented at 9 a.m. in the PAC Concert Hall. Free.

## Thursday

The Isaac Scott Band sings and plays the blues at 9:30 p.m. at Buck's. Cover is \$4.

Open mike, hosted by Laurette Langille, begins at 9:30 p.m. at Cal's Tavern.

## Seattle

Clay Alien plays tonight at Squid Row on Pine Street.

Ratt and Poison rock the Arena April 21.

## Briefly

"Dialogue on Peace and War" is a five-day forum Monday through Friday. Topics include a tribute to veterans. The event is sponsored by the Veteran's Outreach Center. For more information, call 676-3460, ext. 47.

The Bellingham Theater Guild's production of "The Subject Was Roses" completes its run with two performances at 8:15 tonight and tomorrow night. For information or reservations, call from 7 to 9 p.m.

Susan Marshall & Company, a highly praised theatrical-dance group from New York City, will perform April 23-26 at the Washington Hall Performance Gallery in Seattle at 8 p.m. nightly. Call 325-7901 for more information.

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**FILM  
ON  
CAMPUS**

This Sunday "The Fly," starring Jeff Goldblum ("The Big Chill") will be playing in the Performing Arts Center at 6:30 and 9 p.m. The 1986 film is about a scientist who, through his own experimentation, finds himself transforming into a fly. This horrifying transformation creates the theme of a frightening movie that won the 1986 Academy Award for best makeup. The Associated Students' film is co-sponsored by Viking Con.

"Half Life," a haunting documentary about the history and effects of nuclear testing in the Marshall Islands in the South Pacific, plays at 6:30 and 9 p.m. Wednesday in the PAC. Australian filmmaker Dennis O'Rourke combines U.S. Defense Department footage of the Bravo Test of 1954 and interviews with the natives who were victims of the radiation fallout. The film is a devastating portrayal of the use of the natives as "guinea pigs" by the U.S. government.

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# Western has new athletic director

By Jim Thomsen  
staff reporter

Following last month's induction into the National Association of Intercollegiate Athletics Hall of Fame, Western women's basketball coach Lynda Goodrich has carved out yet another notch on her long totem pole of career achievements.

On July 17 Goodrich will succeed Boyde Long as Western's Athletic Director, Western President G. Robert Ross said.

Goodrich said she welcomed the new opportunity.

"I'll have my work cut out for me, but I would not have accepted the position if I didn't think I could handle all of the responsibilities. I look forward to it very much."

Goodrich was recommended to Ross to succeed the resigning Long by a special screening committee chaired by John Utendale, faculty athletic representative. She had served as Western's associate athletic director for the past two years, while Long had been director for 19 years.

"Lynda has an excellent record of coaching and involvement in the Western

community, and she brings valuable experience to the job," Utendale said. "We feel comfortable about Western having taken the initiative of hiring the first female athletic director in the Evergreen Conference, and one of the first in the Columbia League. She was the most qualified choice."

The 1962 Lake Stevens High School graduate attended Western, earning her bachelor's degree (1966) and her master's degree (1973). Before assuming the head coaching duties of the Viking women's basketball program, Goodrich taught and coached for five years at West Seattle High School. She also has coached tennis, track and volleyball at various times at Western.

Goodrich, who has coached Viking women's basketball for 16 seasons, has steadily risen through the department. She became head of the women's athletic program in 1978 and took over as associate athletic director in 1985 prior to ascending to the top position.

As head coach, Goodrich has directed the Viking women hoopsters to an outstanding 333-107 record since 1971—a .757 winning percentage. Her teams have missed the playoffs only once and have topped the

20-win plateau 10 times. Four of her teams have reached the NAIA National tournament, including her 1985-86 squad, which reached the quarterfinals.

