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to the future  
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# THE WESTERN FRONT

VOL. 79, NO. 37

WESTERN WASHINGTON UNIVERSITY, BELLINGHAM WA

JULY 16, 1987

Bye-bye boards...

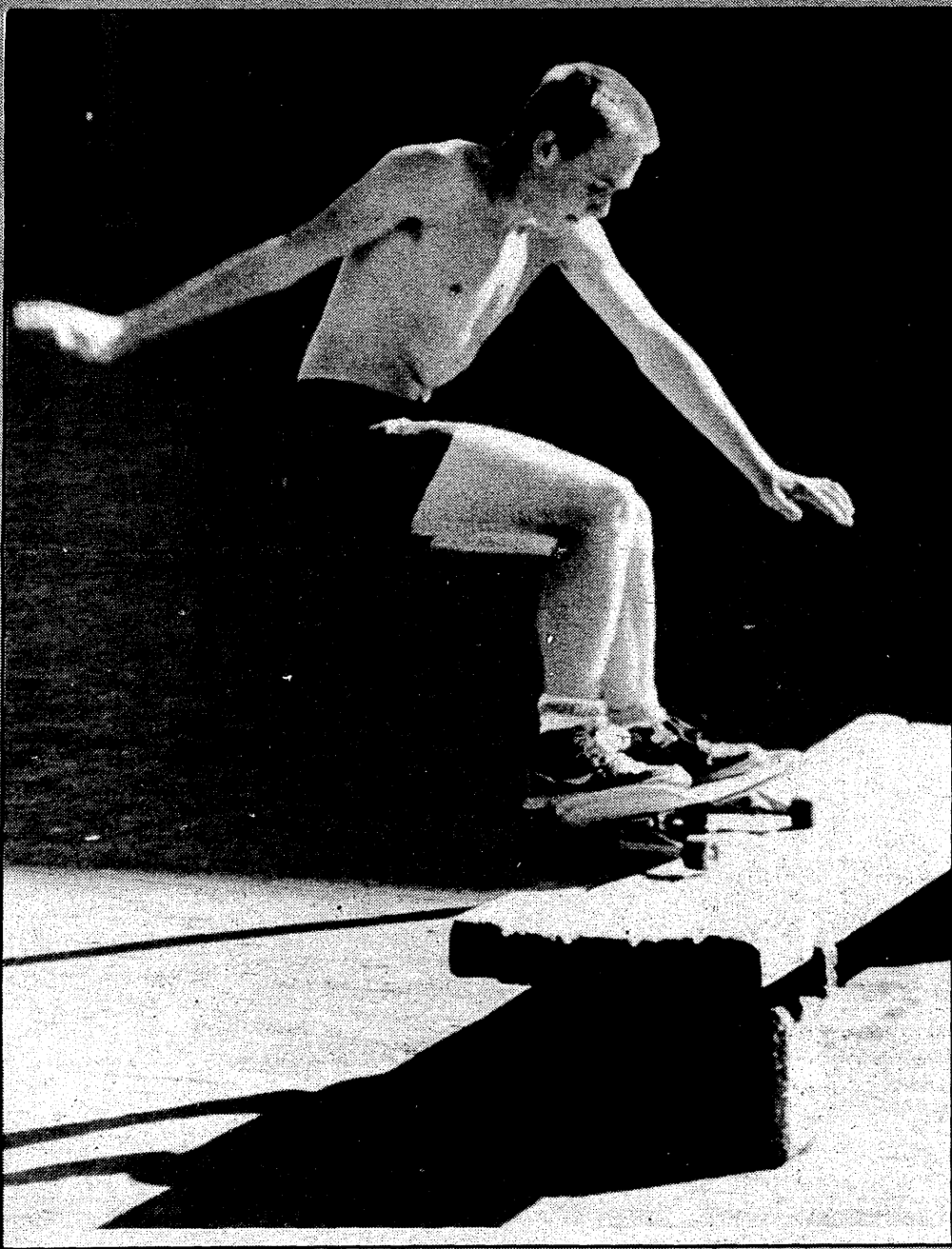


photo by Stephen Young

Ferndale High School Junior Ray Banks, 16, said he skates Western's campus because of the benches and curbs. He thinks the newly proposed trespassing ruling is unfair because, he said, "they're taking away all the places to skate without creating any new places."

## Fiscal Services director named

by Lynn Baldwin

Front staff

Mary Carlson has been named director of fiscal services, effective Sept. 1.

Carlson, a native of Washington, has been director of statewide accounting services and comptroller of the University of Alaska system for the past four years. Prior to that she was accounting services manager for the

University of Alaska, Anchorage. She also served as senior accountant with Coopers and Lybrand in Anchorage.

Carlson's responsibilities will include managing Western's finances, purchases, telecommunications and mail systems.

"I'm looking forward to being on a campus again," Carlson said in a phone interview from Fairbanks, Alaska. "I'm on the University of Alaska campus now, but we deal with statewide communications, not the university's. I'll go

outside and think, 'Wow, there are students here!'"

Working with students in the past and being familiar with general accounting are two skills she'll bring to the job.

"It will be a combination of different jobs I've had in the past," she said.

Carlson will move to Bellingham in late August. "I'm looking forward to being in Washington again," said the University of Washington graduate. "It's much too cold in Fairbanks."

Skateboards are...

## Banned!

by Don Grandstrom

Front staff

Skateboarders beware!

Since July 8, University Police have been enforcing a skateboard ban on Western's campus, Physical Plant Director Peter Harris said.

University Police Chief R.G. Peterson said any person found skateboarding on campus will be asked to leave. If he or she fails to leave, an officer will read the State of Washington trespass warning to the offender. Should the skateboarder return after this warning, he or she may be arrested for trespass, Peterson said. Trespass, a misdemeanor, is punishable by a maximum \$1,000 fine and/or 90 days in jail.

Peterson said the skateboarders have been "very cooperative" since the ban was put into effect. University police asked 15 skateboarders to leave campus Friday.

"Western has become a playground for skateboarders. In the last three months we have seen more skateboarding activity on campus than in the previous three years," Peterson said.

The recent influx of

skateboarders is not confined to a particular age group, Peterson said. Kindergarten through 12th grade students are involved as well as Western students, he said.

Damage to campus property, danger to pedestrians and the university's accident liability position were the main factors in deciding to ban skateboards, Harris said.

Mary Robinson, associate vice president for Human Resources at Western, recently fractured her wrist after tripping on a loosened brick. Harris said many bricks have been loosened and broken by the skateboarders' maneuvers.

In another case, a skateboarder suffered a concussion after colliding with a pedestrian on High Street, Harris said.

The administration has requested the enactment of an emergency Washington Administrative Code from the Washington State Attorney General's office to officially prohibit the use of skateboards on campus.

It would authorize University Police to issue a citation for illegal operation of a skateboard. A fine of \$1,000 and/or 90 days in jail could accompany the citation.

Peterson said the code would be "vigorously enforced."

'Handle with care'

## Chemicals gain computer status

by Rich Royston

Front staff

Western carries 6,000 chemicals in its inventory for use in the day-to-day operations of the university and its academic departments. These chemicals run the gamut from typing correction fluid to phenol red, a known carcinogen.

Western students and staff are not subject to any added risk from having these chemicals on campus as long as those who use them follow established rules, regulations and guidelines governing their use, Western Safety Officer Jose Harrison said.

Harrison's office is currently updating the university's inventory of chemicals and placing the information into the campus computer system.

