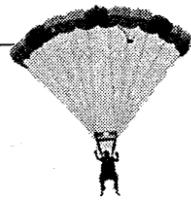


In this week's
Accent section:
• Road trips, pg. 8-9
and ...

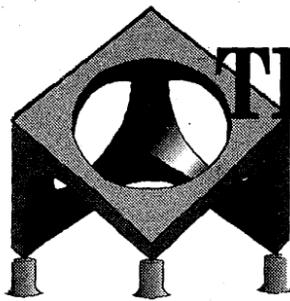


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Friday,
May 30, 1997
Volume 100
Issue 16



THE WESTERN FRONT

Western Washington University

Bellingham, Washington

Unions rally in support of strikers



Front/Ryan Hooser

Nearly 400 people gathered at the Port of Bellingham for a pro-union rally yesterday. Participants chanted, shook signs and sang to support those striking Bornstein's Seafood.

By Scott Morris
The Western Front

Cutting through the slogans of "solidarity forever" at Thursday's labor rally in front of Bornstein's Seafood Inc., United Food & Commercial Workers Local 44 Union President Pat Finn struck a surprisingly conciliatory chord.

"We've had a contract at Bornstein's since the 1940s," Finn said, "and over the years they have been pretty decent employers. We've been able to negotiate what we can proudly say is the best seafood contract on the Pacific Coast. There's not very many fish plants around that can offer a pension plan."

The audience, a gathering of almost 400 people representing at least 28 local labor unions and activist groups, cheered. Some waved signs that said, "Something's Fishy at Bornstein's" and "Jobs with Justice!"

Finn said he had been involved with Bornstein's and other seafood processing plants for 30 years. During that time changes

in the industry have been very tough for everybody, he said.

"It used to be there was no (fishing) season," Finn said. "Now, there are. There's been an impact on workers' hours."

In recognition of these trends, Finn said the union has made concessions in successive negotiations in recent years.

"We've not been selfish," he said. "This strike is pretty simple: it's about worker dignity."

The line had to be drawn, Finn said, when Bornstein's wanted to "take-back" the seniority and eight-hour-day stipulations of the current contract.

Finn said recent informal discussions with a Bornstein's spokesman will probably result in re-opening negotiations with a federal mediator sometime next week.

If so, it will mark only the second time since the strike began April 13 that both sides have met. The first meeting broke down May 12 after the UFCW accused Bornstein's of negotiating in bad faith. **See Strike, page 3**

Western explains master plan to students

By Arvid Hokanson
The Western Front

Of the approximately 50 people who attended the Draft Comprehensive Master Plan meeting at noon last Wednesday in the Viking Union Main Lounge, no more than seven were students.

The cottage meeting, made to inform the campus community about the Master Plan was presented by George Pierce, Western vice president for business and financial affairs. Pierce was supported by Provost Roland L. De Lorme, Rick Benner, director of master planning of facilities and about 10 other administrators involved with various aspects of the plan.

The meeting followed the format of previous meetings, with Pierce, Benner and De Lorme providing the bulk of the presentation. In contrast to the administration, citizen activist John Servais was given five minutes to present the citizens' viewpoint to the plan, while questions and comments by the audience focused around on-campus issues such as biking and building placement.

Western senior George Steirer pointed out the current draft of the master plan calls for bike racks to be placed away from buildings. Steirer stressed to promote cycling, racks need to be close to building entrances, much like the current racks near the Biology building.

Carl Root, acting director of Parking and Transportation Services, said bike rack placement will be looked at as specific portions of the plan are implemented. He pointed out the plan is conceptual, and is subject to change.

"He didn't really listen to my concerns, he gave reasons why things were planned and defended why it happened," Steirer said.

Western senior Caleb Swift said the proposed dorms around the south side of Fairhaven's Outback are not well planned.

He said the current plan would not provide an adequate buffer between the wetland and the dorms. Swift offered that the hill along the east side of South College Drive, between the Buchanan Towers and the "C" lots, would provide a better loca-

tion for dorms. Swift pointed out that only a few trees would need to be removed and that the area is just a plain grass hill that the Physical Plant has trouble mowing due to the steep grade.

When asked about what he expected from the meeting, Western senior Derek Pulvino said "I was curious as to what the

(Carl Root) didn't really listen to my concerns, he gave reasons why things were planned and defended why it happened.

— George Steirer,
Western senior

plan actually was ... I wanted to present the problems I had (with Western) now, even though they're not going to get any better ... I feel that it's hard, really hard, to work with the plan ... I wanted to go and find out where to go and what avenues are open."

Also present at the meeting was Associated Students President Leslie Keller, as well as Vice President for External Affairs Liz Smith.

"We went to show support. I do think that we need students to get informed about the plan," Keller said.

Both Keller and Smith commented about the complexity of the issues stemming from the plan.

"It's hard for me to say growth is a bad thing. It's what I've been working for over the last three years. There are huge amounts of students who can't get into Western," Smith said.

"The university administration wants us involved in this," Keller said. "Vice President Pierce gave us the call that things were beginning and sat down with us, and saw that students needed to get involved, especially student government."

With students preparing to leave school for the summer, the planning process is beginning to hit full stride.

In the next two weeks, the Bellingham Planning and Development Commission will meet as will Western's Board of Trustees.

To provide a voice for the students, Smith prepared a resolu-

tion for the administration stating the position of the AS board, which was ratified by a unanimous vote.

The resolution, approved on April 30, recognizes that enrollment demands are increasing, and Western and the AS must work to meet those needs. It also states "The Draft Comprehensive Master Plan will accommodate the growth and increase the efficiency of existing facilities."

The resolution also states that the AS will support the administration and participate in dialogue surrounding the master plan.

The June Planning Commission meeting, at 7 p.m. on June 5 in City Council Chambers, will be a continuation of the April meeting, with an emphasis on the relationship between Western's master plan and the neighborhood plan.

The Board of Trustees meeting, at 1 p.m. June 13 in Old Main, will also have the master plan on its agenda.

The process to implement the master plan will continue through the summer. At an earlier meeting, Pierce predicted final approval could come in September.

COPIES BOX

Campus Police

May 26, 10:17 p.m.: A female resident in Nash Hall was found passed out in the fourth floor hallway near her room. Bellingham Fire Department paramedics examined her and took her to the hospital for further examination.

Bellingham Police

May 28, 8:02 a.m.: A woman reported her vehicle had ketchup and mustard splattered all over the exterior between 2 and 8 a.m. She could not think of any suspects.

May 28, 11:59 a.m.: Police gave three transients trespass warnings for camping on Port of Bellingham property at the corner of Hilton and Roeder Streets. Police advised the owner to put up "no trespassing" signs.

May 28, 1:46 p.m.: A 24-year-old transient man was arrested for "malicious mischief" after trying to kick out the window of a patrol vehicle.

May 28, 5:20 p.m.: Police issued a trespass warning for the evening to someone who was "becoming belligerent" at the Labor Ready Office in the 600 block of W. Holly Street.

May 28, 6:04 p.m.: Police responded to a report of three intoxicated people on a boat in the 2600 block of Squalicum Harbor Loop Drive without the owner's permission. Police issued trespass warnings to the three, who said they would not return.

May 28, 7:11 p.m.: Police returned to the 2600 block of Squalicum Harbor Loop Drive after three intoxicated individuals refused to leave. Two departed, while the third asked the officers to take her to detox.

May 28, 8:30 p.m.: Unknown suspects stole a rabbit from its cage in the backyard of a house in the 1100 block of Undine Street. The rabbit was last known to be secure at 8 p.m. the previous night. The owner assumed it was stolen later that night. A check of the area revealed no further suspect leads.

May 28, 9:30 p.m.: Police impounded a Blue Ford Bronco that had been partially blocking the lane of travel in the 1300 block of North Shore Drive.

May 28, 9:31 p.m.: A man reported that a car pulled out in front of him in the 400 block of Orchard Drive, so he "flipped the driver off." The driver followed the man and threatened to kill him and beat him up. The man is concerned because he goes by this location daily. Police told him to phone them if the harassment continues.

May 29, 12:23 a.m.: Police arrested a man with an outstanding \$1,000 DUI warrant from the Wenatchee Police Department after stopping him at the intersection of Texas and Undine Streets for not having a headlight on his bicycle.

Cops Box compiled by Jim Morrell III and Scott Morris

Western Briefs

Human Race to benefit non-profit agencies, groups

Hundreds of people will walk on Saturday May 31 in The Human Race 1997, an event benefiting Whatcom County non-profit agencies, school groups and service clubs.

Last year, more than 400 people walked in the first Human Race and raised \$40,000 to benefit nearly 30 agencies. Walkers have been gathering pledges and plan to raise \$50,000 in this year's four-mile walk starting at Fairhaven's Bellingham Cruise Terminal and ending at Squalicum Harbor's Taste of Whatcom.

Crafts lecture, slide show

Allied Arts of Whatcom County and the Whatcom Museum invite the community to attend a free slide show and lecture at 7:30 p.m. Friday May 30 at the Whatcom Museum Rotunda Room, 121 Prospect St. Jurors for the Northwest International Art Competition Don Reitz and April Kingsley will discuss their work in the field.

Don Reitz, a ceramic artist from Arizona, has exhibited his work in the United States and internationally and is included in many collections including the Renwick Gallery of Fine Arts, Smithsonian Institution and Museum of Contemporary Crafts. Reitz has also taught for 16 years at the University of Wisconsin, Madison.

April Kingsley, crafts curator from New York, has coordinated

and organized exhibits at the American Craft Museum, the Sculpture Center and a variety of other museums and galleries.

Take a walk on the world

Western's Peace Resource Center is one of the sponsors for a four-hour workshop featuring a simulation game played out on the world's largest and most accurate map of the whole earth.

The event is open to the general public and is from 3 to 7 p.m. Sunday June 1 in Carver Gym. Cost is either \$1 or a non-perishable food item for the Bellingham Food Bank.

Two-hundred participants will "travel" the 35-by-70 foot earth and get a rare view of the whole planet and role each region of the world plays in the global dynamics shaping out everyday world.

Each participant standing on the "Big Map" represents a region of the world or an international actor, such as the Environmental Organization, a corporation or the UN.

Upcoming Presentations

- The Theatre Arts department presents Bertolt Brecht's "Mother Courage," directed by student Samuel Wallin. Three free showings will be at 5 p.m. Friday May 30 to Saturday June 1 outside Parks Hall in Haskell Plaza.

The Music department presents free performances:

- Jazz Ensembles at 8 p.m. Friday May 30 in the Performing Arts Center Concert Hall.

- Chamber Orchestra at 8 p.m.

Monday June 2 in the Performing Arts Center Concert Hall.