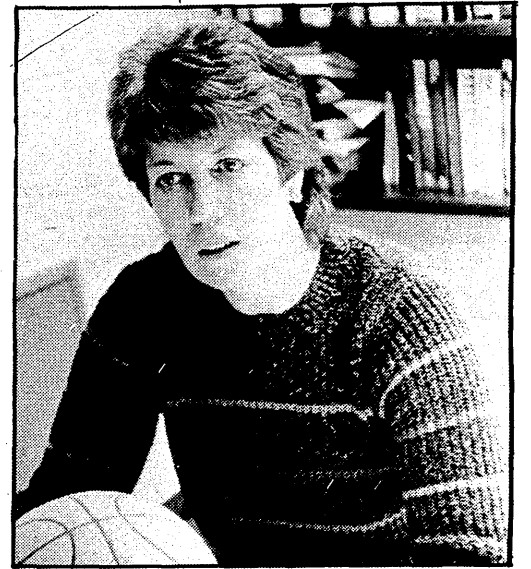
Goodrich was surprised to be inducted into the NAIA Hall of Fame.

"It's honestly an honor I never expected to receive," Goodrich said. "I'm happy and pleased."

The announcement was made in January by Chief Administrator Wally Schwartz on behalf of the NAIA Hall of Fame and NAIA Executive committees. But formal induction took place at the NAIA Hillyard Hall of Fame Luncheon March 17 in Kansas City, the annual site of the NAIA men's and women's postseason hoop championship tournaments. A reception in Goodrich's honor was given on campus April 9.

Goodrich is the fifth person and first woman from Western to be inducted into the NAIA Hall of Fame. Other Viking inductees include Sam Carver (1957), Charles Lappenbusch (1961), Herbert Hearsey (1975) and Chuck Randall (1985).

Goodrich plans to continue her head coaching duties as well as administrating the Western athletic department. She said



Lynda Goodrich

Front file photo

strong internal organization and equitable delegation of responsibilities will be the key to effectively managing both her positions. "It's going to be quite a challenge."

## Lacrosse team beat in Cal

By Neal Warnick  
staff reporter

The Western men's lacrosse team dropped all three of its games last weekend at the Western States Invitational Tournament at Sonoma State University in northern California.

But they gained some respect for Western and lacrosse in the Northwest.

Western's chances of advancing in the tournament were not good, and they seemed to get worse after the first game. The team was shelled 14-0 Saturday by top-seeded San Diego State University.

"Everyone was really nervous, and we were shell-shocked just being down there," Julio Ramirez, Western midfielder said.

"Playing against the top seed, we were kind of intimidated," midfielder Tim Bishop said.

After a lackluster performance in the first half, the team faced a 10-0 deficit at halftime. But Western got its head together in the second half and held SDSU to four goals.

In its second contest of the tournament and the day, Western loosened up and began to play its own quicker style of game against the Los Angeles Lacrosse Club. The team's speed could not overcome Los Angeles' crisp passing attack, however. Trailing 8-6 in the fourth quarter against a more experienced Los Angeles club, Western was hit with a rash of penalties it could not overcome. Los Angeles took advantage of Western's penalty problem and defeated the Northwest team 11-7.

"Penalties really hurt our team throughout the tournament," Bishop said.

Western's play on Sunday improved from the previous day, though the team still fell 9-8 to host

Sonoma State. In front of a hostile crowd, Western got off to a slow start, allowing Sonoma to jump out to an early 5-1 lead. But the theme of the game was catch-up and Western soon drew even with the hometown squad at 6-6.

Western was unable to overtake the California school, however. After trading a series of goals, the team had a chance late in the fourth quarter when a Sonoma penalty gave Western a one-man advantage. Western failed to convert in the man-up situation, and some late-game penalties on its own squad helped Sonoma take the contest.

Many Western players said they thought they could and should have won the game.

Bishop said Western's defense, anchored by Bob Burns at goal, improved throughout the tournament.

"The most important thing is that we learned a lot, and we saw how other teams played," Bishop said. "The tournament was a total success. It will definitely benefit us for the rest of the season."

He said the team could have won the last two games if it had the guidance of a coach. The team seriously is thinking about hiring one for next year. Currently, players double as the coaching staff.

The team may allocate some of next year's budget to pay the traveling expenses for a Canadian coach who would conduct Western's practices two or three times a week.

California's Whittier College beat Marin County Lacrosse Club 12-11 in sudden-death overtime to win the championship game. Former Western player Steven Sather is captain of the Whittier team.

