

The Western Front

Western Washington University

Volume 114 Issue 7

Bellingham, Washington

Gore rally draws Western students



Daniel J. Peters/The Western Front

Vice President Al Gore swept through a Paine Field hangar yesterday, touting Washington State Democratic candidates while outlining his platform and encouraging voter turnout for the Nov. 7 election. See story, Page 5.

City council debates stormwater fee hike

By Joseph Terrell
THE WESTERN FRONT

Facing federal regulations that require Bellingham to participate in regional watershed restoration efforts, the public works department asked the City Council to approve a new \$7 monthly stormwater utility tax.

Just last month, amid concern about the effect on low-income families, the City Council approved a monthly \$5 water rate increase to purchase undeveloped land in the Lake Whatcom watershed.

This new proposal would pay for federal regulations that demand the city take an active role in surface water pollution, a public works department representative said.

"Regulatory requirements seldom come with external finances," said public works assistant director Tom Rosenberg said. "If we don't comply with these regulations, we could be fined or sued."

In its presentation to city council members last Monday, the public works department said improvements are intended to meet federal regulations and local needs.

"We want a balanced agenda; in balance with regulations and community wants," public works representative Bill Reilly said.

Finance for storm and surface water control comes from one-time assessments on new construction sites and from city street funds. Now with

See PUBLIC, Page 5

Local events highlight domestic violence

County judicial candidates debate domestic violence policy

By C. Nicki Krom
THE WESTERN FRONT

According to the U.S. Department of Justice, a woman is beaten every 18 seconds in the United States. Domestic violence is a problem everywhere, including Whatcom County.

The U.S. Department of Justice defines domestic violence as a "system of coercive behaviors through which one person in an intimate relationship exerts and gains control over the other person."

"Domestic violence cases are difficult," said David Nelson, candidate for Whatcom County District Court Judge. "The crime itself seems illogical, which causes judges to be too critical of the victims."

Six nonpartisan candidates for Whatcom County District Court Judge discussed the issues surrounding domestic violence at a judges' forum Thursday night in the Harbor Center Conference Room.

The candidates, Steve Hagar, David Hunter, Nelson, Ira Uhrig, Randy Watts and Lee Grochmal, answered questions from three panelists and were each given one minute to respond.

The questions focused on the
See CANDIDATES, Page 3

Animal mutilation, family abuse connected by experts, law enforcement at community forum

By Hollie Brown
THE WESTERN FRONT

Cutting a cat in half may seem like a scene in a horror movie, but the truth about such violence is causing alarm in Whatcom County.

Last August, the upper body of a cat, Bob, was found on Newton Street. An investigation led by Bob's neighbors found pictures of abused animals similar to Bob on an animal mutilation Web site, leading investigators to believe the act was copied from the site. There have been no leads in the case.

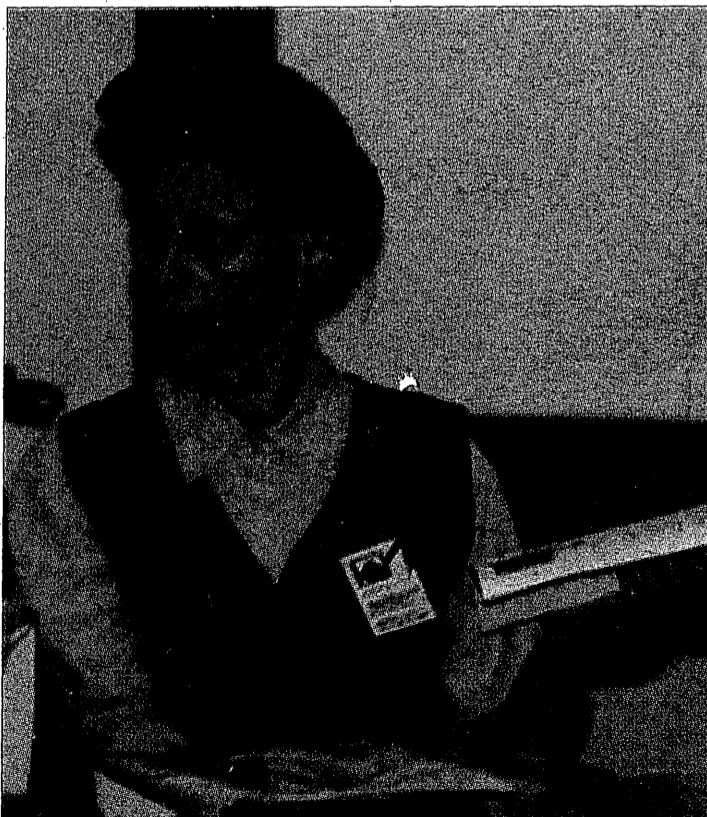
Community members met Thursday night at the Brigid Collins House to examine the effects Bob has had on the community, and the link between animal abuse and domestic violence.

"If you did that to a person, people would be in jail," said Barbara Jordan of the Whatcom Humane Society.

"What you can get out of this is bad dreams," psychologist Sylvia Thorpe said.

"Sometimes children will abuse animals because they themselves have been abused," Thorpe said.

Family chiropractor Bruce Jorgensen said 57 percent of those who have committed domestic violence have used



Matt Williams/The Western Front

Psychologist Sylvia Thorpe speaks to an audience about the relationship between animal abuse and domestic violence.

pets to abuse their families or modeled their behavior on animals.

Thorpe said when there is animal abuse or violence in the home, boys are at higher risk of being an abuser and

girls are at a higher risk of depression or suicide, but both have a higher risk of committing violent crime.

"The abuse of animals is one of the signs of being able

See VIOLENCE, Page 3

IN THIS ISSUE

RATS!

A special type of creature lurks on the basketball courts of Carver Gym at all hours of the day, known to the outside world as "gym rats."

See story, Page 10.

Alternative transportation forms



Contrary to popular belief, driving is not the only way to get to school.

See story, Page 8.

COPS BOX

University Police

Oct. 18, 7:30 p.m.: A Fairhaven dorm resident observed a male individual exposing himself. The suspect was seen standing in the woods near the Fairhaven dorms.

Oct. 20, 11:05 a.m.: A student reported a case of indecent exposure at the 400 block of South College Drive. The suspect was unknown to the student.

Oct. 20, 5:35 p.m.: A Western dining service manager reported someone may be accessing the Fairhaven dining hall after hours.

Bellingham Police

Oct. 20, 1:30 a.m.: Police cited a man standing in the alcove of The Bellingham Inn for urinating on the ground. The man said he just left the bar and needed to go to the bathroom.

Oct. 21, 11:04 p.m.: Police and fire department workers responded to a report of a car fire at the 1700 block of North State Street. The fire department put the fire out. The vehicle's owner was not at the scene nor was available for contact. The vehicle was destroyed.

Oct. 22, 3:25 a.m.: A woman gone for the day returned home she and found that some unknown person allegedly had entered her house and damaged her property in the 1100 block of Bancroft Street

Compiled by Kevin Bailey

AP WIRE NEWS BRIEFS

INTERNATIONAL NEWS

Conflict rages between Israelis, Palestinians

There's no break in street clashes between Israelis and Palestinians. Israeli security forces today are clamping down on Palestinian areas.

Meanwhile, Israel's prime minister is trying to bring hardliners into a coalition government — a move that could further reduce the chances for a peace treaty.

Talks with the Israeli opposition come just one day after Ehud Barak said he was taking a "time out" from the peace process.

Storm worsens at site of sunken Russian submarine

If weather doesn't halt the operation, divers could begin bringing up bodies from a sunken Russian nuclear submarine as early as tomorrow.

A Russian official told news agencies the work that began Friday in the Barents Sea is going according to plan, despite a gathering storm on the surface.

Over the weekend divers man-

aged to punch a hole through the sub's hull and found no sign of radiation. Since then, they've been trying to cut holes in the thick steel big enough for divers to pass through.

However, officials are worried they might have to suspend the operation if the storm gets worse.

The submarine Kursk sank Aug. 12, about 100 miles north of Russia's Arctic coast, following a still unexplained explosion. One hundred eighteen were killed.

negligent homicide.

At sentencing next month, he faces up to four years behind bars. Both were cleared of charges of intentional murder.

Two of Madeline Carmichael's other children testified against her.

The mother's attorney portrayed her as a strict but caring single parent. He said she kept the mummified body in a closet because she wanted to be near her daughter and keep the family together.

Olympia. They'll be back for more surgery to address remaining problems.

Their father, Greg Lincoln, thanked doctors and staff at the hospital and everyone who has supported the family.

Doctors are optimistic the 8-month-old twins will be able to overcome physical challenges.

The parents will be busy. In addition to the twins, they have three other children ages 3, 6 and 9.

Elephant with bun in the oven

Zookeepers at the Woodland Park Zoo in Seattle expect their pregnant elephant Chai to go into labor within the next day or two. She's been under 24-hour watch since last week.

Elephants have a 22-month gestation period and labor that can last up to 60 hours. The baby elephant will weigh more than 200 pounds.

Chai was impregnated on a visit to the Dickerson Park Zoo in Springfield, Mo.

All the other elephants at the Seattle zoo are females.

Compiled by James Cassill

NATIONAL NEWS

Mom faces life sentence for two-decade-old crime

A New York woman faces 25 years to life in prison for the beating death of her daughter — more than 20 years after the crime.

A judge in Brooklyn today convicted 61-year-old Madeline Carmichael of second-degree depraved murder in the 1979 death of her 3-year-old girl.

The girl's body was found stashed in a trunk in her mother's apartment last year.

Carmichael's 38-year-old son was found guilty of criminally

STATE NEWS

Twins go home separated





Conjoined twins Kathleen and Charity Lincoln, who were separated in a 31-hour operation three weeks ago, have been sent home from Children's Hospital in Seattle.

A team of doctors divided their liver, bowel, bladder and pelvis. Each girl has one leg.

The lead surgeon, Dr. John Waldhausen, said they are recovering more rapidly than expected.

The girls wore matching red dresses as they were wheeled to a car for the trip home to

Bellingham Weather

Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday
			
Partly cloudy, showers. High 53, low 42.	Partly cloudy. High 55, low 35.	Partly cloudy. High 52, low 40.	Partly cloudy, rain. High 55, low 44.

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Opinions and stories in the newspaper have no connection with advertising.

News content is determined by student editors. Staff reporters are enrolled in a course in the Department of Journalism, but any student enrolled at Western may offer stories to the editors.

Advertising inquiries should be directed to the business office in College Hall 07, or by phone to (360) 650-3161.

Members of the Western community are entitled to a single free copy of each issue of The Western Front.

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, via fax to X/7287, or brought in person to Commissary 113A. DO NOT SEND ANNOUNCEMENTS DIRECTLY TO THE WESTERN FRONT. Phoned announcements will not be accepted. All announcements should be signed by originator.