"We know what chemicals are in each building, and even what room they are in," Harrison said.

In order for an academic de-

partment or operations department of the university to order any chemical, it must have, by law, a material safety data sheet for that chemical handy and available at all times, Harrison said.

The data sheets describe the chemical's physical properties, first aid, product identification, fire hazards, human health effects, industrial hazards and fire fighting techniques associated with that chemical.

All orders for chemicals pass through the hands of the safety officer, who approves or rejects the request based on need and safety knowledge of that chemical by the ordering department. Harrison has an extensive safety library on every known chemical or hazardous material on campus. Safety instruction and teaching are an ongoing part of his job.

"I cannot stress enough to people using chemicals to use them safely. Read labels, follow instructions, know safety and first aid procedures and use caution in handling them," Harrison said.

## NEWS

## Stay home, correspond for credits

by Carole Wiedmeyer

Front staff

Many students use the time between summer and fall quarter to work on a few extra credits through the Independent Study Program, Coordinator Janet Howard said.

The program, part of University Extension (formerly the Center for Continuing Education), offers about 40 correspondence courses for credit toward a bachelor's degree. A maximum of 45 independent study credits may be applied toward a degree.

Correspondence courses are the same as those in the regular university catalog and are taught by the same faculty, Howard said. General university requirements

(GUR's) and prerequisites comprise the bulk of the offerings.

To complete courses, students read assigned materials, do written assignments and take tests. The mail is used to purchase books and borrow library materials through special arrangements with the AS Co-op Bookstore and Wilson Library.

Contact between student and instructor may be made in person, on the phone or through the mail. Assignments are usually returned within two weeks, although during the summer "roving professors" may take a little longer to process their work, Howard said.

This format works well for paper-oriented subjects such as math and English, but excludes courses like chemistry that require lab work, Howard said.

It is not necessary to be a

Western student to enroll in the program, and registration can be done by mail. Students may enroll at any time and have up to one year to complete the work. The minimum time is generally seven weeks, and the average is five to six months, she said.

This flexibility can help take the pressure off for some people. Instead of feeling unprepared for a test, the student can take a break and review the material. Many people with math anxiety have found this approach helpful, Howard said.

While some may take a correspondence class to slow down the learning process, others use it as a way to speed it up.

Howard said she often hears "It's the middle of the quarter and I need five credits to graduate" from panic-stricken students.

Helping them get those last-minute credits is one of the things she enjoys about her job, she said.

Off-campus correspondence students are often attracted by unusual courses, such as Education 311 - "Global Issues and American Education" and classes offered by the technology department.

Some students have been from as far away as Saudi Arabia and range from fishermen to prisoners to budding writers, Howard said. The program advertises internationally, and has a total enrollment of about 800.

Howard said she has seen "slow, progressive growth" in both the number of students and the range of course offerings since she joined the program in 1975. Psychology 201 - "Introduction to Psychology" was added to the catalog in May, and more English

reading and writing courses are expected to be added next year, she said.

Western's Independent Study program began in the '20s for the professional development of isolated rural teachers, Howard said. The program is self-sufficient, running solely on tuition fees. The cost for correspondence courses is \$32 per credit, which is less expensive than regular university tuition when taking fewer than 10 credits.

Special projects may be arranged by contract with faculty members. Contract course registration is limited to times when the student is not enrolled on campus, and tuition is \$40 per credit.

For more information about the Independent Study Program, contact the office at 676-3320.

## Vandals pay price for pranks

by Anne Mackie

Front staff

Prosecute the culprits and clean up their destruction as soon as possible is Western's official policy regarding vandalism on campus outdoor sculptures, said Peter Harris, physical plant director.

"Our policy is to remove any graffiti as soon as possible," Harris said. "The impression that we look the other way is not true at all."

About six or eight arrests and fines for vandalism have been made in the last two years, Lt. Chuck Page, University Police, said.

Both Page and Harris said

their departments treat Western's sculpture as valuable assets to the campus.

People don't realize the campus is visited by people outside the area, Page said. "We have schools giving tours, and it's bad for them to see this."

If the artists had wanted graffiti on their work, they would have written graffiti on it, Page said.

Vandalism against the outdoor sculpture collection is not a major issue, Harris said. "Vandalism is very low, and I attribute it to the caliber of the people and the responsible way they identify with the community."

Most vandalism is not malicious, he said. "It's a prank and nothing intentionally vicious."

But those pranks come with a price tag.

Page said the fines for malicious mischief range from \$50 to \$1,500, and damage over \$1,500 is punishable by up to 10 years in prison and a \$10,000 fine.

Sandblasting to clean the sculptures is quite expensive, he said, and even chalk, which impregnates the metal, can do permanent damage. The Serra sculpture is the one most often vandalized, Page said.

When "Rock Rings" artist Nancy Holt toured the campus she was quite pleased with the condition of the sculptures, Harris said.

"Go look at the sculptures on this campus and ask yourself, 'How does it look?'" Harris said.

## Equality advocate honored

by Francine Ott

Front staff

Mary Robinson, associate vice president for human resources, received the Affirmative Action Award during Western's commencement ceremony June 13.

"I was pleased because it gives some visibility to Affirmative Action. I think it is a recognition of many people in the university," Robinson said.

Robinson, an administrator at Western since 1969, previously held the positions of associate vice president for academic affairs, vice provost for academic administration, acting vice president for student affairs and dean of women.

"More than any other single person on campus, Ms. Robinson is responsible for the efforts which have been made to improve the hiring and work environment for women and minorities," Constance Faulkner, Affirmative Action Advisory Committee chair, said.

"Her sense of fairness and her ability not only to listen but to hear have resulted in respect. She has created a much more egalitarian climate among workers on this campus than existed previously or that now exists on most other campuses in this state," Faulkner said.

Robinson said she has worked

see AWARD, p. 8

WESTERN WASHINGTON UNIVERSITY  
OFFICIAL ANNOUNCEMENTS

## PLEASE POST

Deadline for announcements in this space is 4 p.m. Tuesday for the Thursday issue 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.

**SUMMER QUARTER DEGREE & INITIAL CERTIFICATE CANDIDATES** must pay degree and/or certificate fees to the Cashier, VU Plaza, by Aug. 7. Questions on graduation requirements outstanding should be directed to the Credit Evaluation section of the Registrar's Office, OM230.

**INFORMATION ON SUMMER COMMENCEMENT** has now been mailed to all students scheduled to graduate this quarter. If you have not received information and wish to participate, call the Registrar's Office, 676-3430, or the Graduate School, 676-3170, as appropriate.

**WWU'S REVISED POLICY FOR COMMENCEMENT PARTICIPATION** allows prospective fall quarter graduates to participate in either the summer ceremony prior to their final quarter or the spring ceremony following their graduation. To elect to participate in the August commencement, a fall graduate must have completed the senior evaluation process no later than the end of the third week of summer quarter.

**MATH PLACEMENT TESTS** (intermediate algebra, pre-calculus, basic algebra) will be given at 3 p.m. July 22 and Aug. 6. Allow approximately 1½ hours. Fee of \$10 is payable at time of test. Students must register in OM120.

**MILLER ANALOGIES TEST** will be given July 16 and Aug. 13 at 3 p.m. in OM120. Allow approximately 1½ hours. Fee of \$27 is payable at time of test. Students must register in OM120, 676-3080.

**JUNIOR WRITING EXAM** will be given at 3 p.m. July 23 and 24. Allow approximately 2 hours. Students must pre-register in OM120.

