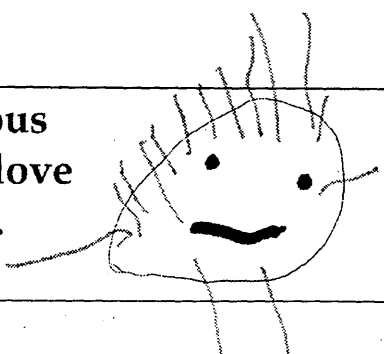


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This amorphous shape means love for somebody.

Pages 8-9



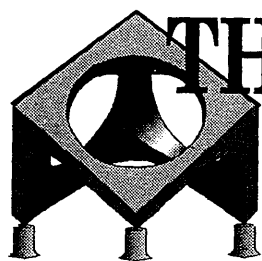
The last ice age is still making the headlines.

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Tuesday,  
May 7, 1996

Volume 96

Issue 9



# THE WESTERN FRONT

Western Washington University

Bellingham, Washington

## Viking team races for alternative energy

By Jerry Weatherhogg

The Western Front

Students from Western's Vehicle Research Institute have been working day and night to prepare their experimental, hybrid vehicles for Friday's eighth annual American Tour De Sol competition in New York City.

The Viking 23 and Viking 25 will compete in the week-long event, sponsored by the Northeast Sustainable Energy Association, in which participating vehicles race to Washington, D.C. in pursuit of almost \$10,000 in prize money.

The Tour de Sol pits 46 low-emissions vehicles from different schools across the country alongside those made by the major automakers. Participating vehicles will travel through five eastern states while being judged in such areas as range, consumer acceptability and emissions. The event will provide spectators with a small peek at the future of automobiles and how they could run.

"The two main competitions for the Tour de Sol are emissions and range," Viking 25 co-captain Eric Freitag said. "We want to make sure it (the Viking 25) gets down to 1998 ultra-low emission vehicle standards,

which is a tenth of what the current standards are for the state of California, and be able to drive as far as it possibly can, getting the highest fuel economy."

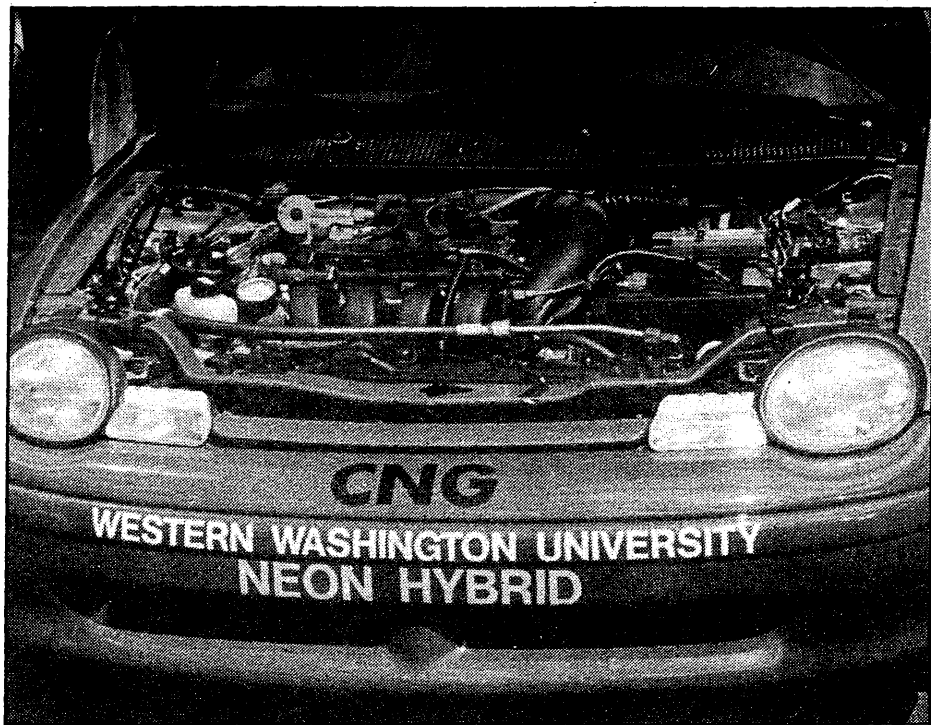
This year, Western will send two low-emission vehicles, the Viking 23 and the Viking 25.

The Tour de Sol will provide the Viking 23 with its first competition ever. Its predecessor, the Viking 21, won the 1993 Tour de Sol in the hybrid vehicle class. Only three other cars competed in the hybrid class that year.

"The Viking 23 is a hybrid car, meaning it has electric power and an internal combustion engine," said Gavin Campbell, faculty advisor for the Viking 23 team. "It runs on compressed natural gas and electricity also."

From a distance, the Viking 23 looks like a futuristic sports car. The two-seater is small, sleek and lightweight. A blanket of solar panels stretch from the hood of the car to the rear, hiding the dark blue paint. The solar panels produce about 750 watts of power to charge the car's batteries in the sunshine.

The Viking 23 was built completely from scratch. Its outside casing was made of carbon fiber, "the same stuff they use on the



Front/Aaron Dahl

The Viking 25 runs on both Compressed Natural Gas and electricity.

floor of Boeing 747 aircraft," Campbell said.

The vehicle is lightweight, about 2,200 pounds, including 400 pounds of batteries.

Its weight allows the Viking 23 to have an incredible range; it can travel 500 miles on one tank of CNG.

See VRI, page 4

## Bike-ban battle rages on 'Forests in trouble'

By Bobbie Egan

The Western Front

The Student Bicycle Advisory Coalition presented a policy revision to the Central Health and Safety Committee yesterday in hopes of integrating pedestrian safety and bicycle responsibility.

The nine-student coalition introduced alternative solutions to the CHSC proposal, which would ban bicycles from central campus. The coalition's two page proposal addressed the issue of maintaining pedestrian safety and the issue of bicycle safety when cyclists and cars are forced to share roadways.

"There are an awful lot of cars that travel on that road (behind Miller Hall), and it would be nice to reduce the number of vehicles on the back roads. It would be a symbolic gesture that bicycles do have a place that is safe," said Bob Langan, student and coalition member.

Langan explained that the responsibility code would give pedestrians the right of way in all instances.

Under the code, students would avoid congested areas, use back roads when possible, stay in control and obey the current 10-minute dismount zone.

If the student responsibility code is adopted, the coalition proposes educating incoming stu-



Shipley

dents through Summerstart and altering current students with signs around campus and mounting the code on bike racks.

"If we make a rule here that says bicyclists can't ride on central campus at all, what does this teach (students)?" said Bob Baker, student and coalition member. "I think the responsibility code is good, because what it does is try to educate people and teach them how to ride in congested areas and that pedestrians always have the right of way."

To add fire to the ongoing struggle between the CHSC and the student coalition, the Department of Labor and Industry plans to investigate a complaint lodged by a Western employee stating that bicycles threaten pedestrian safety on campus.

Gayle Shipley, director of environmental health and safety, said

L-and-I is aware of the ongoing bicycle issue. Under the safety policy, standard employers must do everything possible to ensure safety for their employees.

Shipley said the person who made the complaint said, "Unless the institution prohibits bikes from central parts of campus by next week, L-and-I will send two inspectors out here, they will spend eight hours with a video camera and radar gun. They will monitor our campus for situations where people are placed at risk by bicycles. If they cite us, and find something, and the situation is serious enough, the institution could be fined up to \$1,000," Shipley said.

Shipley said the surprise visit by L-and-I comes at a difficult time, but since their purview is employee health, they have their own agenda and are aware of the lengths students and faculty are taking to ensure pedestrian safety and bicycle education on campus. L-and-I could not be reached for comment.

Carl Root, a transportation management planner, said his major goal is to promote alternative means of transportation to campus.

"I'm tempted to talk to L-and-I myself, there are other, more pressing transportation concerns on campus than this ... this kind of ticks me off," Root said.

By Gene Metrick

The Western Front

Thirty students sat in stunned silence for 90 minutes as George Draffan explained how timber interests abused the law that created the Northwest's railroad system.

The Western Endangered Species Alliance hosted a presentation by Draffan entitled "Railroads and Clearcuts" Monday, April 29, in the Library Presentation Room.

"The forests and communities of the Pacific Northwest are in trouble," Draffan told the crowd. Draffan showed slides of clearcut areas, maps, aerial photographs, legal documents and famous businessmen as he explained the history of the Northern Pacific Railroad and how the law that created it was abused to further enrich a few wealthy timber magnates.

The Northern Pacific Railroad Land Grant Act was passed by Congress and signed into law by President Abraham Lincoln in 1864.

This law created the Northern Pacific Railroad Company and charged it with building a railroad and telegraph line from Lake Superior to the Puget Sound.

The land grant gave the company 40 million acres of land — 40

square miles for every mile of track it built. Draffan explained how this land was laid out in a checkerboard pattern of alternating square-mile plots extending 10 to 20 miles on either side of the railroad tracks. This land was meant to be sold to homesteaders for \$2.50 an acre to encourage the settlement of the West and provide the railroad with money to build and operate the railroad and telegraph systems.

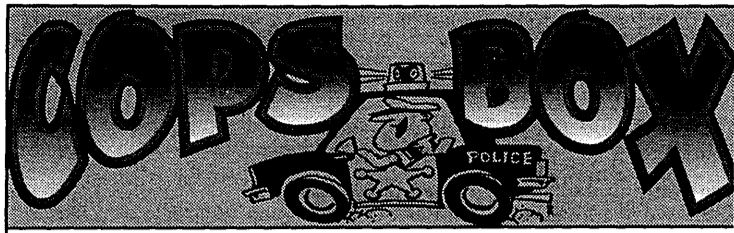
But, as Draffan found in his research, that never came about.

He explained how a series of financial problems brought the company under the control of J.P. Morgan, the famous banker who merged the Northern Pacific with the Great Northern Railroad to form the Burlington Northern Railroad.

Somewhere along the way, Draffan found, much of the land was sold or transferred to timber and mining corporations.

Weyerhaeuser received 75 percent of its land holdings from these railroad companies and incorporated two subsidiaries, Potlatch and Boise Cascade, which also obtained land from the railroads. Burlington Northern set up its own subsidiary corporations to develop land and sold millions of acres to other corporations.

See Clearcuts, pg. 6



## Campus Police

**May 4, 8 p.m.:** A Ridgeway Kappa resident reported that some unknown person(s) entered his room between 8 and 11 p.m., and damaged his VCR. The victim is not sure how the person(s) got into his room because he usually locks it when he's not there. The victim also could not suggest a motive or any possible suspect(s).

## Bellingham Police

**May 5, 2:53 p.m.:** A female reported a male made lewd comments to her in the 500 block of Bay View Drive. Police contacted the male, who admitted to making the comments.

**May 5, 3:17 p.m.:** A cellular phone was removed from a woman's purse while she filled up at a Texaco.

**May 5, 7:16 p.m.:** An arrest citation was issued to a male for reckless driving and a hit-and-run, which resulted in property damage at Arboretum Drive. The hit-and-run was preceded by a one-car injury accident at the same location.

**May 5, 8:00 p.m.:** A vehicle was broken into in the 3500 block of Northwest Avenue. A CD player and four CDs were stolen.

**May 5, 10:32 p.m.:** A person falsely signed a stolen check using the identification of the person it was stolen from.

**May 5, 10:43 p.m.:** A female was arrested in connection with malicious mischief after she allegedly broke a window in the 1300 block of East Victor Street.

**May 5, 10:43 p.m.:** A vehicle was stolen between May 1 and May 5 in the 800 block of North Garden Street. The victim said she may have a suspect.

**May 5, 11:12 p.m.:** A female reported an unknown person told her he was a friend of the family and offered her a ride home at the corner of Champion and Prospect streets. She said that after talking with this person, she realized he did not actually know her family. She asked to be let out of the car, and he dropped her off. She is concerned about this person's intentions.

**May 6, 4:33 p.m.:** A Bellis Fair mall security officer reported a male videotaping up women's dresses. None of the women taped were available for questioning, and officers could not locate the suspect.

**May 6, 4:35 p.m.:** Shoplifting was reported at the Thrifty Food store. A juvenile was arrested and given a criminal trespass warning for all Thrifty Food stores.