The team will try to regroup this weekend east of the mountains when it plays Whitman College in Walla Walla tomorrow and Washington State University in Pullman the next day.

## On deck...

### Running

The sixth annual "Life, Be In It" Relay will be held April 25 at Cornwall Park. Relay teams can be all male, female or co-ed. Teams can choose to run a five-mile (four people x 1.25 miles) or a 10-mile (four people x 2.5 miles) course. For more information, contact Brad Adams at 676-6985.

Entries are now being accepted for the 10th Annual Norman Bright Road Run, to take place May 31. Entry fees are \$8 if received prior to May 24, \$12 after that or on race day. For more information, call 676-3353.

## Western tracksters ready to battle tough CWU team

By Mark Watson  
staff reporter

The Western tracksters went wildcat hunting.

The men's and women's teams left for Ellensburg this morning to compete in the Central Washington University Track and Field Invitational, which begins at noon today.

The Wildcats are sporting their best team in years, and some

believe it could be the team to spoil Western's seven-year domination at the district finals.

"Central has strong talent spread throughout the team," Sports Information Director Paul Madison said. "At the moment (the Central men) look to be the strongest team in the league. Individually, they did very well at our invitational last weekend."

The meet also will be the only chance the Vikings have this season to run on this year's district championship site.

"This will be a good chance for both teams to get a familiarization of the track," women's coach Tony Bartlett said.

Neither Viking coach is concerned about next month's district meet. Instead, they are preoccupied with improving the team's strength in upcoming meets.

"We have a lot of work to do before the district finals," Bartlett said. "Improving our times and qualifying more people for that meet is our present concern."

Western will compete with five other schools in today's meet, including Central, Pacific Lutheran University, Seattle Pacific University, Whitman College and Whitworth College.

"This is a good meet for us, because it will be the only time this season we will see Whitman and Whitworth before the district meet," Madison said.

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## FRONTLINE

### Let's remove negative check-off system

We, the students, will have a beautiful opportunity next month to tell the Board of Trustees what we think. Among the issues on which we'll vote is the present "negative check-off" system of fee collection.

This is the system by which Western's Washington Student Lobby and WashPIRG (Washington Public Interest Research Group) chapters collect much of their money.

It's the system that authorizes those fun little boxes you see at registration--the ones you have to check if you *don't* want to contribute \$2 to the non-profit, off-campus, student-approved groups. If, for some reason, registering students don't check the boxes, a \$2 fee for each group is added to the tuition bill.

The system isn't new. WSL has collected funds this way since 1981, and the Board of Trustees approved a local WashPIRG chapter with this system in May 1985.

Even at the time WashPIRG was approved, some were unhappy with the negative check-off system. One board member referred to it as a "back-door approach" to fund raising. And Danny Kadden, then a WashPIRG representative, was quoted in a 1985 *Front* as saying the group wouldn't survive with the system.

"We've looked into that," he reportedly said. "We've found it to be unworkable at Western." He favored a method known as "assessed refundable," in which the \$2 contribution automatically was tacked onto tuition and fees, with refunds available for about two weeks afterward to those who wanted them.

The WashPIRG representative presumably believed unless the contributions were deducted without prior student approval, too few students voluntarily would support his organization. Doesn't that make the "back-door approach" somewhat deceitful?

We approve of WSL and WashPIRG and all they do and stand for. They're good organizations. But they ought to employ a more straightforward method of accumulating capital. After all, how many of us have unwittingly contributed money to them by forgetting to check the boxes, or simply not noticing them at all?

A referendum will appear on the election ballot May 5 and 6 that gives students the chance to say whether they'd prefer a "positive check-off" system, in which those who *wish* to donate check the box.

Associated Students board members have indicated the Board of Trustees will respond to student opinion on the matter.

So vote, and if you don't like the "back-door approach," let it be known.