**APPLICATIONS FOR CREDIT BY EXAMINATION** (course challenge) for summer quarter, 1987, must be received in the Testing Center, OM120, by July 17.

**WESTERN IN GREECE:** Deadline to apply for WWU's fall program in Greece is Aug. 1. Both students and auditors are eligible. Applications for fall and spring sessions are now being received by the Foreign Study Office, OM400.

**SUMMER STOCK '87** features performances of *The Boyfriend*, *The Actor's Attic*, *Crimes of the Heart*, *Dark of the Moon*, *As You Like It* and *Importance of Being Earnest*. Several special season ticket packages are being offered in addition to special discounts for groups of 10 or more. Individual tickets also are available. For information and reservations, call 676-3873.

**BOOK OF THE QUARTER** panel discussion, "Making Sense Out of Sound in the Ocean of Thought," is scheduled for 4-5:30 p.m. Tues., July 21, in the WL Presentation Room. Admission is free. The book of the quarter is *Sounding* by Hank Searls.

**VETERANS OUTREACH CENTER (VOC)** is open from 8 a.m. to 4 p.m. weekdays in VU220 (telephone 676-3460). • **Certification papers:** All veterans, new and returning, are required to fill out certification papers for fall quarter, 1987. **Avoid delays in check processing by having your paperwork initiated now at VOC.** • **Honor society:** All veterans interested in starting a WWU honor society—recognized for veterans by the national organization, Chi Gamma Iota—should contact VOC.



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## FRONTIERS

*Upward Bound builds bridge to the future*

# Students meet the challenge

by Brenda Dow  
and Anne Mackie

Front staff

Western's Upward Bound program recently got a \$186,419 financial boost from the United States Department of Education.

Program director Bernie Thomas said he is really pleased about the grant especially since the present federal administration has been limiting these kinds of programs.

"The grant is a cause for celebration because of the ever-looming federal deficit of which our program is a part," Thomas said.

Upward Bound is a vital program for young people's educational opportunities, he said. "It gets them through the door and into the foyer."

The program offers an educational enrichment program for high school students from low-income families who have potential for success in college. They are students whose parents have not completed a college degree, and in many cases, they are the first in their families to graduate from high school, Thomas said.

The 1960s civil rights movement had a strong impact on college campuses, and programs like Upward Bound were an outgrowth of that movement. Minorities and low-income youth were underrepresented in both southern and northern colleges and universities.

Under the direction of Tom Billings, education department faculty member, Western's program was established in 1965. It was one of 18 experimental programs used to bring 2,000 minority and economically-disadvantaged students into colleges nationwide.

Here at Western, 50 students from Whatcom, Skagit and Snohomish county high schools live in Ridgeway Sigma Hall and participate in the program, which is divided into two parts: the academic-year tutoring and skill enrichment program and the summer residential program.



*'Our students become more independent learners and responsible citizens,' - Bernie Thomas, Upward Bound director*

The academic year program consists of mandatory tutoring sessions twice a week for six hours at the students' home high school. Students work to improve math skills, take field trips and visit regional colleges and universities throughout the year.

The second part of the program is the summer residential experience. During the summer, "rising" students (high school sophomores and juniors) take three to four academic courses including algebra, biology and English.

"Bridge" students (high school graduates who plan to en-

ter college in the fall) are enrolled in Western as freshmen and take nine to 12 credits.

"The focus of Upward Bound is to get kids out of high school and into college," Thomas said. He is a product of the program that he now directs.

Thomas, a Lummi Indian, came to Western as an Upward Bound student in 1968. After graduation from Ferndale High School, he entered Western and earned a degree in journalism and ethnic studies.

He worked as a reporter at Bellingham's KVOS television station and was then offered a job

with KOIN TV in Portland. He said he declined the offer and chose, instead, to fulfill a responsibility back with the Lummi community. There he worked in management and marketing for tribal business. In 1984 he came back to Western as the Upward Bound director.

"This program offers a living experience from which the students learn individual, family and community responsibilities," he said. "Our students become more independent learners and responsible citizens, and that is what the educational system is all about."



An Upward Bound student gets direction from radio communications instructor Bill Bruns.

photo by Stephen Young

## High schoolers mix fun with studies



Earl Thomas and Wallace Reid

photo by Stephen Young

by Laura Long

Front staff

For six weeks Wallace Reid will have to wake up for school without the help of his mom.

Reid, a 17-year-old student from Bellingham High School, recently became a resident at Ridgeway Sigma Hall and a student of Upward Bound.

Reid said he heard about the program from a friend who had gone through it.

"You sign up, get interviewed and they write stuff down about you. They want to know if you really want to be in the program," he said.

Reid admits he had poor grades in high school. He said Upward Bound teaches him to excel academically while giving him the opportunity to make up for a deficiency in high school credits.

"I wasn't doing very well in school. I just went out with my friends all the time. This has helped me to get more things done," Reid said.

Reid is enrolled in history, multi-cultural literature and etymology, and is required to spend an hour a day at study hall.

In etymology, Reid is learning to increase his vocabulary.

"Every Tuesday we turn in

frontier words - words you've heard before but don't know. But they have to be words within our grasp. We have a quiz everyday," he said.

Reid said he feels he will be a better student when he returns to high school to complete his senior year. He is undecided about college, and is considering joining the army first.

"I'm going to try and stay away from the real world as long as possible," he said.

Earl Thomas is enrolled in the Upward Bound program for the second time.

*'I wanted to meet new people and learn to get along.'*

Thomas, a 17-year-old from Lummi, attended Upward Bound last summer. He plans to attend Western and earn a business degree after he graduates from Ferndale High School this coming spring.

Thomas said he really likes Western's campus. His only complaint about the program concerns the lectures during clas-

time.

"The lectures aren't the greatest. They're long," he said. Despite that, Thomas said he finds Upward Bound's courses challenging. The discipline required to attend summer courses through the program has helped him to learn "how to set a schedule and stay on that schedule."

"I don't need the credits. I wanted to meet new people and to learn to get along with others," he said.

Thomas said Upward Bound is a good place to make friends with people who have the same type of family problems and worries that go along with being a teenager.

He also said the program is "fun and exciting."

Last Saturday they went on what Thomas called a "cultural trip" to Seattle Center. Afterward, they went to a Seattle Mariners game.

"Upward Bound was the rowdiest (group) there. They had our name up on the TV screen," he said.

The last day of classes for Upward Bound students is Aug. 6.

"The first week of classes you don't know anybody," Thomas said. "Then eventually you know everybody. You get real close. I'll be sad to leave."

# LEISURE

## B.C. guest directs classic plays

by Francine Ott  
Front staff

An unconventional guest director brings his innovative style to two plays of the Summer Stock '87 season.

Kico Gonzalez-Risso of Vancouver, B.C. is directing "Dark of the Moon," an American folk play set in the Smokey Mountains, and Shakespeare's romantic comedy, "As You Like It."

Gonzalez-Risso was invited to direct for Summer Stock after his production of "Mr. Poe," a modern one-man show, was presented in Bellingham during a 1986 tour.

Gonzalez-Risso's Kitsilano Theatre Company was founded in 1979.

"I never planned to start a theater company, I just wanted to

do some shows that no one else wanted to do. We got very positive feedback and people kept asking what's the next show, what's the next show? It was really unintentional," Gonzalez-Risso said.