*Cops Box was compiled by Front reporters Melissa Leslie and Tom Degan.*

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# Western Briefs

## Western theater hosts 'The Chalk Garden'

Enid Bagnold's "The Chalk Garden," a play about the relationships between a woman, her granddaughter and the strong-willed governess she has recently hired, will be performed in Western's Old Main Theater at 7:30 p.m. on Wednesday, May 8, through Saturday, May 11.

Tickets are \$10 for general admission, \$8 for seniors, and \$5 for students. They may be purchased at the Plaza Cashier Box Office or by phoning 650-6146.

## Gallery showcases industrial design classes

Western's junior class of industrial design and Allied Arts of Whatcom County present "New Product Concepts," a show featuring student-designed folding stools, innovative shaving devices, and re-designed kitchen appliances in the Allied Arts Gallery downtown at 1416 Cornwall Ave.

The collection will be shown until May 29. A reception will take place from 7 to 9 p.m. on May 10. For more information call Allied Arts at 676-8548.

## Women studies program seeks scholars

The Women Studies program is offering one tuition and fee waiver totaling \$750 for the 1996-97

academic year.

Applicants must be Women Studies majors, minors, or concentrating in this discipline as well as having excellent academic standing.

Those interested should submit transcripts, a completed scholarship application, and a letter of recommendation from a Women Studies faculty member. The deadline is at 5 p.m. May 21 and should be turned in at the Women Studies office in Miller Hall 177. For more information call 650-3534.

## 100 years of photos, Ansel Adams featured

The Western Gallery presents "Photographs From America," a collection of photographs by such renowned artists as Edward Curtis, Dorothea Lange and Ansel Adams that spans 100 years of photographic achievement. The show is made up of pieces from the private collections of Seafirst Bank, Microsoft Corporation, and the Washington Art Center.

It opens Wednesday and will run through June 7. Gallery hours are from 10 a.m. until 4 p.m. on weekdays and from noon until 4 p.m. on Saturdays. For more information call the gallery at 650-3963.

## Outdoor Intercourse Day celebrated May 8

The Associated Students Sexual Awareness Center is spon-

soring National Outdoor Intercourse Day, a fun-filled day of campus condom-hunting.

Wednesday students can search for condoms hidden across the campus and turn them in at Viking Union 214 for a chance at winning a "wonderful prize."

Friday the Sexual Awareness Center and Human Resource Program will sponsor a charity garage sale from 9 a.m. until 4:30 p.m.

## Director of Cuba's gallery speaks on art

Lilian Llanes, an internationally known authority on Latin American art and director of Centro Wifredo Lam, Cuba's national gallery, will speak tomorrow evening at 6 p.m. in Fraser Hall 3. "Art: Beyond the Blockade" is sponsored by the Department of Art, University Cultural Affairs, and Western's Diversity Fund and is open to the public. It's the first of two events celebrating Cuban art.

## Music department presents free concert

The music department will present a choral concert at 8 p.m. today in the Performing Arts Center Concert Hall.

The concert is free.

*Western Briefs compiled by Front reporter Scott Menghini*

## WWU Official Announcements

Deadline for announcements in this space is noon Friday for the Tuesday edition and noon Wednesday for the Friday edition. *Announcements should be limited to 50 words, typewritten or legibly printed, and sent through campus mail to "Official Announcements," MS-9117, fax 7287, or taken in person to Commissary 113A. DO NOT ADDRESS ANNOUNCEMENTS DIRECTLY TO THE WESTERN FRONT. Phoned announcements will not be accepted. All announcements should be signed by originator.*

### PLEASE POST

**SUMMER QUARTER DEGREE APPLICANTS:** All students who expect to graduate at the close of summer quarter must have a senior evaluation on file in the Registrar's Office, OM 230, by June 7. Degree applications are available in OM 230.

**ALL STUDENT TEACHER CANDIDATES FOR FALL 1996 THROUGH SPRING 1997:** should have their senior/certification evaluation on file in the Registrar's Office, OM 230, at least two quarters before student teaching. Packets are available in OM 230.

**ATTENTION NDSL/FEDERAL, PERKINS/FEDERAL DIRECT AND GSI/STAFFORD/FFELP LOAN BORROWERS:** If you are not returning to Western fall quarter or if you are graduating spring quarter *you are required to schedule an exit interview.* Interviews will be in the Library Presentation Room May 14, 15 and 16. Stop by Student Fiscal Services, OM 265, or call X2943 no later than Friday, May 10, to schedule your interview. *School records may be withheld if you do not appear for the mandatory interview.*

**SEVERAL SUMMER AND FALL BIOLOGY COURSES REQUIRE ADD CODES.** Forms requesting add codes may be picked up outside BI 315 May 6-17 and must be returned by May 17. Codes may be picked up May 29, 30 and 31. The add code process is for all students, not just biology majors. Check at BI 315 for courses requiring add codes.

**THE MATH PLACEMENT TEST** will be given in OM 120 at 9 a.m. Mondays on May 13, 20 and June 3. Thursday test dates will be May 9, 16, 23 and 30. Preregistration is not required. Students must bring picture ID and a No. 2 pencil. Allow 90 minutes. The exact amount at time of testing. Allow 90 minutes.

**PRE-MED STUDENTS:** Rick Christensen from the University of Guadalajara School of Medicine in San Antonio will be on campus from 11:30 a.m. to 1 p.m. Wednesday, May 8. Interested students and faculty are encouraged to drop by BI 243A with questions.

**CENTER FOR SERVICE LEARNING BROWN BAG LECTURE SERIES PRESENTS RACHEL VAUGHN,** "Societal Factors Affecting Elderly Women: What is Our Role?" Noon Thursday, May 9, VU 408. For information, contact The Center for Service Learning, OM 110A, X/7448 or X/6515.

**CAREER SERVICES CENTER IS NOW HIRING** for paid, internship, and volunteer paraprofessional positions for the 1996-97 academic year. Applications are available in OM 280. Deadline is today (Friday, May 3).

**TETEP — THE TEST FOR ENTRANCE INTO TEACHER EDUCATION** will be at 2 p.m. Wednesday, May 15, in FR 3. A \$20 fee is payable at time of preregistration in OM 120. Allow 2 hours. TETEP is not administered on an individual basis.

**BOOK OF THE QUARTER PANEL** will meet from noon to 1:30 p.m. Friday, May 31, to discuss Neil Postman's *Amusing Ourselves to Death*. Copies of the book are available at the Student Co-op Bookstore.

**LEGISLATIVE INTERNSHIPS:** Selections are being made this quarter for Washington State legislative interns for winter quarter, 1997. Qualified undergraduate majors in all disciplines who have at least junior standing and a minimum 2.75 GPA are eligible. Applications, due May 13, are available in AH 415.

**CAREER WORKSHOPS:** Spring quarter workshops scheduled through the Career Services Center include career connection strategies, résumé writing, cover letters, interview techniques, mock interviews, developing an internship, making effective use of a career fair and several workshops for educators. Due to space limitations, signups are required. Contact CSC, OM 280, or call X/3240 for workshop dates, times and locations.

### On Campus Interviews

To participate in on-campus interviews, graduating seniors and alumni must be registered for career services. Registration packets are available at the front desk in OM 280. Establishing a placement file is optional for all but education candidates. There is no charge for 1995-96 graduates; alumni must pay a \$20 fee, which makes them eligible for services through September, 1996.

• **Olde Discount Stockbrokers,** Tuesday, May 14. See company file in career library for company information and job descriptions. Sign up in OM 280.

• **Puyallup School District,** Information sessions at 9 a.m. and 1 p.m. followed by individual interviews. Everyone who attends one of the sessions will be interviewed. Sign up in OM 280.

• **The Boeing Company,** Wednesday, May 15. Submit a CIF during signup in OM 280.

# New program aims to address needs of elderly

**By Jennifer Schwantes**  
The Western Front

Western will offer a two-year certificate program in gerontology starting September 1996. Lois Longwood, head of conferences and institutes, said the program rose from a growing need for one in the region.

Longwood said that by the mid-21st century, one in five Americans will be over the age of 65 and 16 million will be over the age of 85.

"We want the elderly years to be good, healthy years and not sick years," Longwood said. "There has been a dramatic shift

in the age structure of our country, and, as a result, there is a growing demand for gerontology."

Sara Weir, a political science professor who will chair the new program as well as instruct some of the courses, said, "The way people think of the aging and elderly needs to be explored and challenged."

The program will be offered through University Extended Learning, which primarily serves non-matriculated students. It will be a non-credit certificate program that will take two years to complete.

"Students won't be certified

though. They will just receive a certificate of completion," Longwood said.

"These certificate programs are common for extended learning."

One class will be offered per quarter, one evening per week.

"Classes are designed for the working person," Longwood stated.

"We want to target people who already work in the field, but don't have a college degree. We want to give them different backgrounds and experiences and train them to be a lot better in their jobs," Weir said.

Weir said they expect a mix of older and younger students.

The courses will deal with biological, sociological and psychological aspects of adult development and aging.

They will also have courses about health, political and family issues.

Faculty from Western include Kris Bulcroft, sociology; Weir, political science; Dennis Caine, physical education, health and recreation; and Frank Nugent, psychology. Several people from community organizations will also serve as adjunct faculty.

"We have the backing and support of St. Joseph's Hospital," Longwood said.

"They are donating office

space to us in their South Campus building."

Several people have already applied to the program, Longwood said. Preference will be given to those planning to complete the two-year certificate program.

Tuition for the program is \$275 per course. There are eight courses.

An informational meeting is scheduled for 7 p.m. today at St. Joseph's South Campus in the Adult Daycare Health Center.

For more information, contact University Extended Programs at 650-6854.

# AP news from around the globe

## Regional

### Microsoft to sell software over the Internet, lower cost

REDMOND — You'll soon be able to download a program without a trip to the store now that Microsoft has made plans to sell software over the Internet.

They say they will continue to sell through wholesalers and other middlemen but will not sell directly to the public. When Microsoft originally announced plans last year to sell directly to customers, retailers objected and threatened anti-trust action. This latest plan involves these distributors.

The electronic distribution of software is common. It's more convenient for the customers and eliminates the cost of packaging and shipping.

### Three bears leave Seattle for permanent home in Calif.

SEATTLE — Three troublesome bears that were removed from Yellowstone Park and held in Seattle's Woodland Park Zoo will be moved to a permanent home in California.

A mother bear and her two cubs were sent away from Yellowstone for getting too close to people and were held in Seattle until a new home could be found.

The bears will be sent later this week to the Moonridge Animal Park at Big Bear Lake in Southern California.

### Commons' supporters to take another shot at ballot

SEATTLE — A campaign is underway in Seattle for a new park called The Commons. Voters will decide on May 21 whether or not \$50 million should be levied to help create the new park in a business district on the south shore of Lake Union.

Opponents of the campaign say that it's too costly and that some of the businesses in the area do not want to move.

This current project is a scaled-down version of the \$100 million project voted

down last September.

### Man faces 14 years in prison for murder of abusive son

OLYMPIA — A trial is expected to begin today for a 58-year-old Thurston County man accused of killing his son.

Richard Spargur is charged with second-degree murder in the shooting death of 37-year-old Alan Spurgur during an argument last September.

Defense lawyers say that the father was pushed to the limit because of years of abuse by his son, but prosecutors oppose the use of that defense.

If Spargur is convicted he'll face up to 14 years in prison.

## National

### FDA approves use of 'microwave' on prostates

WASHINGTON — Microwaves could help millions of men suffering from enlarged prostates.

The Food and Drug Administration has approved a machine that microwaves the prostate gland to relieve urinary problems and is the first alternative to drugs or surgery for prostate patients.

This device, called "prostration," sends microwaves through a catheter and the 111-degree heat kills tissue in the enlarged prostate gland. The output procedure takes about one hour.

Seventy-five percent of the men tested claimed they felt improvement in their symptoms, and half of the men said these improvements lasted for four years.

### Child abuser list's process disputed in the courts

ANNAPOLIS, Md. — It's a secret list, and it's being challenged in court in Maryland.

The list was compiled by the state government and names all of the people suspected, but never convicted, of child abuse. It has been made available to police, social

workers, licensed therapists, and school officials.

Opponents went before the state court of appeals yesterday, saying the list violates the constitutional guarantee of due process. The plaintiff was a man put on the list in 1993 after he was accused of sexually abusing his niece, but never charged.