PLEASE POST

THE MATH PLACEMENT TEST is offered in OM 120 at 3 p.m. Oct. 30, Nov. 6, 13, 20, 27 and Dec. 4; and at 9 a.m. Nov. 2, 9, 16, 30 and Dec. 7. Registration is not required but students must bring photo identification and a No. 2 pencil. A \$10 fee must be paid in the exact amount at time of testing. Allow 90 minutes. Sample problems may be found at www.washington.edu/oea/aptp.htm. Allow 90 minutes.

PLAY AUDITIONS: A variety of women are sought to deliver the monologues for Eve Eusler's critically acclaimed play, *Vagina Monologues*. Auditions are 5 to 9 p.m. Oct. 27 and 1 to 5 p.m. Oct. 28 in the OM Theatre. Audition sign-up sheets are available in the theatre arts department. For more information, call X/7982.

A DOMESTIC VIOLENCE IN THE WORKPLACE workshop will be held at noon Oct. 30 in the Old Main Solarium. Departments are asked to send at least one manager or supervisor. Those attending the brown bag presentation are welcome to bring a lunch. For more information, call Sarah Rankin, X/7982.

THE A.S. ENVIRONMENTAL CENTER PRESENTS LOU GOLD, "Lessons from the Ancient Forest: Earth Wisdom and Political Activism," 7 p.m. Oct. 30, BH 105.

INTERNSHIP FAIR. Explore internship and volunteer opportunities at the Community Connections Internship and Service Learning Fair from 11 a.m. to 1 p.m. Nov. 2 in the PAC Lobby. Contact human services at Woodring College, X/7759, for more information.

THE ASIA UNIVERSITY AMERICA PROGRAM IS HIRING Western students to become international peer advisers for this spring/summer and the next fall/winter cycles. Applications are available in OM 530A, by calling X/3297, or by sending e-mail to Eric.Smith@wwu.edu. Applications are due in OM 530A, MS-9048, by Nov. 3.

THE MILLER ANALOGIES TEST will be in FR 4 at 2 p.m. Nov. 9 and in OM 120 at 2 p.m. Dec. 6. A \$35 fee is payable at test time. Register in OM 120 or by calling X/3080. Allow approximately 90 minutes. The MAT is not administered individually.

THE TEST FOR ENTRANCE INTO TEACHER EDUCATION will be in FR 4 at 2 p.m. Nov. 16, Dec. 7 and Jan. 18. A \$25 fee must be paid in the exact amount at time of registration in OM 120. TETEP is not administered on an individual basis. Winter admission deadline: Oct. 31. **PSYCHOLOGY 352, CHILD DEVELOPMENT AND EDUCATION**, may be taken on the World Wide Web. There is no scheduled class time. Study at home or in the lab. Prereq: Psych 351 or concurrent. Students cannot earn credit for both Psych 316 and 352. To register, call X/3717 or send e-mail to Professional.Development@wwu.edu.

THE FOLLOWING GROUP OFFERINGS are available through the Counseling Center fall quarter: •General Counseling, 3 to 5 p.m., requires pre-group screening; •Overcoming Math Frustration, 3 to 5 p.m. Nov. 6 and 13; •Relaxation Training Class, drop-in group, 3 p.m. Thursdays, attend any or all sessions; •Managing Loss: Dealing with Trauma and Grief after Suicide, five sessions, time and day to be announced; •Take Back Your Body Support Group, drop-in group, noon Thursdays. For more information, stop by OM 540 or call X/3164.

On-campus recruiting

Mervyn's (Assets Protection), Thursday, Oct. 26. Submit résumé and sign up for interview in OM 280. Attend information session at 7 p.m. Oct. 25 in OM 280. Enter the building using the front door on the north end of the building.

Andersen Consulting, Wednesday, Nov. 8. Submit résumé, cover letter, Andersen Consulting application, and unofficial transcript to OM 280 by Oct. 30. Attend information session in PH 228 from 6 to 8 p.m. Oct. 28.

Target Stores, Wednesday, Nov. 1. Submit résumé and sign up for interview in OM 280.

All materials should be submitted through Career Services Center, OM 280, unless otherwise stated. For more information, call X/2944 or stop by OM 280.

Candidates disagree on jailing for domestic violence

From CANDIDATES, Page 1
issues of domestic violence and courtroom safety in Whatcom County.

"Violence is the single largest threat to our humanity," candidate Hunter said, when asked about the importance of strict prosecution of defendants accused of domestic violence.

Candidate Watts offered the idea of a "victimless trial," a trial in which an "excited utterance" (a heat-of-the-moment statement given by the victim), pictures, emergency room records and further police evidence can be used in place of the abused having to testify.

"Judges have been the biggest problem in effectively trying domestic violence cases because they are operating on assumptions of re-integrating the family," Hunter said. "The cycle of abuse needs to be broken as quickly as possible."

The candidates split when the panel asked whether batterers' treatment or jail offered the best deterrent for domestic violence



Kevin Bailey/ The Western Front

Judicial candidates fielded questions from concerned citizens as part of domestic violence awareness month.

offenders.

Grochmal said it is important to look at the roots of domestic violence when choosing the proper punishment.

"Jail time serves no purpose, offenders need batterers and relationship dynamics treatment," Grochmal said.

Candidate Ira Uhrig disagreed. "Batterers need to be held accountable. Sometimes they just need jail food."

Uhrig said in some cases, treatment does not work and jail time is necessary.

The candidates cited the absence of basic safety precautions, such as metal detectors, as a grave threat to all involved in a courtroom proceeding.

"There is not a month that goes by I don't leave the courtroom without fearing for myself or my client," Hunter said.

Violence toward animals a cause for concern, according to police

From VIOLENCE, page 1

to abuse people," lieutenant Dac Jamison said. "Somebody could turn into a serial killer. It doesn't mean they would, but they could."

Both of the boys who killed the students at Columbine High School abused animals, Thorpe said.

"People will abuse their animals in public like they used to abuse their children before Child Protective Services came along," Thorpe said.

The same way animals may take the abuse, they may also help people survive abuse because they can attach to an animal, Thorpe said.

"When kids or adults are doing this, they have no empathy," Thorpe said.

Jordan said she makes house calls to investigate reports of animal abuse. She said she checks for food, shelter, water and the health of

the animal.

"People hate me, but by the time I'm done they say 'thank you, I didn't know there was a concern,'" Jordan said.

"We've all had cases that come in that you wonder about," veterinarian John Berry said. "The most common is chronic neglect."

Berry said he had a case of neglect where a dog starved to death because a larger, dominant dog was eating the food for both dogs. He said the owners didn't know why the dog was losing so much weight.

Berry said when animals come in that have been abused, there is nothing obvious about them to know for sure that they were abused. Berry said you can only suspect abuse has happened.

"In the last few years, I never thought this would be a bigger problem," Berry said.

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Newsmakers

People making an impact around Western

Cyndi Adams

Crossing guard

By Darren Zaccaria
WESTERN FRONT

On Western's south campus where 21st Street meets West College Way, stands a traffic director, decked out in an orange reflective jacket, yellow hardhat and matching yellow gloves.

Cyndi Adams' hands are constantly in motion, directing the flow of cars and letting students know when it's safe to cross the street.

The need for a traffic director arose when city officials noticed how busy the intersection was.

They informed Thomco Construction, the company working on Bill McDonald Parkway, that someone needed to direct traffic during school hours.

"Since Bill McDonald Parkway is closed off, more people are driving through this intersection than there normally would be," Adams said. "I'm out here to make sure student pedestrians and drivers make it through safely."

Adams directs traffic Monday through Friday, from 7:30 a.m. to 4:00 p.m.

Being out in the intersection, Adams said she can see why there is a need for a traffic director.

"I notice when I'm not out here, that sometimes people go really fast down West College Way," Adams said. "This is a danger to other students, so I'm glad I can be out here controlling the amount of cars going through the intersection."

Many students have begun to notice a difference she has made since starting last week.

"It makes sense to have someone out here directing traffic, because this is a busy intersection," Western student Ryan Barshaw said. "It really helps us out because we can cross this street easily and safely."

"Many students don't realize that there are stop signs in the intersection and that can be dangerous," Western student Paula Raymond said.

"I think it's great that she is here, to make sure that everyone gets to where they're going safely," she said.

Adams says she insists student safety is her biggest concern, even though her own safety is endangered when she's in the middle of the intersection.

"This job can be hazardous, because when I'm out here I face the crosswalk, making it hard to see the cars behind me," Adams said. "A couple of people almost



Cyndi Adams waves a car through on a sunny Monday morning at the intersection of West Campus Way and West College Way.

Angela D. Smith/The Western Front

ran into me, which was pretty scary, but I was fine."

Until the reopening of Bill McDonald Parkway in December, Adams will continue to direct traffic.

Adams said Thomco Construction hopes the Bill

McDonald parkway will be reopened in January. Adams said Thomco Construction predicts due to the reopening, about a third of the traffic in the intersection will no longer be there.

For now, Adams said she will continue working to make sure

everyone is safe in the intersection. She said she appreciates the smiles and thank-yous she receives.

"Most of the students here at Western have been really nice to me. It makes my job easier knowing they appreciate me," she said.

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Students board buses for Democrat rally

By Andrea Abney
THE WESTERN FRONT

Russell Greisler said he got on the bus because he "wanted to keep on top of what's happening."

Steve Brockett said he "just wanted to learn a little bit more about how the political process works."

Stevi Boskovich simply wanted to shake Al Gore's hand.

These three Western students joined approximately 37 other students and 40 Whatcom County community members who piled into two charter buses Monday morning to drive to Everett and participate in a Democratic Party rally. The trip, sponsored by the Whatcom County Democrats, was free to participants who wanted to see

deputy field coordinator Christian Gunter explained the reason for Monday morning's trip.

"It's a two-front approach," Gunter said. "First of all, clearly we've got to get the vote out for Al Gore this year, but we also need to get the students motivated. This is a very close race and clearly we need to get the students. Their vote probably will come down to change the face of this race."