His company's productions have included works by Cuban playwright Eduardo Manet and Pedro Calderon de la Barea, Chileans Egon Wolff and Jorge Diaz, Italian Carlo Goldini, and French playwright Alfred de Musset.

Many Europeans and Americans couldn't see these plays in their own countries, he explained.

"These plays and playwrights are important all over the world but aren't known in Vancouver,"

Gonzalez-Risso said. "The reason the plays aren't done more often is because of poor translations and also because people associate plays with the politics of the country."

Gonzalez-Risso said he fell into his profession almost by accident. He is essentially a playwright, not a director, he said.

"The plays I wanted to see were never done, so I decided to direct," Gonzalez-Risso said. "Directing also helps a playwright understand the mechanics of theater."

His latest work, "Captive!" is a rock-musical produced at the Waterfront Theatre on Granville Island in Vancouver.

After directing many modern and foreign productions, Gonzalez-Risso said he has had an urge to direct some classics. Summer Stock gave him that chance. A play with a large cast is also attractive to him, a challenge after a one-man show, he said.

"I'm really pleased with the people I'm working with now. It's a great company."

Gonzalez-Risso noted the main difference between directing Summer Stock and directing in Vancouver is the time frame. Summer Stock has about 70 hours of rehearsal time, compared with 100 or more during the regular Vancouver season.

"We have to work very fast. We don't have much time, but the cast has a lot of creativity, so we can alter and play around with the scenes," he said.

"Dark of the Moon" runs August 5 through August 8. "As You Like It" plays August 12 through 15.



Director Kico Gonzalez-Risso inspires "Dark of the Moon" cast member Sean Robinson.

photo by Stephen Young



Jody Hahn and Chuck Harper drop in on Patrick Broemeling, Maureen Gaunt and Adam Jones during rehearsal for "Bremontown Musicians."

photo by Stephen Young

## Children targeted for tales

by Pamela Floyd

Front staff

"The Actor's Attic," a combination of six mini-plays for children, opens next week as part of Western's Summer Stock '87 series.

"It's gripping drama for small children and hilarious satire for adults," Director Doug VanderYacht said.

The idea for combining six mini-plays into one production came from a tour of local elementary schools.

"Some years ago we offered a collection of folk tales and played them for about 75,000 school-children," VanderYacht said.

"Everyone had a very positive reaction. The children loved it, and the grownups got the satirical meaning and were almost spilling their coffee on themselves," he said.

The 13-member cast is made up of Western students and visiting drama students.

Cast member Dan Bailey was in a production of "Rumpelstiltskin" in Walla Walla.

"I enjoy it, possibly because I already know what it's like to have an audience of children," Bailey said. "It gets them interested in drama. One of the boys I worked with in 'Rumpelstiltskin' was a

miniature master of the stage before it was over," he said.

Maureen Gaunt helped with Western's children's show last summer.

"It's bizarre doing something so presentational. The audience is involved a lot," she said. "It's exhausting - a total energy drain. There's constant movement and animation involved."

The cast has to establish some distance so the children are not constantly screaming things out, she said.

Adam Jones, another cast member, is from Alaska and has done "The Story Theater," which is similar to "The Actor's Attic."

"It's great to come down here and work with people who are really dedicated," he said. "The school up there treated it more like a hobby and didn't take it seriously. This is really refreshing."

"Teeny-Tiny Woman" starts off the night of family theater followed by versions of "The Pied Piper of Hamelin," "The Bremontown Musicians," "The Wolf and The Kids," "Tom Tit Tot" and "Caps for Sale."

Open matinees are at 2 p.m. July 20 - 22 in Old Main 100. An evening show begins at 7:30 p.m. on July 21.

## Fibers weave new art form

by Andrea Lightburne

Front staff

Handmade paper, woven wire and felting are some of the techniques used in the fiber art exhibit, "Fibers Extraordinaire," on display through July 24 in the Viking Union Gallery.

"Fiber art isn't easily defined," Miriam Barnett, local fiber artist, said. "It can be something that is made out of fiber or created from a fiber technique. It can also be a combination of the two." Felting, stitchery, weavery, rug-hooking, garments, basketry, collage and tapestry are all examples of fiber art.

Her piece on display, "Colorsplash! Kimono Raincoat Vest" was exhibited in the recent Fibers Unlimited show at the Whatcom Museum of History and Art.

Barnett, a weaver, said the vest was constructed from vinyl and stuffed with yarn left over from previously-made garments.

"I experimented with vinyl after making some vinyl earrings," she said.

Many of the pieces featured were borrowed from the Fibers Unlimited exhibition. Works by two of the top-five achievement award recipients, Joanne Circle and Gerry Craig-Linenberger, are included.

Circle, a British Columbian, uses a felting technique. "Felting, historically, was first used by nomadic tribes of Central Asia and Afghanistan," she said. Felted fabric is durable and has good insulating qualities, she said.

"Felted fabric is made from wool fused with other material such as silk. The wool is mistreated repeatedly with hot water until it becomes adhesive and then is combined with another fabric," she said.

"I began by making one-of-a-kind clothing but found it limiting and turned to sculpture," Circle said.

Works by Western Art Professor Mary McIntyre and Fairhaven Art Associate Professor Paul Glenn also are featured in the exhibit.

McIntyre said although the name of her piece "Flanker Left, Split End Right, 39 Trap, On Two"

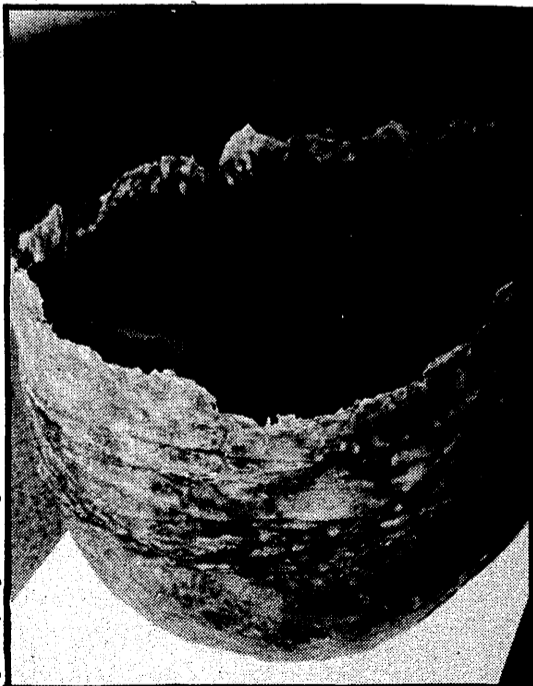


photo by Stephen Young

Textures are featured in fiber art.

was inspired by football terminology for a trap play, the work is really a self-portrait.

"It looks like a drum but it is more like a trap because you can't reach inside to beat it," she said. It is constructed from a stretched skin, encircled by wire and attached to a forest of plum branches, she said.

McIntyre said she liked working with color and texture but really enjoys making three-dimensional pieces.

The gallery is open 5 to 9 p.m. Monday and 10 a.m. to 2 p.m. Tuesday through Friday.

## Musical opens season

Summer Stock '87 opens its 16th season tomorrow with the musical production, "The Boyfriend," at 7:30 p.m. in the Performing Arts Center.

Featuring "plays of the heart," as the season's theme, "The Boyfriend" is the only musical on the Summer Stock '87 calendar.