An administrative law judge heard the case, but the man was prohibited by law from testifying or cross-examining his accusers. The judge refused to strike his name off of the list.

### 'Restraint' used by police as 95 arrested in ethnic fight

DENVER — Denver officials are defending police actions in an ethnic festival that turned violent Sunday night.

Police officers arrested 95 people after a Cinco de Mayo celebration led to gunfire, reckless driving and the throwing of beer bottles.

"The police department used considerable restraint considering the fact that some bottles and cans were thrown," said Mayor Wellington Webb yesterday.

Denver's Manager of Public Safety said that he's very proud of the way the police handled the volatile situation.

### Rock singer, girlfriend arrested after hotel fight

WEST HOLLYWOOD — Def Leppard singer Joe Elliot and his girlfriend were arrested Sunday night after getting into a fight in a hotel.

Elliot and Bobbie Tolsma were booked for investigation of spousal assault.

The police arrived after Tolsma phoned claiming she was beaten and found that both she and Elliot had minor injuries.

They each posted \$50,000 bail and were released.

### Teenage gang charged with murder of band director

FORT MYERS, Fla. — Authorities in Fort Myers, Fla. offered more details about a gang of teenagers charged with killing a high school band teacher. The gang, called the "Lords of Chaos," have confessed to

other crimes such as torching a church and restaurant, armed robbery and car-jacking.

The gang's leader, whom the members call "God," has been accused of pulling the trigger in the fatal shooting last week of band director Mark Schwebes after he had questioned two of the members about the can of gasoline they were carrying.

Deputies say the suspects had planned to burn down the school's auditorium and were worried that Schwebes would turn them in.

## International

### Another shaky truce by Liberian warring factions

MONROVIA, Liberia — Warring factions resumed fierce street fighting yesterday in the Liberian capital of Monrovia and continued until a noon cease-fire was called by one government and militia leader. However, there was still some gunfire after this hour of truce ended.

Meanwhile, hundreds of militiamen on both sides came pouring into the city and increased their manpower around a military barracks at the center of the battle.

Liberia's civil war has killed 150,000 people over the past six years. Peace talks led by international mediators begin tomorrow.

### Middle East peace talks plan to address border disputes

TABA, Egypt — In a statement issued yesterday after concluding their first rounds of new peace talks, Israel and Palestinian negotiators envision a future "devoid of terror and violence."

The two sides acknowledged that continuing strife in the region has made their job tougher but they promised to tackle issues not decided in five years of negotiations such as refugees, border questions and the possibility of establishing an official Palestinian state.

Compiled from Associated Press wire reports by Front reporter Scott Menghini

# Broadcast prof retiring

*Thirty years later Alden Smith is leaving to travel, act and sail; plans on teaching spring quarters*

By Brad Benfield  
The Western Front

After 30 years of teaching broadcasting in the Department of Communication, associate professor Alden Smith is finally signing off. He will be retiring at the end of this academic year.

While Smith is looking forward to pursuing hobbies such as travel, acting and sailing, he will also return to Western during his retirement to teach the spring quarter media classes for the next three years.

Taking his place next year is Christine Mugno, a doctoral candidate from the University of Maryland.

Smith, who came to Western in

1966, believes in the value of hard work and honest criticism in education. His red pen is legendary in the communications department and has caused a fair amount of frustration among his students.

"I grade pretty tough," Smith said, "and the evaluations I get often reflect that. Students say things like 'it's a lot of work for three credits' or 'assignments should be spelled out more clearly, I can't understand why I didn't get a higher grade.' But the comments I get back (from those who have graduated) are comments that say 'I appreciate the standards you set.'"

Brian Lyden, a communication major who has spent the last

year working with Smith, agrees that the high standards pay off.

"He's abrasive, but he knows what he's talking about. He gets you ready for the real world," Lyden said of Smith. "He makes you try really hard and he makes you work for the grades you get in his classes."

Smith has watched as his students have gone out into the job market and have succeeded in getting news broadcasting jobs with networks like CNN and MTV, as well as jobs with regional radio and television stations.

"The neat thing about teaching is watching what happens to the students," said Smith. "I keep in touch with students who are all over the United States."



Front/Brad Benfield

*Alden Smith is retiring after 30 years as a broadcast professor. He will return for spring quarters the next three years to teach.*

Looking back over the last 30 years, Smith said Western hasn't changed very much.

He said the size of the school has grown, and things have become a little less personal, but the high quality of the students hasn't changed.

He is concerned about the

amount of time some students spend working.

"I think that they are more job-oriented now," Smith said.

"More and more of them are working, so they don't have quite the flexibility in their schedules to get involved in time-consuming things."

## VRI, from page 1

Improvements that were made on the Viking 23 from the Viking 21 include broader range, another CNG tank, fewer batteries to reduce weight and fuel-injection.

Team leader Darren Erickson said he hopes the car will prove "that a hybrid, low-emissions vehicle can be an enjoyable car — even for the auto enthusiast."

The Viking 25 is another hybrid car. Western was one of 12 universities awarded brand-new Neons from Chrysler and the Department of Energy. Western Vehicle Research Institute students converted the

Neon to use CNG.

By looking at the outside and sitting in the interior, a passenger could not even tell the Neon is a conversion car. Only by looking at the bulky, removable CNG tank in the trunk can one tell the difference, which was the aim of the car's designers.

"We wanted to demonstrate to industry leaders that we can bring cleaner cars into a consumer realm," Viking 25 team leader Dan Greenberg said.

The Viking 25's last competition was in the 1995 Hybrid Electric Vehicle challenge near Detroit. The car took first in Best Use

of Advanced Technology, Range, Best Heater, Ventilation and Air-Conditioning System and Consumer Acceptability.

"Our car was judged the one most likely the public would buy," VRI staff member Eileen Seal said.

The Viking 25 came in third in the event. "The reason we probably didn't take first place overall was because our emissions were terrible," Seal said.

"We have a good chance of winning both classes in the Tour de Sol," Freitag said. "We've resolved those [emission] problems this year. Compared to other schools,

we're really on top of it. It'll be close."

Sleep has come in small doses for the VRI students.

"We stay here until five in the morning and get back here at about 9 a.m.," Freitag said.

He added that crew technicians have been holding this whirlwind schedule for the past 10 days getting the vehicles ready for the event. The VRI students left May 2 to start the cross-country trip. Six students will drive a converted warehouse truck 3,000 miles non-stop until they reach New York City.

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## PLANET BELLINGHAM!

- \* Celebrities
- \* Cash Prizes
- \* Exotic Dancers

We don't actually have any of that stuff, but what'd you expect? This is Bellingham. So do what all smart Western students do for fun. Get up now, grab some money, and bring some friends down to Gus & Nap's to party. It's easy.

**\$3.00 Pitchers Mon-Thurs 7-9pm**

**Ladies Night: \$1.00 Pounds & Bottles, Thurs.**

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# AS, administration to split CDC costs

By Melissa Leslie  
The Western Front

The Associated Students' Child Development Center's struggle for this summer's funding is over, but more work must be done to avoid future financial problems.

The CDC, which cares for 54 children during the regular school year, will stay open this summer due to joint funding from the AS and administration — each will pay half the \$15,000 the CDC needs to help run its summer program. Another \$15,775 comes from parent fees and the USDA provides \$1,425 for food.

For the past two years the CDC has had problems finding sources for its summer program. In the past the AS has been its main source for funding, but over the last two summers, the daycare has had to find other sources. Last summer, after parents and students petitioned, administration covered the summer's costs.

Jules McLeland, director of the CDC, said the AS wanted the daycare to get money from another source because they needed to save money. Last year the education department funded the program. Each year the daycare has to find new sources for money and the daycare, AS and administration seek to find a better plan.

When it came time to find funding for this summer's program, the AS said they would pay \$7,500 and asked Eileen

Coughlin, vice president of Student Affairs, to match the funds, which she did.

"I had one-time dollars that came from not having other sources to fund," Coughlin said.

Coughlin will not be able to renew the funding, but she said she is committed to child care and is working with the AS for a permanent solution to the funding problem.

The approval for summer funding was announced at the last AS board meeting on April 15. "It felt good to get support from both (AS and administration) and find out so early," McLeland said. "Last summer we found out at such a late date."

It is important to find out about funding early, McLeland said, because it gives the center time to interview and hire students to work for the summer and to set up. If the daycare didn't stay open it would also be important for parents to find alternative care for their children during the summer. The daycare's summer program is also a source of income for the two teachers on staff this summer who would otherwise not receive pay. Coughlin also didn't want to wait to solidify summer funding.

"I didn't want to be unsure about the summer," Coughlin said. "We needed to immediately decide how we'd fund for the summer."

Leslie Keller, AS president, has been working on the Center's

funding problems. "This year we're working hard to solve this dilemma," Keller said. "Eventually we'd like to make the daycare self-sufficient."

Self-sufficiency for the daycare would mean fundraisers or getting an endowment from the Western Foundation. Someone would have to leave "millions of dollars," McLeland said, to pay for the Center's costs, which include salaries, benefits, office supplies, labor and bus tokens for children.

The money will continue to come from the AS, student fees and the university until a solution can be found. One of the steps in finding a solution was hiring a consultant from the Burud and Associates, Co. in California to look at the situation.

Keeping the daycare open during the summer is vital for the campus Keller and McLeland said.

"We need (the daycare) running year-round," Keller said. "It's not a September to June sort of deal."

McLeland also stressed the importance of what she calls "continuous care," which can be accomplished by keeping the daycare open through the summer. Kids who have been attending the daycare all year and who



Front/Brad Benfield

Children at the Child Development Center will have the opportunity to attend the center in the summer due to new funding.

will continue in the fall won't have to adjust to another program during the summer. The kids can be in an environment they already know, and it also ensures their spot for the following year.

A summer program also benefits those who would like their children on campus while they work or go to school. Also, keeping the daycare open is important for those who have just moved to the area. The daycare has fewer children during the summer than the rest of the year, which makes for an easier transition for a child.

Though this summer is funded,

finding funds is an ongoing issue.

"Child care is difficult for everyone. (It's) costly to do well ... It's a national struggle ... We mimic that problem," Coughlin said.

A consultant from California's Burud and Associates was hired to give suggestions for possible solutions to the funding problem. The results haven't been looked over, but the consultant did tell Coughlin the CDC is a model cooperative program and that Western does a good job with it.

Ultimately Coughlin would like to see stabilized funding.

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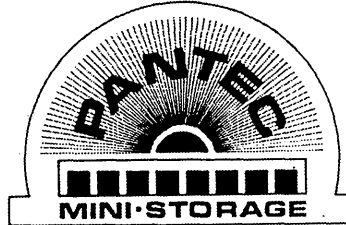
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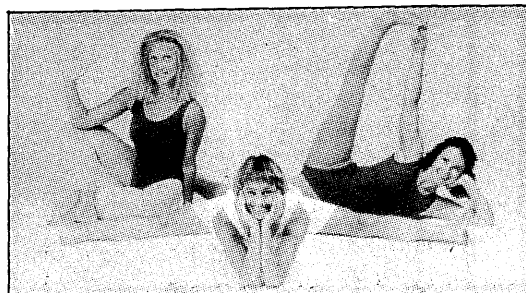
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# Student finds new glacial evidence

By Jennifer Schwantes  
The Western Front

Dori Kovanen, a Western graduate student in geology, recently discovered new evidence of alpine glacial advancement in the Nooksack Valley.

Scientists have found that alpine glaciers readvanced in various parts of the world after the retreat of the ice age glaciers 11,000 to 12,000 years ago. However, no evidence of this was found in the Cascade Mountains until now.

"The discovery is significant for people who study climate changes," Kovanen said.

Kovanen was careful to explain that her discovery is only evidence contrary to the theory of what drives the climates. It is not a theory in itself.

"This discovery is significant to the prevailing theories of what causes ice ages," she said. "It causes us to re-examine the

prevailing thought."

Kovanen examined the forks of the Nooksack River and found boulders and pebbles that came not from the continental ice cap, but from local glaciers that had started to melt but then readvanced.

The find questions

the theory that ice ages are caused by solar variations in the earth's orbit, which is a relatively slow process, Kovanen said. It shows instead that climatic changes

associated with the spread of the alpine glacier system would have occurred abruptly, over about 1,000 years, and globally.