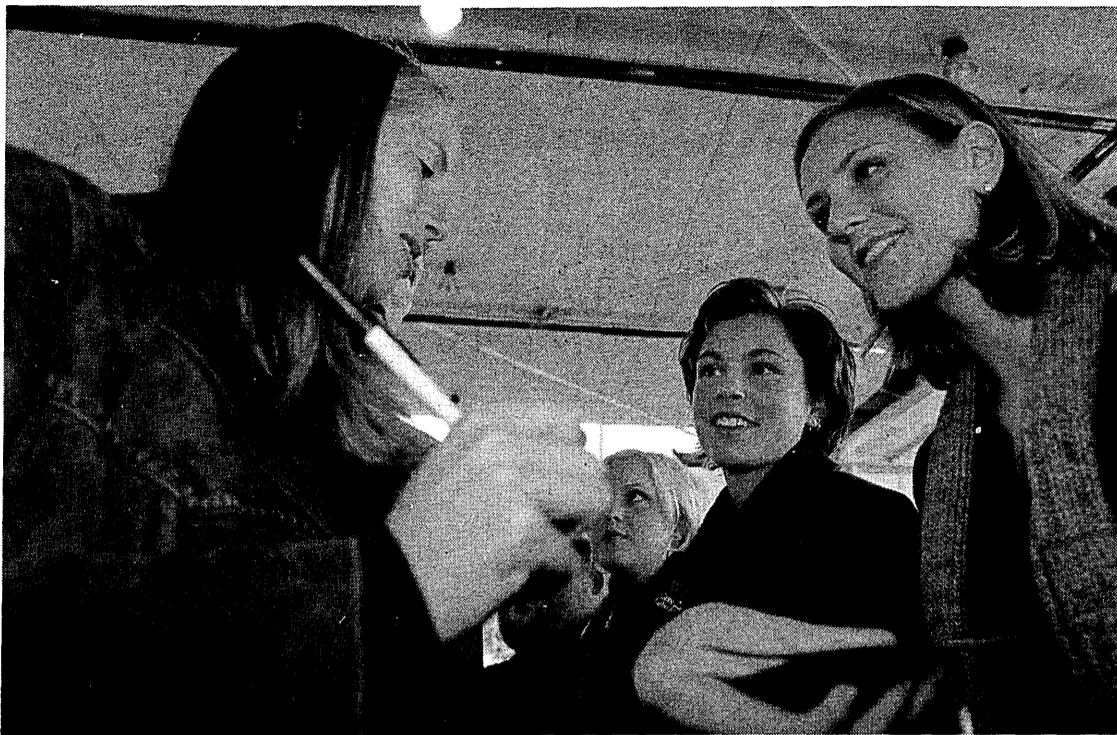
The 80 people on the trip joined hundreds of others at Paine Field in Everett to greet, among others, Attorney General Christine Gregoire, Rep. Jay Inslee, Rep. Norm Dicks, Rep. Jim McDermott, congressional candidate Rick Larsen, Murray and senatorial candidate Maria Cantwell.

Each discussed issues they said are critical to this year's election, including reducing the budget, social security and the makeup of the U.S. Supreme Court.

"Who wants the Supreme Court to look like Anthony Scalia and Clarence Thomas for the next 30 years?" McDermott asked the crowd.

The sign-waving crowd, representing everyone from elementary school children to senior citizens, chanted "Gore to the core" as the sounds of U2 cued the vice president's entrance.

Gore spoke for approximately 45 minutes about issues ranging



Kristen Gore (left) signs autographs for Western students Stevi Boskovich and Mariah Pallansch. Boskovich and Pallansch were among 40 students who travelled to Everett in support of Rick Larson and the Whatcom Democratic Party.

Daniel J. Peters/The Western Front

from raising minimum wage to curbing special interests, while promising to protect the environment and making jokes at his own expense.

"I know I won't always be the most exciting politician," Gore said.

The event's main theme was Washington's importance as a battleground state. Inslee, Larsen and Gore all told the

audience to recruit undecided voters and to try to persuade those who may vote independent. Several audience members, many of them independent voters, reiterated that idea.

"I think what's really exciting is that Washington has become such a key battleground state in the presidential election and this race is so close that in a state like Washington, the voters here could make a difference in who's the president," Barry Berry, a congressional candidate from the 37th district, said. "I'm an independent, actually. I'm waiting to hear what he (Gore) has to say before I make my decision."

"Vice President Gore is here in Washington state to make sure all of us know how important it is to get out and get Al Gore elected," Murray said.

"Every vote counts," Gore spokeswoman Tovah Ravitz said. "(Gore's) coming out here, Sen. Lieberman's going to come out. They're not writing it off. They need to get people motivated."

After the rally, several

Western students reflected on the event.

"I was expecting a great turnout, like we got," graduate student Chip Smith said. "It was just a great turnout to get people motivated and vote for Gore."

"I'm pretty sure I'm not going to vote for Bush, but it's probably between Ralph and Gore."

Stevi Boskovich
Western student

"I was really impressed," sophomore Merissa Gremminger said. "I felt like he was really impressive in front of the audience and had a great voice."

Despite the "impressive" show, most of the undecided students who attended Monday's rally said the outing didn't help make up their minds.

"I'm pretty sure I'm not going to vote for Bush, but it's probably between Ralph and Gore," Boskovich said.

“Who wants the Supreme Court to look like Anthony Scalia and Clarence Thomas for the next 30 years?”

Jim McDermott
State Rep. D-Wash.

first-hand some of Washington state's leading democratic candidates, including U.S. Sen. Patty Murray and Vice President Gore.

Whatcom County Democrats

CONGRATULATIONS

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Public works department looks to increase education, spending on clean-water efforts

From WATER, Page 1

federal regulations mandating increased efforts, Rosenberg said. These sources will no longer be able to fund storm- and surface-water control.

"We can't continue to finance this 'out of the street fund,'" Reilly said.

Surface water pollution comes from streets and property water runoff that drains into Lake Whatcom.

The public works department, in an effort to comply with federal regulations, is looking to increase the amount spent on clean water efforts.

In asking for the storm water utility tax, the public works department said it understood how hard it will be for council members to raise taxes again. The city must, however, comply with federal regulations under the Endangered Species Act and the rules that require states and their cities to increase water-cleaning efforts to protect habitat and provide for safer drinking water.

If implemented, the stormwater utility tax would appear as a third item on the bimonthly water and sewage bill combined with a water rate increase, Bellingham residents could face a \$24 increase in their two-month bill, from \$84.50 to \$108.50.

Western students and employees also will be affected by any rate increase. At minimum, those living a single-family home will see a \$10 increase in its water and sewage bill.

"I want clean water and am willing to pay for it," a Western librarian Jolene Soadt said. "I am not happy with the bill going up, but I want clean water."

Western student Larry Tates echoed the same sentiments. "If they got to do it, then they

got to do it," he said.

He said the increase would affect his budget, but as part of the community, Western students cannot be exempt from taxes that go toward city improvement.

But city council members have been slow to act on a the proposal. Last Monday, they delayed the vote on the stormwater utility tax for the second time.

Now the council will decide in November on whether or not to impose the tax.

"All of us still have a lot of questions; in particular businesses and the rates that they will have to pay," council member Bob Ryan said.

Ryan said property owners and businesses that have lots larger than 3,000 sq. ft. had raised concerns. With the wording of the bill, these properties would be charged a prorated amount with \$7 as the base.

Ryan said many businesses already have made the stormwater runoff improvements. The stormwater utility tax would have the effect of charging some businesses twice for the improvements.

According to the public works department, control measures will include stormwater detention and treatment ponds, better maintenance and monitoring of public and private stormwater collection and treatment centers.

The public works department also stressed increased education of the community about ways to keep pollutants out of storm water, increased street sweeping, better monitoring of illegal connections to pipelines, and improved inspections and enforcement of regulations.

The public works department said annual costs of the control measures are estimated to cost the city \$4.5 million.

STRANGE DAYS

Bare-breasted poet takes on loggers

A California performance artist has launched what she hopes will be a new women's movement against logging ancient redwoods — baring her breasts and reciting poetry to stunned timber crews.

Dona Nieto, who goes by the name "La Tigresa," has brought what she calls "Goddess-based, nude Buddhist guerrilla poetry" to timber and logging sites in an area 120 miles north of San Francisco.

Police bust its sponsors — a strip club

Police in the northern Greek city of Thessaloniki raided the Tutti Frutti strip club — only to discover it was a major sponsor of its union magazine.

During the Wednesday raid six women employees were arrested and detained on suspicion of being illegal immigrants.

But a few hours later, police officers were red-faced, discovering the club was a financial backer of its bi-monthly magazine "Police Forum".

"This club should not advertise in our magazine on ethical grounds and most of all, it should not be called a sponsor," said George Sourvinos, a board member of the Thessaloniki police officers' union.

Web surfer helps save man in Scotland

Paramedics in western Canada helped save a man in Scotland from dying of a drug and alcohol overdose after being alerted by a Canadian who had learned of the man's condition while in an Internet chat room.

A Scottish man was asking for help in the chat room after taking an overdose of Valium and alcohol while depressed.

Compiled by Ryan Bentz

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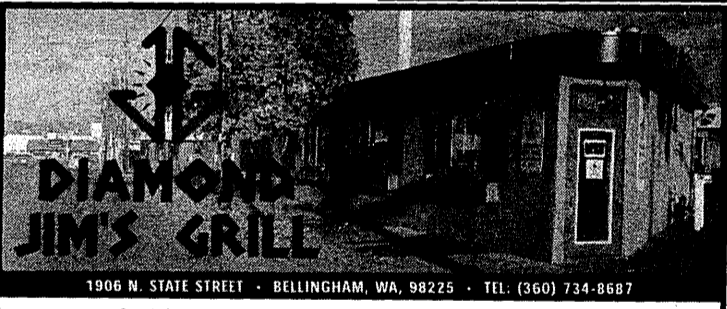
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See *WWU Bulletin* for explanation of GURs.

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Western men stand up against violence

By Darren Zaccaria
THE WESTERN FRONT

To Brain Pahl of Western Men Against Violence, American society often defines a "real man" as tough, independent and invulnerable.

"If you ask a person 'What does it mean to be a man?' often times they say things like being strong, tough, doesn't show emotion, doesn't cry and various other characteristics and stereotypes associated with men," Pahl, coordinator for WMAV said. "These stereotypes really limit us from being complete people."

WMAV is a group trying to combat the negative stereotypes, which the members say are associated with being masculine.

WMAV started as Western Men Against Rape six years ago.

"At the beginning of 2000, we changed our name because there was a shift to address multiple forms of violence, not just domestic and sexual," Pahl said.

One point WMAV likes to emphasize is the need for men to take responsibility for their actions.

"One of the things that I say that is really blatant, is that I have ultimate responsibility for what I do with my penis. It doesn't come off, it doesn't have a remote control or a mind of its own ... I make it do what it does," Pahl said. "It may be explicit, but that's one way that we can take accountability for ourselves, in making a commitment to being non-violent."

The members say they have to deal with the problem that many men are raised and taught to believe to be a man, they need a certain personality with underlying traits. WMAV members say they feel it can be difficult for men to break that mold.

"It is undeniable that as a man, I have been told by hundreds of so-called role models that 'crying is for sissies,' that 'women are simply objects' or that 'violence is acceptable to defend my masculinity,'" WMAV member Brent Olson said.

"I'm not saying that every role model tries to send this message, and I'm certainly not saying that every man grows up to believe it. The problem lies in the fact that these ideas are out there and there is virtually no boy who grows up without being told them."