### Postscript. . .

For a good time, write. John Hinkley Jr., would-be presidential assassin, has apparently been writing to Ted Bundy, convicted death-row inmate, according to the United Press International. Hinkley also has written to Lynette "Squeaky" (to her friends) Fromme, trying to get an address for her ol' buddy Charley Manson. Sounds as if the gang's getting kind of lonely in their respective cells, and are looking to form a semi-exclusive singles club. Wonder if they can get a private "gabline" number?

## The Western Front

Jackie Soler, editor; Lori Robinson, managing editor; John Sleeper, news editor; Heidi de Laubenfels, opinion editor; Jeffrey Pedersen, sports editor; Julie McGalliard, Accent editor; Bill Freeberg and Jeff Keeling, Accent assistant editors; Brian Bean, copy chief; Clay Martin and Janet Murray, copy editors; Erin Earles, reader representative; Pete Jorgensen, production chief; Mike Gwynn, photo editor; Kelli Langan, artist; Mike Carroll, editorial cartoonist; Pete Steffens, adviser

Editorials reflect the majority opinion of *The Front* editorial board: the editor, managing editor, news editor, opinion editor and copy chief. Signed columns and cartoons are the opinions of the authors. Guest columns and letters are welcome. Four pages of *The Front* are funded by student fees. The rest is funded by advertising revenue. Advertisements in *The Front* do not reflect the opinion of *The Front*.

*The Front* is the official newspaper of Western Washington University and is produced by students through the journalism department. The editorial department is in College Hall 9, and the business office is in College Hall 7. *The Front* is printed at the *Lynden Tribune*. Phone numbers: 676-3160 (editorial department), 676-3161 (classified and display advertising, business), 676-3247 (journalism computer lab). Published Tuesdays and Fridays during fall, winter and spring quarters and Wednesdays during summer quarter. Not published holidays and final exam week. Entered as second-class matter at Bellingham, WA 98225. USPS I.D. #624-820.



### Capital punishment

## Revenge worse than betrayal

Terming "traitor" the "foulest word" in the English language, FBI Director William Webster recently joined several U.S. leaders in their call for a mandatory death penalty for convicted spies.

Webster, during a Senate hearing on his nomination to become CIA director, was quoted by United Press International as saying, "To me, the saddest word in the English language is 'betrayal,' and the foulest word is 'traitor.'"

To me, however, the saddest word in the English language is "barbaric," and the foulest word is "revenge," which is exactly what capital punishment is--especially in this case.

Almost all other industrialized nations have abolished the death penalty; the United States, along with South Africa and the Soviet Union, is among the few that have retained legalized executions.

Our embrace of a punishment most countries shun as uncivilized undermines the United States' role as a defender and promoter



Monica White

guest writer

of human rights throughout the world, and makes a hypocrisy of U.S. protests against human rights abroad.

Traditionally, the death penalty has been justified as a *retributive* punishment for convicted murderers. "Life for life, eye for eye, tooth for tooth," its proponents have shouted vengefully.

But many spies, such as the U.S. Marines allegedly involved in the Moscow sex-spy scandal, haven't killed anybody, so *retributive* punishment does not apply.

Capital punishment also cannot be justified as a deterrent. Criminologists never have established a link between the use of the death penalty and a decrease in the frequency of capital crimes.

In fact, since the death penal-

ty was reinstated in 1979 in New Mexico, "crimes for which the death penalty can be imposed have all gone up," New Mexico Gov. Toney Anaya was quoted as saying in *Christian Century*.

Ideally, the goal of punishment should be to hold criminals responsible and attempt to force them to re-evaluate and reform their behavior. In contrast to life in prison, death's only real goal is revenge; death terminates all possibility of moral reform.

During the hearing, Webster, a former federal judge, said "If we cannot apply the ultimate punishment to one who is engaged (in espionage)..., I do not think we have a sufficient national sensitivity to the enormous damage being done to us as citizens and as a country."

"When I was a child in school," he said, "Nathan Hale was a hero and Benedict Arnold was a traitor, and the distinction was very, very clear."

Well, when I was a child, right was right and wrong was wrong, and the idea that two wrongs were still wrong was very, very clear.

### Prohibition is over

## Students need campus pub

It's almost election time. Time for banners and pins and speeches.