"It's a feel-good musical that will make you want to get up and

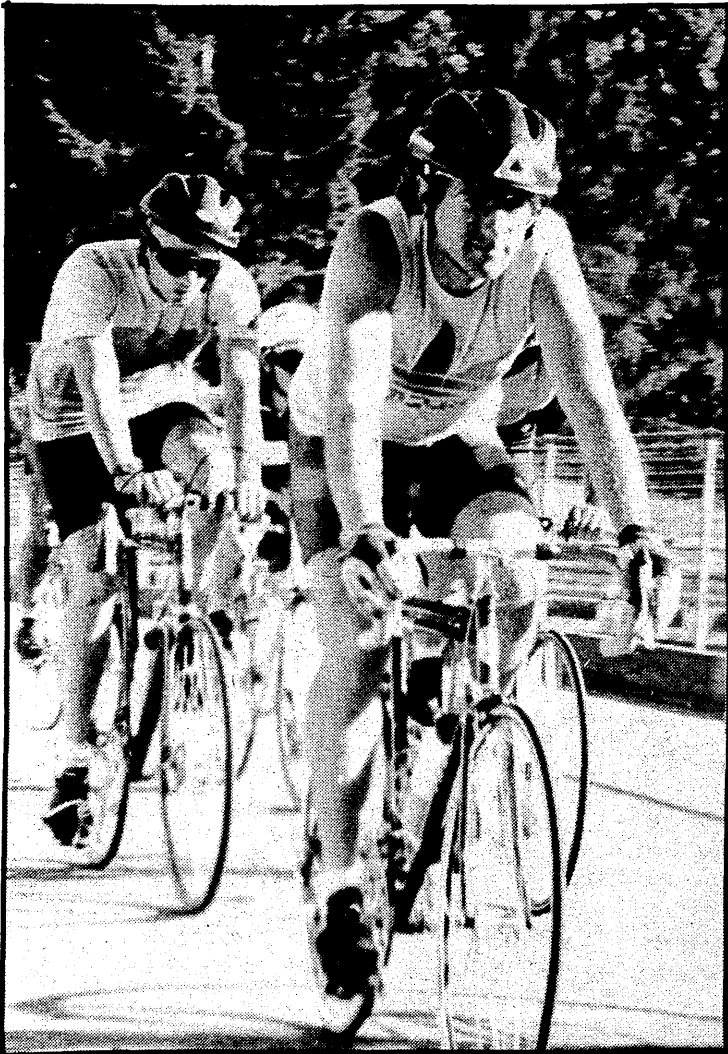
dance in the aisles," Director Maureen O'Reilly said in a press release.

The 15-member cast took choreography from Mary Ducker, of Western's dance faculty, and musical direction from JoAnne Sommer, who is completing her master's at Western.

Tickets for "The Boyfriend" are \$7 general, and \$5 for students and seniors.

# LEISURE

## County offers scenic cycling



Members of the Mt. Baker bicycle club start their laps around Lake Samish.

photo by Letritia Flerchinger

for about \$35.

Safety when riding is as important as the right gear. All traffic laws should be obeyed, Ives said, especially when riding with a group.

"Most bikes go down because of other riders. Don't get any closer than three feet."

Always ride single file in town, and don't follow other riders too closely when approaching a hill on a curve, Ives advised.

Dogs on bicycle routes are another hazard riders face. The best defense against dogs is a water bottle.

"If you see a dog, approach with caution and get your water bottle out. Give him a blast and be prepared to sprint."

Paying attention to safety includes making sure the bicycle is in good riding condition. "Sometimes people don't know their bikes very well," Ives said. It's common for people to keep their bike in the garage all winter and then go out for a long ride without checking out their bicycle.

"Squeeze brake levers hard and look for frayed brake cables," Ives said.

One of Ives' favorite rides is along Chuckanut Drive.

"A lot of people think Chuckanut Drive is too dangerous," Ives said.

The scenic drive that follows the waterfront doesn't have much traffic past Larabee State Park, when the twisting part of the road begins, he said.

The pavement is smooth and well maintained, Ives said, and the drive offers scenic views and frequent turn-outs, some with restrooms.

"The average cyclist goes about 15 mph on Chuckanut. Cars aren't going much faster. It's not like cars are going by you on the freeway," he said.

Ives thinks it makes an excellent ride. Chuckanut Drive has a shoulder on most of it, and has signs warning motorists to watch out for cyclists. He rides on Chuckanut about four times a week and "has never had a close call," he said.

Other good bike destinations are Gooseberry point, Lummi Island and the San Juan Islands.

For the serious cyclist, the Mt.



Rick Ives

photo by Letritia Flerchinger

Baker cycling club meets at 6 p.m. every Tuesday night at the Lake Samish public boat launch. The weekly ride, drawing racers and those that train heavily, usually consists of five laps around the lake.

"The first lap is a warm-up lap," Ives said. The next four laps vary, but are usually ridden at a racing pace.

The Tuesday night ride is a speed workout, Ives said.

"Track riders in the area need a flat route for speed workouts."

The group membership falls off during the summer, Ives said, because about half the club members are serious racers who compete on the weekends.

Cyclists looking for a long, non-racing bike ride this summer may be interested in the Sumas Half-Century, a 50-mile ride that benefits the Sun Community Services.

Mary Summerville, ride organizer, said the route is "real pretty, mostly quiet country roads with one challenging hill."

Registration is from 9 a.m. to 12 p.m. at Nooksack Elementary School, 404 West Columbia, the starting and finishing point of the ride. For registration information call Summerville at 676-1178.

by Wendy Bacon  
Front staff

The recent popularity of bike shorts, shoes and gloves is "not a fad, there's a purpose for it," Rick Ives, president of the Mt. Baker bicycle club, said.

Cyclists are advised to have proper gear and local knowledge before embarking on two-wheel journeys around Whatcom county.

Riding attire includes bike shorts anatomically designed to reduce restriction on the legs. Running shorts or regular cotton shorts can bind the legs, Ives said.

Also, Ives stressed the importance of wearing a helmet. Con-

trary to popular belief, helmets aren't any warmer than going bare-headed, he said.

The type of shoes worn is also important, Ives said.

"The worst kind of shoes to wear are running shoes, because they're soft and spongy." During a long ride, the cage of the pedal starts to dig into the sole of the shoe and eventually the foot.

Rigid, hard-soled shoes will work, Ives said, but touring shoes made especially for recreational riders are the best.

Touring shoes look like regular athletic shoes but the construction allows the wearer to walk comfortably. Good biking shoes are available at local bike shops



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# OPINION

## FRONTLINE

### What goes around comes around

We won't be seeing too many spiky crew-cuts, surfer jams, or brightly-colored t-shirts and tank tops here anymore, nor will we be hearing the low roar of ball-bearing polyurethane wheels clicking across the bricks.

Skateboard riders are no longer welcome at Western.

Peter Harris, director of Western's physical plant, says the skateboarders are a danger to pedestrians, destroy bricks and benches, and place the university in an uncomfortable accident-liability position.

Harris is correct, but the bottom line is Western's new policy is another slap at skateboarders, who already are prohibited from riding in downtown Bellingham. The policy is yet another verse of "We Don't Care About You," sung by Bellingham authorities to the youth of this city.

Verse One: Be off the streets by ten on a school night, or 11 on the weekends.

Verse Two: Don't skateboard on any downtown street, sidewalk, alley, or parking lot - or be ready to shell out 250 bucks.

Verse Three: Forget about dancing in a non-alcohol nightclub with people your own age to music of your choice.

Now the Chorus: You don't vote, you don't count, you don't have any rights here.