WMAV members say they seek to discredit these stereotypes.

"Men are born with the ability to cry, to feel a whole range of emotions and express all those emotions, but the way we are raised teaches us to cut off those parts of ourselves and that can be dangerous," Pahl said. "Men have the ability to be non-violent and most men are. Most of the time the violence we hear of is perpetrated by a small number of men."

Members of WMAV said they agree that change can occur, and they remain optimistic.

"The first step is realizing who you are and how you as an individual have been socialized as a man," Olson said. "From

that point, it is an individual choice if a change needs to be made or not."

WMAV has eight members, and although Pahl feels this is a good start, he said they need more in order to achieve their goals.

WMAV will host a retreat on Saturday for any student who would like to learn more about the group.

"The retreat is really a way for us to expand our membership, while being a place to get together in a supportive, healthy atmosphere and build relationships based on communication, openness, and other traits not typically associated with men," Pahl said.

WMAV members say it may not be easy to change mindsets and stereotypes, but they are determined to keep trying.

"I do strongly believe that any man who wants to can change himself," Olson said. "If we get enough support, we may have a chance at making a change in Western's community."

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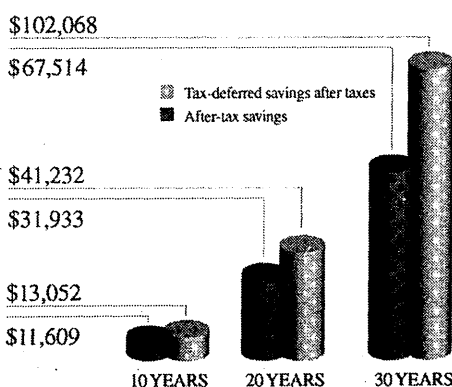
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Thrift store that gives more

By Taylor Phifer

THE WESTERN FRONT

A local mother-daughter team is fulfilling their dreams of owning a clothing store and helping the community.

At the north end of Fairhaven, past coffee shops, travel agencies and bike stores is a world of colorful art, lavish jewelry and an eclectic clothing collection.

Behind an unpretentious sign with an amiable green smiley face and through a wooden lattice is the entrance to the Community Thrift Store.

Jaimie Berg and her mother Brianne own and operate the store.

They said their mission is to have an affordable vintage clothing store that funds a nonprofit organization dedicated to providing orthodontic care and those in need.

"We knew we wanted to have a store and follow our dream," Jaimie said. "We also wanted to provide a good cause and help the community."

In December 1998, Jaimie started Together Making a Difference (T-MAD). Its goal is to provide orthodontic care in Whatcom County for families who can not afford it.

The organization targets children and young adults between 11 and 19, she said.

Rather than petitioning the state for a grant to start T-MAD, the Bergs are taking a more unorthodox route by

using their store.

After rent and utilities are paid, all profits the store makes each month are put into a fund-raising account for T-MAD, she said.

"It's a different way of starting a nonprofit," Jaimie said. "Rather than trying to get a grant, we are using the store as our form of fund-raising."

The Bergs said they are getting a lesson in business by starting the store.

"Idealism is one thing and the realistic part — to put your dream into action — is that there are many, many details," Brianne said. "The devil is in the details."

The organization needs enough funds to operate and provide its service while knowing it will not run out of money, Brianne said.

The store's funds are not enough to make arrangements with local orthodontists. But with increasing sales and growing popularity, in a couple of years their dream will become a reality, they said.

"Orthodontists and dentists, as you know, want money up front," Brianne said. "We are not yet in a position to do this."

The Bergs said they have started a waiting list for people who are interested, and have filled many spots. At this time it is at an application stage.

For now, the Bergs say the store needs donations of clothing, jewelry and artwork, as well as volunteers to help out.

The store is located at 1102 Finnegan Way in Fairhaven, and is open from 12:30 to 6:30 p.m. Monday through Saturday.

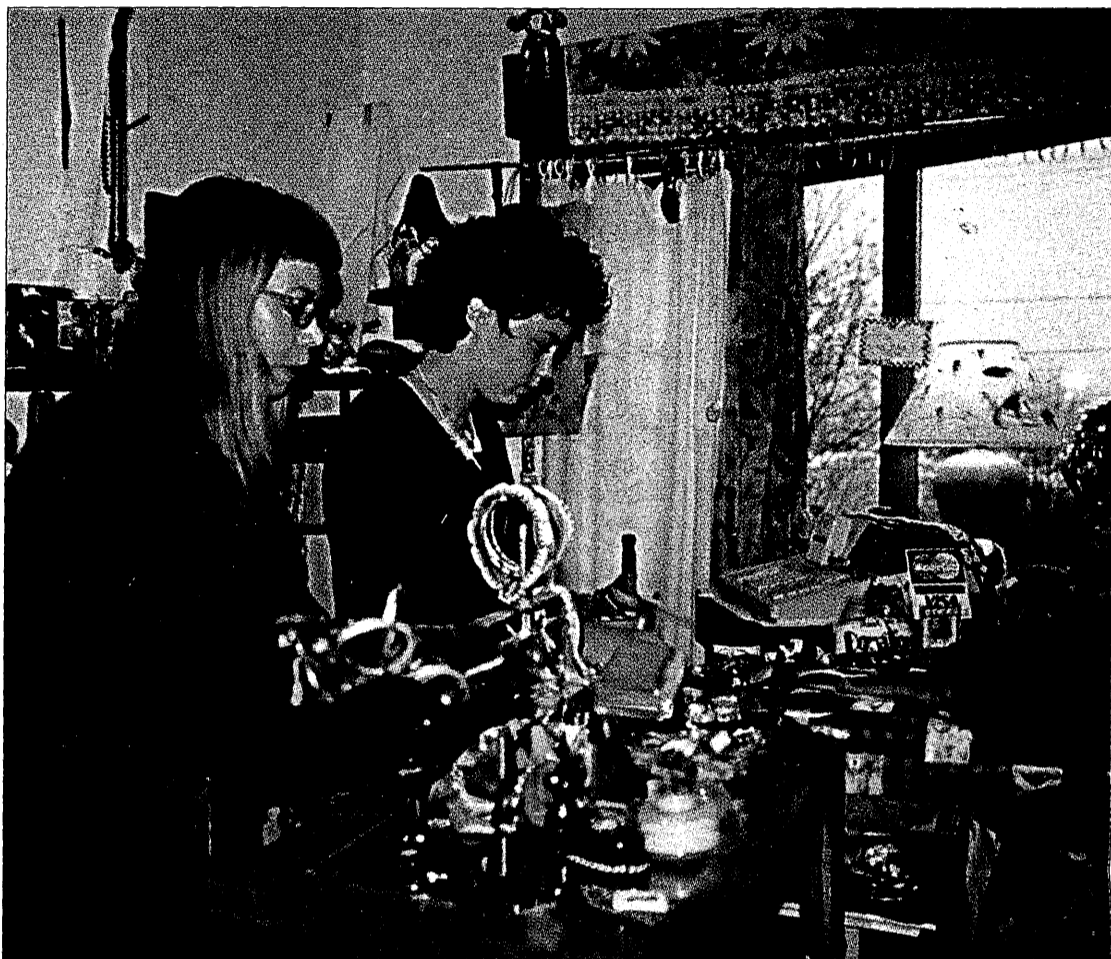
They run sales on a monthly basis and prices range from a

few dollars to \$20 to \$30 for the nicer vintage items.

Roslyn Williams, from Vancouver, Wash., is a first-time shopper at the store.

"I've been in vintage for many years and any new place

I go, I head for the nearest vintage store," she said. "This place is really something. They have a great collection of hard to find, fun stuff. Plus, it is doing something to benefit a good cause."



Jaimie and mother Brianne Berg put together an outfit for display in their community thrift store.

Shelly McPherson/ The Western Front

Western students find other way

Bikes, buses and carpools — sensible alternatives to congested roads

By Jackie Martin

THE WESTERN FRONT

Twice as many vehicles will choke our streets and highways by 2020, according to the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency.

Automobiles are the leading source of air pollution in Western Washington, reported the Whatcom Transit Authority Web site.

According to the EPA, the average passenger car annually emits 10,000 pounds of carbon dioxide and 606 pounds of car-

bon monoxide, among other poisonous gasses.

"Driving our cars is the single most polluting thing we do as humans," said Carol Berry, Western's alternative transportation representative.

Students said concern for the environment and congestion is just several reasons thousands of Western students journey to school each day on foot, bike, board and bus.

As of Oct. 11, 3,299 students, faculty and staff owned Viking Express passes.

Robin Switzer, a graduate student studying geography, pedals two miles to school each day.

"I ride my bike to conserve energy and reduce pollution," Switzer said, removing his helmet in front of the Environmental Studies building. "Biking is also good exercise."

Colleen Phutillo bikes about three miles to school from Toledo Street. She said she likes the exercise and didn't want to spend money on a bus pass.

She said she would like to see more people who drive carpool to school.

"I think the university should promote carpooling more," Phutillo said. "Maybe make it cheaper for people who carpool to park."

Western offers a small incentive for

those who choose to carpool.

A quarterly parking pass for general and reserved lots costs \$61, while a quarterly carpool-parking pass costs \$42.

"People are very receptive to carpooling especially if they live in the same house," Berry said. "All the carpool lots are full."

Some students, like environmental science major J.D. Estes, say they find carpooling difficult.

"No one seems to have the same schedule as me," Estes said. "Maybe next quarter, my roommates and I will have similar schedules so it will work out better to carpool."

"Carpooling and other alternative forms

"We've all been conditioned to think we need to use our cars."

Carol Berry

Western alternative transportation rep.

of transportation take extra planning," Berry said. "We've all been conditioned to think we need to use our cars."

One of Berry's jobs as Western's alternative transportation representative is to



Photos by Isaac Sherrer/ The Western Front

Many Western students ride the bus as an alternative to driving.

'End is near' warns pastor

By Greg Woehler
THE WESTERN FRONT

An hour into his lecture "The Subversion of America," Bryon Corbett seemed to be in full command of his audience. Gathered at Fairhaven Middle School Saturday night, the crowd was still and silent, except when rifling through their Bibles and adding interjections of "Amen!"

Corbett said his message was vitally important to the audience members; they must heed his teachings, or pay the ultimate price on Judgement Day.

"Who's behind all these school shootings and teen pregnancies?" he asked. "It's Satan, that's who!"

"Satan, pusher of the marijuana called maliciousness! Satan, pusher of the heroin of hatred!"

The lecture dealt with the subtle ways Satan has infiltrated what Corbett called "our post-Christian society."

He said far too many people, including

“Who's behind all these school shootings and teen pregnancies? It's Satan, that's who!”

Byron Corbett
Bible prophecy lecturer

devout Christians, ignore the 10 Commandments and have gone astray because of their "fallen and perverted natures that lead to immorality and sin."