- Shalom Center presents a free video showing and discussion, "God's Global Economy: Hope for the Future. Toward Just and Sustainable Human Development," at 12:15 p.m. Monday June 2 in the Shalom Center.

- The third annual Staff Arts and Crafts Show will take place 11 a.m. to 6 p.m. Monday June 2 and 11 a.m. to 4 p.m. Tuesday June 3 through Friday June 6 in the Viking Union Main Lounge. The show is free.

- "At Our Baby's Birth" is a program designed to help expectant parents who are interested in having their children present at the childbirth.

The support person, who will accompany the child during the birth (other than the father), is also encouraged to attend the class from 11 a.m. to noon on Saturday May 31 at the Childbirth Center at St. Joseph Hospital. The program is free and pre-registration is required.

- The Seattle Men's Chorus will play a '70s revival concert at the Mount Baker Theatre Saturday May 31.

- Explore Ancient Ireland with the "Women's Sacred Journey to Ireland," a slide-show presentation at 7 p.m. Friday May 30 at the Fairhaven Auditorium.

Briefs compiled by Molly Hernandez

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

FALL QUARTER DEGREE APPLICANTS: All students who expect to graduate at the close of fall quarter, 1997, must have a degree application on file in the Registrar's Office, OM 230, by June 6.

WINTER QUARTER DEGREE APPLICANTS: Students who expect to graduate at the close of winter quarter, 1998, must have a degree application on file in the Registrar's Office, OM 230, by August 22. It is strongly recommended that major evaluation be completed before summer quarter, as many advisers/departments will be unavailable summer quarter.

FALL QUARTER PHASE I REGISTRATION will be Sept. 9-19. See your adviser now to plan your schedule and to get any necessary add codes: A 1997-98 *Timetable of Classes* will be mailed to students' permanent addresses in late August.

QUARTERLY PARKING PERMITS may be renewed for summer quarter between 7:30 a.m. and 5 p.m. starting May 27 at Parking and Transportation Services. Those who do not have a permit may purchase one beginning on this date. **Those on the waiting list, valid through August, will be contacted if a space becomes available in the lot of preference.**

KEEP YOUR WESTERN CARD! The Western Card Office will validate cards for students registered for summer or fall quarters. Validation is free. Replacement fee for lost, damaged or stolen cards is \$7. Validation is required for use at Lake-wood and the Carver Gym equipment cage.

STUDENT PARKING PERMIT APPLICATIONS for 1997-98 are available at the Parking and Transportation Services office on 21st Street. Students who are out of town may contact the parking office, 650-2945, to request that an application be mailed. Applications are due by July 31.

REGISTRATION IS NOT REQUIRED FOR THE MATH PLACEMENT TEST. A \$10 fee must be paid in exact amount at time of testing. Photo ID and No. 2 pencil required. Allow 90 minutes. Testing is in OM 120 at 9 a.m. Monday test dates are June 2 and 9. Thursday test dates are May 29 and June 12.

LOT RESERVATIONS: • Lots 11G, 14G and 25G will be reserved beginning at 5 p.m. May 28 for those attending the Vander Yacht reception. • Lot 9V will be reserved starting at noon May 28 for those attending the Campus Master Plan meeting. • On May 30, lots 6G and 9V will be reserved starting at 5 p.m. for those attending the API dance. Permit holders may leave vehicles parked in reserved lots for work-related purposes.

STUDENTS WHO INTERRUPT THEIR STUDIES AT WESTERN other than for a summer quarter must complete an application for readmission by the appropriate deadline. Applications are available from the Office of Admissions, Old Main 200, X/3440.

SEVERAL JOB SEARCH AND CAREER WORKSHOPS ARE SCHEDULED throughout spring quarter at the Career Services Center. Due to space limitations, signups for workshops are required. For complete information on workshop descriptions, dates and times, contact the Career Services Center, X/3240, OM 280.

On-campus recruiting

Signups for on-campus interviews are required in Old Main 280. Additional information on many positions is available in the career library and/or signup folders. For more information, contact the Career Services Center, OM 280, X/3240.

- CMC, Wednesday, May 28. Submit résumé at signup for interview in OM 280.

- New York Life, Thursday, May 29. Submit résumé at signup for interview in OM 280.

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AP news from around the globe

Regional

Two high school athletes expelled for baseball hazing

BELLEVUE — Two junior varsity baseball players at Newport High School in Bellevue have been expelled for hazing. Eight others were suspended for five days.

Police are investigating the alleged assault of 12 freshmen.

School district spokeswoman Ann Oxrieder said the incident occurred earlier this month in the Newport boys locker room before and after a baseball game.

Charges dropped against former death row inmate

TACOMA — Former death row inmate Benjamin Harris could be freed by the end of the week.

Courts ordered a new murder trial, but the charge has been dropped.

Pierce County Prosecutor John Ladenburg says he can't put the case back together again after 13 years.

However, Harris could still be

locked up at Western State Hospital for mental treatment. A hearing will be on Friday.

Harris was convicted of hiring a hit man to kill a mechanic over a car repair dispute. He was sentenced to die and was on death row until 1993 when a judge overturned his conviction because his defense lawyer did a poor job.

The 13 years Harris has been in prison is about the same time he would have served if he had been convicted of first-degree murder. His lawyer, Neil Hoff, says Harris has been falsely imprisoned and maliciously prosecuted.

National

Michigan police broke child molestation ring

DETROIT — Michigan state police think they've broken up a criminal ring of child molesters.

Thursday's Detroit News said as many as 15 children were molested. The children ranged in age from 5 to 12.

Police said many of the chil-

dren were attacked in a Yosilanti house full of roaches and feces.

One man was arrested last month. Five other adults were arrested yesterday. One of the suspects is 72. Two are women.

The Detroit News also quotes police as saying that three dogs in the house may have been sexually abused as well.

Bull semen stolen off porch

MAYSVILLE, Ky. — Forrest Gump might say: "Stealing off a front porch is like a box of chocolates. You just never know what your gonna get."

And whoever took the 30-inch aluminum canister from a Maysville, Ky. porch Monday probably didn't know what they were getting.

The canister and its contents were worth more than \$1,200. But whoever made off with it also could have been burned by the liquid nitrogen in which the canisters were packed.

Jim Wells had stuck the canister on the porch for an employee to pick up and ship to Pennsylvania.

It contained 40 units of bull semen.

International

Japanese begin patrols after boy is beheaded

TOKYO — Frightened parents in Kobe, Japan, are patrolling their neighborhood after a boy was beheaded.

Violent crime is rare in Japan, and the killing in Kobe has provoked nationwide horror.

The head of the 11-year-old boy was discovered by a custodian Tuesday. In his mouth, according to police, was a note written in red ink asking, "Can you stop me?"

The rest of the boy's body was found about 500 yards away.

Residents fear there may be a serial killer on the loose. A girl from the same neighborhood was killed in March.

Palestinian detainee said he is tortured by Israelis

JERUSALEM — Israel's Supreme Court ordered the Justice Ministry Thursday to investigate claims by a Palestinian detainee that he is being tortured during interrogations.

Omar Ghneimat was arrested in March as a part of a crackdown on suspected members of the militant Hamas group.

Ghneimat appealed to Israel's Supreme Court to stop the interrogation, charging that he was being badly tortured. The high court rejected the appeal, but ordered the Justice Ministry to probe the claims, court spokesman Moshe Goral said Thursday.

The Justice Ministry has 10 days to present its findings to the court. Ghneimat has not yet been charged with anything.

Vietnam kids malnourished

HANOI, Vietnam — About 40 percent of Vietnamese children under the age of five suffer from malnutrition despite the country's increasing rice production, according to UN research released Thursday.

Another 200,000 underweight babies are born each year, a United Nation's Children's Fund official said.

AP Wire compiled by Katie Johnson

Strike, from page 1

faith by adding "takeaways" not previously discussed.

Union representatives have argued that if Bornstein's is claiming an "inability to pay," the company is legally required to share financial proof of this "inability" with the union.

However, Craig Woolsey, a striking filleter for Bornstein's

who has been on the negotiating committee, contradicted this when he admitted to the crowd that Bornstein's has never used the "inability to pay" argument at the negotiating table. Therefore, Bornstein's is not required to provide financial proof to the unions.

While Finn's news that negotiations would resume was well-

received at the rally, other speakers used much harsher language, including songs, to roust the crowd. A band led people through "Take-back Bornstein," sung to the tune of "Old Rocking Chair."

"Take-back Bornstein is his real name / The way he behaves is a damnable shame / ... Something sure stinks, and it isn't the fish."

Robbie Stern of the Washington State Labor Council led the strike supporters in a series of chants as they marched from the Coast Guard parking lot to the front of the Bornstein's plant in the Hilton Marina.

"Power to the workers / To the bosses inside / We're here to say / Stop the takeaways."

"Where's Jay?" Stern bellowed at the mirror windows of the plant from the platform of a stake-bed truck. Stern was referring to owner Jay Bornstein, who left earlier in the day to avoid any conflict.

Bornstein, when contacted earlier in the week, refused to comment for the record, except to say, "We don't negotiate through the press. We don't really accomplish anything (by doing so.)"

Stern pointed out a picket sign in the crowd that said, "Shame, Shame, Bornstein."

"You know, that's right," Stern said. "We've run into shameless employers before, and we've kicked their butts."

A van from "Raincountry Refrigeration Inc." pulled up to the front door of the plant, and the driver got out.

"Hey brother," Stern said to the driver, "you don't want to go in there. You don't want to cross a picket line. Show some solidarity, now. Join us brother."

The driver smiled, embarrassed, and got back in his truck and pulled away.

"Let's give him a hand," Stern said while the crowd cheered.

Steven Aldrich, union representative for the Graphic

Communications International Union 767-M reflected the diversity of union support in attendance; other local unions present included pulp and paperworkers, longshoremen, plumbers, health workers, teachers, farm workers and postal workers, among others.

"The things that Bornstein's is trying to take away are the things we are trying to get at Geographics," Aldrich said, referring to his union's employer.

Bob Nelson, a striking Bornstein's worker and former Western student, said he appreciated the big turnout.

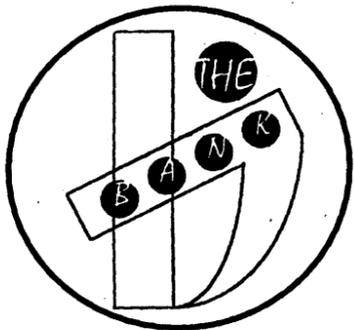
"A lot of people from day one have given their support and this was the first time we all got together," he said. "Some of the kids from the college have come down. We hope this will be a force to get to the table and get a fair contract."