It's a pretty consistent message, and heard not only in Bellingham. Reed Goodrich, former operator of the now defunct teen-club *Vortex*, says, "I imagine the attitude towards kids in Bellingham is the same as around the country: it stinks."

The attitude *does* stink, and it won't take teens long to pick out that familiar tune among the various restrictions.

After age 12, young people are suddenly expected to find their own entertainment, which in this town means going to the drive-in or hanging out downtown.

When the new mall opens, a loitering ordinance will no doubt be passed, aimed at the teenagers who will naturally collect there.

Disenfranchising the youth community breeds distrust, contempt and apathy among the affected for the authorities of Bellingham. It does not take a social scientist or mathematician to recognize that in three to five years, these young people will be voting-age citizens. They may choose to live here, or take their dreams and aspirations elsewhere.

If even half the money spent on "Just Say No" and similar propaganda were re-directed toward a teen center, or other youth programs, drug and alcohol problems could diminish.

Western is not a safe place to skate, and is not obligated to be one. The city, on the other hand, *does* have an obligation to all its citizens, whether they vote or not, to encourage facilities and services that meet the citizens' needs.

What is wrong with building a skateboarding facility within an existing city park? What is wrong with sharing a portion of the insurance burden to open another non-alcohol nightclub for under-21 patrons?

*What is wrong with the city of Bellingham? Why is it ignoring its future?*

## Letters

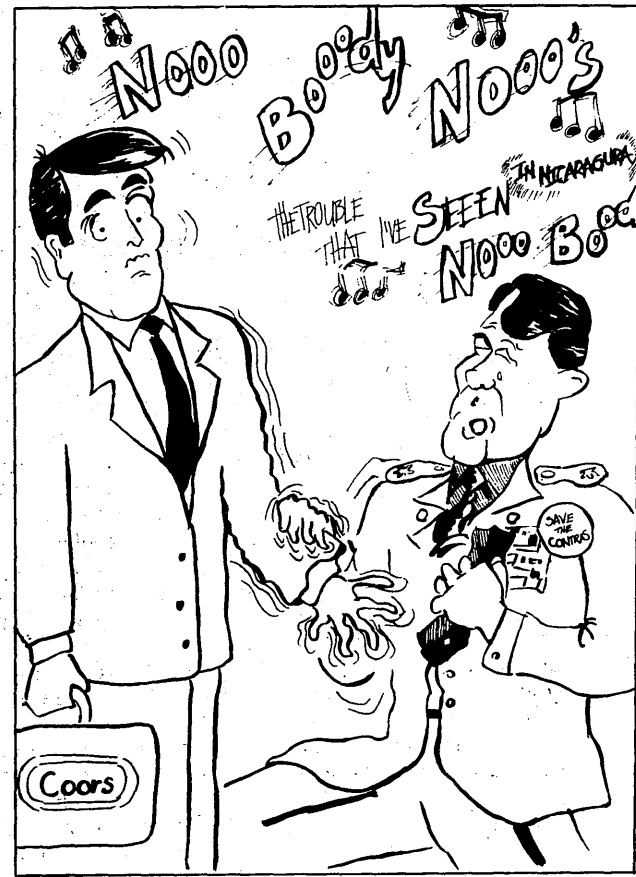
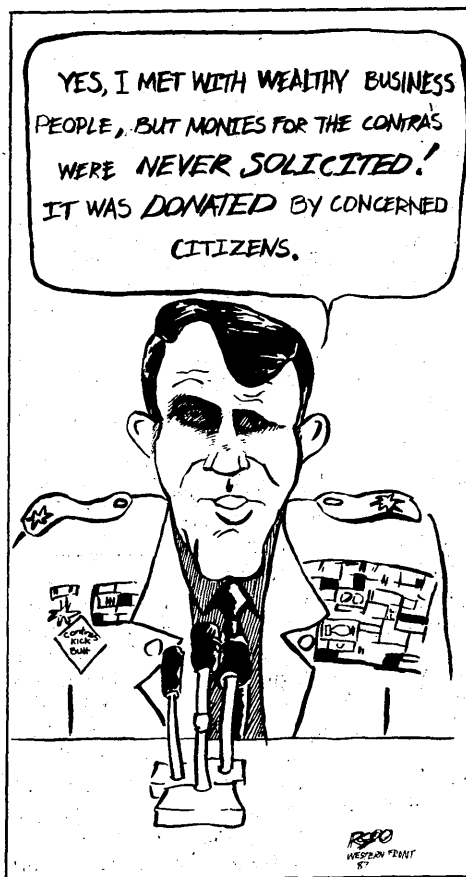
The Front welcomes letters representing all points of view. Address correspondence to the Editor, College Hall 09. Letters must be typed, double-spaced and limited to no more than 300 words. The Front will not accept hand-written letters for publication. Letters must include the author's name, address, telephone number and signature for verification before publication. The Front reserves the right to edit letters for grammar, and will edit letters longer than 300 words. Deadline for letters is Monday at two p.m. for the Thursday edition. For questions about style or content, call the Editor at 676-3160.

## The Western Front

Anne Mackie, Editor; Mark Hoben, Managing Editor; Jeff Williams, News Editor; Carole Wiedmeyer, Copy Editor; Maggie Pringle, Leisure Editor; Stephen Young, Photo Editor; Rob Soo, Cartoonist; Lyle Harris, Adviser.

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## The price of motherhood Women need equality and more

My husband and I will celebrate our ten-year anniversary next year, and some people are getting concerned. Like my mother-in-law. She doesn't actually come right out and say it, but her collection of Cabbage Patch Dolls speaks for itself.

She wants to be a grandmother. And she is not alone. All across the country, women are putting off starting their families for one simple reason: the work-a-day world expects women to treat motherhood like a hobby.

Ah, the things my guidance counselor never told me.

"Women are making advances," I was told. "Develop your potential to the fullest." Advice on combining career and family was implied: "Don't worry - just make it up as you go along. Everything will work out."

You can't fool me. I see those women with the bags under their eyes, spending their lunch hours grocery shopping, and running home to check on sick children. If their kids are in school, they have to make special arrangements for those times when school's out and they're still at work, including 3 to 5 p.m. and June 15 through Labor Day. Many suffer pay and seniority setbacks for the privilege of returning to work after a two-month maternity leave.

And what if the working mother decides to take two years

Carole

Wiedmeyer

Front Copy Editor



off, instead of two months?

According to economist Lester Thurow, "The years between 25 and 35 are the prime years for establishing a successful career. These are the years when hard work has the maximum payoff. They are also the prime years for launching a family. Women who leave the job market completely during those years may find that they never catch up."

If the majority of women will have children and a job, where are all the women's rights advocates? According to Sylvia Ann Hewlett in her book "A Lesser Life," it is easier to find a feminist position on ERA, rape and lesbian rights than on parental leave.

Why?  
"The bottom line seems to be that working women need more than equal treatment," Hewlett said in her book.

The governments of more than 110 countries, including every industrialized nation except ours, seem to have been able to grasp that concept without too much difficulty. While the Amer-

ican feminist was concentrating on equal rights, her European counterpart, opting for practicality, won mandatory paid maternity leave and job protection that help keep women from being penalized for having a family.

"It is interesting to note," Hewlett wrote, "that the British maternity provisions (which are at the low end of the maternity scale), have been instituted during a period of public spending cut-backs and increasingly conservative policies."

Liberals in this country don't want to argue for such benefits because they seem to contradict the equal-rights agenda. Conservatives argue business can't afford such expensive policies.