Satan has turned the United States into a land where there are no standards of right and wrong, Corbett said.

"It's relativism, it's all gray here," he said. "Every person is becoming a law unto themselves."

"Look at bisexuality," he continued. "It's sick, friends. It's disgusting." He said bisexuals and those who condone their

behavior send the message that "it doesn't matter what sex your partner is, as long as you're having a good time."

Saturday's lecture was the sixth of a 21-part lecture series, "Discoveries in Revelation," sponsored by Amazing Facts Ministry of Sacramento, Calif.

The purpose of the lecture series is to prepare people for the end of the world, which Corbett said he believes will happen in the next 30 to 40 years.

"We are experiencing a massive increase in the number of earthquakes, floods and famines," he said. "The end will definitely happen within our lifetime."

Corbett spent Monday and Tuesday nights speaking about the coming of the Antichrist, referring to the New Testament book of Revelation and Daniel from the Old Testament.

The book of Daniel describes four mythical beasts, each of which represents a nation. The first three are Babylon, Medo-Persia and Greece. The fourth beast, or nation, is the Antichrist.

Corbett said Daniel lists 10 characteristics of this nation. It is described as being very small and located in western Europe.

This nation has a man at its head who speaks for it and blasphemes God, Corbett said. Blasphemy is the act of claiming to be one with God or claiming to speak for God.

Corbett said these characteristics could only describe the pope, and this leads to the inevitable conclusion the Roman Catholic Church is the Antichrist.

This interpretation comes directly from the text of the Bible and from the teachings of the founder of Protestantism, Martin Luther, Corbett said.

Christopher Berry, Lutheran campus pastor at Western's Shalom Center, bristled at the idea that Corbett was quoting the teachings of Martin Luther.

"At no time did Luther say the (Catholic) church was the Antichrist," he said.

He said Luther criticized some practices by one specific pope as "unchristian," but never condemned the whole church.



Angela D. Smith/ The Western Front
Bryon Corbett asks the packed Fairhaven Middle School crowd to pray with him at the end of Saturday's seminar, "Subversion of America."

"He was a Catholic priest. He'd never want to burn that bridge," Berry said.

"Luther didn't even think Revelation should be a part of the Bible," Berry said.

"Revelation was written by a man named John in prison and was written in coded language, and we don't have the key. It's beyond our knowing what the beast represents," Berry said.

While leading the audience in prayer, Corbett asked for forgiveness if he offended anyone. He said he wanted all in attendance to understand that it is the institution of the church indicted by scripture, not the followers of Catholicism.

Asked if he would feel any responsibility if a member of the audience reacted critically or violently toward Catholics because of his lecture, Corbett said, "That's a risk I take, but the word of God takes that risk."

I'm just spreading His message."

Kathy Ernst, a pastoral associate at Bellingham's Assumption Catholic Church agreed with Berry's assessment, saying the books of Revelation and Daniel are open to many different interpretations.

"You can't interpret symbols neutrally," Ernst said. "When you try to apply meaning to anything symbolic, you're dealing with your own biases and prejudices."

Ernst said Corbett focuses on one part of scripture and ignoring others, which leads to incorrect conclusions.

"To take one part of the text and ignore the rest is to do great violence to it," she said. She said such methods also can lead to acts of violence.

Corbett's lecture series continues for the next two weeks, starting nightly at 7 p.m.

to come and go

on, parking nightmares

help people coordinate carpools and vanpools.

She also advises students about other transportation options such as buses and bicycling.

"My job is to ensure people understand that there are alternatives to driving. I don't think driving is wrong. It's wrong when people aren't given other choices. As more people demand more choices, the democratic system will come into play and more choices will be provided," Berry said.

Western is continuously exploring ways to get people out of their cars and onto bicycles or other means of transportation, said Jim Shaw, chief of University Police and director of the department of public safety.

"We're looking at putting in bike trails and bike kiosks," Shaw said. "My concept is several covered, secure bicycle kiosks, well-lit and strategically placed in different areas around campus."

"The biggest thing we're doing this year is the \$15 Viking Express pass, which allows students to use any WTA bus within the county," he said. "We've had the campus express for four years and it's grown every year," Shaw said.

Despite the drawbacks, driving to school still seems to be a popular choice

among Western students and staff.

The Western campus has a total of 3,511 parking spaces. The school sells two and a half permits for each available space in the C lots.

"Getting people out of their cars is hard," said Rick Nicholson, WTA transportation services specialist. "You can make bus fares lower, and that helps, but to a pretty small degree in the broader scheme of things."

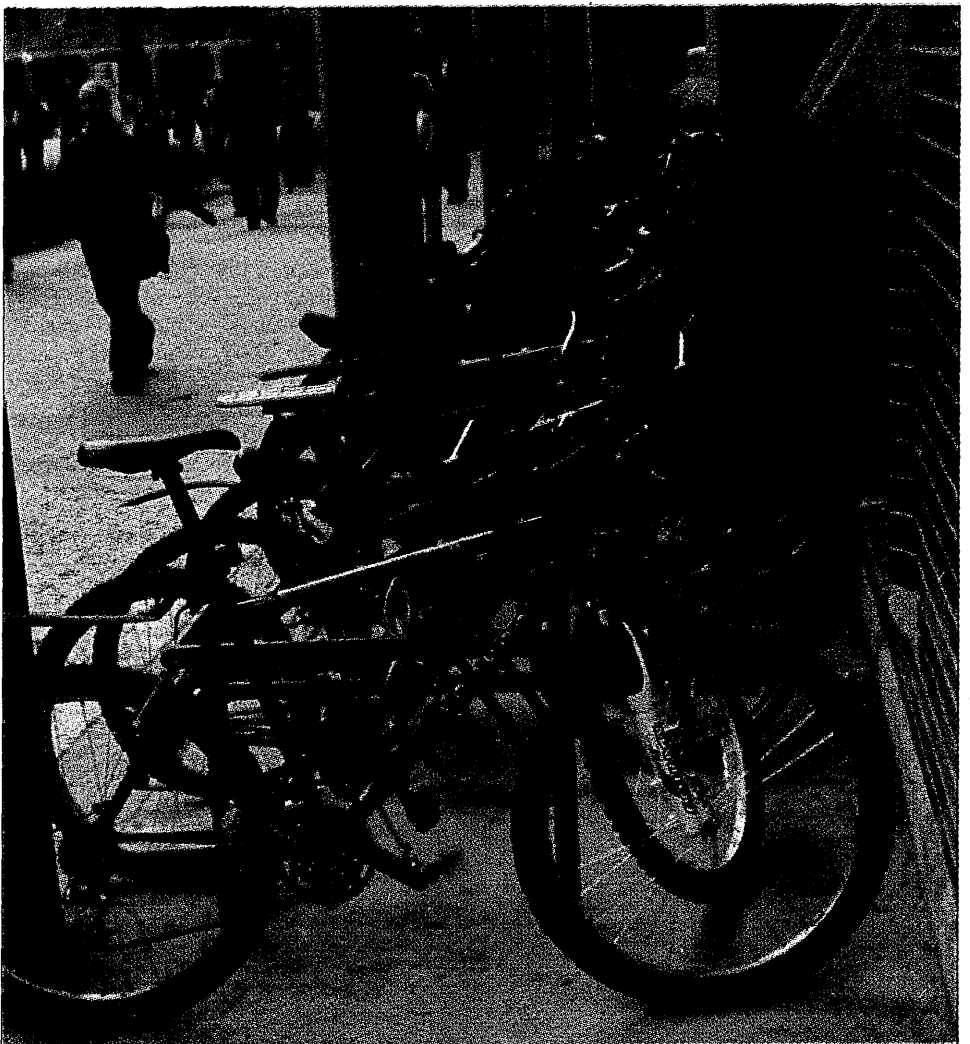
Nicholson said he feels only a major change will noticeably affect traffic congestion.

"To really get a significant number of people out of their cars to where you could notice it on the streets, it's going to take something beyond our control, like the doubling of gas prices."

"The car is just too convenient for too many people. Public transit has a hard time competing with that," Nicholson said.

Chief Shaw agreed passenger vehicles are an inescapable fact of civilization, at least for now.

"Some people drive out of necessity, some people drive out of convenience. You're never going to do away with the car," Shaw said. "This is the code of the old West. My horse, my car."



Bicycles are a popular form of transportation for students who live close to campus.

Rats in the gym?

'Gym rats' spend endless hours in Carver Gym for love the of their game — hoops

By James Lyon
THE WESTERN FRONT

To some, Carver Gym is a place where athletic teams hold court or where that one-credit badminton class takes place. To others, it is a church of basketball where they pay their respects to the game.

The sound of squeaking Nikes and bouncing basketballs echo constantly through the gym. The same people shoot jumpers or practice dribbling, honing their skills. Sure, there are new faces from time to time, but those who come religiously are the true ballers. They are the gym rats.

"Playing hoop 24/7 in the gym, dreaming about it," junior Tom Misiewicz said. "Not making it to the NBA or nothing, but just playing ball. You've got to work on your game 24/7. You can't shoot around one day a week and call yourself a gym rat."

Misiewicz said he plays two to three hours a day, but it doesn't end there. He said he watches basketball for another five to six hours, hoping to pick up things he can apply to his own game.

"It's not just about playing, it's also about studying the game," he said.

To mesh schoolwork and bas-

ketball, he often brings his books to the gym, what he said is his most comfortable environment.

To the casual observer, basketball may just seem like a game played for fun, but to Misiewicz, it is an integral part of life.

"It's what drives me in life, it keeps me going every day," Misiewicz said. "When I step on the court, I forget about everything that's going on in my life. I just concentrate on the ball and the game."

As much as Misiewicz has played basketball, a fellow gym rat has by far logged more minutes on the court.

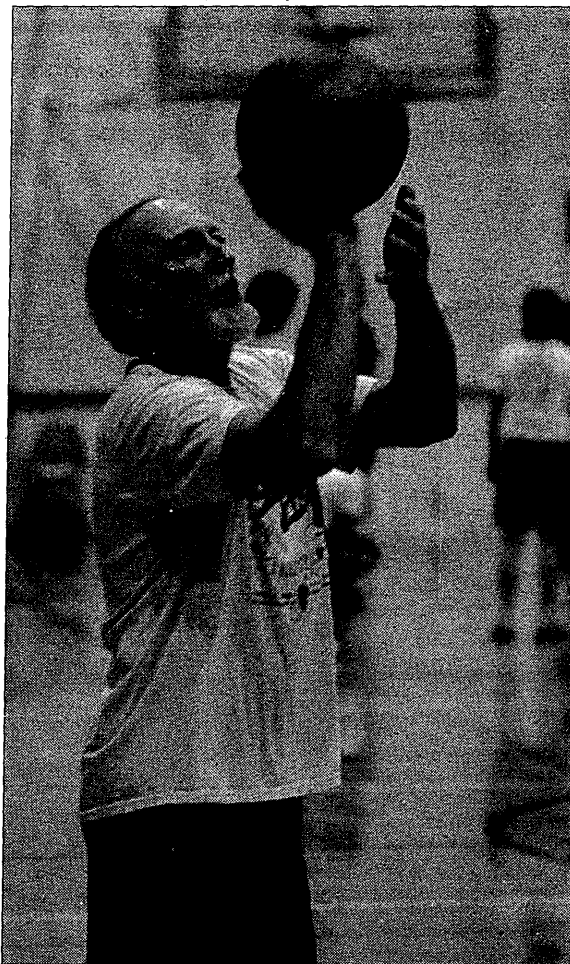
Ernie Adamson, 64, plays basketball almost everyday, as he has for 30 years. He's there every night shooting jumpers, taking charges and getting a workout.