Western students dotted the crowd, some of whom were representing CESAR, a campus workers' rights activist group. Political science majors Becky Larsen and Jason Hansen were alerted to the rally by some of their professors, some of whom were also present.

"We need jobs that support the community," said Maurice Foisy, professor of political science at Western. "For a company that by all evidence can afford it, to take away from the workers is wrong."

Nelson said he was encouraged that negotiations will resume.

"I honestly think that this is a step in the right direction," he said.



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WESTERN FRONT CLASSIFIEDS

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Student programs will receive less money with new budget

By Jennifer Hayes
The Western Front

Due to an unexpected change in the budget May 27, three groups that provide most student programs on campus will actually receive less money for 1997-1998 than originally predicted.

Last night, the Associated Students Budget Council, who oversees the balancing of the budget before it is ratified by the AS Board of Directors, approved its budget recommendation to the AS board.

Last year the AS was allocated a budget of \$1.3 million. This year the AS requested \$1.48 million, but \$62,000 less was available from the student and activities fees.

The Services and Activities Fees Committee, which determines the final budget for the Associated Students, Departmentally Related Activities and

Athletics and Campus Recreation, believed Housing and Dining and music copyright costs had been subtracted from services and activities fees when a budget was selected May 20, said committee member for Campus Recreation Beth Cullen.

"Everyone thought housing (and other costs) had already been taken out," Cullen said.

Services and Activities Fees fund the three groups to operate during the year.

Housing and Dining and music copyright costs receive a fixed amount each year from services and activities fees. Western must subtract the total from the fees before the three groups, whose budgets change yearly, can gain funding.

AS, Departmentally Related Activities and Athletics and Campus Recreation expected to receive more money for their budgets because of a 4 percent increase in

services and activities fees allocated for 1997-1998 by the Legislature in April.

The 4 percent increase in services and activities fees would provide an extra \$141,000 more for next year than in previous years, Viking Union and Student Activity Director Jack Smith said.

AS President and Committee member Leslie Keller said previously the three groups planned to use the fees increase to expand existing programs or start new ones.

However, the unanticipated charges to the services and activities fees could affect the budget plans for AS, Departmentally

receive their base budget needs. Second, the committee will set aside a \$20,000 reserve for emergencies, such as new equipment requests or sports team travel.

Third, the three groups will receive whatever remains from the fees to additionally fund new or existing programs.

"(Each group) needs to reevaluate what priorities need to take place now," Keller said.

The AS, Departmentally Related Activities and Athletics and Campus Recreation will receive around 52 percent, 17 percent and 31 percent, respectively, of the 4 percent increase in services and activities fees.

The committee voted on a number of budget proposals and decided the percentage breakdown for each group on May 20.

The proposal was accepted by a vote of 7-2, Keller said.

None of the proposals originally offered by the groups received a majority vote, so the committee used one draft by Departmentally Related Activities and another by Athletics and Campus Recreation to create the final version, DRAC Committee member Jen Kleven said. Committee members added the group percentages listed in both drafts together and divided the sum in half to get the final result, Kleven explained.

"The (Athletics and Campus Recreation and Departmentally Related Activities) proposals were seen as more of a compromise than the AS's proposals," Kleven said.

Keller said she and Carrie Palmer, another AS representative on the committee, did not vote for the final version.

The committee did not finalize the budget percentages for the three groups until May 27.

Everyone thought housing (and other costs) had already been taken out.

*— Beth Cullen
member of the campus
recreation committee*

Survey says jobs waiting out there for some majors

By Jacob Henifin
The Western Front

Last academic year, 2,151 students completed bachelor degree programs to receive their coveted diplomas.

For many, the years and costs in excess of \$10,000 were a worthy investment. For others, the hours in stoic Wilson Library or behind impassive computer monitors was not such a monetary value.

Career Services Center conducted a survey earlier this year, in which 1,161 undergraduates responded. Slightly more than half received employment in their related field, 326 did not, while 53 are still pounding the pavement. One hundred forty-eight continued their education, and 40 graduates opted for other things, such as starting a family, traveling or things beside employment.

"Opportunities are better in some fields than in others," Tina Litzsinger, director of the center said. "A particular increase in technical majors is evident."

"Almost every graduate has three offers," Manufacturing and Engineering Technology Program Coordinator David Werstler said. "A lot of companies are frustrated because they can't hire our graduates. Some companies would as soon leave a position open than hire someone else."

Computer science and engineering technology graduates have some of the better employment rates in their desired field — 94 and 88 percent with an average beginning salary of \$37,000 and \$34,000 respective-

ly.

Many graduates from the College of Business and Economics are also employed — three of the four majors have an 80 percent placement rate in their fields of study with an average income of \$27,000.

"Business majors are pursued by students with well-defined career direction," Dennis Murphy, chair of business and economics said. "It is not a surprise; it is a more focused oppor-

at least, or better preparation in general and in processes for working with small groups."

Not all graduates fare so well. For example, none of last year's philosophy graduates are employed in their field. Those hired for other jobs garner \$18,000 annually.

"Don't go into philosophy," professor of philosophy Thomas Downing said, "intelligent people don't."

"There are no shortage of philosophers," he said, "it is not a vocational major."

The most employable students tend to be those who have taken internships.

"We discovered one-third of the 1995-96 graduates that reported employment had completed an internship and maybe even two," Litzsinger said.

The viability of practical experience is illustrated by the number of teachers who received teaching positions after graduation.

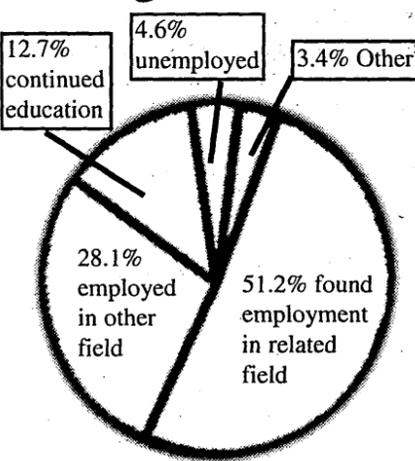
Last year, 89 percent of the teacher candidates were hired in an educational field.

Continuing one's education in a master's program took Western graduates to employment in their studied discipline 82 percent of the time.

Speech pathology and audiology majors were hired in the field at a 96 percent rate. Fifty-four percent of English masters found themselves involved directly with their degree.

"If students with a very good liberal arts education are concerned about employment after graduation, they would be very well served to get particular hands on training," Litzsinger said. "Get involved with something you care and are passionate

After graduation...



Source: Career Services Center
Front/Vincent Verhei

tunity that leads to employment in the field of choice as opposed to other disciplines."

Other disciplines with less of a vocational approach seem to benefit graduates in subtler ways.

"Of the people who went to AT&T, it was easier to get a job as a business major. But the liberal arts majors went farther in the company. They had better communication skill and greater flexibility," philosophy professor Thomas Downing said citing a past study.

"I don't think there is a shred of evidence for that study," Murphy said. "Our students have

ATTENTION

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Will bikes still to be allowed?

Future of campus bicycle dismount policy will be decided today

By Jennifer Hayes
The Western Front

The Bicycle Policy Implementation Policy Task Force, made up of students, faculty and staff, will decide today the fate of the 15-minute bike dismount policy on campus.

The task force will either recommend a longer probation for the policy, remove its probation status, or institute a complete ban of bicycle riding in the red brick areas from 7:45 a.m. to 5:15 p.m., Vice President of Business and Financial Affairs and co-chair of the task force George Pierce said.

Bicycle dismount policies keep students from being hit by a bicyclist while walking to class, said J.P. Elliott, Associated Students vice president for student life and co-chair of the task force.

The current policy, under probation since January 1, mandates that students must dismount their bikes 15 minutes before the hour and 15 minutes after the hour between the red brick areas, from 7:45 a.m. to 5:15 p.m. Monday through Friday.

The probation period was designed to test whether, during the 15-minutes before and after class, students would walk their bikes to class, Elliott said. The minutes before and after class are more crowded with students than the half hour between classes, Elliott explained.

"There's only one complaint I've seen or heard of (about the policy)," Elliott said.

The task force may also vote to implement a complete bicycle ban, which would prohibit bike riding in the red brick areas between 7:45 a.m. and 5:15 p.m.

The complete bike ban is already used by other universities

in accordance with Washington Administrative Code 516-13-080.

The task force's recommendations may affect as much as 10 percent of Western's student population, Elliott said.

Western and the Student Bicycle Task Force designed the 15-minute dismount policy as a compromise to a complete bicycle ban in May 1996, Elliott said.

The Bicycle Policy Implementation Task Force was set up to administer the policy, Pierce said.

Elliott and Pierce wrote in a May 14 open letter to Western students that the administrative task force was unsatisfied by the number of students who were not walking their bikes during the dismount times.