Until we reconcile the fact that most women will both work and bear children, those who "want it all" will pay a high price. Daycare shortages, incompatible school schedules, skimpy or non-existent maternity benefits, exhaustion and guilt will plague the average woman and affect the entire family.

Maybe once I graduate and get out there, things will be different. Or maybe I'll get lucky and find a niche where all these little details will work themselves out. In the meantime, for me and many other women, the biological clock is ticking....

## Sculpture skirmishes continue...

### Artworks' reputation tarnished

While temperamentally I prefer to engage in rational dialogue and discussion in collegial situations, I find my scholarly training does not permit me to allow half-truths and factual distortions to go uncorrected. Setting aside innuendos as not worth discussing, I thought Larry Hanson's recent commentary on the open letter signed by artists in the Western public collection obscured more than it illuminated.

The rash of attention to the sculpture collection cited in Hanson's commentary has been

Richard

Francis

English Professor

Guest Commentary

the product of only the past few months. It is the result of mounting pressure on the university (of which the open letter is a part) to correct a deplorable condition that has been of considerable ex-

ternal embarrassment to the university.

This embarrassment reached an apex last September when the national patrons of the Whitney Museum of American Art (N.Y.) came to Bellingham to view the collection. Two days before their arrival Richard Serra's "Wright's Triangle" was swathed in plastic fabric and a sign appended reading, "valuable sculpture." When the Whitney patrons (many of

see SCULPTURE, p.7

# OPINION

continued from p. 6

## SCULPTURE

whom serve as trustees of major U.S. museums) saw the sign they were convulsed with laughter at this provincial gesture. While the covering managed to conceal some obscene graffiti that had been there for at least a year, the hard fact (known to experts in public art conservation) is that trapped moisture on Corten metal for extended periods can be very destructive.

This pointless gesture, undertaken without consulting knowledgeable people, was simply the culmination of a long series of unresolved problems concerning the collection. Frustration over the university's inability or unwillingness to deal with the problems, particularly of vandalism, led the normally gentle Virginia Wright to write President Ross a strong letter in which she expressed the wish she had never given any sculpture to the university. Without her gifts the collection would not invite major art groups to visit the campus while passing from Seattle to Vancouver.

Mrs. Wright's outrage over the deplorable state of the collection was reflected in the views of the Whitney patrons. It struck them as incredulous that the vandals who twice destroyed the original pendulum on di Suvero's

"For Handel" went unpunished. Mrs. Wright correctly viewed that failure to deal with crime as an apparent tolerance of the vandalism that increased in the following decade and reached a crescendo in 1985.

During all this time, Mr. Hanson, who is ostensibly "Curator of the Collection," never took any public action that I know of to seek judgement for these vandalizing acts. In fact, in my opinion, Mr. Hanson has been casually indifferent to the problems of the collection, except when those problems impinge on his efforts to acquire more sculpture of his devising (perhaps one reason why the works have suddenly been spiffed up).

The records of the Art Acquisition Committee for the past decade, and particularly the log of memos and correspondence with the various artists, whom Mr. Hanson claims as his friends, will reveal their growing concern over the inadequate maintenance of their works. Their willingness to support Mrs. Wright's protest reflects their own apprehensions.

While some budgetary cut-backs a decade ago prevented the enlargement of the maintenance budget (roughly \$5,000), that budget has never in more prosperous times been increased

as the collection and inflation have grown. Two directors of the Physical Plant have struggled valiantly with this problem, seeing their limited resources for necessary routine maintenance drained for corrective measures involving vandalism.

Not since the days of President Flora have we had a central administration that did more than pay token lip-service to the importance of the sculpture collection in the external reputation of the university (I will not even comment on the unofficial bureaucratic disdain and hostility to the collection that is widespread in Old Main).

Mr. Hanson misrepresents some of the recent maintenance. The coating of the Judd sculpture comes five years after it should have been done at the time Mr. Judd came to install it. The carefully cultivated patina that the piece possessed on arrival has been destroyed. Similarly, Serra's sculpture has been coated before it had a chance to develop a patina after its recent (and inadequate) cleaning. These hasty acts reflect a sudden realization by the administration that the reputation of our collection was becoming badly tarnished. The director of the Whitney Museum, after the visit of his group, took the unusual step of writing President Ross about this matter. He has not been alone. Reputations in the art world are very fragile.

In an accompanying column

to Mr. Hanson's commentary, we learn of the acquisition of three major new works -- two ostensibly as loans; one as part of the art-in-public-places program, generated by the capital budget for the technology building. There are several interesting questions here of which the most prominent is: if we cannot generate enough money to maintain and protect adequately what we already have, why are we acquiring more works to burden our maintenance and security budgets?

An equally interesting question is: by what process are these works being acquired? The Washington statute for public art proscribes the method very clearly. The city of Bellingham, for example, conformed precisely to the law by establishing two citizen committees for acquiring its recent public sculpture. The first committee selected three artists to make proposals; the second committee made the actual choice. This procedure has evolved in response to the difficulties that have developed in public art programs during two decades of government funding. This function used to be performed at Western by the Art Acquisition Committee, but President Ross has permitted this body to atrophy and has sat for two years on a detailed proposal to create the necessary arts commission for overseeing and building Western's several arts collections.

Another development during

the past few years in the nature of public art has been the recognition of public response and practical feasibility. Increasingly, public art has moved toward integration with the structure from whose capital budget the funds were earmarked. Oregon is light years ahead of Washington on this matter.

Secondly, even coordinators of public art programs recognize that public acceptance is a key factor in the practical feasibility of the art work. When the highly-successful Seattle public art administrator, Richard Andrews, left for the National Endowment for the Arts in the other Washington, he gave an important valedictory at the Seattle Art Museum. He had come to the conclusion, after his experience in Seattle, that the pure "object beautiful" (an extension of the "city beautiful" concept) was obsolete. He argued for a more expansive definition of public art. Recently the NEA awarded a grant to the very hot young sculptor, Scott Burton, to do a series of beach chairs for Santa Monica, CA.

Before committing the university to these new expenditures for old concepts, the powers-that-be might well have carried on some collegial discussion and dialog with those who really care about campus art beyond the limits of self-aggrandizement. No wonder the artists whose works are already here have cause to be concerned.

## Lt. Col. North brings heroism alive

# Covert operations answer congressional fickleness

Like many Americans across the nation, I've been watching the number-one soap opera on television, the Iran-Contra hearings, and I have found that I definitely have a difference of opinion with some of my new friends at Western.

What is so bad about a man who wants to serve his country, tries to rescue Americans being held hostage in the Middle East, follows orders like any good American military officer should, and clearly supports the programs, goals, and desires of the Commander-in-Chief of the

Stephen  
Young



Front Photo Editor

United States? Such a man could clearly be called an outstanding American patriot and someone to be proud of.

Lt. Col. Oliver North's opening statement began "I come here to tell the truth; the good, the bad, and the ugly," and whether you believe him or not, that is precisely what he has been trying to do.

Congress is beginning to share the same view. Yes, Col. North did say "I don't remember." Yet, to hear some of the students on campus, it seems they would be happier if he just made something

up.

We should also be more understanding about the position in which Col. North has been placed. We live in a time when secrets are necessary, and leaks are frequent. Activity is heating up in the Persian Gulf, and our rather fickle Congress keeps changing its mind about foreign policy. Let's not forget that Congress did approve aid to the Contras once.