This new evidence for a dramatic climate shift is important to understand what is happening with the climate now in

processes like global warming, she explained.

"(Geology professor) Don Easterbrook was my main advisor, and he was instrumental to the development of this whole idea, conceptually," Kovanen said. "As a

graduate student, you hope to just go out and recognize stuff, but I knew what I had found was important. Professor Easterbrook backed me up and helped me put the

pieces of the puzzle together."

Easterbrook agreed that Kovanen's discovery was significant.

"Geologically, it is the key to unraveling the ice ages," he said. "One of the leading theories for what causes ice ages can't explain what Dori found. It has global sig-

nificance."

Kovanen recently presented her findings at the Cordilleran Section of the Geological Society of America in Portland and at the University of Washington.

"I think it shocked a lot of people," she said of her find. "That's not unusual though."

Kovanen said she was ready to be challenged and to defend her discovery.

"To a lot of people, this is big news," she explained. "To me, it was just fun. I don't know how it will impact my life yet. It will probably be a big jump-start to my career."

Kovanen plans to graduate at the end of this quarter and continue her education by working toward a Ph.D.

"This project has been like a dream come true," she said. "... to go and find something significant."

Easterbrook added, "This discovery is an illustration that this is a nice part of the world to do geology in."

**"Geologically, it is the key to unraveling the ice ages."**

**— Don Easterbrook  
Geology department**

## Clearcuts, from page 1

Draffan described the history of Weyerhaeuser and explained how the company had moved its main logging operations from Wisconsin and Minnesota to the Pacific Northwest and then to the southeastern United States. He said the company is now buying large quantities of timberland in Asia.

"This has always been a cut-and-run industry," he said.

Draffan showed Weyerhaeuser advertisements that declared its commitment to local communities and publicized its tree farms as "investments in the future." He told the audience the company's actions are not accurately represented in these public relations

campaigns.

The communities that grew up around the logging industry are facing a reality that includes closed mills, unemployed timber workers and depressed economies.

"The corporations that have overcut the Northwest are now moving on to other areas," he said.

Throughout the presentation, he repeatedly returned to the theme of the land grants, which were given and remain under the authority of Congress. Several times Draffan showed a section of the 1864 law that stated in part that "Congress ... can renew or review ... the application of the

terms and conditions of this law ... at any time."

"The U.S. government has neglected its duty to uphold the law and protect the public interest," Draffan said as he concluded the slide presentation.

The ensuing question-and-answer period turned into a lively debate between members of the audience over what could be done about problems such as old-growth forest preservation, unrestrained consumerism and corporate manipulation of government.

"The power we blame the corporations for wielding is ours," Draffan said at one point during the discussion.

"And we claim to be their vic-

tims as we continue to give our power to them."

Draffan suggested people educate themselves and others about these types of issues, talk with others about developing, implementing corrective options and joining organizations such as the Sierra Club, the Inland Empire Public Lands Council, or groups such as WESA that work for environmental and economic reform.

He urged everyone to look at the relationships between consumers and corporations.


"We're committing collective suicide in the name of a demand-oriented economy," he said. "This has been going on for 130

years and it will take bold action to change."

Draffan is a member of the Public Information Network, an organization that provides information about the environment, economics and human rights to communities and individuals working to hold corporations and governments accountable.

His presentation is based on the book, "Railroads and Clearcuts: Legacy of Congress's 1864 Northern Pacific Railroad Land Grant," which he wrote with Derrick Jensen and John Osborn.

Draffan has presented the program across the state. His next presentation will be June 6 in Village Books.



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# Rockclimber perseveres through the years

By Craig Scott  
The Western Front

Climbing every chance he got, Royal Robbins went from high school dropout to rock-climbing legend to kayaking sensation.

He didn't stop there. Robbins, 61, now heads Royal Robbins, Inc., a lucrative outdoor clothing store based in Modesto, Calif.

Robbins has always sought a challenge and enjoyed anything that allowed him to give 100 percent.

Robbins will discuss his challenges when he comes to Western on Friday. He will present a slide show of his career. It is sponsored by the Outdoor Center.

"I enjoy ... anything that demands my best," he said. "Anything that doesn't demand your best is gonna get you in trouble."

This philosophy drove Robbins to become arguably the premiere climber of the 1960s and '70s. Robbins has made numerous first ascents, including the northwest face of Half Dome, America's first grade VI ascent.

Half Dome, located in California's Yosemite Valley, is an intimidating climb for even today's rock climbers. But in

1963, Robbins blazed his own trail and wrote his name in climber lore.

Routes are graded on two characteristics: difficulty and pitch.

Difficulty is measured on a scale of I to VI, with VI being the longest trip, lasting several days or even weeks.

For these trips, climbers attach cots to the rock wall to sleep.

"It's better than spending a night in a Greyhound terminal," Robbins said.

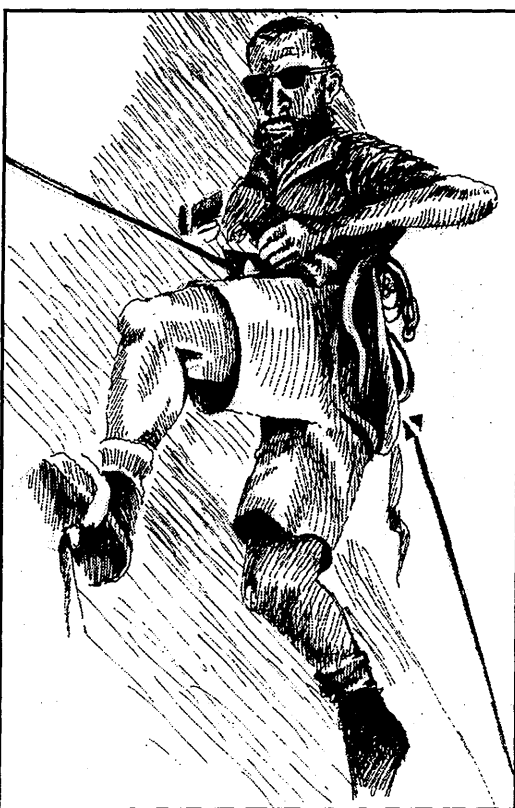
The other factor, pitch, is the steepness of the rock-face. This scale goes from 5.0 to 5.14 — increasingly steeper.

"In my day, we only went to 5.11," Robbins said.

New techniques and new equipment have allowed climbers to tackle steeper routes.

Even without modern equipment, Robbins made first ascents on four other faces of Half Dome, three faces of El Capitan (in Yosemite) and even one on Spain's Petit Dru.

Arthritis forced Robbins to leave the limelight in 1978. But even arthritis couldn't keep



Front/Kelly Jackson

Once making first ascents, Robbins moved to making first descents.

His accomplishments include more than 25 rivers, mostly in California and Chile.

Robbins was even part of the select group of Westerners to first run the Bashkaus River in Siberia.

Not bad for a high school dropout.

Born in West Virginia, Robbins moved west at age three with his mother. He soon hooked up with a gang of mischievous youths.

Robbins later spent a night in jail after a few "minor burglaries."

"We were just screwing up," he said. "(But) we learned a lesson. We certainly didn't want to spend more time in the clinker."

Modest and reserved, Robbins said he lost his handhold on academic matters by age 16. He later received his diploma through night school.

Robbins cleaned up his act and eventually landed a job at Union Bank in Los Angeles. He used his weekends to pursue his love — rock-climbing.

"I just decided it was pretty much what I wanted to do," Robbins said.

After working at the bank, Robbins went on to teach a climbing school and wrote two books on climbing technique.

Robbins and his wife, Liz, started their own business in 1968. Mountain Paraphernalia began making clothing in 1975 and grew from there.

The company became Royal Robbins, Inc. in 1979, reflecting Robbins's growing stardom.

Robbins boasted six factory outlet stores before a recession hit the clothing industry in 1988.

Robbins rode out the economic rapids and finally Royal Robbins, Inc. was on the upswing by 1993.

As with every rock he's faced, Robbins used his belief in himself to persevere over the economic woes of the business world.

It is this perseverance that has allowed Robbins to conquer so many rocks and tame so many rivers.

He said perseverance is one of humanity's "spiritual resources," which he feels are among the most valuable resources.

"Forty Years of Adventure" will be at 7 p.m. Friday in the Performing Arts Center Main Stage. Admission is \$6.

Robbins down; within six months, he had shifted his focus to whitewater kayaking.

Robbins purchased his first kayak in 1971, but never seriously thought about it.

No longer able to climb, Robbins devoted his immense energies to running wild rivers.

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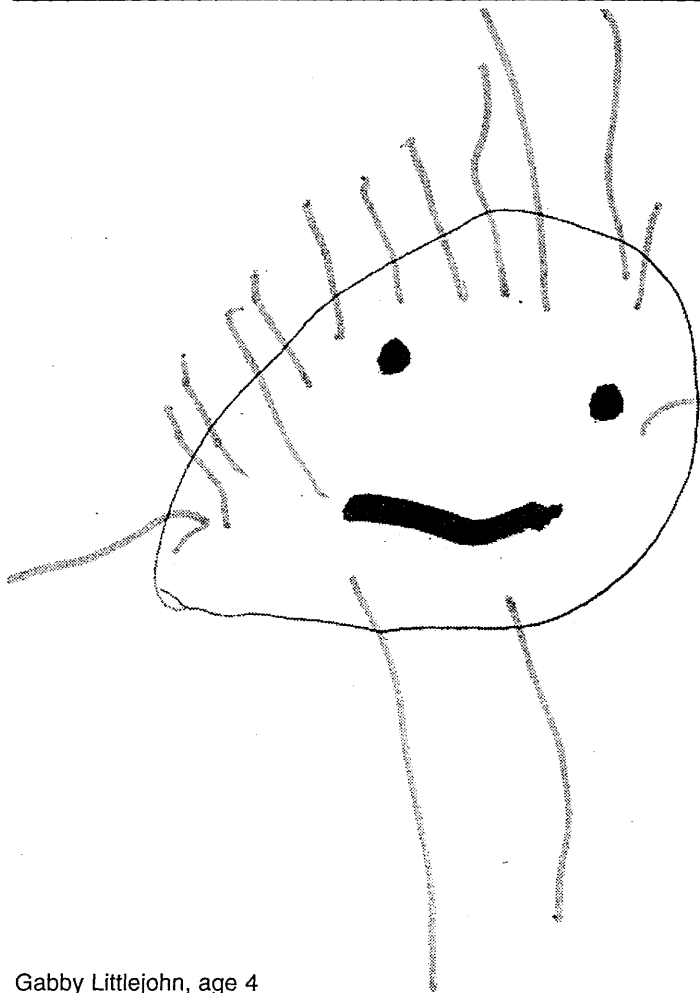
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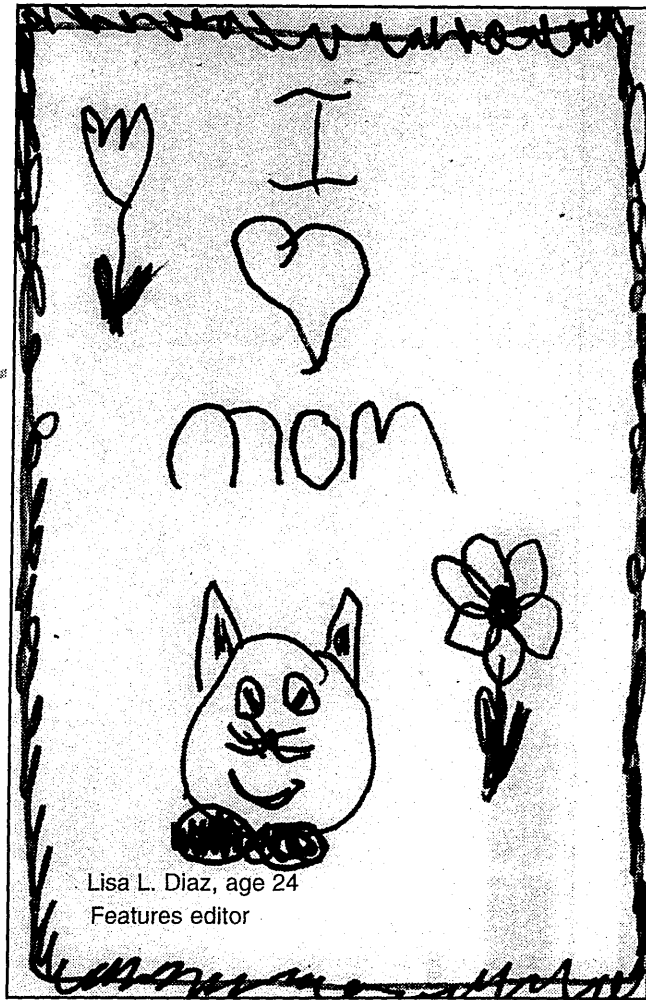
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Gabby Littlejohn, age 4



Lisa L. Diaz, age 24  
Features editor

# Children share their Mother's Day ideas

By Allison Gregg  
The Western Front

Back in the days when nap time was the dreaded hour, kindergarten was an anticipated event and life, relatively speaking, was simple, mom was your hero.