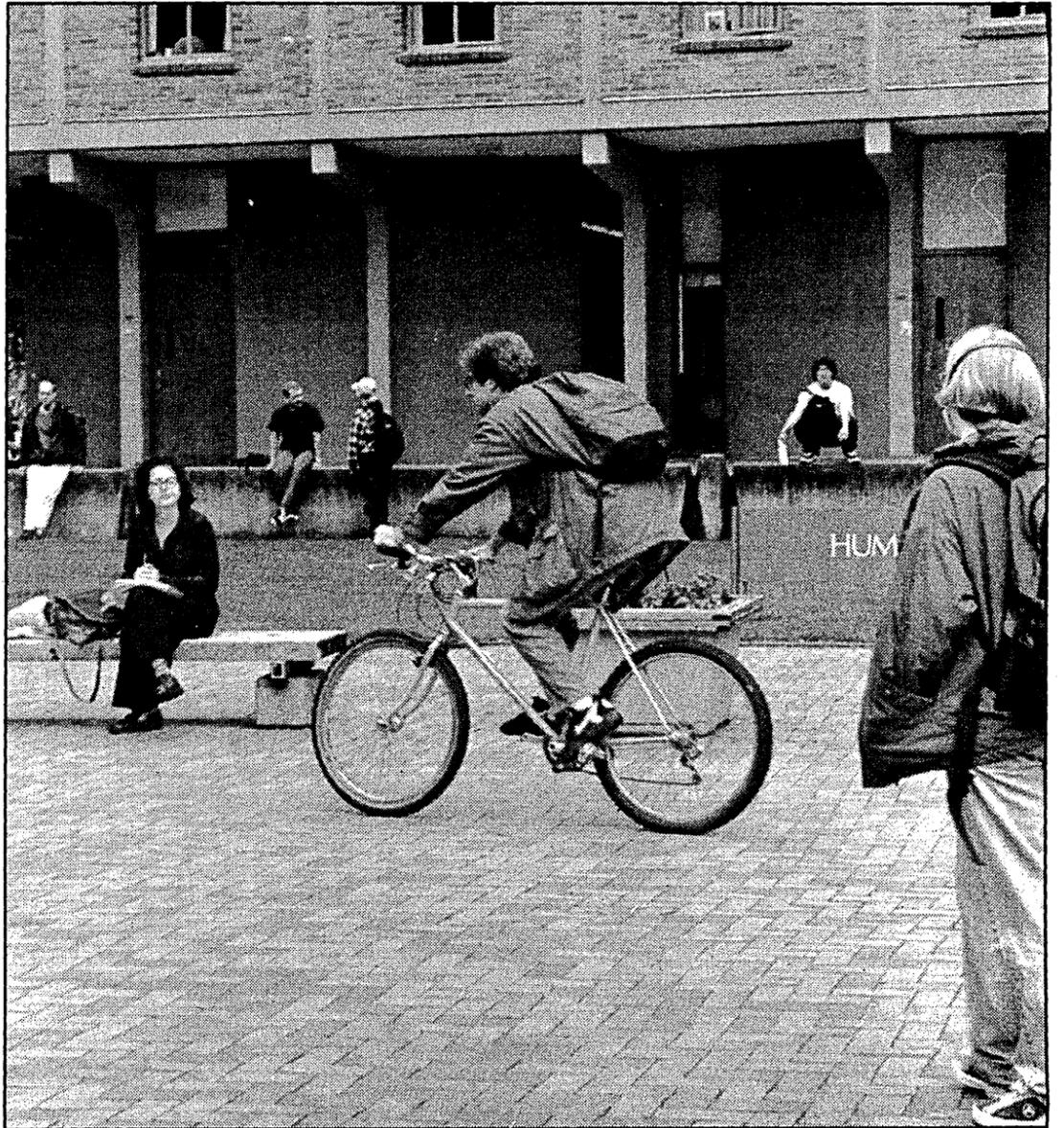
"With this in mind, we (the task force) are deciding if the trial bicycle policy should remain for the next year or if the dismount policy should be expanded to the original policy of (7:45 a.m. to 5:15 p.m.) during class days," Elliott and Pierce said in the letter.

Dismount numbers have changed since the policy began in January.

During winter quarter, seven out of 10 students surveyed at specific locations on campus dismounted their bikes during the time restriction, Elliott said. However, during spring quarter, the numbers dropped to four out of 10, Elliott explained.

It is unclear why the drop occurred during spring quarter, but nicer weather may provide more opportunities for people to ride their bikes, Elliott said.

Students who have continued to ride their bikes during the dismount times have not been ticketed, Elliott said.



Front/Sara Buckwitz

A bicyclist rides through Red Square Thursday at 1:52 p.m. in violation of the dismount policy. Because of cyclists not following the dismount times, bicycles may be banned from campus.

However, university police have stopped noncomplying bikers to inform them of the policy, Elliott added.

WAC 516-13-090 gives Western the authority to ask students to leave campus if they do not follow bicycle regulations. According to the code, students who refuse to leave can be cited for criminal trespass.

The Bicycle Policy Implementation Task Force provided signs that marked dismount zones, pamphlets and bookmarks printed with the Bicycle Responsibility Code.

The Task Force also prints a Bicycle Commuting Guide to educate students about the bicycle code, Elliott said.

Education is the best way to promote student compliance with the current bicycle dismount policy, but more financial support is needed to make the education program effective, Elliott said.

"The program needs to be distributed through all levels (faculty and staff) instead of just through students," Elliott said.

Elliott said he believes the current policy offers a better alternative than a complete ban on biking on campus.

"Keeping the 15 minute rule allows for diverse choices. An all out ban limits choice, and when-

ever you limit choice, it becomes a censorship issue," Elliott said.

Pierce said he believes the current biking restrictions work for students.

"I'm upbeat about the policy. During the dismount times, the time before classes, I've noticed fewer people riding their bicycles than before the policy," Pierce

can't predict which way the task force will vote.

"At this point, I just don't know," Elliott said.

Western students have diverse opinions about the current policy and the possibility of a complete ban.

"I think the current policy is OK, but I think (bikers) should take responsibility in riding so they don't have to make these policies," said biker D.J. Riehl, junior, general studies major in natural science and English.

"I don't feel the (current) dismount policy is working. I see people riding their bikes anyway," non-biker sophomore business major Sean Runnels said.

Non-biker Cynthia Nalin, who is a junior finishing her prerequisites for nursing, said a complete ban on biking on campus is not a good alternative.

"It would be ridiculous to not ride bikes on campus (because of an 8 a.m. to 5 p.m. ban) because its the quickest, easiest way for people to get around," Nalin said.

Biker Valerie Graber, an anthropology graduate student, said the current policy is too restrictive, but is better than a complete ban.

"We shouldn't be punished for (bikers) who are not safe," Graber said.

I think the current policy is OK, but I think (bikers) should take responsibility in riding so they don't have to make these policies.

— D.J. Riehl
junior, general studies major

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Broadway's best are 'Misbehavin'

By Carey Ross
The Western Front

Even though Bellingham is a few thousand miles off of Broadway, the cast of the Tony-award winning musical "Ain't Misbehavin'" doesn't mind.

The show features more than 30 songs from the Fats Waller Songbook sung by a five-member New York cast. Waller was a premier musician from the 1920s to the 1940s and is often considered synonymous with Harlem honky tonks during that period.

The cast features Vivian Jett, who made her Broadway debut in 1980, performing with the original cast of "Ain't Misbehavin'." Jett, who has worked with Nell Carter and Debbie Allen, has also starred in regional productions of "Ma Rainey's Black Bottom," "Sing Mahalia Sing" and "The Hattie McDaniel Story."

When the show opened on Broadway, it made history by winning every Tony it was nominated for, including Best Musical.

The songs range from the poignant, such as "Mean to Me" and "Black and Blue" to the humorous, "That Ain't Right" and "Your Feet Too Big," as well as the title song, "Ain't Misbehavin'."

Mt. Baker Theatre will be transformed into a Harlem jazz hall. The cast, garbed in period costumes, complete with bowlers, spats, ermine and pearls, will take the audience on a fast-paced, musical tour of where the fashionable partied, from honky tonk dives, to the Cotton Club, Tin Pan Alley and the Waldorf.

The lone performance will be at 8 p.m. June 6 at the Mt. Baker Theatre. Tickets are \$16.50 and \$19.50. For tickets, call the Mt. Baker Theatre at (360) 734-6080



Courtesy of Artbeat
Vivian Jett stars in the Tony Award winning musical "Ain't Misbehavin'" playing at 8 p.m. on Friday June 6 at the Mt. Baker Theatre. Tickets are \$16.50 and \$19.50 at the MBT ticket center.

Bellingham becomes Rock City Saturday

By Lucy Kee
The Western Front

Beginning at 1 p.m. Saturday, ASP Popular Music and Special Events present two shows entitled "Bellingham Rock City Spring Music Festival" and "The Evolutionaries Gathering."

Both shows are free, open to the public and feature local acts.

"Bellingham Rock City," featuring 13 area bands, is tentatively scheduled for 2 to 9 p.m. Saturday at the Security Field, behind Arntzen Hall.

Carver Gym has also been reserved as a second location for the show since

scattered showers have been predicted for Saturday.

However, do not let the weather keep you from joining in the festivities. This is an opportunity to see who's who in Bellingham music and a chance to follow the bands as they progress.

"At least half of the bands have the resources to go farther," said Paul Siemering, ASP popular music coordinator.

The diverse line-up of talent includes pop bands, such as Pinwheel and 5 Gears in Reverse, to hard-core rock bands, such as Sharpie and Batfarm.

Other bands playing are Pacer, Chimney, Roscoe P. Soultrain, Eureka Farm, Revolutionary Hydra, The Marmots, Creeps, Flame Throwa, My Friends and I, The Sysop Project and 2 if by Sea.

The high-volume, guitar-based rock band, Sharpie, along with Eureka Farm (formerly known as both Shed

and Spare), the funky sounds of Roscoe P. Soultrain, and Pinwheel are the headliners for Saturday's show.

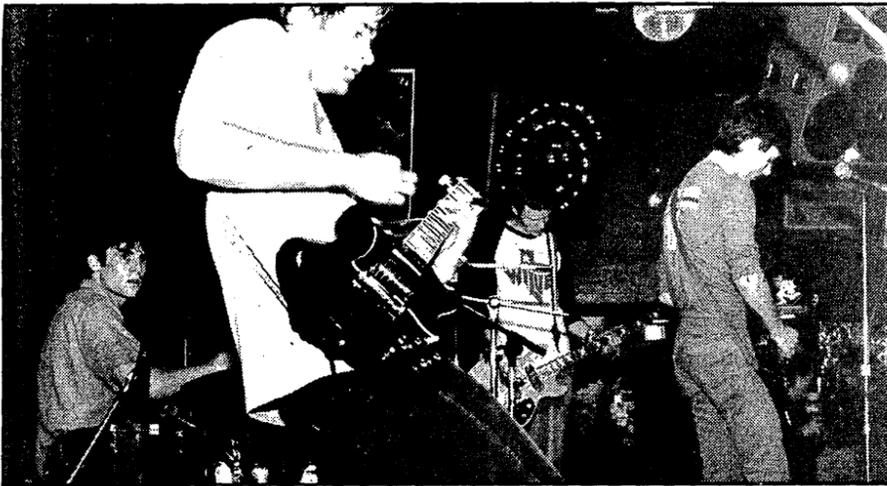
"The Gathering of Evolutionaries" is a DJ showcase from 9 p.m. to 2 a.m. in the Viking Union Main Lounge. The lounge will be decorated in full visuals with two big projection screens and much more.

"Bring lots of fun stuff and good vibes," said Rama, one of the DJs mixing at the show.

Along with Rama, Ananda, Kris Moon and DJ Vegan will all be spinning wax on the wheels of steel.

The line-up begins with Ananda from 9 to 10 p.m. with some extreme fast-paced house grooves. DJ Vegan will be mixing trance from 10 to 11 p.m. Kris Moon will be following with electro break-beat style from 11 p.m. to 1 a.m. Rama will be capping off the night with a bang with his drum and bass sounds from 1 to 2 a.m.

For more information, call Paul Siemering at 650-2846.



Courtesy of Pinwheel

Pinwheel is one of a baker's dozen of local acts playing Bellingham Rock City.

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Your 'Mother' is calling

By Jill Frewing
The Western Front

Bertold Brecht's "Mother Courage" will be journeying through Western's campus Friday through Sunday.

The play, directed by Western student Sam Wallin, is a contemporary classic written by one of theater's best playwrights. As "Mother Courage" travels through life, the viewers must follow closely, walking with the actors and actresses outside.