Adamson doesn't play for the competition or the glory.

"I just love to play basketball," Adamson said.

Adamson said he has seen a lot of basketball in those 30 years. He's played here through two generations and seen the game evolve on the same court.

"I've gone through a lot of different groups," he said. "They come back in 10 years and say 'Hey, you were here when I was



Career gym rat Ernie Adamson takes a shot in Carver Gym Monday night. Adamson has played basketball nearly every night in Carver since retiring in 1996, and has played basketball every day for the past 30 years.

Daniel J. Peters/The Western Front

here playing."

Adamson's love for the game has never died since his team won the state championship in 1954 and he said he never will stop playing.

Adamson and Misiewicz are created in the same mold. They

love to play basketball, take being gym rats seriously.

"It's a serious job," Misiewicz said. "It's a job you got to live everyday. You just can't say you're gonna be a gym rat and not do anything about it. You've got to come out and play."

Quick Hits

Ruggers top UPS

Led by two tries each from Nicole Ferguson and Maria Mooney, the women's rugby team beat the University of Puget Sound 40-0 Saturday in Tacoma.

Fullback Sarah Schenck, Kammi Lopez, Laura White and Christy Wong also scored.

Hogs fall to Cougs

Western's men's rugby team fell 31-23 in a conference game Saturday at Washington State University.

Matt Majorowicz led Western with two tries. Three other players also scored.

Both the men's and women's rugby teams will play Saturday in Ferndale for Hogfest V.

Runners take 3rd, 5th

Led by Zach Boteiho's sixth place finish, Western's men's cross country team placed third at Saturday's PacWest Championships in Seattle.

Megan Clancy finished 14th to lead Western's women, who finished fifth. Marta Bednarczyk took 34th.

Boteiho's finish earned him all-conference honors. Martin Ranney took 17th.

Vikes fall in Oregon

By James Lyon
THE WESTERN FRONT

Adam Bledsoe threw a 37-yard touchdown pass with 3:30 left, to lift Western Oregon University to a 20-16 upset of nationally ranked Western Saturday in Monmouth, Ore.

The loss snapped Western's five-game win streak and dropped its record to 5-2, including its first conference loss.

"This loss puts us behind the eight ball for the CFA title, but we still determine our road to the playoffs," Western coach Rob Smith said. "We now got to win out, and that means beating UC-Davis at home."

The Wolves improved its record to 5-3 overall and 1-0 in conference play.

Western's offense, which had averaged more than 400 yards and nearly 40 points per contest, managed just seven points and 304 yards.

"They dictated everything," Smith said. "We just executed poorly and didn't respond to things they were doing defensively. Give credit to Western Oregon. They took it to us."

Western took an early 7-0 lead when running back Giorgio Usai took Scott Mitchell's screen pass 83 yards for a touchdown.

Usai ran for 49 yards on 18 carries before leaving in the third quarter with an injury.

The Wolves then rallied for 13 points and a six-point lead.

The Vikings regained the lead just before halftime, when linebacker Lance Gustafson intercepted Bledsoe and returned the pass for a touchdown.

In the third quarter, Western extended its lead to 16-13 when an errant Western Oregon snap resulted in a Western safety.

But with 4:28 to play, Bledsoe engineered a seven-play 75-yard drive capped off by a pass to Hinshaw for the winning score.

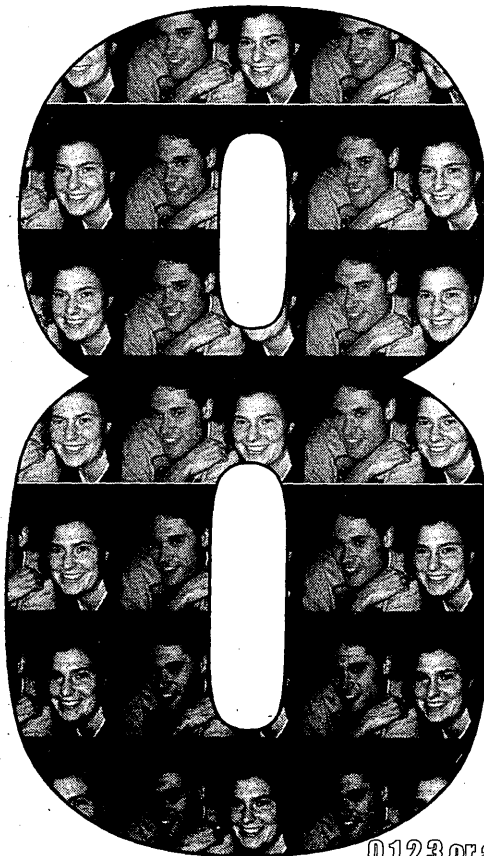
After the touchdown, Martez Johnson returned the kickoff 47 yards, nearly scoring before being run out of bounds by Western Oregon's kicker.

Western had one last scoring chance, but Mitchell threw three incompletions, including one nearly caught in the endzone by slotback Sean Marshall.

Mitchell completed 16 of 41 passes for 197 yards, with a touchdown and an interception, but was just 4 of 18 for 48 yards in the second half. The interception was his first in 123 pass attempts.

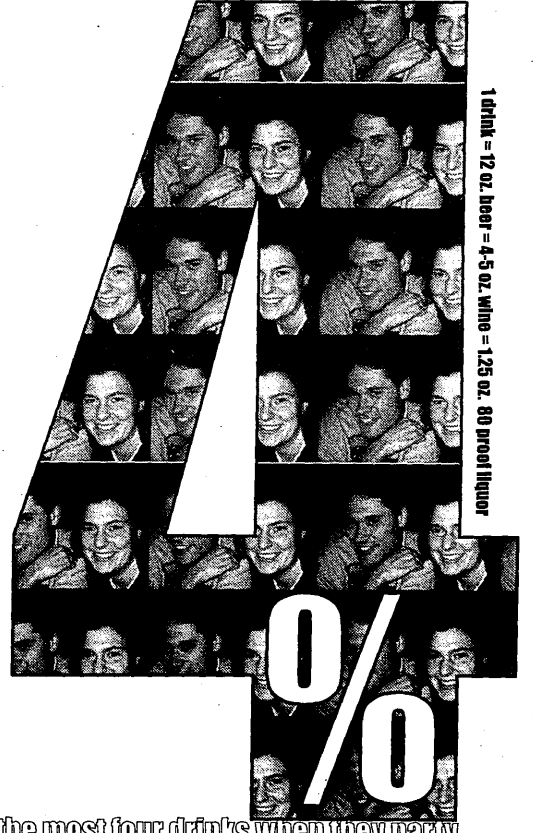
The Vikings will host Simon Fraser in a CFA match-up 1 p.m. Saturday at Civic Field.

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Find this hard to believe? Well, 638 Western students provided Prevention and Wellness Services and the Office of Institutional Assessment and Testing with the info from a randomly mailed (this means representative) survey. Funded by the US Department of Education.

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Chalk up two more for Vikes

Netters sweep Humboldt, WOU

By Jessica Keller
THE WESTERN FRONT

Western's volleyball team swept Humboldt State University and Western Oregon University in two conference matches this weekend, improving its record to 19-6 overall, 11-1 in conference.

The Vikings took an early lead in the first game Friday at 6-1, winning 15-10.

"In the first game we kind of played like boxers," coach Diane Flick said. "We sparred with them a bit to find out what they had to offer and how to counter."

Flick said despite giving up a big lead, Western eventually found a strategy that worked.

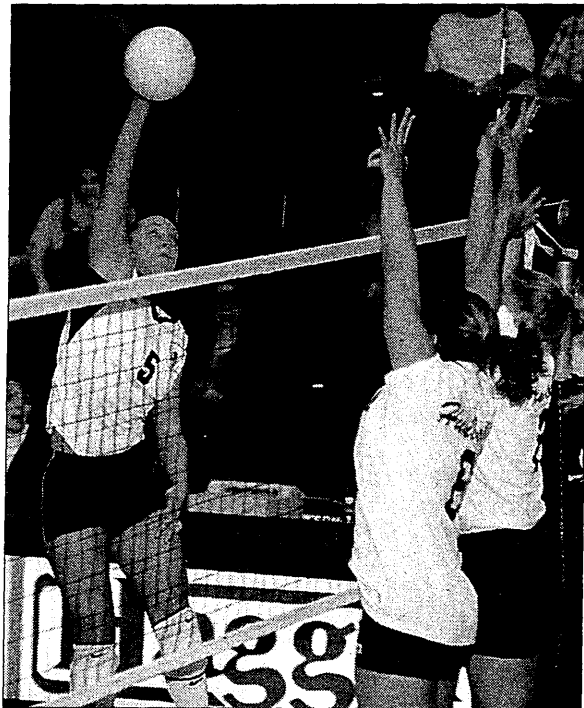
"We decided to play really steady, real consistent and let the score take care of the rest," Flick said.

In the second game, Western maintained the lead throughout the game, winning 15-4.

Humboldt scored two quick points in the third game, but Western scored the last 11, winning 15-4.

"We just got really stingy and decided that our points were too valuable to give away with errors," Flick said.

"They had a big hole in their defense and we took advantage of that," middle blocker Kirsten



Outside-hitter Shannon Rowland goes across court against Humboldt State. Roland racked up 17 kills Saturday against Western Oregon.

Daniel J. Peters/The Western Front

Mann said. "It was more a tactical game than one based on power."

Saturday the Vikings played the Western Oregon Wolves.

In the first game, the Vikings scored five points and maintained a steady lead, winning 15-7.

The Vikings earned the last 10 points in the second game, winning 15-4.

In the third game, the Wolves took the lead, scoring four before Western took over and won 15-8.

"We did a good job of saying that's enough, it's time to focus and get back on track," Flick said.

"I'm excited about the way we

played tonight," middle blocker Michelle Parker said. "I think we were disciplined defensively and that allowed us to play well on offense."