Remember those days?

Mom was the person who took care of you.

She washed your cuts, kissed away your scrapes, fed you dinner, tucked you in and read a bedtime story to end a long, productive day.

Mom ruled.

In return you would make her works of art, macaroni necklaces, drawings and creative figures made from egg cartons and toilet paper rolls.

At the Associated Students Child Development Center, 4-year-old boys and girls make every day Mother's Day.

When the actual day rolls around, they have special plans for their moms.

"It's the day your mom gets to stay in bed and you and your dad make mom breakfast," Gabby Littlejohn said.

"I'm going to sneak out of the house, go to the store, get a basket full of candy, go back to my house and ring the doorbell and run and hide," she continued.

"So when she comes outside, she won't know who they are from."

"It's the day you get to play with your

mom all day," Nicholas Nonas added.

"My mom and I play baseball together," Jake Sortor stated. "I've been playing for 30 years."

What do these kids think is so great about moms? Cooking, playing and the fact that she "buys me toys."

Moms make chicken nuggets and pot stickers. Moms make lunch for their children. They help make peanut butter and chocolate-chip cookies. Other kids talk about helping mom set the table for dinner.

"My mom and I play baseball together. I've been playing for 30 years."

**Jake Sortor, 4 years old**

Jarred Holz likes that his mom bought him a bike. Currently, he is undecided about plans for Mother's Day festivities at his house because his dad lives in Colorado.

Katie Dustrude will give her mother a "beautiful present, wrapped in heart paper, and she'll put a heart on top of it."

Although she doesn't know exactly what the present will be, she and her classmates will make clay figures for their Mother's Day project.

She's also thinking about giving her mom "an easel."

Mia Barklind, who loves to go to Tube Time with her mom to eat pizza and burgers, likes her mom "because she is silly."

"You celebrate with your mom," Mia said. She wants to give her mom a teddy bear or a rabbit.

Mia and Katie are thinking about giving their mothers a box full of kittens and puppies to celebrate Mother's Day.

Logan Ward said his mom "is nice; she got me a haircut." He hasn't decided what he will get her yet.

Mom does take care of you.

As far as Mother's Day traditions go, the kids have it figured out.

The kids cook, nap and paint. During art time, they make spaceships and necklaces for their moms.

Fifteen years later, running around to get a Mother's Day present or flowers and a card sent off becomes more of a hassle.

Debra Ravenhill, a Western junior, won't be able to spend this Sunday with her mom, because she has to work.

But mom is still there, taking care of you no matter how far away you move. Ravenhill's mother drove up from Gig Harbor to take her shopping for her first day of in-class instruction on Monday.

Through the years, mom will always do her best and, in return, we owe her just one special day.



Nicholas Nonas, age 4



Brad Benfield, age 27  
Front Reporter



## What are you going to do for Mother's Day?

- "I am going to draw a portrait of my mom."  
— Clarissa Eyre
- "I've been scoping out a Braun coffee maker at Target, man."  
— Dave Flarry
- "A scenic ride on one of those spectacular B.C. ferries."  
— Jody Rieck
- "I'm getting my mom some underwear at Ross."  
— David Sweeney
- "A lotto ticket."  
— Alexis Tomaras
- "When is Mother's Day?"  
— Kelly Easten
- "I'm making her a tape of songs she likes."  
— Brian Lee
- "I am taking her to Longview to see the Olympic torch."  
— Barry Lynn
- "Tickets for the dinner train."  
— Elizabeth Baker
- "All the tequila we have left from Cinco de Mayo."  
— Josh Carter
- "Estrogen pills."  
— Lisa Dowling





# Student moms juggle kids, classes

By Scott Menghini  
The Western Front

"Enjoy your time, people," a laughing Jeanne Robson offered as a bit of advice for students living a carefree lifestyle.

Robson is an early childhood education major at Western. She is also among the ranks of students juggling an academic career with parenthood.

Most students may find it difficult enough to heave themselves out of bed every morning just a mere half hour before class starts.

Imagine what it would be like with the added responsibility of properly dressing and feeding children before dropping them off at day-care.

Robson said that raising her 3-year-old daughter, Blair, is a full time responsibility. Not only do children look up to their parents, but everything a parent tells them and everything they observe is important.

"You become a role model and you can never hide from that," she said. "Every answer you give them is important. You can't just give them a flip-pant answer. It has to be well thought out and that takes a lot of patience."

What is the most frustrating part of trying to fulfill academic requirements while raising children? All student mothers interviewed agreed: trying to find time to study in the evening.

"You can't just go home and be a student," said Kim Roberts who is completing her degree in East Asian studies while raising her 2-year-old son, Brady.

"I set a schedule and set aside certain hours for studying. Many times the studying doesn't start until he goes to sleep."

Kay Lenaburg, industrial design major and mother of Christian, 3, and Allison, 2,



Front/Brad Benfield

Kay Lenaburg with her children , Allison Studer, 2 , and Christian Struder, 3.

agreed wholeheartedly.

"Homework starts at eight, when they go to bed," she said.

"If they don't go to bed until later, then homework doesn't start until later — and industrial design involves a lot of all-nighters."

"It's hard to join in study groups," said Beverly Maynard, a history major, relating her frustration of trying to find a baby-sitter for her 4-year-old son, Christian, during stressful exam weeks.

"People are usually busy studying for their own midterms or finals and can't spare the time."

During the day many student mothers use the Associated Students Child Development Center at Fairhaven College.

It allows them to conveniently drop their children off before going to class without worrying about their well-being.

"It's very comforting to know she's so close," said Robson. "Because I know the people, I don't worry what kind of care she's receiving."

Like many of the parents, Robson chose to have the quarterly fee reduced by

working four hours every week at the CDC.

This participation allows mothers to see first hand how the CDC is operated and relieves the uncertainty of leaving their children in the care of strangers.

With the stress of school-work added to their parenting responsibilities, they all agree that it's all worth it in the end.

"It really gives me a sense of purpose," Roberts said. "It's just wonderful to

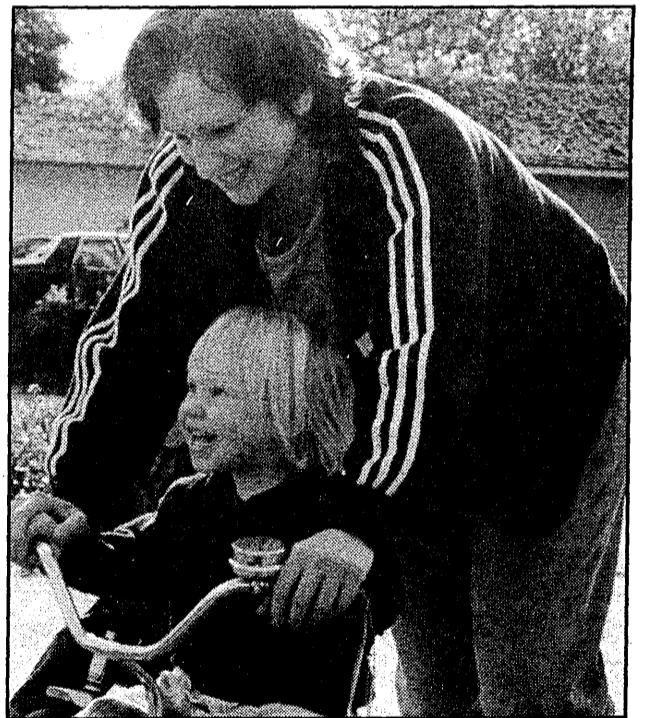
watch this little person you've created grow into an individual."

"It's harder and more time consuming than I ever thought it would be, but it's also better than I ever thought it would be," Lenaburg said.

Her sister has offered to take her two children on a camping trip as a Mother's Day gift for her.

What will Lenaburg be doing in her spare time?

"Homework!" she said.



Front/Brad Benfield

Kay helps Allison ride her tricycle.

## ing your mother?

"I am going to stop proposing to my mom this Mother's Day." — Anonymous

"I am going to make a card with smelly pens — mmm." — Mary Brookman

"Inspirational literature." — Denis Lamb

"Dinner at Izzy's — it's the pizza place." — Joan Maners

"Mariners tickets — she's taking me." — Jason Berg

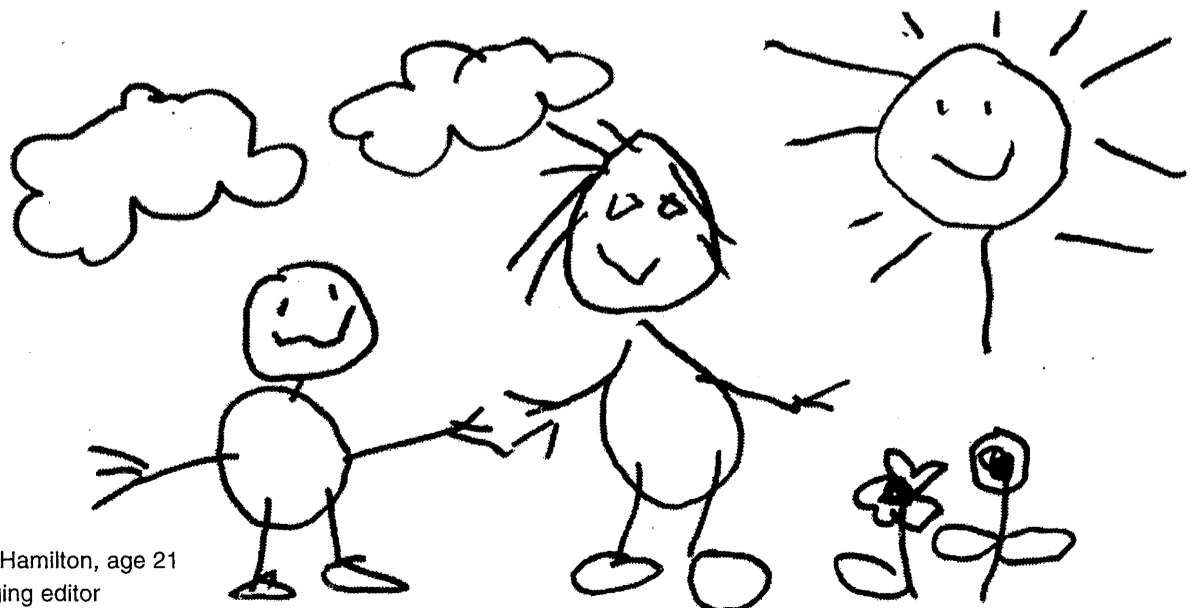
"A subscription to High Times." — Colby Johnson

"A fill for her acrylic nails." — Rebecca Cox

"A new bowling ball." — Jon Bean

"I am getting her new black towels for the gym." — James Turner

Compiled by Front reporter Sarah Spiegelberg



Jesse Hamilton, age 21  
Managing editor

## Just a ride in the park



Front/Jesse Nolte

A sport-class racer fights his way across the tough terrain during the Padden Mountain Pedal mountain-bike race Sunday.

## Vikings women burn the track — and the field — at PNWAC meet

By Jeremy Stiles  
and Colleen Williams  
The Western Front

Talented freshmen, dedicated returnees and hard throwing by Sherie Schroeder propelled Western's women's track and field team to its second straight Pacific Northwest Athletic Conference title.

"It was a beautiful day," sophomore Alicia Jones said. "Everything was clickin'."

The team finished with 111 points, 65 points more than second-place University of Puget Sound, in Saturday's meet at Tomlinson Stadium in Ellensburg.

"We dominated all the meets this year," Jones said.