The problem with Western elections is that no one seems to care about them or the candidates running for respective positions. This is highly evident when it comes to voting time. Turn-outs for voting here at Western are about as large as U.S. support groups in Libya.

What can be done to get students interested in the issues and the candidates, you ask? Well, I have an idea for any candidate who has an interest in winning the elections.

Instead of filling your speeches with issues in which the majority of the students have little to no interest, why don't you discuss topics that would interest the whole student population? Just once I would like to hear a candidate say, "I will fight to get Western an on-campus pub!" Do that, and you just may have won an election.

The idea of an on-campus pub is not an original one. It has been



Mark Watson

staff reporter

brought up and shot down a number of times. Let's face the facts: Western is a party school. Unfortunately, school administrators and small, conservative groups have tried to hide that fact by making Western a "dry" campus.

Fortunately, students here still party as hard as they want. We just try to be a little discreet about our partying so we won't get "written up" or get a public disturbance ticket from Bellingham's finest. A campus pub would be a great place to meet with friends for a late-night hamburger and a brew or Coke.

Prohibition was outlawed years ago, yet a form of it still exists at Western. Students of legal age have the right to drink. So why

can't we drink on campus? The idea of a dry campus is wrong.

A university is a community and, like any community, it needs a local place where students can congregate in a relaxed, social atmosphere. Western has areas like that, but it needs to add to its variety. A campus pub would be a positive addition to Western's community.

It's obvious some people will object to an on-campus pub, and that's their right. But if they don't like it, they don't have to go. And, for those who would feel it necessary to protest the idea of a campus pub, remember that we have the right to choose how we live. For most people at Western, partying is what we like to do.

What would you rather do? Take the chance of getting into an accident and a DWI because you had to drive to the nearest hang-out? Or would you rather walk to and from your place of partying?

And to those who still disagree with me and call me a heathen or whatever, this milk's for you.

## Are you upset?

Has something in *The Front* upset you? It could have been the way something was or wasn't covered, a misinterpretation, a lack of sensitivity, a bias or just the newspaper in general.



Earles

In addition to the letters-to-the-editor section, you have an

outlet for your anger. Erin Earles, this quarter's reader representative, will field complaints from the Western community about *The Front*. She will criticize coverage or explain why an event was covered in a certain way.

Contact Earles in *The Front* newsroom in College Hall 9 or by telephone, 676-3160.

## Animal testing is needless waste

*The Front:*

There is an old saying in academia: "Publish or perish." For many other creatures on our planet, this translates as "Men publish, we perish!"

If you feed enough phosorganic pesticide--an equivalent of nerve gas--to birds, they will die. No kidding! If you feed them less than a lethal dose, they will suffer liver, brain and kidney damage and die slowly. No kidding! If you slam a car door on a monkey's head, he will, likely, die. No kidding! If you inject a poor, discarded dog from a local pound with too much insulin, he will die.

Really?

And thus legions of wild and domestic animals have been tortured and have perished at man's hands from needless, repetitive and inhumane experiments.

I realize that some well-regulated and controlled uses of experimental animals are necessary; but, unfortunately, there is very little control, especially at smaller institutions. All research is not automatically justifiable.

One does not need to kill dozens when a few, if any, animals would do. And often such needless research is funded by companies to universities to gain status for a product they already know is lethal. One gets the feeling this is very close to blood

money.

There is a rising tide of anger and disgust against such overkill. When any experiment involves life-and-death situations, not only will bad science occur, but the experiments may border on being immoral. Consider Joseph Mengele and the notorious Nazi experiments.

Proposing grant requests, receiving funding and proceeding to kill without some external control is getting out of hand, and as public indignation continues to grow, even necessary programs will be crushed. At present, it is far too easy to kill and torture the defenseless.

And who can start the accountability? Not the faculty or administration; they are too slow and too reluctant. The answer is--students. The authorities will listen to a large number of non-violent, morally indignant students.

Edward F. Neuzil  
professor of chemistry

## A better way to beautify campus

*The Front:*

It is common knowledge that

the artistic value of sculptures on campus is in doubt. Vandalism as a form of graffiti has also been a problem--not only on the sanctioned art works, but also on numerous large spaces around campus.