Flick said she was uncertain before the match but pleased with the outcome.

"I was probably more nervous than the players were," Flick said. "I knew this was a tough team and we needed to build momentum after last night. I'm glad we rose to the occasion. This was the first time in 10 years we swept Western Oregon so I'd say it all paid off tonight."

Up, up and away

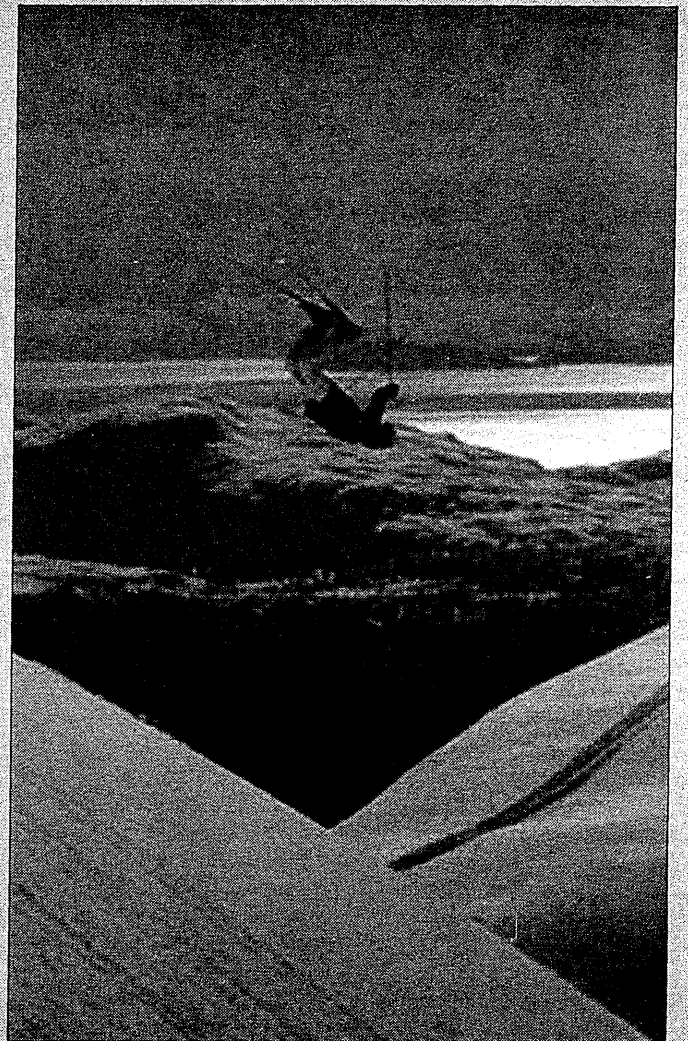
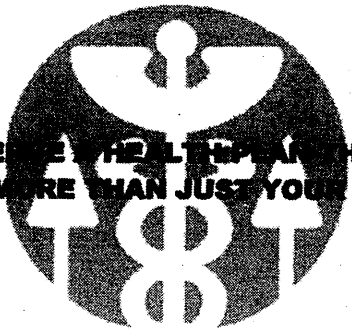


Photo courtesy of Justin Roth
Seth Morrison takes to the skies at Whistler. Morrison is one of several skiers featured in "Ski Movie," which was partially filmed at Mount Baker. It is being shown at 7:30 tonight in Arntzen Hall 100. Cost is \$8.

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Western takes 6th of 7, down NNU

Humboldt outkicks Western



Photos by Angela D. Smith/The Western Front
Christine Avakian slides it to the goal in the second half of Saturday's game against Northwest Nazarene (above). Avakian takes it downfield.

By Jeremy Gibson
THE WESTERN FRONT

Midfielder Christine Avakian scored two goals as the Western women's soccer team defeated Northwest Nazarene University 4-1 Saturday at Viking Field.

NNU's record fell to 3-10-2 overall, and 1-6-1 in conference after the loss.

The Western women have won six out of their last seven games.

"We started off a little slow but we got it together, got our passes under control, and ended up playing pretty aggressively by the end of the game," midfielder Maile Beck said.

Western now leads the PacWest with a record of 6-1-1 and an overall record of 7-6-2.

Avakian scored an unassisted goal to put Western on the board at the 13-minute mark of the first half.

Fifteen minutes later, Western's Ali Skjei made it 2-0.

NNU got one shot past keeper Kara Davis, on a goal by Emily Schreppe at the 34-minute mark of the second half.

Western came back strong, scoring two more insurance goals, one by Suzanne Soine, the other by Avakian, to seal the game at 4-1.

Avakian now has five goals on the season and a four-year total of 22.

"They scrapped hard," head coach Derreck Falor said.

"It wasn't a pretty game, and I don't think it resembled what we've been doing in training, but we found ugly ways to win, and I think those are just as important as winning pretty."

Western out-shot NNU 15-10, and had a 7-4 edge in corner kicks.

The Western women have four more PacWest matches to play, with the next at 2 p.m. Wednesday at Viking Field against Central Washington University.

By Jeremy Gibson
THE WESTERN FRONT

The Western men's soccer team lost to Humboldt State University 2-1 Friday, in a PacWest contest at Civic Field.

Friday's match marked Western's fifth loss out of its last six contests.

The Vikings' record fell to 7-7-0 overall and 2-2-0 in league. It was Humboldt State's third straight win.

"Our goal was a lucky one," forward Robbie Schaper said. "They pretty much dominated the whole game, and we were trying out a new style of defense that didn't work out."

Western first scored at the 51:22 mark, off a blast by midfielder Brett Burns from about 10 yards out, on an assist by Robbie Schaper.

The Lumberjacks tied the game with midfielder Joel Grabenstein's penalty kick at the 77-minute mark.

The tie game lasted only 35 seconds, however, as Lumberjacks forward William Borg went top shelf from about 15 yards, giving Humboldt the game-winning goal.

Humboldt goalkeeper Colin



Angela D. Smith/The Western Front
Sean Standley misses a sweep on the ball in the first half of Friday's 2-1 loss.

Garin had four saves.

"There was about 10 minutes where we didn't play," assistant coach Greg Brisbon said. "They capitalized on our mistakes, and we just couldn't get back into after that."

"We know we can play a lot better than we have," midfielder Craig Forrest said. "We just need to settle down and start knocking the ball around."

Humboldt State University is now tied with Seattle Pacific

University and Seattle University for first place in the PacWest, with an overall record of 10-4-2 and 4-1-0.

Humboldt State had a slight advantage in shots, edging Western 11-9 and 5-3 on corner kicks.

All three of Western's remaining games are PacWest encounters.

The Vikings' next game takes place at 7 p.m. Wednesday at Seattle Pacific University.



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Teen drinking not worth potential brain damage



Jessica Blair

COMMENTARY

Three million habitual underage drinkers live in the United States. Before picking up another frothy beer stein, teenagers might want to think about toasting Ginkgo biloba or another herbal memory enhancer.

A recent study of underage binge drinkers determined memory loss may be a consequence of alcohol abuse.

New studies indicate teens who drink regularly may damage developing brain cells involved with learning and memory in the hippocampus area of the brain. In fact, the hippocampus on average is 10 percent smaller in drinking teens than in non-drinking teens, according to one survey.

Scientists now know the brain is not fully developed in an individual until age 20 or 21.

So, why drink, when one could just as easily hit him or herself over the head with a hammer and knock out a few hundred brain cells or more?

The old joke about alcohol or drugs killing brain cells may not be so funny anymore. Students

may want to ask themselves where their beer buddies will be when suspension nears, employers clamp down on poor work performance and life is whittled down to academic and career incompetence.

A recent experiment by Aaron White, a researcher at Duke University Medical Center in North Carolina, involved injecting rats with the equivalent of a 12-pack in one night. This process continued every other day for 20 days. The rats then were placed in a maze they had formerly navigated successfully.

After the bingeing was done, only the adolescent rats failed repeatedly. This result suggested to researcher H. Scott Swartzwelder a connection between brain damage in young adults and alcohol abuse.

Shelly Garrett, a counselor at Lynden High School, said she sees the damage alcohol does to kids.

"Kids that use drugs and alcohol most of the time don't do as well in school," Garrett said. "They're covering up some kind of pain."

The problem of poor school and work performance related to alcohol abuse follows young people into college. A Harvard School of Public Health study found that 44 percent of college students are binge drinkers, meaning they ingest four or five drinks consecutively. Seventy-

four percent of these students said their drinking patterns were the same in high school, according to the survey.

Pat Fabiano, director of Western's Prevention and Wellness Services, said she thinks the correlation between drinking and grades at Western is "most interesting."

Students' grades at Western drop with increased alcohol intake, a 1999 Lifestyles survey showed. In this survey, the Rutgers Alcohol Problem Inventory (RAPI) was used to measure the extent of alcohol-related problems students encounter.

The survey said the more often alcohol-related problem behaviors were reported, the lower a student's GPA became.

These problems could include missing a day of school or work, passing out, neglecting responsibilities and driving after having four or more drinks.

For instance, of those students surveyed who said they neglected responsibilities, the average GPA was 2.83. Six was a typical number of drinks they consumed on the weekend. Of those who did not experience this RAPI item, the average GPA was a 3.17 and the number of drinks was two.

Students must realize their

See TEENS, Page 15

Nader should not drop out — voters stay true



Matt Williams

COMMENTARY

Consider every option, always. The idea of disregarding presidential candidate Ralph Nader, as has often been proposed, just doesn't make any sense.

Some have suggested Nader should play the game of politics and hand Al Gore the victory to spare the world another Bush-led America.

Politics today completely contradict the ideas of democracy.

Politics are traditionally defined as the art or science of governing. The American Heritage College Dictionary, Third Edition, provides a more modern definition: "Intrigue and maneuvering ... in order to gain control or power."

So to practice modern politics is basically to be sneaky, self-serving and power hungry. Isn't that interesting?

Those who say voters should ignore the third choice because it is unlikely to succeed need to realize the reason third choices don't succeed is the above illogical thought process.

If voters don't vote for the candidate they truly support, then voting is no longer a truly democratic process. Technically it is

still democracy, because no one forced voters to vote for the lesser of two evils. Still, the true ideals of democracy have been lost in this inanity.

Besides, even if a particular choice is the lesser of two evils, that choice remains an evil.

Proponents of a two-party system miss the point. The new definition of politics has nothing to do with democracy — or at least, it shouldn't.

Democracy is a system of government in which everyone has a voice and a means to make it heard. Politics, on the other hand, are a corrupt system run by big corporations and their bribery ... Oops, did I say bribery? I meant lobbying.

In politics, the sound of money changing hands for political favors is so overwhelming the voters' voices are rarely heard. Politics provide no place for "we the people," so why play the political game?

If the voting populace allows itself to be sucked once again into this twisted little game as it does every four years, democracy will continue to be merely an illusion, as it always has been.