The men's team finished second with 70 points, while first-place Central Washington University earned 90 points.

Schroeder, a junior, won three events: discus (129-9), shot put (42-1) and hammer (121-8). The hammer is a new event for the women, and Schroeder's mark is a school record. Schroeder was named Outstanding Female Performer. Other multiple first-place winners were senior Brandi Stevenson in the heptathlon and 100-meter hurdles and freshman Jane Wallace in the long jump and triple jump.

Western Head Coach Kelvin "Pee Wee" Halsell was named Women's Coach of the Year.

The women took first place in 13 events and second place in eight. Among the first-place winners was the 4x100 team of freshman

Tammy Johnson, Jones, junior Amy Cameron and Stevenson.

"Tammy Johnson's been doing great," Jones said.

They will compete in the NAIA National Championships, which take place May 23-25 in Marietta, Ga.

Other first-place winners were junior Sydney Green (400-meter sprint), sophomore Karla Kelley (1,500 meters), senior Jennifer Campbell (3,000 meters), sophomore Sabrina Becherini (5,000 meters) and 4x400 relay team members junior Sarah Garrod, Jones, Stevenson and Green.

Jones expects the women to win regionals this weekend in Monmouth, Ore. The Vikings placed third last year.

"We're stronger, by far," she said. "We have a strong base. A lot of freshmen came in. The people coming back are dedicated this year — a lot more than last year. I'm pretty confident. It'll probably be between us and Seattle Pacific."

The men placed first in eight events and second in six. Junior Pete Myers won the 400-meter hurdles event (54.51) and ran on the winning 4x400 relay team (3:20.40). Sophomore Dan Lewis won the 200-meter sprint (22.08) and ran on the winning 4x100 relay team (42.81). Senior Jack Warner also ran on the team and won the 110 high hurdles event (15.08). Other Western winners were junior Kurt Grichel (800-meter run), freshman Tony Hoelscher (triple jump) and senior Seth Rhodes (hammer).

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## Mr. Announcer chirps spirit of Bloomsday

By Craig Scott  
The Western Front

Bloomsday — the largest road race in America.

Spokane — mecca for the 61,000 runners and walkers who strive to conquer 7.4 miles of concrete agony.

One would think that after 20 years, a decent announcer could be found.

But the Lilac Bloomsday Association runs on volunteers. Unfortunately, for those of us who run on pavement, this means we must be constantly bombarded with inane chatter.

"Welcome home, folks," the perpetual voice would chirp. "What a thrill it is to see you here."

How thrilling can it be to watch 61,000 sweaty, smelly people stampede through downtown Spokane? Considering the event bordered on civil disobedience, Mr. Announcer was pretty calm.

"You are the spirit of Bloomsday," he reminded us every 2.4 seconds.

Apparently the spirit of Bloomsday includes littering, knocking over little kids and urinating in public. And running.

"You are what makes Bloomsday happen," Mr. Announcer repeatedly said.

Here, he has omitted several key ingredients: Sani-Kans, volunteers, police and a requisite bottle of Ibuprofen.

"God bless you — welcome home!"

Yeah, we got the picture the first 15 times. Whether one was stretching out collapsed hamstrings or looking for misplaced friends, Mr. Announcer was omnipresent.

"You are the spirit of ..."

An advantage to being an elite runner was they were able to escape this drivel, whereas the weekend warriors listened to this broken record while trying to touch their toes.

If it wasn't for the Spokane Police, many participants would run back down the course to escape Mr. Announcer's four phrases.

Aided by a large PA system, his tentacles reached the ear of every man, woman and child from Ritzville to Coeur d'Alene.

Mr. Announcer was also fond of making "so what" comments. His favorite was to brag that Bloomsday 1996 had at least 1,000 more registrants than in 1995.

So what? That's what happens when you let more people register. Spokane is in a desperate battle to beat the Bay Area of California in the largest road-race category. Which is too bad.

Bloomsday is a great experience; friendly people, helpful natives, free food ... and Mr. Announcer.

But then again, that's the spirit of Bloomsday.

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**Comparative, Gender, and Multicultural Studies:** American Cultural Studies 205 (3), Anthropology 353 (4), East Asian 201 (5) and 202 (5), English 335 (4) and 338 (4), History 280 (5) and 417s\* (5), Women Studies 211 (4)

\* Formerly History 361. Check with IL office before enrolling.

**Mathematics:** Math 102 (5), 107 (3), 124 (5), 156 (4), 157 (4) and 240 (3)

**Natural Sciences B:** Environmental Studies 110 (3)

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# Ignore NBA predictions — except for these

**By Darrin Wellentin**  
The Western Front

Yes, there are too many predictions this time of year. Here's another one. The Sonics will prevail in their second-round series over the Rockets. Oh sure, you say. It's easy to pick the winner when that winner has already won two games of a seven-game series.

The winner also happens to be playing the two-time defending champions, and they will not fall without a fight. The portly person of female persuasion has not yet sung a note.

Last year, after the Rockets won their second crown in as many years, Coach Rudy Tomjanovich said "never question the heart of a champion." Good advice Rudy, but this year, you've come up against your match in the Sonics.

We've all heard about the Sonics' collapses the last two seasons, but the first-round monkey is off their backs. With their victory over the Kings, they ended any speculation of collapse. By definition, it can no longer be called choking, because they are now playing, and handling, the Rockets.

Quite frankly, it doesn't matter who the Sonics will be playing in the playoffs this year. They are on a mission for the NBA Finals versus the Bulls.

There are some very good reasons for the Sonics' chances against the Rockets.

The first of these reasons is attitude. Or lack thereof. It is clear that Sonics are much more relaxed this year than they were the last two years.

Even when the Kings stole a game in Seattle, the Sonics didn't lose their quiet confidence. In years past, there would have been bickering, finger-pointing and bitching about lack of playing time.

Instead, there is praising and selfless playing on this team. Team players such as Hersey Hawkins and Frank Brickowski have replaced complainers such as Kendall Gill and Sarunas Marciulonis.

To a man, these Sonics are completely focused on the task at hand — a championship. They are not concerned about playing time. They are not concerned about points. There is no in-fighting. They have the will and the experience to survive in the playoffs.

Another reason for the certainty of Sonics victory is George Karl. The man has never been more relaxed. He is leading by example, and he is not letting the little things bother him like they used to. This is only lending to the relaxed atmosphere.

Obviously, Karl can only help the Sonics so much. The game is played on the floor. Gary Payton, Shawn Kemp and Detlef Schrempf will lead the Sonics past the Rockets.

The Rockets simply do not have the legs left to defeat Seattle. The Sonics can continually bombard the older Rockets with bench players unparalleled in the NBA.

As long as Kemp and Payton can stay out of foul trouble, the Sonics can defeat the Rockets. Heck, I'd even put money on the Sonics without one of the two.

Face it, Rockets fans, your time is over. It's time for the Sonics to assume the title.

**By Eric Francis**  
The Western Front

After stealing Monday night's basketball game, Sonics fans might be thinking of celebrating a little prematurely. Many factors point to a Rockets' resurgence as the series heads down to Texas, however.

First, Hakeem Olajuwon hasn't been himself yet. He has been looking to pass out of shorter double teams instead of shooting over them. Perhaps his tentativeness is a result of a lack of confidence in the officials, understandable after game one. With a few nights off, Hakeem should shake off his Seattle blues and be ready to attack the basket Friday night.

Second, Seattle won't shoot as well as it did Monday night. The Sonics will be lucky to hit 20 threes in the next two games. The Rockets don't really have to change their defensive strategy to hold the Sonics around the 90-point mark.

Houston, on the other hand, can put up those kind of three-point numbers consistently. With a bigger effort from Hakeem, the outside game should remain open for the Rockets.

Third, this team has overcome this deficit before. The Rockets have more heart and desire to three-peat than any other team (of current players) has to take its first. Just ask Orlando, San

Antonio, Phoenix, and New York.

Fourth, the Rockets are the best road team in playoff history. If recent history holds, Houston will take at least one game in Seattle. The Sonics won't be able to celebrate past accomplishments and ride these first two wins to a series victory.

Fifth, Shawn Kemp. The Reign Man, though an awesome talent, often plays out of control and is foul-prone. As they showed against the Kings (who they were lucky to defeat, by the way), the Sonics play just as well, and sometimes better, without him.

Finally, the Sonics have shown the tendency to overlook opponents in the past. Sooner or later, Seattle gives every team an opening. Houston has the experience and veteran leadership that will take advantage of any mistakes the Sonics make.

Where the Rockets have experience, the Sonics counter with immaturity. While things are going well, Seattle won't have problems. But faced with adversity, Shawn Kemp and Gary Payton are the types that would let their emotions affect their play.

So, Sonics' fans, enjoy these first two victories. Before making plans for the Spurs (or Jazz, as the case won't be), however, don't forget how quickly things can change in the NBA. Especially when the Rockets and Sonics are concerned.

## Women's crew takes third at Opening Day, Washington first

**By Jerry Weatherhogg**  
The Western Front

The women's varsity eight crew from Western performed strongly Saturday in the Windermere Cascade Cup in Seattle, finishing third behind boats from Pacific-10 powerhouses University of Washington and Washington State University.

The women finished the 2,000 meter race, more than a full mile, in 6:47.82, fewer than five seconds behind first-place Washington.

The event celebrated the Opening Day of the boating season, which attracted tremendous crowds alongside the Montlake Cut.

The crowds were huge, with spectators on land and on yachts in the water along the course. Crew coach Ron Goodman estimated the audience at over 75,000 people.

"It was unlike any other race we've had," Goodman said.

Crew member junior Kim Neunherz compared the crowd noise, which was almost deafening, to that of a football game.

"Staying focused was difficult," Neunherz said. She described the event as "the closest that crew gets to being a spectator show."

The Vikings women gave the leaders a good race, leading the

race momentarily during the first half of the race ahead of host school UW. For the first 1,300 meters, UW, WSU and Western were tied for the lead.

However, the leaders broke away during the final sprint to the finish line.

"I think we did really well," Neunherz said. "We went out with an attitude of doing the best we possibly could and focused on being relaxed."

"I'm pleased (with their performance); they guttered it out," Goodman said. "It was sheer determination that got them down the course."

Goodman noted that the girls were tired from having back-to-back practices before the Cup.

Their focus is on the Pacific Coast regional championships May 11 and 12 in Sacramento.

If the women take first in regionals, they will advance to the national championship on June 8 and 9 in Cincinnati.

They are the favorite going in, seeded No. 1.

"This has proven to be one of the most finest crews we've ever had," Goodman said.

He pointed out that new equipment has also helped a lot and made the difference in a few regattas.

Western men's novice eight placed second among five schools at Opening Day.

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# Fastpitch sweeps to PNWAC championship

By D. Eric Jones  
The Western Front

Western women's fastpitch brought out the brooms and swept the Pacific Northwest Athletic Conference Tournament on Friday and Saturday to cap its unparalleled 10-game winning streak and first-ever league championship.

Third baseman Kerri Hook couldn't have done any better with a crystal ball in predicting a Western title would follow the Vikings' two Friday wins against the University of Puget Sound and Central Washington.

"We're going to take it in one — come out and be aggressive for seven innings — definitely. We're on to Oregon," she said.

Hook was on target as her squad followed Friday's feats with a 9-0 skunking of CWU for the PNWAC Tournament crown.

Western (24-19) cruises into its next challenges in the NAIA Pacific Northwest Region Tournament on Friday and Saturday at the Oregon Institute of Technology in Klamath Falls. Oregon Tech is the Cascade Conference Champion.

In the PNWAC playoffs, the Vikings once again relied on the trinity that has so successfully lifted them to the clutch victories this season — powerful pitching, overwhelming offense and dynamite defense.

Western virtually silenced the opposing aluminum, which collectively could only muster four runs to the Vikings' 21 in the three contests.

The relentless Vikings' hurlers continued to daunt the opposition with all the firepower to match their willpower.

Senior Diana Joy began the afternoon by smoking the UPS bats for a 6-3 opening victory. The Loggers' (15-22) earned run in the third inning was their first in the last 17 innings against the Vikings.