The program I propose would elevate student appreciation of art on campus, decrease vandalism, beautify spaces that currently have graffiti on them and provide commissions for student artists.

I propose that the Associated Students take bids and designs to adorn certain designated spaces. This would work similarly to a contractor taking bids and designs from an architect. The student council would then choose the best three on the basis of feasibility and cost, and display these proposals in the Viking Union to be voted on by the student body.

This process of student selection would ensure a broad student involvement. Additionally, vandalism would be lower because the art work would be the most popular among the students and it would be respected more because it is work done by our own peers.

The money could come from any number of sources. One source could be private donations and grants. Of late, money spent on certain "improvements" on campus, such as flags at the south entrance and new signs on the buildings, has not been met with widespread student approval.

Perhaps the spending of money for campus beautification should be scrutinized. I think we can find a better way to spend it.

Paul Oertel

## Grade given, but was paper read?

*The Front:*

I am a senior here at Western, so I am taking the last few 400-level classes in my major to complete my bachelor's degree. When one reaches senior status, it is expected the student be able to research and write a relatively coherent paper on any topic in his or her field.

Well, winter quarter I did just that. For 50 percent of my grade in a 400-level class, I was required, through extensive literature research, to write a paper answering a question in my field. The paper was to be graded on the scholarship and understanding of the question whether conclusively answered or not.

After approximately 40 hours of total work on it, I turned in the 15-page "masterpiece." During spring break, my grade report arrived and, low and behold, I got an "A" in the class. I thought the professor must have liked my paper.

At the beginning of this quarter, I went around to pick up my final papers from last quarter's classes, including my 15-pager. Now, the point of my letter: When I picked up this "A" paper and thumbed through it, not a comment was found. No check marks, no circled typos, no grade written in red ink on the back page. Nothing. I was shocked--and disappointed at the same time. Had I written *The Perfect Paper*, or, more interesting, had the professor (or anyone) read it? I find the latter suggestion to be more likely the case.

It seems to me if a student pays tuition and invests the time to research, write, rewrite and type out an assigned paper, the professor can take the time to read it and make a few comments about the work. I assume most professors understand that students need their feedback--good and bad--to improve their research and writing skills and for affirmation that all this money and work is worthwhile. It seems only fair.

Now the question is: what should I do about this? Writing this letter to *The Front* probably won't help, because the professor probably won't read this, either!