Yes, covert operations are necessary and those who don't think so are just kidding themselves.

Granted, Col. North has done

a few things that could be considered wrong. However, many people think his behavior is not only acceptable, but heroic. If the thousands of letters and telegrams flooding into the nation's capitol, the networks, and Col. North's own post office box are any indication, his popularity is actually growing. Contributions to North's personal legal fund have doubled over the past week and are still coming in.

Just when you think no more heroes are left in the world, along comes a man who brings it all back to life.

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## NEWS



Campus guide leads Japanese visitors on campus tour.

photo by Stephen Young

## Japanese guests cross the language barriers

by Carole Wiedmeyer

Front staff

Thirty-two Japanese students are at Western to participate in the Summer English Language Institute's five-week intensive language program.

The program, in its fifth year, is a part of the Multi-Cultural Services Center, formerly the Student Assistance Center.

Most of the visitors are in this country for the first time, Laura Jessup, program assistant said. Many plan a career in international relations or business, she said. They range in age from 18 to 28.

"With the doors that are opening between the countries

and the exchanges being made, proficiency in the language, not knowledge, is what makes the difference," Jessup said. "And for true proficiency, you have to spend time in the country where it's the spoken, native language."

The Summer English Language Institute gives foreigners that opportunity through 25 hours a week of instruction with an emphasis on conversation. The members of this group are divided into four levels of English proficiency.

Most of the students are from Asia University in Tokyo. Western has a special exchange program for faculty, administration and students with Asia University, Partolan said.

"The Japanese have a real desire to send students abroad to

learn English," she said. They pick Western over other, larger universities because "they know they'll be taken care of here," she said.

Participants live in residence halls and eat in the university dining room. If host families are available, students may spend all or part of their stay in an American home.

The English Language Institute also operates during the regular academic year. Some participants eventually enroll at Western or other American universities, Partolan said.

The group will be on campus through Aug 14.

"By the end of the quarter, the difference (in their English) is incredible," Jessup said.

*H.S. teachers get lesson in politics*

## Don't back down

by Lynn Baldwin

Front staff

Nearly three-dozen high school teachers from Washington, Oregon and Hawaii exchanged work clothes for shorts, and shiny apples for burgers Monday night at Lakewood.

They gathered for a picnic and to hear Democratic Senate Majority Leader Larry Vognild, a featured speaker in the two-week Taft Seminar for Teachers.

The purpose of the seminar, which ends tomorrow, is to give teachers whose subjects include social studies, political science and other politically-oriented subjects a stronger grasp of the two-party American political system.

"Teachers will learn how the political system actually operates," said Don Alper, acting chairman of the political science department. Alper and Associate Professor Eugene Hogan organized the seminar.

"We want to take what we learn back to the classroom. We

want to convey the excitement we get here," Hogan said.

Alper and Hogan invited more than 40 speakers to discuss a variety of topics. Among the featured speakers are U.S. Rep. Al Swift, Washington State Supreme Court Associate Justice James Dolliver, Seattle Post-Intelligencer Political Columnist Mike Layton and Secretary of State Ralph Munro.

Vognild, after briefly describing his rise to the Senate, joked, "One day I could spell it (Senate), the next day I was one."

His advice to teachers who want to improve their political influence is to "not back down. Keep the friends you have in government."

"The problem with 'teachers' issues' is that they cost money, so those who support you must be willing to put up the revenue," he said.

Vognild also discussed tax reforms, budgets and problems in the House and Senate.

Teachers seemed to catch the enthusiasm Alper and Hogan hoped the seminar would create.

"It's making me rethink my whole stance on the political system. You realize you have to do something about the negativism surrounding politics," Don Staringer, social studies teacher at Hanford High School, said.

"Teachers need to tell kids they're responsible to make political decisions. I tell them if they don't make decisions, someone else will. An individual can have impact. That's what it's all about."

"The conference gives you contrasting viewpoints on the political system," Frank Gibbs, U.S. history and current problems teacher from Osoto High School said. "It really has helped me understand more."

"It gives me a broader political spectrum to teach from," Dave Demiglio, Friday High School teacher said. "It's also made me realize that political education needs to begin much earlier. It starts when they're 17 or 18, and they're practically voting already."

The event will conclude with a discussion called "Bring the Taft Seminar Home to the Classroom."

## For Your Information

### Free Water Slides

The Outdoor Program presents a slide show featuring biking and water rafting in New Zealand. Local white water raft guide Steve Butler will host the showing. It begins at 7:30 p.m., July 16 in VU 113. Admission is free.

### Upwardly Mobile

The upward bound students will have a car wash from 10 a.m. until 4 p.m., July 18, at the Chevron station on 100 Samish Way in Bellingham. Proceeds will be used to fund a project year book for the participants.

### Wanna Buy A Garage?

The Bellingham Womencare Shelter's annual garage sale is scheduled from 9 a.m. to 4 p.m. on July 18 and 19 at 2339 Humboldt. Call the shelter at 671-8539 to arrange for pick up of items that could be used in the sale.

### Hardship Hardbacks

The Veteran's Outreach Center is sponsoring a book sale from 8 a.m. to 4 p.m., July 20 through 24 in the Old Main Registration Center. The profits from the sale will go toward the center's hardship grant, which is available to all veteran students when all other financial options are exhausted.

### Dem Youngsters

Washington's Second Congressional District Young Democrats chapter has scheduled an organizational meeting for 7:30 p.m., July 22, in the Fireplace Room of Bellingham's Fairhaven branch library. State Representative Harriet Spanel (D-Bellingham) and Whatcom County Democratic Party Chair Lois Clement are scheduled to speak. Also on the agenda is officer elections.

### Whale of a Story

The Book of the Quarter panel discussion, "Making Sense Out of Sound in the Ocean of Thought," is scheduled for 4 p.m., July 21, in the Wilson Library Presentation Room. Panelists include Dr. Anna Elben, speech and broadcast department; Dr. Ron Johnson, academic advisement; Dr. Gerald Kraft, biology department; and secondary education graduate student Collene Mildes. Moderator for the event will be documents librarian Wm. H.O. Scott. Admission is free.

### Duffers Delight

The 13th annual Western Open golf tourney is set to tee off the afternoon of July 22. The tourney will be played at the Lake Padden Golf Course with prizes being awarded for both men's and women's division winners. The event is open to all faculty, staff, and their spouses. Entry fee is \$12. To participate, send entry fee and starting time request to Jim Davis, Arntzen Hall 416.

## AWARD

continued from p. 2

to get a more diverse student body, faculty and staff.

"We've tried to sensitize departments to the need to get women and minorities on campus," Robinson said.

In the early '70s, Robinson started the Associated Students Co-op Day Care and the women's studies program. Soon after, the Women's Center was established as an outgrowth of women's studies.

Besides her work at Western, Robinson has been very involved in the community. She has served as president of the United Way and is currently president of the Whatcom Educational Credit Union Board of Directors.

She is also on the boards of directors for several organizations including Friends of the Washington Commission for the Humanities, St. Luke's Hospital Foundation and World Affairs Council of Northwest Washington.

Robinson received a Fulbright International Educators' Award in

1983 and a Carnegie Corporation grant to attend Harvard University's Institute for Education Management.

The Affirmative Action Award, which includes a \$1,000 check and a certificate of recognition,



Mary Robinson

photo by Letitia Flerchinger

tion, is made possible through donations to the Western Foundation. Recommendation for the award was made by Western's Affirmative Action Advisory Committee.