Phenomenal freshman pitcher Alison Haukaas picked

up the next two wins, both against the Wildcats (15-18) in lowering her PNWAC-best ERA to a microscopic 1.41. Haukaas held CWU to one run Friday in the 6-1 victory. She improved on the feat by tranquilizing the Wildcats on Saturday with a three-hit shutout in Western's 9-0 thrashing. The 12-game winner hasn't given up an earned-run in her past five starts. Haukaas pitched a complete game for the 21st time in 22 attempts.

Haukaas downplayed her superb effort, concentrating instead on her teammates performances.

"I'm really glad about (the offensive support). It really relieves the stress during the game," Haukaas said.

"We've always been a really close team, but now we're putting everything together offensively and defensively, too."

The precision pitching was supplemented by the Vikings' volcanic offense — erupting right at season's climax.

Western bats swatted the ball for 33 hits in the tournament including season-high 16 in the title game. The sharp hitting led to some quick scoring.

Fourteen Vikings' runs came with two outs in the tournament, continuing the Western hot streak and allowing the pitchers to settle into a groove.

"We've probably scored 75-80 percent of our runs with two outs in the last two to three weeks. I really think that's the difference," Head Coach Art Phinney said.

Outfielder and leadoff hitter Jen Brandolini extended her hitting streak to 12 games. She cranked a solo home run deep to left field in the first CWU game.

"One big hit can start off a game. I hope what I did did that. And we kept it going," she said after the first victory over CWU. Brandolini, however, wasn't finished until she hit 4-4 in the championship game.

Western also got three-hit games out of second baseman Brenda Blancas, and first baseman Jamie Hlebechuk in addition to some two-hit performances in the tournament.

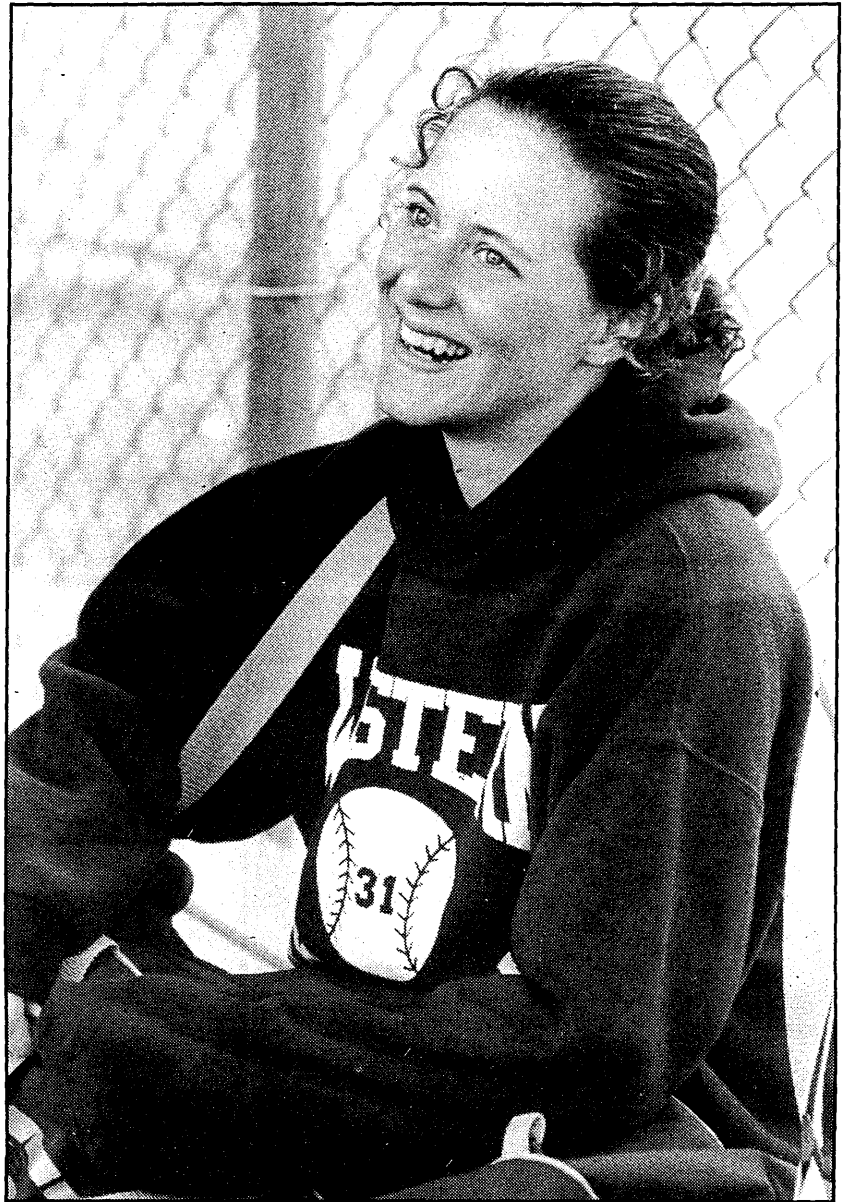
The Vikings' defense was vital in keeping Western close, even when they trailed by stopping opponent's rallies stone-cold.

Rightfielder Megan McChesney made two tough outs in the swirling southwest winds. McChesney also gunned down a UPS runner at third base from the outfield in the fifth inning of the opener to close out the last Loggers' scoring threat.

"She's surprising us out there with some great catches and some great throws. I'm really glad she's out there," Brandolini said. "Having a catcher out there, she'll make some good throws."

Western was also bolstered by the sparkling defensive performances of shortstop Jamie Fuller and third baseman Kerri Hook, both of whom smothered virtually everything in the infield.

The broad grin on Phinney's face displayed the pride he



Front/Tom Degan

Hlebechuk, who went 3-for-3 Saturday, laughs after an earlier game.



File Photo

Joy pitches in a game earlier in season.

**Western vs. Central — How they scored:**

Western:  
First inning — Brandolini led off with single to left. Hook reached on an infield hit. Hook stole second and catcher's throw went into center field as shortstop failed to cover, allowing Brandolini to score. Joy singled to left, driving in hook. Blancas grounded out to pitcher. Hlebechuk reached on an infield hit. McChesney grounded to third. Joy picked off third base.  
Second inning — With two out, Gillies singled to right and scored as outfielder misplayed the ball. Brandolini doubled to left and was thrown out as she went past second and dove back too late.  
Fourth inning — With one out, Johnson was safe on an infield hit. Baker entered game as

pinch runner for Johnson. Fuller singled to left. Gillies grounded out to pitcher, advancing Baker and Fuller. Brandolini turned what should have been a single to right into a triple with her speed, driving in Baker and Fuller. Harbison replaced Kanis at pitcher for Central. Hook lined out to second.  
Fifth inning — With two out, Hlebechuk singled to left. McChesney walked. Baker doubled to center, driving in Baker. Gillies popped out to second.  
Sixth inning — Brandolini led off with a single. Hook flied out to center. Joy singled to right. Blancas lined out to second. Hlebechuk singled to center, scoring Brandolini. McChesney lined out to left.  
Central: none

**1996 PNWAC Championship Game Statistics**

WESTERN	POS	AB	R	H	RBI	BB	SO	PO	A
Jen Brandolini	CF	4	2	4	2	0	0	2	0
Kerri Hook	3B	4	1	2	0	0	0	0	1
Diana Joy	LF	4	0	2	1	0	0	2	0
Brenda Blancas	2B	4	0	0	0	0	0	0	2
Jamie Hlebechuk	1B	3	1	3	1	1	0	10	0
Megan McChesney	C	3	1	0	0	1	0	4	0
Cathy Johnson	DP	2	0	1	0	0	0	0	0
Lisa Baker	PR(4)-DP	1	2	1	2	0	0	0	0
Jamie Fuller	SS	3	1	2	1	0	1	1	3
Jamie Gillies	RF	3	1	1	0	0	0	1	0
Alison Haukaas	P	0	0	0	0	0	0	1	2
<b>TOTALS</b>		<b>31</b>	<b>9</b>	<b>16</b>	<b>7</b>	<b>2</b>	<b>1</b>	<b>21</b>	<b>8</b>

# Students don't appreciate Western's fine art

Whether people realize it or not, almost everywhere you turn on Western's campus you're exposed to some form of art.

Around 1957, Western's Board of Trustees decided to include funds for works of art in the budgets for any new construction.

Western's Outdoor Sculpture Collection includes more than 20 works from prominent artists. The collection includes sculptures from the early 1960s to the present by international, national and regional artists.

This acquisition of sculptures has helped make Western and its art widely known beyond the Northwest.

I don't think the majority of Western students realize or appreciate the quality environment provided for them at school or know the high value these pieces hold.

I've heard comments such as, "Why are those four slabs of metal crowding up the walkway?", "What is that guy doing to that animal?" and "What the heck is that big, orange thing?"

Some students don't realize that these works are supposed to be there to beautify the campus, not annoy us.

As someone who is not an art

Courtney Bertsch

The Western Front



major and does not hold a high interest in art, I have not studied why this art is scattered throughout our campus. I do appreciate art, but I must admit that I don't really understand it.

Most of the sculptures around campus have markers that at least tell the name of the piece, the name of the artist and the year it was finished, but a good number of them don't.

But just providing the names and year doesn't inform someone like me about what inspired the piece or what it means and represents. The art appears to be so odd, and without that information some people, like me, just don't understand it.

I don't think many students even know about the options they have to help them learn about the art that is actually integrated with the campus landscape and architecture.

An audiophone tour and



brochure are available for those who do want to learn more about the works, but I didn't even realize that until I started writing this column. I was never inspired to learn about it.

Western's art collection is supposedly so valuable, but they don't bother to motivate the students learn about it unless they choose to research it themselves.

We should all appreciate the art, but we're not taught how to comprehend it.

I didn't even know some of the things in the collection were considered art until now.

For example, I've walked by the "Flank II" piece every day and never even noticed it. To me, and others I've talked to, it looks like a piece of rotting wood that

has been spray painted. I never would have known it was art unless I took the time to find it out.

I do believe in the saying, "Beauty is in the eye of the beholder," but to really appreciate something we need to understand it. I think Western should continue encourage students to learn about this valuable collection.

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# Frontline

## AP fails to grasp WWW

It's hard to argue against the fact that technology, especially the Internet, is expanding so fast that many people have a hard time understanding it.

The media is not exempt from ignorance.

The May 5 edition of The Bellingham Herald contained an Associated Press story of medium length in the middle of the "A" section.

According to the story, Republican gubernatorial candidate Ellen Craswell was being technologically hip by using a World Wide Web homepage as part of her election campaign, but was also somehow connected with the ultra-taboo of the Internet, adult material.

The AP writer named two web pages, "Kid Slick's Hot Licks" and "Hot Babes in Mini-Skirts Homepage," as being "just a few easy point-and-clicks away" from Craswell's page.

According to the story, the AP questioned Craswell about the adult links, and she immediately dropped her page from the web.

Though it was not made clear in the story exactly how the AP went about finding these links, a little research revealed what probably happened.

Among the items on her page, Craswell had an essay on family values and a web device called a hit counter, which keeps a record of every time someone accesses the page.

The counter, according to the AP, was provided by Web Counter, an Internet service which provides hit counters free to web users. Web Counter maintains thousands, perhaps millions, of counters across the United States and around the world.

The AP reporter apparently followed a link from Craswell's page to the Web Counter homepage, which includes a list of the service's "Top 1,000" hit-getting pages.

This list contained the "Kid Slick's Hot Links" (not "Hot Licks" as the AP said) and the "Miniskirts Homepage."

But the homepages of "Shareware Zone," "Alpineworld," "Cyberville Radio" and the homepage of Kenneth Lam, an 18-year-old Hong Kong student, are on the same list.

The fact that the AP alleged that Craswell had adult links easily accessible from her page shows the lack of understanding the AP has of the web.

"Kid Slick's Hot Links" wasn't directly accessible from the Craswell page; web users would have to know what they were looking for to even find it within Web Counter's homepage framework.

Furthermore, Web Counter employs a coding system on its pages that make adult links inaccessible to people who use a certain type of web browser, one that blocks properly designated sites.

That Craswell made use of a public service, which also provides service to other web pages, some of which are adult, shouldn't be construed as a Craswell endorsement of Kid Slick, or Kenneth Lam for that matter.

Such misunderstanding and misrepresentation of facts only contributes to the fear and ignorance threatening to kill freedom of speech on the Internet.