The play chronicles the life of a businesswoman with three children who travels across war-infested Europe. The title character follows the side of whomever is winning, only pledging allegiance to herself. In this story of war and capitalism, each of Mother Courage's children fall victim to both.

"When the war gives you all you earn, one day it may claim something in return," Wallin said, quoting the play.

The crew for "Mother Courage" has a tongue-in-cheek credit for God as its lighting technician. God willing, of course, the forecast for cloudy skies and scattered showers will not come to pass until after the innovative work has completed its run.

"Mother Courage" starts at 5 p.m. sharp today, Saturday and Sunday. Admission is free to everyone. For more information contact the Theatre department at 650-3867.



Front/Chris Luczyk
Elizabeth Cole Duffel (left) is Mother Courage whose son (Ian Fraser) falls to bad fortune.

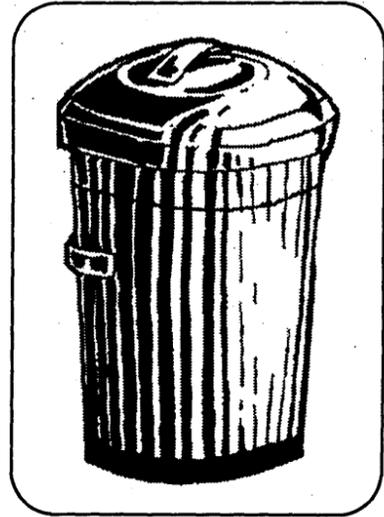
Seattle musician junks traditional jazz sounds

Some people take their leftover scrap metal to the dump. More ecologically conscious people recycle it.

Andrew Drury has both options beat. He actually plays newspapers, keys, garbage can lids, drums and Chinese gongs to create a totally new and lively sound.

Drury, from Seattle, will play his innovative percussion pieces at 2 p.m. Sunday at the Whatcom Museum of History and Art at 206

Prospect St. in conjunction with the ongoing exhibit Trashformations.



The composer, educator and drummer has a wide range of perspective and abilities. Educated in jazz at Wesleyan University, Drury will discuss his music and his perspective on

junk music in between songs. Admission to the concert and the museum is free, but donations are appreciated.

'Lost World' just lost Spielberg effort

By Steven Uhles
The Western Front

The good news is that director Steven Spielberg has returned to theaters after four years away — the bad news is he brought those damn dinosaurs with him.

"The Lost World: Jurassic Park," which opened May 22 will undoubtedly produce dollars faster than the U.S. mint. Every child will pine for the toys, lunchbox and cigarette lighter — anything with the logo on it.

That's because "The Lost World" functions less effectively as a movie than a marketing juggernaut, carefully orchestrated to get cash.

In describing "The Lost World," director Steven Spielberg said he wanted the audience to "roll up their sleeves and fall right back into the adventure." Well, that's pretty easy considering it's the same movie.

The sequel to the hugely popular "Jurassic Park," this film takes up the action four years after the first movie. Jeff Goldblum, as chaos theorist Ian Malcom, travels to yet another island populated by genetically produced

dinosaurs, accompanied by a new group of potential appetizers. Among them, Julianne Moore as the Spielberg-mandatory screaming love interest and young Vanessa Lee Chester as the equally Spielberg-mandatory cute kid.

In his 25-year career, Spielberg has gained a reputation of opening new cinematic vistas. In "Jaws" he reinvented the monster movie as a Hitchcock thriller. In "Raiders of the Lost Ark" he set a watermark for action-adventure. Even the deservedly maligned "Hook" is a masterpiece of set design.

"The Lost World," however, carries none of the Spielberg spark. It plays like a series of vaguely related snippets from some larger story we aren't being told. Characters appear and disappear with little or no explanation. Often, they seem to have little purpose other than providing a tasty snack for a rampant piece of computer animation. Action sequences similarly evolve from nowhere. Their purpose — evidently to show off the filmmakers gee-whiz technology.

The film tries to convey the importance of ecological responsibility, and of the price of

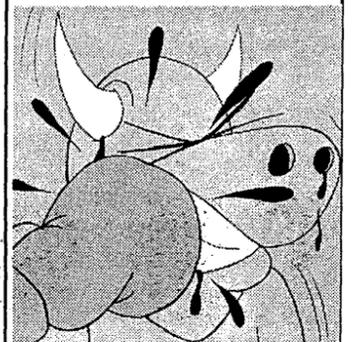
avarice. What it offers instead is a question to children — whose car is cooler, the good guys' or the bad guys'.

Certainly the special effects are astonishing. The film's dinosaurs are as breathtakingly realistic as they were four years ago. That's the problem with the entire film. We've seen this all before. Throughout "The Lost World," there are constant reminders that as far as dinosaurs are concerned, there's nothing new under the sun. In fact, the whole movie plays like a collection of very good outtakes from the first film.

Even the sequences of a T. Rex mother rampaging through San Diego like King Kong in New York seem hollow. Although vastly more entertaining than the first half of the movie, they play better for laughs than screams. A dinosaur happily drinking chlorinated water from the family pool just doesn't strike terror in the hearts of man.

"Jurassic Park" ranked, even by the director's own admission, as "Second-rate Spielberg." That being the case, "The Lost World" probably ranks as just second-rate.

"Spike & Mike's Sick and Twisted Festival of Animation" is cancelled.



Mellow Manor Productions
The Happy Moose and his slightly demented friends will not be seen at Western this year. The animation festival has not been rescheduled.

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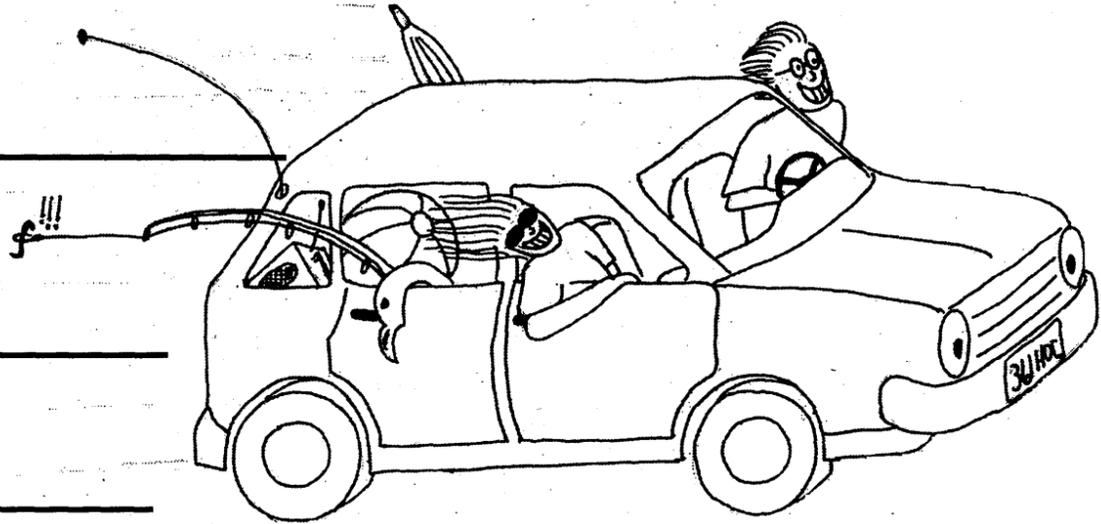
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Road Trips



Six guys, a yellow bus and puberty

By Arvid Hokanson
& Riley Morton
The Western Front

Bessie Wayne experienced a mild-mannered childhood in Blaine, Wash. As a member of a local church, Bessie was never one to question her elders and was always willing to help her friends in need. It wasn't until last year that Bessie's sleek yellow curves and boundless energy caught Blaine resident Mike Dahl's eye. After a year long relationship, built upon commitment and understanding, Mike and Bessie had become inseparable.

When Mike invited five college friends to join the two on a road trip to California, everyone was hesitant to accept given that Bessie and Mike shared such an intimate relationship.

Mike was quick to point out though, that Bessie, a 1979 three-quarter length yellow International school bus, wouldn't mind the extra company at all.

We immediately accepted the offer with glee, knowing that six guys, a fitted-for-living school bus, and a week off from school could only mean winning stories for the retirement home.

We pulled out of Seattle on the afternoon of Thursday, March 21, knowing little more than the Tillamook Cheese Factory and the Redwood Forest were in our futures. The following excerpts were taken from the bus' trip journal and black box.

March 21: 10:34 p.m.: Seaside, Ore. — Foot police report apprehending a 1979 school bus for allegedly "cruising the Seaside strip with six college-aged occupants dancing naked inside and out to loud music."

"The streets of Seaside we're filled with hundreds of high school and college kids cruising in lowriders. The

sidewalks were lined with groups of people eyeing each other. But no matter where you looked, there was no real hope for fun in sight," Dahl said. "We decided to give the town a wake-up call by stripping to our boxers and dancing to KC and the Sunshine Band's 'Get Down Tonight.' You should have seen the look on people's faces. The trick was highlighted by a guy in tight jeans and a cowboy hat filming us with his camcorder."

"We did what we had to do ... Besides, Hale-Bopp was soaring overhead, and it was almost like it told us to strip naked and dance," trip participant Justin Reichman said.

March 22 9:53 a.m.: Captains log: "After departing the worst garage sale on the West Coast, the group needed a morale boost. And so as soon as the giant Tillamook Cheese Factory Sign appeared over the horizon, I knew the fleet had entered a friendly region," Dahl reported.

Trip participant Jeremy Kane wrote, "I finally realized why I was placed on this earth — cheese. For me the Tillamook Cheese Factory was equivalent to Mormons going to the tabernacle — a holy experience."

March 23, 4:48 p.m.: "After singing the 'to the redwood forest' portion of 'America The Beautiful' for the 103rd time, the road trip group finally entered the pearly gates of Redwood Forest National Park in Northwestern California." Reichman remembered. "Sixteen-cent Thunderbird wine and Mimosa flavored champagne were on the menu for after dinner festivities."

March 24, 11:27 p.m.: Two CHIPs officers, affectionately dubbed John and Ponch by the group, were captured on this recording of the fire/police frequency on the radio the evening of March 26. "Uh, yeah, this is California Highway Patrol officer Perkins seeking assistance near Borderville, just west of the Reno border. Yeah, we got a

blowout on a school bus on the side of the road, I think we got a busted tire on the duelys in back. Yeah, it's a pretty big (*undecipherable*) I'm looking for back up ... (*expletive*) man! we got a problem here! I need help!"

"Yeah, we punctured our fire tube in the middle of the road in the desert. Officer Ponch was very helpful, and we had to change the tire. But it wasn't long before we got to Reno where we headed straight to the free circus acts."