Marlene Gallman

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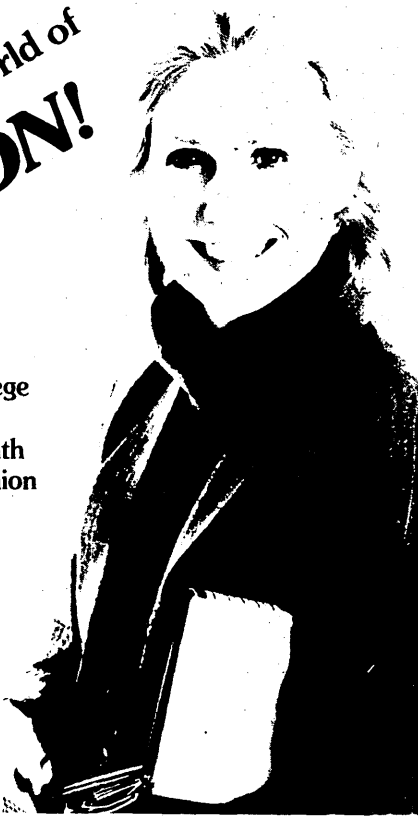
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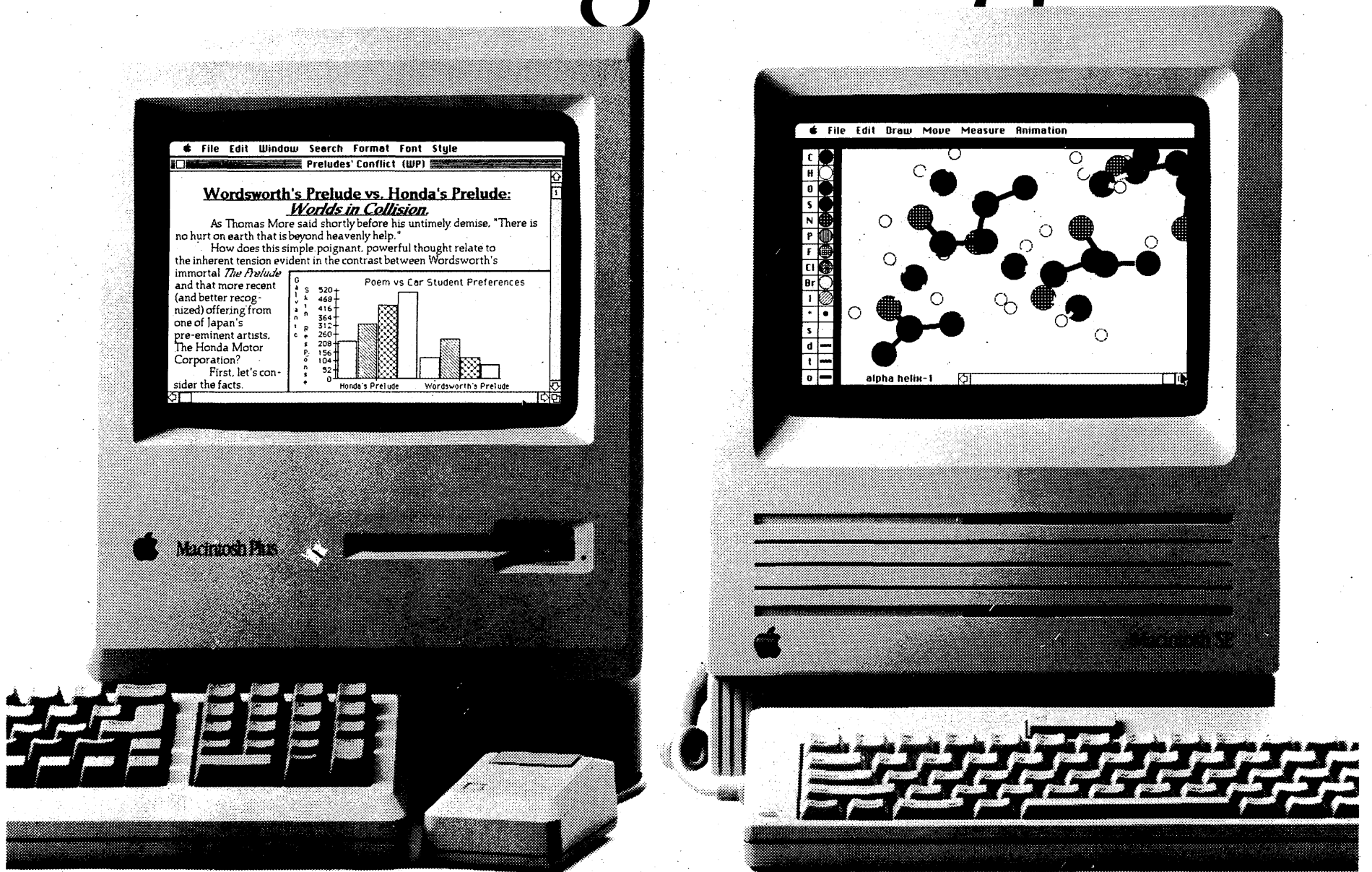


## Letters

*The Front* welcomes letters about all points of view. Address correspondence to the opinion editor, College Hall 9. Letters must be typed, double-spaced and limited to no more than 300 words. *The Front* will not accept hand-written letters for publication. Letters must include the author's name, address, telephone number and signature for verification before publication. *The Front* reserves the right to edit letters for grammar and spelling, and will edit letters longer than 300 words. Letter deadlines are Tuesday for Friday editions and Friday for Tuesday editions. For questions about style or content, please contact the opinion editor, 676-3160.



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