— Christopher Ames, Opinions editor

## The Western Front

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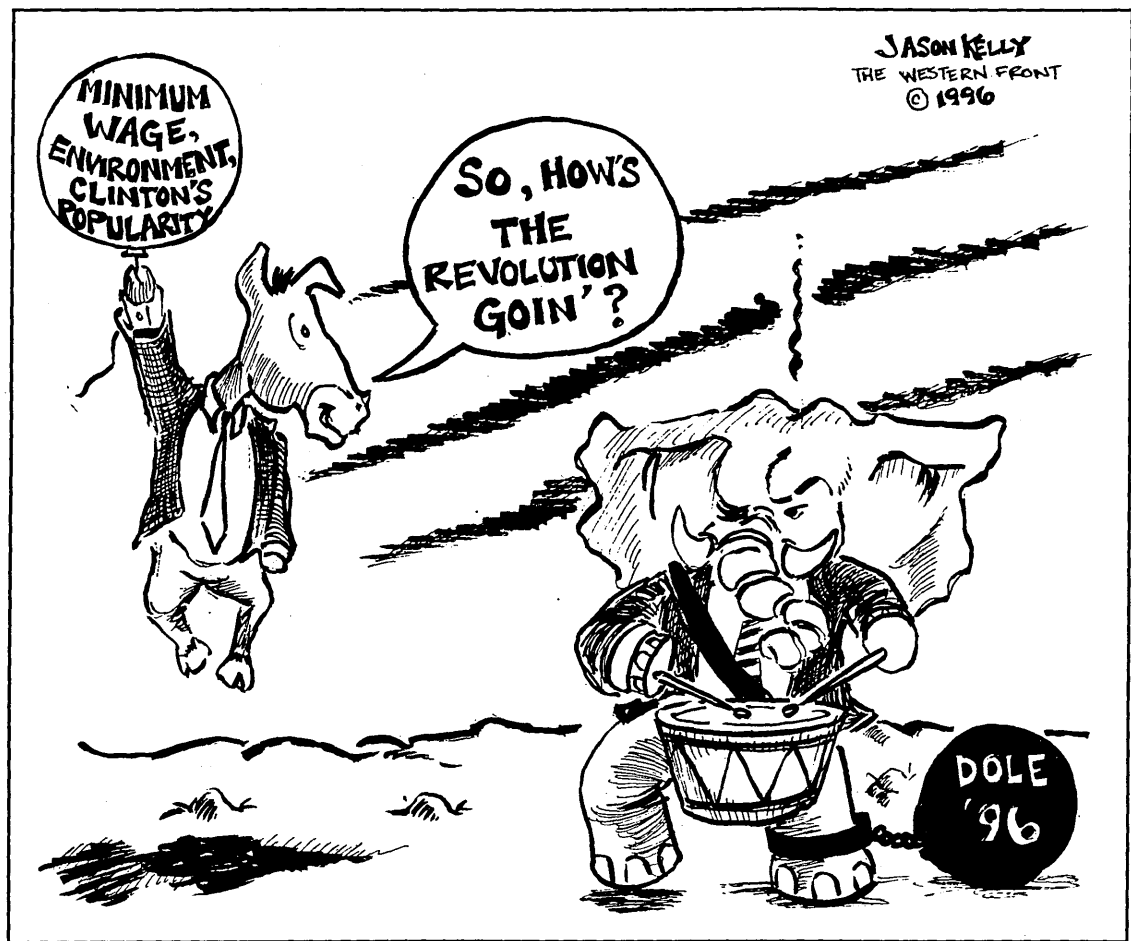
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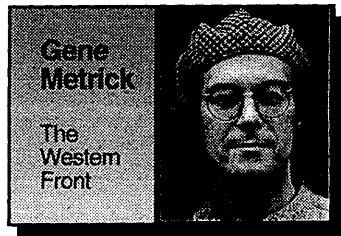
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## Grumpy profs, gang turf wars possible results of smoking ban

### Save Western from itself — ban bans

*Editor's Note: This is the first of a two-column series on smoking. On Friday another columnist will look at the smoking issue from a different angle.*



Just when you thought all perceived threats to campus harmony had been identified and proposed for eradication, the little-known and highly secretive Committee for the Repeal or Elimination of Everything Possibly Superfluous (CREEPS) has found another evil threat that must be purged from Western: cigarette sales at the Viking Union.

I won't make a futile and irresponsible attempt to defend cigarette smoking, for we all know what the dangers and effects of sucking on those little round death sticks are.

And I won't bring up the issue of smokers' rights, because it's a well-established fact that we smokers don't have any.

Instead, I want to focus attention on some of the many unintended and equally undesirable consequences to which such a ban could lead.

The increase in the amount of grumpy, stressed-out students on campus would be astronomical.

The aggravations that result from such minor inconveniences as long library copier lines or inopportune computer printer malfunctions could easily escalate into violent confrontations between nicotine-jonesing students who could not fit an off-campus cigarette run into their already overburdened schedules.

The destruction of university equipment might increase by 1,000 percent.

Skipping classes could reach epidemic proportions as students

are forced to choose between their nicotine fix and a 2 p.m. lecture.

Picture the scene: it's sunny, you're tired and you haven't smoked a cigarette in three-and-a-half

hours. On your way to Bitology 107, you smell the espresso wafting over to you from the Starbuck's stand.

Will you be in any psychological position to make a responsible choice between class and a quick run to the convenience store?

And many faculty members smoke, too. A ban could lead to an entirely new understanding of the phrase "absent-minded professor."

A non-smoker could theoretically become the only person showing up for class on a given day.

The friendly "bumming" of smokes could be turned into either pathetic episodes of begging or, in worst-case scenarios, ugly instances of

aggravated assault.

The appearance on campus of a cigarette blackmarket could be another possible result of this kind of a ban, bringing all of its attendant evils.

Criminal gangs might begin competing in bloody campus turf wars over the lucrative financial gains available from an artificially created cigarette-deprived student body.

And many faculty members smoke, too. A ban could lead to an entirely new understanding of the phrase "absent-minded professor."

And nobody would want to face the prospect of being approached at night by a grubby, shifty-looking character who comes out from some

dark corner and says to you, "Psst — hey buddy, need a fix? I got Camel longs for only five bucks a hit."

It's time we stood up to all of the naysayers and said, "We shall ban no more."

These blustering blowhards of burgeoning bans must be stopped before it's too late.

We must act now, before the only thing we're allowed to do for fun is march single file to and from classes.

You can call me a crazy dreamer, but I want to have a future that includes students rollerblading, with their dogs in tow, across Red Square on their way to buy smokes at the Viking Union.

I'd write more, but I'm dying for a cigarette.

Read The Western Front — Wait, you already are

Letters

Criticism of creationism ignores shortcomings of evolution theory

Dear Editor, I am not convinced, totally or otherwise, that I understand Michael Klein's point (Letter, April 26) when he states "that natural processes alone can (not) fully explain the complexity of life." Does life so understood include unnatural processes, and if so, what are these please, and how could we, as natural beings, test these? Second, I believe that Mr. Klein does not understand the interrelatedness of the scientific endeavor. "Evolution and natural selection are (NOT) the only possible explanations for the origins and diversity of life on our planet." Evolution alone does not explain either the origin or the diversity of life on this planet. It is one part, granted an important part, of a

complex of scientific studies which try to give a clarification (through testable hypothesizing, theorizing and fact-finding) of this and other questions. One must also be made aware of work in such fields as geology, physics, chemistry and anthropology, to mention only some, in approaching a scientific understanding of our knowledge concerning origins and diversity. Third, if it is given that the universe is an incredibly precise place, then let us be precise in stating our knowledge. The big bang (as a universe-creating event) does not exist outside of space-time; it is the arena in which space-time becomes at all possible. If there were "moments of time" before the big bang event, we would not be able to say that they existed

in time, since time and space are groundworks upon which anything, if it does exist, can exist at all. The big bang can be understood, if at all, as an event that, whatever its cause outside of space-time, exists in space-time and was not the "cause," per se, of the universe, but an event, still ongoing, which is the universe as it becomes. This does not explain the universe, since the universe is not a completion in time-space. Fourth, if evolution is the only thing being taught, then what do those children in Sunday school do anyway?

Sincerely, F. Augustus Wright

Letters Policy

The Western Front accepts articles and opinions of up to 350 words on any topic. We reserve the right to edit articles and letters to the editor for style, grammar, punctuation, spelling, length and libel. Letters must be typed and signed with a phone number for verification purposes. Please send all materials to The Western Front, College Hall 09, Bellingham, Wash., 98225 or e-mail to wfront@cc.wvu.edu.

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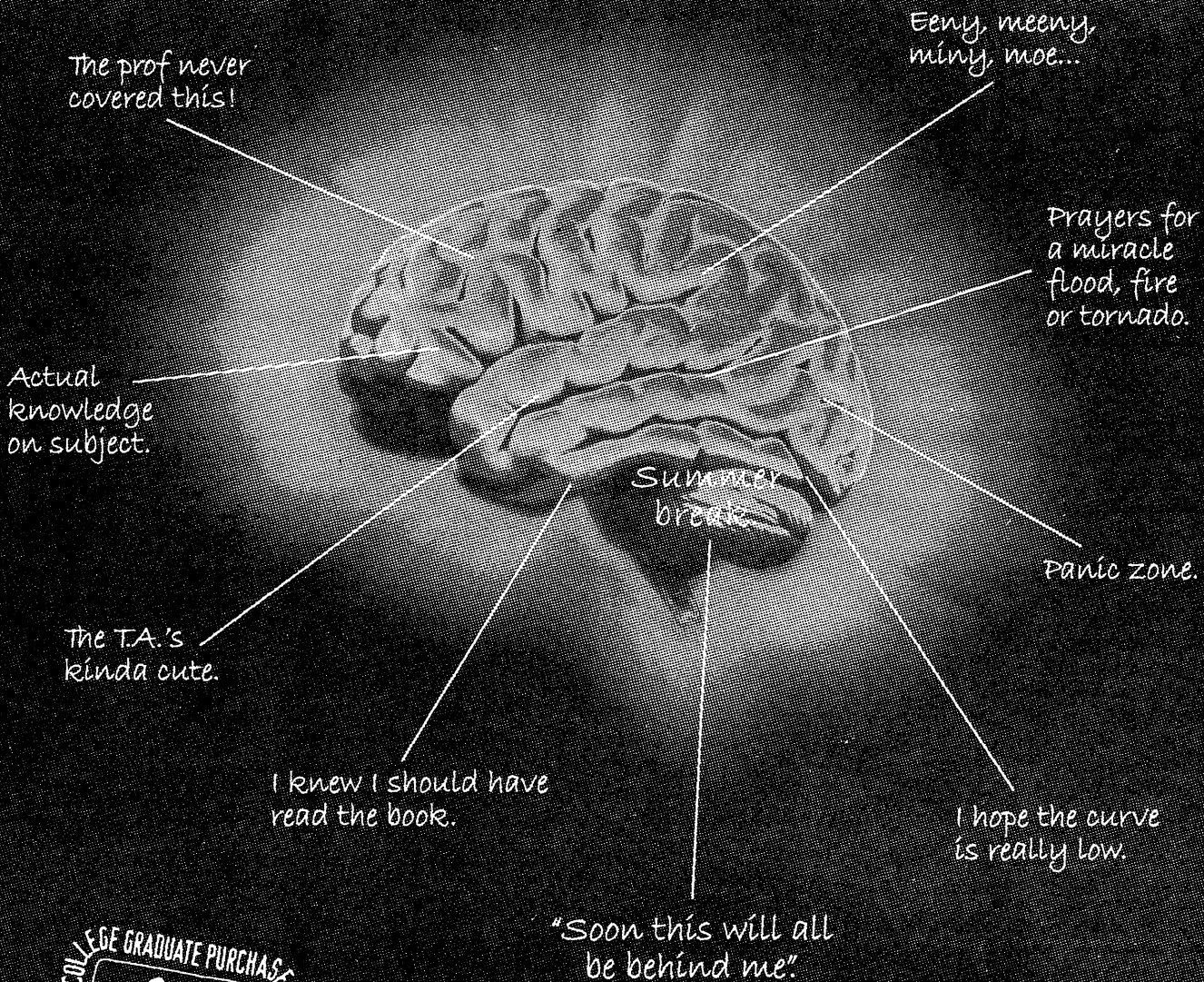
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