March 25, 11:05 a.m.: The video cameras surveying the parking lot of Circus Circus, Reno give warning to the higher level as they spot Bessie Wayne parking in the "C is for Crocodile" lot.

"Circus Circus was kinda cool. The tumblers and unicycling jugglers were absolutely amazing!" exclaimed trip captain Dahl. "And Riley won enough for six buffet dinners!"

March 26, 4:22 p.m.: Eileen, the lone tour guide at the Pyramid Brewery in Kalama, Wash. is alerted from the break room by the aromatic presence of the group. She reported initially being scared.

"Eileen was just a great tour guide," remembers Reichman. "A little weird at first, but she soon warmed up and became fond of us. When Dahl broke out the accordion for a rendition of 'That's Amore' it was all over."

At approximately 8 p.m. the group rolled home into Seattle under the guidance our designated driver, Jeremy Kane.

After a week of life-altering experiences, each individual member of the school bus crew took away their own special memory of Bessie Wayne.

"It wasn't just a road trip out there," remembers Reichman. "It was a wondrous growing experience; much like going through a second puberty."

Road trip to — Salt Lake City?!

By Corey Lewis
The Western Front

Spring break, that special time of year when winter quarter is finally over. When the sun starts to peek its head out from behind the perpetual winter cloud cover. When spring break rolls around, there's only one thing to do — road trip.

With six guys, a white 1991 Volkswagen van, road maps and a sense of adventure, we headed off on a journey to the deserts of Utah.

On day three, after two days of touring and camping in northern California, we arrived at our first destination, Reno.

Being in Reno was especially exciting for me because I had never experienced gambling before. Unfortunately, I was

poor and only had \$10 to spare on gambling. I figured I'd just play it cool, get my free drinks and watch after I lost my money.

With no great expectations, I headed downstairs to the casino portion of the Eldorado hotel at about 6 p.m. I sat down at the roulette table and took a crash course in the rules of the game from fellow traveler Doug Weber.

When I started playing, I watched in amazement as my \$10 ballooned into \$40. From then on, I was hooked. After many rounds of blackjack, more roulette and failed attempts at craps and slots, my night ended with a stagger up to the hotel room at 5 a.m.

My first gambling experience was a good one because I came out ahead \$100.

Unfortunately, that number would have been a lot higher if I hadn't been introduced to the other side of gambling — losing.

I had always wondered why Nevada was the only state to allow gambling.

After actually driving through and seeing the flat desert land of Nevada on our way to Utah, I finally figured out why. If gambling and drinking all night weren't legal, nobody would go there.

After arriving in Salt Lake City and snowboarding at Brighton the next day, one of the many ski areas 30 minutes outside of Salt Lake, we started the trek towards the red rock canyons of southern Utah.

We passed time on the six-hour drive with endless streams of Utah Jazz and hick

police jokes.

We arrived in the desert just as the sun was setting, so we were treated to a nighttime sky full of stars and the Comet Hale-Bopp.

The next few days were spent wandering aimlessly around the desert looking at the various rock formations, hiking, soaking up the sun, playing with rattlesnakes and drinking Utah beer that, by state law, takes a half-rack to feel a buzz.

When we finally realized we had to end our journey and leave the desert paradise of Utah for the colder climate of Bellingham, we packed up and headed home.

But like any other road trip, we left with indelible images implanted in our memories of the good times we all had.

Don't find out about preparedness by accident

By Lucy Kee
The Western Front

We were driving down the highway at 2 a.m. on our way to Reno, when the car came to a screeching halt. My boyfriend, at the time, had stopped the car after he watched a woman flip her car after she fell asleep at the wheel. The sight that lay before me would be forever burned in my mind. I felt helpless as I watched three men pull the bodies of two children and their mother from the wrecked car.

Though the family did not suffer any life threatening injuries, the potential was not absent, nor the fact that it could have easily been prevented. It also reminded me of the simple fact that accidents can happen to anyone, at any time.

Before heading out on a long road trip, plan ahead. Taking the time now can not only save money now, but it can also save

lives.

First and foremost, take your car in for a tune-up. At the least, take it in for a minor tune-up. This includes checking all fluids to ensure they are sufficiently filled: the antifreeze/coolant, brake fluid, oil, power steering fluid and transmission oil. Check all lights to ensure they are working properly, check the distributor to make sure all of the wires are connected, spark plugs, brakes, and tire pressure, treads and overall condition of the car.

All parties in your car should carry a list of emergency medical information in case they are involved in an accident. This list should include full name, address, phone number, emergency numbers (at least two) with their relation to you included, any known allergies, medical conditions, whether you wear contacts and any other relevant information.

Carry a first aid kit in your car at all

times. Most stores that carry auto parts sell pre-assembled auto first aid kits that cost about \$20. If you decide to make your own, be sure to include a warm blanket, flares, a flashlight, antibiotics, bandages of all types and sizes, gauze, a splint, scissors and any other supplies. If you have a cell phone, or access to one, take this along as well, a few minutes can mean the difference between life and death.

Carry enough money to handle any situation that may arise. This includes a sufficient amount of money to cover the cost of gas and oil. Plan on carrying at least \$100, or a credit card with at least the same amount in credit in case you blow a tire, the radiator gives out or any other unsuspected car problem surfaces. Otherwise, be sure to have enough money to catch a train, plane or bus home or your parents are willing to bail you out in case of an emergency.

Last, though you have heard this a million times before, when tired, pull over and rest until you can operate the car to the best of your ability. The driver of the above mentioned accident fell asleep at the wheel and nearly cost her family and herself their lives. I had an old boyfriend fall asleep at the wheel and total his brand new car, break his arm, put the driver of the other car in a neck brace (legitimately, I add might) for three months and cost him thousands in lawyer fees, personal injuries and fines.

Think before you get behind the wheel. If think you will be unable to sufficiently drive the car, under any circumstances, don't.

If you can't afford to get your car fixed or keep it maintained, you should think twice about whether or not you can afford to be involved in an accident.

Interstate five becomes one traveler's lost highway

By Steven Uhles
The Western Front

There we stood, Mark and I, our car hopelessly out of commission, no cash, no place to sleep, and surrounded by what appeared to be the touring company of "Deliverance."

We had stumbled into road trip hell.

If only I had paid heed to the signs.

It started with little signs, like the gales of laughter when I told people I was going to drive my Jeep from California to Washington.

This concerned me a little.

More disconcerting was having the water pump literally explode the day before I planned to leave. In retrospect, it seems someone or something was trying to send me a definite message. Hind-sight is 20/20.

However, I pressed on and after retrieving Mark, my traveling companion from the airport, we left the heat of the Sacramento valley and headed north. At least for a couple of hours.

With a little patience and a little luck, an experience map-reader can find the tiny hamlet of Glendale, Ore. A more effective way of finding it would be to have your car die there.

Here's the situation. Mark and I are driving along the

infamous I-5 corridor when the stereo begins to fade. Soon, the headlights begin to fail as well, and we decide to leave the interstate to find a garage or gas station. Like a beacon of hope, we saw a sign that said "Glendale Next Exit." A more appropriate sign would have read "Glendale Next Exit — and then another 20 miles sucker."

We managed to limp into Glendale, however, the car gasping to an absolute stop just inside the city limits. What we found there was a tiny hamlet consisting of little more than a small saw mill, a bar/cafe and a small garage available to anyone who has an automotive emergency before 4 p.m. We, of course, had rolled in about 8 p.m.

We stepped into the bar, hoping to find a warm group of locals eager to help the harried travelers. A combination of menacing stares and uncanny silence persuaded us to move on to plan B, which consisted of using a pay phone to call for a tow truck to the nearest town of any size.

The next morning, a faulty alternator replaced and feeling about \$200 lighter, we continued north. Our troubles seemed to be behind us.

Two days later the new alternator called it quits in Vancouver, adding an international flavor to our woes. Exchange rates, part guarantees and a growing desire to push my car into the sea compounded the problem.

Throughout all of this, I had the support of my good friend Mark to help through any problem that might arise.

Yeah right.

By this time, I wanted to send him home on Amelia Earhart Airlines. "Why is your car doing this?" he would ask, fully expecting me to come up with a rational answer. "Why did you bring this car?" he would continue, as if, from a large fleet of finely tuned road machines, I had picked out this beat old Jeep.

Two days later, I put him on a bus in Seattle — never so happy in my life to see someone's back.

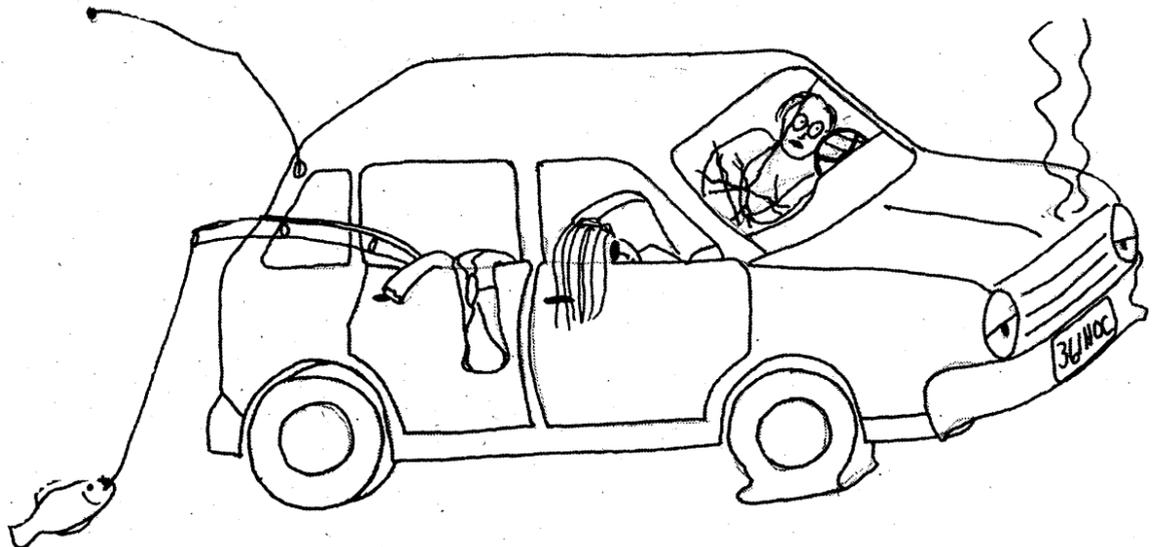
I continued home to California without incident, but I had been scarred. Never again would the open road seem as inviting as it once had.

Perhaps, I have only myself to blame. Taking that ratty old Jeep on an extended road trip was probably asking for trouble. Subconsciously, I probably even expected something to happen.

However, in my wildest dreams I could not have expected the landslide of woe I received.

So let this serve as a warning. The road trip is an archetypal American experience. Everyone should take one from time to time.

But beware, because for all its Kerouac romanticism, the potential for a wrong turn into your own road trip hell is always there.



Road Trips

Cameron crushes field at nationals

By Kevin Rus
The Western Front

Eighteen men and women from Western's track team went to the NAIA National Track Meet May 21-23 in Marietta, Ga.

They returned last weekend with five new school records, 18 All-American honors, the second highest placing for the women's track team in Western's history and one national champion.

"Everyone there had a season best or a personal best, with the exception of one person. They were ready and peaked for that meet," Western's track coach Pee Wee Halsell said.

Senior Amy Cameron, who dominated all season, earned an All-American honor and won a national championship in the women's 100-meter hurdles with a broken foot. She hit it on the ninth hurdle in the first round.

"I had so much adrenaline I didn't feel anything," Cameron said.

"She just crushed the field," Mike Lynch, an All-American in the men's 4 x 100 relay said. "She worked really hard all season, and all year she had been crushing people. There was really no difference in the national meet."

"Amy was the first national champion in 13 years (at Western)," Halsell said.

Teri Graves also made it to the finals of the 100-meter hurdles, coming in fifth place and earning All-American honors. The top six competitors in each event earn All-American honors.

"I am really impressed with Teri Graves. She came out and ran the hurdle races of her life. I was excited for her, and that made it special for me because when I won the hurdles, I knew she became an All-American also," Cameron said.

Graves and Cameron later became double All-Americans when their 4 x 100 relay team placed sixth in the finals.

Alicia Jones and Sydney Green, who were part of the 4 x 100 relay team, also became double All-Americans after placing third in the 4 x 400 relay and recording a new school record of 3:47.37. Teammates Shannon Anderson and Louise Bomars joined Jones and Green on the relay team.

Sydney Green went on to become a triple All-American after finishing sixth in the women's 400-meters.

The women's team also received All-

American efforts from Sarah Hiss, who placed sixth in the long-jump, and Jane Wallace who placed fifth in the triple jump.

The women's team finished in eighth place with 35 points, the second best finish in Western's track history, Halsell said.

"I am totally excited. I don't think we could have asked for a better turnout. Everyone performed their best at a time when it was most important," Cameron said.

The men's team also received All-American efforts from the 4 x 100 relay team: Chris Susee, Coby Dilling, Mike Lynch and Dan Lewis.

The team finished in sixth place with a time of 41.45 seconds.

"We didn't run as good as we did in pre-lims. Our hand-offs were a little slower (in the finals)," Lynch said. "I think that's the fastest we ran all year. It's just with the adrenaline, we were a little itchy on the hand-off."

"We had some great performances that

weren't rewarded with even getting to the finals," Halsell said.

Devin Kemper set a new school record in the men's 800-meter semifinals with a time of 1:51.11.

Then four to five minutes after Kemper's performance, Kurt Grichel set a new record, Halsell said. Grichel ran a 1:50.74, missing the finals by .65 seconds.

"I felt pretty good about my performance," Kemper said. "I wish I would have made it to the finals, but overall the team did pretty good."

"There were so many good performances from even people who didn't make it to the final rounds, like our two 800 runners, Kurt Grichel and Devin (Kemper), who set school records," Cameron said.

With a national meet behind him, Mike Lynch is looking towards next year.

"I think we have a strong team returning. This is the most All-Americans Western has ever had, and we have quite a few coming back. The men's 4 x 100 is coming back, so we have real high expectations, and the girls have a real strong club coming back too," Lynch said.

"We lose some people for next year, but I think we have a good nucleus and we'll be strong again," Halsell said.

I am totally excited. I don't think we could have asked for a better turnout. Everyone performed their best at a time when it was most important.

— Amy Cameron
senior track member

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Skiers brave wakes on Whatcom lakes

By Lucy Kee
The Western Front

Summer is steadily approaching. The sun is warming the waters, and the days are getting longer, making this the perfect time to dust off the ol' skis, fuel your boat and hit the water.

Water skiing has been around far longer than any of us. The first known record of anyone water skiing was in 1922 in Minnesota. This makes water skiing one of the good old American pastimes.

Most water skiers start skiing before they even hit the books, generally at age four or five. The youngest water skier was five months old, "of course they can't stand up, they have to sit on the platform," said Terry Goodman, local water skier and former instructor.

Goodman started skiing when he was 4-years-old. He entered his first tournament when he was seven and has been skiing ever since. Today, Goodman's own family also water skis.

"It's the perfect family sport — it's the one sport that the whole

family can be involved in. It's not like soccer where you sit at the sidelines and watch. You need someone to drive, to spot and to ski," he said.

At this time, there are only two lakes open to the public for skiing — Lake Samish and Lake Whatcom. This makes it a little difficult to ski at times, since you have to compete with the other boaters, jet skiers and swimmers for space on the water.

The water in Lake Whatcom is usually spotty, you have to know where to go and where to find shelter in order to ski. The wind is usually steady in one direction, which helps out a great deal.

However, most local water skiers prefer the water at Lake Samish because it is more protected. The water at the south end of the lake is usually calm, it is not as choppy and generally has less traffic than Lake Whatcom. Samish also has slalom buoy

courses for skiers to practice their tricks and skills.

Water skiing is definitely a luxury sport. In order to ski, one needs to either have their own boat, or access to one and the funds to supply the fuel. They also need their own gear, since there are no sports shops that rent water skiing equipment. Essential equipment for beginners would be a rope, tow harness, coast guard approved life jacket and a pair of skis.

To purchase equipment, Yeager's, located on Northwest Avenue, The Sportsman's Chalet, on Holly Street and Washington Wind Sports Inc., on Harris Avenue, all have a decent selection as far as equipment goes.

But for the best selection, travel

south to Seattle and check out Doc Freeman's.

No water ski schools exist in the area. The closest one is located in Portland.

The cost for lessons range anywhere from \$35 to \$4500, depending on how intense one wishes the lessons to be, how much they want to learn and the time commitment they are willing to put in.

Typically beginners should choose a one-day lesson to learn the basics, which runs about \$75.

When you first begin to ski, generally you begin with a 75 inch rope and two skis. As you improve, you can choose to try only one ski, which offers extra speed and higher versatility. Eventually, some skiers choose to work their way down to barefoot skiing.

As a rule, as you increase the speed of the boat and shorten the length of the rope,

the skiing gets more difficult.

"No matter how long you have been skiing, you never know everything. There are always new moves to try — the sport is always changing, new moves are being added," Goodman said.

The main reason for this is there are three disciplines of water skiing: slalom, tricks and jumping.

However, slalom skiing is the most popular form of skiing because jumping is more dangerous and tricks require experience.

"Water skiing is only for fun, until you make it into something else. This is important, unless you are competing with a team," local water skier David Little said.

For more experienced skiers, Western has its own water skiing club. Having fun is one of their goals, but their main focus is on the three event competition: trick, slalom and jump.

Since they compete with other Northwest collegiate schools, the club is not recommended for beginners. For more information about the water ski club, contact Kevin Hansen at 714-8980.



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Into the wild blue yonder

COMMENTARY



Sara Buckwitz

I arrived at the Abbotsford Parachute Centre at 12:30 p.m. I started filling out the disclaimer form.

One of my reactions to the paragraph about suing them was, "Of course, I won't sue you if I die. I'll be dead." At the bottom of the first half was a list of disorders they wanted you to check if they applied. I paused at the one labeled, "nervous disorder." How can I not have a "nervous disorder" at this point?

Jumping out of an airplane is anything but intuitive behavior. Why am I going to do this? Why not? It's to prove that I can dominate my intuitions with reason.

I had signed myself up for a tandem jump. This means an instructor is strapped onto your back. The instructor has the parachute. Four clips on my harness would hold me to the instructor tight enough so I would be securely attached, upon plummeting toward the earth.

Every time one of the staff members walked by, I formulated a new and even more neurotic question. "So, how many people have died here?"

Gerry Harper, the chief instructor who has over 10,000 drops, said, "When you look around parachuting places, the low mainland, everyone has had a fatality ... I've dropped over 2,000 students, but its out there (the risk)."

After I'd signed my life away and the fee was paid, I was told to put on a flight suit — a love-

ly nylon coverall-type apparatus.

The next step was a demonstration of what new students should expect. Gerry took a group of us toward the four planes parked next to their little asphalt runway.

Harper showed us how we would cram into the plane. I kept wondering why one of the planes was missing a door. Later I saw a little yellow flap closing the gaping hole on the side of the plane. Basically, the biggest rule Gerry set down for us was not to touch the instructor's hands during freefall.

The free fall could last up to 40 seconds. During that time, the instructor's hands would act like wings, steering us so that we did not flip or twirl around too much. So the student strapped in would tuck in their hands against their chests.

Then the waiting began. It was probably about 1 p.m. The clouds were low no tandem could go up. The experienced jumpers could skydive at 3,000 feet. So occasionally, I would see a plane go up and some singles jump.

About three and a half hours later it was my turn. The wait was helpful in letting me deal with all my trepidation.

By the time my turn came, I was mainly just sick of waiting. So, with my harness and its four life-saving clips, I walked toward the plane.

The plane that one solo jumper, the two other tandems and I would ride into the sky looked like an old army plane. It was camouflaged and had a big shark mouth painted in black on the nose next to the prop. It was a beast, but amazingly quiet.

Steve Janz would be my instructor. He checked my har-



Photo courtesy of: Bryan Gallagher

After four hours of waiting and 3 minutes of floating down, Steve Janz safely guides Sara Buckwitz in for a landing on her first tandem skydive. The jump happened in Abbotsford, B.C.

ness, and we got into the plane. Janz and I were seated closest to the big gaping hole of a door because we would be the first tandem to jump. Thankfully, this plane had an actual door that shut.

The plane took off and the fact that I would be falling a mile and a half started to sink in. I started to doubt my sanity and consider the possibility of being allowed to go back down with the plane. Then I realized that if I just didn't say anything, that I would end up being pushed out of the plane. That was the most likely way.

I was sitting facing the back of the plane, chatting with the

one independent jumper. I asked him if he was scared his first jump. No, he was just excited. He'd been jumping for the last five years. He was to jump first. My instructor yelled over the roar of the plane that it was time for us to go. I looked at the man sitting in front of me with wide eyes.

We had just reached altitude. The door was yanked open. I think Janz opened it. The sound of the wind whipping by was almost deafening.

The jumper scooted toward the door. He sat on the edge for a second and pushed himself out. He leaned back and waved up at us as he plummeted toward the ground lifetimes below. He had this strange sort of grin, as if to say "Have fun, ha, ha, ha."

Now we started working our way toward the door. Janz, who was behind me, put his left foot on the ledge beside the plane. I mechanically followed suit. My main goal was to just not say anything because if I didn't speak, I wouldn't object.

I moved my right foot onto the ledge, as did he. He was straddled behind me. Then I heard an "OK" and felt a push. I was staring down at the ground 8,000 feet below. The height was hard to comprehend.

I wondered how fast one's heart beats before it decides to quit. Below me, far, far, down below me was land.

Once we were flying toward the ground, it didn't seem that bad. I wasn't scared too much, only that I couldn't really breathe with the wind flying up at me at about 110 mph.

The freefall was amazingly loud. My goggles felt like they wanted to fly off my head at a slower speed.

Then I felt/heard a different noise, and we slowed down immediately. The parachute had opened. I felt completely safe — all of my remaining fear dissipated.

I had slowed down with Janz. The four clips held fast. All around me was sky. I looked around for the other tandems.

Janz suggested I look up. The big light blue chute sat serenely above us. Down below, I couldn't see where we would land yet. It was all too small. There were two loops to guide the parachute. I held onto the lower two loops as he veered us to the left and then to the right. Turning was fun but a little unnerving because in order to turn we became more parallel with the chute.

The next step was landing. Steve told me he needed to undo the bottom two clips.

I immediately tensed and asked why. Having our legs more far apart would aid in landing. I held my breath as he undid the bottom two clasps. Click, click. OK, I was still attached.

We glided for another minute or so, and I could see the big arrows pointing toward a big gravel area for landing.

I could see all the people waiting for us to land. We weren't very high anymore. I was ready to land.

Steve's feet hit the ground first, then mine skidded a bit in front as the chute landed behind us.



Photo courtesy of Bryan Gallagher

The students and instructors partner up with one another before jumping. Sara Buckwitz shakes hands with her instructor Steve Janz on the right, who she would later jump with..

Consider another view of gun safety

Dear Editor,

In his editorial about the handgun safety initiative on May 13, Chris Blake wrote that the reason a safety course should be required for one deadly tool (cars) and not another (guns) is that cars are a privilege and guns are a constitutional right.

He is correct in that the second amendment says "A well regulated militia being necessary to the security of a free State, the right of people to keep and bear arms shall not be infringed."

However, I-676 does not prevent a single law-abiding citizen from obtaining, owning, carrying or using a handgun, and does not apply to non-handguns at all.

It merely requires the person buying a handgun to take a training course, equivalent to a

driver's education course, but shorter, and buy a trigger lock (\$11 at Big 5) with the gun. It does not require the use of the trigger lock, that decision is left to the individual.

I'm not urging you to sign the initiative, I'm asking you to know the facts when you make a decision.

Don't take my word for it that I-676 won't infringe on our constitutional rights, look it up.

Don't adopt Chris' argument that cars should require training, but guns shouldn't without thinking hard about it.

To get another side of the argument, or request copies of the bill/petitions, Washington Citizens for Handgun Safety can be reached at (206) 583-8113.

Jeremy Dwyer

Monkeys are all right

To the Editor:

I would like to provide information correcting the image of the Psychology Department's Animal Laboratory, prompted by the April 29 editorial cartoon. The animals in the lab receive appropriate care and treatment. Standards for this area are set by federal guidelines. These standards not only define appropriate nutritional and health care, but specify that laboratory animals must be provided with stimulating and interesting environments. The adequacy of care provided the animals is regularly revised by the Animal Care and Use Committee of Western's Bureau for Faculty Research. The laboratory is also subjected to external surveillance, including unannounced inspections by the Department of Agriculture. The macaque monkeys in the lab are used for behavioral and observational studies by students in laboratory courses.

George Cvetkovich
Acting Chair, Psychology

No Fairhaven protest of general studies

Dear Editor,

The article in the May 20 issue titled "Fairhaven protests general studies expansion" was grossly inaccurate in both fact and tone. There is some truth buried in the text, but it's hard to find amidst all the hyperbole. The meeting I chaired in which this issue was discussed did not have the hostile tone this article implies.

Fairhaven College has not protested the general studies degree, nor are we worried the general studies option will compete with our program. (We turn too many students away as it is.)

We have not banned general studies students from taking Fairhaven courses. Fairhaven has never had a "monopoly" on interdisciplinary degrees. Liberal studies has provided an avenue to develop those degrees for students who do not wish to come to Fairhaven for a long time. There

are cross-disciplinary degrees in other departments as well.

The facts that are accurate include our decision to omit general studies from the list of appropriate majors for Fairhaven students as it too closely parallels the concentration process without our required supporting classwork and advising structure.

Also, we are concerned that in its current format, the general studies program will not offer students access to a similar planning and support structure.

Finally, we look forward to more discussions about interdisciplinary programs and courses at Western, particularly as part of the newly created GUR Task Force, and are prepared to approach these conversations in a spirit of collaboration.

Marie Eaton
Dean, Fairhaven College

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Frontline

Is Wilson Library open when you need it to be?

Upon entering college, I quickly became friends with the campus library. Attempting to get away from pesky roommates and stay in control of my homework, I have found myself spending the greater portion of my time in Wilson Library.

Despite my frequent lapses of "people watching" in 3 central, the library serves my needs well.

The only gripe I have about the services the library provides, aside from their lack of ability to control the heat, would be the hours they keep.

During the weekday, the library is open Monday through Thursday from 7:45 a.m. to 11 p.m. Friday is different altogether. It opens at the same time, but closes shop promptly at 5 p.m. to avoid the heavy Bellingham commute.

The weekend hours are also a far cry from being normal. Saturday's hours are reasonable and practical opening at 10 a.m. and closing by 6 p.m. The one day that keeps me puzzled and baffled is Sunday. The doors don't open until 1 p.m. and then close at 11 p.m., giving students almost half the day to study! Wow, thanks.

The scary thing is, these hours are similar to other universities. During the week, the main library at the University of Washington opens at 8 a.m. and closes at midnight. Central Washington's opens at 7:30 a.m. and closes at midnight. Eastern Washington's opens at 7:30 a.m. and closes at 11 p.m.

Although comparable to other university library hours, Wilson Library is open less than the others on weekdays.

"Primarily, it's a cost issue," said Rick Osne, assistant to the university librarian. "If we had enough funding — we'd stay open longer."

If these statements hold true, I think it may be time for some revisions. Let's stop spending millions of dollars renovating buildings during the middle of the school year and plug some money into extending the library hours. Ask the students what they would rather have, a man showing off his brute strength while breaking every window on Haggard Hall's skeleton or the option of going to the library on Sunday mornings.

"We want to meet student needs but there is a cost to those needs," Olsen said.

I know the weekend is a time for fun and enjoyment, and even I have been guilty of failing to take advantage of this valuable time. The best day for people to study in the library is Sunday. Despite Saturday night escapades on the town, students will still find a use for the library on Sunday mornings, even if it is to recover from Saturday night on one of the couches.

— Josh Godfrey, Sports editor

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Brandland's bad idea

Do we need citizen patrols watching us?

COMMENTARY



Steven Uhles

Imagine patrols of ordinary citizens spying on their neighbors and turning them in for any behavior they deem suspicious.

Does this sound like some dark, Orwellian fantasy — or Whatcom County?

Welcome to the occupation. Whatcom County Sheriff Dale Brandland recently announced his department's inception of these citizen patrols.

What he has really done is officially sanction the use of vigilantes in local law enforcement.

Evidently, that whole Bernard Goetz fiasco has taught us nothing.

Brandland said patrols would scour the county in their personal cars. When they see something they believe is criminal in nature, or even just suspicious, they will radio in to the Sheriff's Department, which will send deputies to the scene.

How police state does this sound?

I thought this neighborhood

vigilance group concept had long ago been filed under Bad Idea, along with book burnings and religious oppression. It just hits a little too close to an angry mob, "Lord of the Flies" situation.

Who among us feels comfortable with the idea of a person in an unmarked car, sitting at the end of the street, sending deputies charging in because they think you look a little shifty?

Brandland said the response to the proposal has been overwhelmingly positive.

I have to wonder who he has been talking to.

My guess is this program is popular with those who think

who normally might volunteer for something like this?

How does Brandland plan on recruiting? "OK, everybody who wants to spy on their neighbors, please step up."

My guess is that the people on this patrol are going to be those we would least like to see in a position with this kind of power.

It's worrisome to imagine where this might lead. Brandland has stated that the Sheriff's Department will not arm the patrols.

Oh, that's OK then, because we all know these people won't be able to get a gun otherwise.

All it's going to take is one wacko deciding he wants to pack heat and all of a sudden we have neighbor shooting neighbor in the name of justice — the OK Corral at Bellis Fair.

Perhaps I'm being too hard on Brandland's ingenious little plan.

After all, similar programs have worked extremely well in other communities — Nazi Germany and Stalinist Russia spring to mind.

Evidently, Brandland has no problem sacrificing our personal freedom so that the county's car stereos may remain safe.

It looks like Big Brother just took another big step forward.

My guess is this program is popular with those who think they will be doing the watching — not with those who are going to be watched.

they will be doing the watching — not with those who are going to be watched.

Brandland said the citizen patrols are to be a volunteer program. Sounds like good news for all those recreational stalkers out there. Isn't that the kind of person

Letters Policy

The Western Front accepts submissions up to 250 words on any topic. We reserve the right to edit for style, grammar, punctuation, spelling and libelous content. Letters must be typed and signed and include a phone number for verification purposes.

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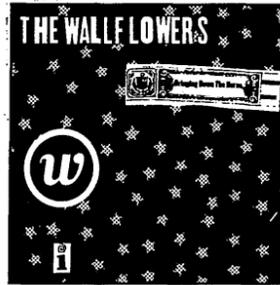
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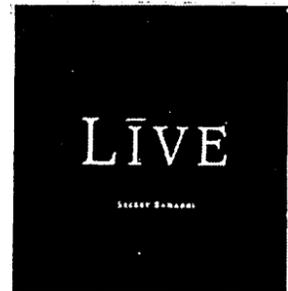
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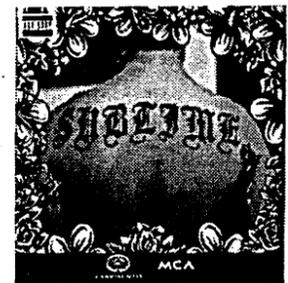
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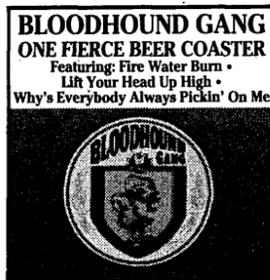
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