Don't listen to the rhetoric that we must return to true democracy in America, because America has never been a truly democratic nation.

For once, voters must listen to themselves, figure out what

See NADER, Page 15

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Frontline

Cell phones and driving don't mix — turn it off

What do cell phones and booze have in common? Drivers have no business using them on the road.

While some can't wait to get out of class to light up a smoke, many now leave buildings with phone in hand. Imagine roommates, recently equipped with wireless phones, calling each other from the driveway to get the garage door open without the extra legwork. (True Bellingham story.)

The dangers of cell phones can extend way beyond looking ridiculous in front of the neighbors. A 1997 University of Toronto study, published in the *New England Journal of Medicine*, concluded cell phone use in cars increased the risk of accident fourfold; subsequent studies have been unable to prove hands-free devices are any safer.

The risk of driving while phoning has frequently been likened to drunk driving statistics. But while DUI laws have gotten stricter, proposed legislation to punish cellular drivers has been unsuccessful in Congress and criticized for restricting personal freedoms. (Most European countries already have laws restricting phone use while driving, or requiring hands-free sets.)

This leaves safe mobile phone use in the drivers' seat, so to speak. As digital technology becomes more efficient and cheaper than household phone service, its use will increase exponentially, indefinitely. U.S. citizens are free to suffer the growing pains of being suddenly, constantly connected to the rest of the world.

The Automobile Association of America has a few suggestions for conscientious drivers who want to phone safely and even make the road safer for others. (And they don't include calling to check on stocks during a commute, or ringing up absent drinking buddies while on the road between bars.)

AAA's Web site suggests using hands-free devices when roadside calls are necessary, and becoming familiar with a phone's functions and keypad so the user can dial without looking. A passenger can dial, keeping the driver's hands on the wheel and attention on traffic. AAA also suggests using voice messenger services to take calls while driving.

But in most instances, AAA recommends pulling to the side of the road before answering or making calls. Imagine callers who get mad at the response: "Sorry, can you hold on while I pull over?" Not likely.

Drivers with phones can even make the roads safer for others by calling emergency services when an accident occurs, or reporting drunk drivers to police. Some digital phone services, like Verizon Wireless, have combined forces with 911 services in some towns to encourage this kind of car-phoning. It can reduce ambulance response times and increase victim survival chances in an accident, or prevent fatal accidents from occurring.

But other than pulling to the shoulder to make emergency calls, cell calls in the middle of traffic can cause accidents. Mobile phone users should protect everyone's health, hang up and drive.

Frontlines are the opinion of The Western Front editorial board: Grant Brissey, Sarah Crowley, Lisa Curdy, Mike Dashiell, Bronlea Hawkins, Remy Kissel, Levi Pulkkinen, Angela D. Smith, Jay Tarpinian and Curt Woodward.

The Western Front

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And we quote:

'I want to bring Barak down to the level of the donkey.'

Khalid Mustafa, a 20-year-old Palestinian artist, after spray-painting a donkey with the colors of the Israeli flag and Prime Minister Ehud Barak's name. Taken from *usatoday.com*



B'ham Police party patrol unnecessary, unwanted



Tessa Allison

COMMENTARY

Bellingham's own party patrol is on its way to a party near you. On board it has thousands of dollars in potential fines, probation, community service and more all courtesy of the proud community.

About 200 party violation tickets have been given out since the beginning of Western's academic year, Bellingham Police Lt. Dac Jamison said. This includes minor in possession tickets, minor in consumption tickets, contributing to minors tickets, noise violations and various others.

Students choosing to celebrate their youth on a Friday or Saturday night are not allowed to do so in the privacy of their own residences. Drinking alcohol has become the No. 1 way to get police attention.

Is it right that patrol cars respond faster to students drinking beer and playing music

“Why give out tickets to every member in a household for various charges when one ticket would get the point across?”

than to a car accident? In Bellingham, a special task force exists to break up parties but not to stop domestic violence or provide aid to car accidents.

Why are we, as a community, tolerating so much time, effort and money directed at shutting down harmless good times?

Party patrol representatives said the program's main objective is to respond to complaints from many concerned citizens about parties in progress.

"People at Western are typically intelligent," Jamison said. "People get wild until they know how much it costs."

It can cost a lot. While most first-time MIP tickets are diverted and settled with community service, probation and classes, some do carry a large fine. Yet those tickets are not as pricey as

the ticket given out for contributing to minors, which can be hundreds of dollars.

"If you have a keg and are furnishing minors, you deserve to be fined," Jamison said.

Students are not the only ones paying up. The community is too. Jamison said the officers of the party patrol are paid overtime to participate.

"The whole thing is quite costly for the department," he said.

"If I could organize a group of over-paid cops to do something, it would be to clean up downtown and patrol for safety, not to ruin some kids' good time." Gene Wiltholt, a 35-year Bellingham resident said about the party patrol.

"The interest is not in penalizing people," Jamison said.

A minor who blows a perfectly sober "00" score on the portable breathalyzer but is holding someone else's beer gets an MIP, Jamison said.

That sounds like penalizing. If not, why the full-force ticket distribution? Why bring out the big bus that seats 30 comfortably?

See **PARTY**, Page 15

Midterm crisis avoidable: drop classes, graduate late



Lisa Curdy

CURDY'S WAY

I've failed as a student. I decided this Friday, while sitting at a friend's kitchen table, a cold brew in hand. When she asked me why, the tale of the lamest Western student in the journalism department slowly emerged ...

It was a sad day for me when I entered my fifth year of college. My mom was surprised I couldn't hack through the jungle of enlightenment in four years, and I don't blame her — I've been in school 13 quarters straight, no summers.

This quarter, I regained faith in the world, seeing the end's bright light beam a ray of hope

into my tunnel of scholastic despair. March 26, the end of winter quarter, was when I would put my academic career out of its misery (ignoring that I was going for my master's in just a few more years).

But something terrible happened and snapped the neck of the chicken that was my promise for winter graduation.

After the first edition of *The Western Front* — we were up for more than 24 hours — I was wiped out. Of course, I couldn't go to class.

"I'll just miss today, I swear I'll go to the next one," I promised myself that day. And the day after, and for a few more after that.

So four weeks into the quarter, I realized a truly horrid and icky assignment loomed nigh. I couldn't do the freakin' assignment — I hadn't been to class.

And if I didn't do the assign-

ment, I would fail the class. If I failed the class, my graduation would be pushed back a quarter until spring, crikies!

Panicky, sweaty was my brow as I pondered dropping the class.

"Yes, I will be a quarter behind if I fail, and a quarter behind if I drop — I'll do it," I thought and trekked with baited breath to the Registrar's Office.

Other students: don't do what I did.

Maria Hicks, assistant coordinator of the Tutorial Center, has five fabulous tips to not be like Lisa:

1. Meet with your professor. I was too embarrassed, I told Hicks, to approach my prof, but she said that's normal.

2. Plan the rest of the quarter. This is easier when you're taking five credits, I've found.

See **CURDY**, Page 15

From **TEENS**, Page 13

behavior is destructive, not only academically but internally. Who wants to deal with head-wrenching hangovers, "the spins" or clinging to the toilet like a shipwreckee clings to a donut — for dear life — when essays are due, problems are to be solved and novels are to be read?

If stress is a concern, a student may want to consider visiting the counseling center, because stress management classes are offered. It beats scouring the local GNC aisles for a good bottle of brain pills the next time midterms or finals come around.

From **CURDY**, Page 14

3. List out the things that you need to do, and prioritize — with school first.

4. Go to class. It's simple, but I'd be a happy wintertime graduate if I'd just done it.

5. Make an appointment with Hicks or the Tutorial Center.

The only redeeming thing to staying the extra quarter is the quality time I'll have to hang out with my great friends who buy beer by the case (and four at a time at that) at Costco.

So, smile and wave when you see me on my way to Hicks' office. I'll be around for a while.

From **NADER**, Page 13

they want and vote accordingly.

If Gore represents an ideal president, vote Gore.

If, by some perversion of rational thought, Bush does, vote Bush.

Or if a government of the people and not of corrupt corporations or of big Texas oil companies sounds nice, vote Nader.

Above all else, voters should do what they want and not allow the fear of four more Bush years control them. The true ideals of democracy, as stated by the Greek philosopher Democritus, are pleasure and self-control.

From **PARTY**, Page 14

Why wait for more people to leave a party so they too can be ticketed? Why give out tickets to every member in a household for various charges when one ticket would get the point across?

Not ticketing works. At some parties, police requested everyone go home and gave no tickets. Parties left and all was well. So why the renegade tactics?

"The kids in this town that go to school are good kids," Bellingham resident Deborah Norse said. "They are not trying to hurt anyone by getting together on weekends and enjoying themselves. Most are quite considerate of their neigh-

bors. It is not as if they are trying to harm anyone. They don't deserve to be harassed."

Jamison said he was sure the Party Patrol would continue.

"It tends to quiet down around November," he said. Jamison said regular officers take on the party calls again because of lower numbers of parties.

Do these numbers reflect a lack of drinking and partying on students' behalf? It seems odd everyone would drink for three months, then quit. Or could it be because the party patrol is off-duty?

Law enforcement could do better things with its time and efforts than crash a party.

It is time to bust the Party Patrol.

SLIDE PRESENTATION

TONIGHT

Wednesday Oct 24

7:00 pm

in the

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WARREN MILLER'S RIDE

MT. BAKER THEATRE
Thursday, November 2, 8:00



WHITEPASS! Everyone attending RIDE will receive a certificate for a FREE mid-week lift ticket to White Pass! Valid 2000-2001 season only. Monday through Friday.*

WHISTLER/BLACKCOMB! Everyone attending RIDE will receive a certificate for a FREE lift ticket to Whistler/Blackcomb valid opening day of the 2000-2001 season through Dec. 20, 2000 OR receive two lift tickets for the price of one lift ticket in Jan. 2001 and April 2001.*

PLUS FREE LIFT TICKETS TO BRECKENRIDGE OR KEYSTONE, HEAVENLY AND THE CANYONS*

Tickets available at the Theater ticket office (M-F, 10-5:30), Sportsman Chalet, Fairhaven Bike & Mt. Sports, Ticketmaster locations www.ticketmaster.com, charge by phone (360) 734-6090.



For discounts on groups of 10 or more call (800) 523-7117. Each group order will receive the "Making of RIDE" video.



*Some restrictions apply. See warrenmiller.com or call (800) 523-7117 for details.

Deadlines

Academic Year:
Tuesday Paper = previous Friday, 3:00 p.m.
Friday Paper = previous Wednesday, 3:00 p.m.
Summer Quarter:
Wednesday Paper = previous Friday, 3:00 p.m.

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"VAGINA MONOLOGUES"
Play call for auditions. WWU is
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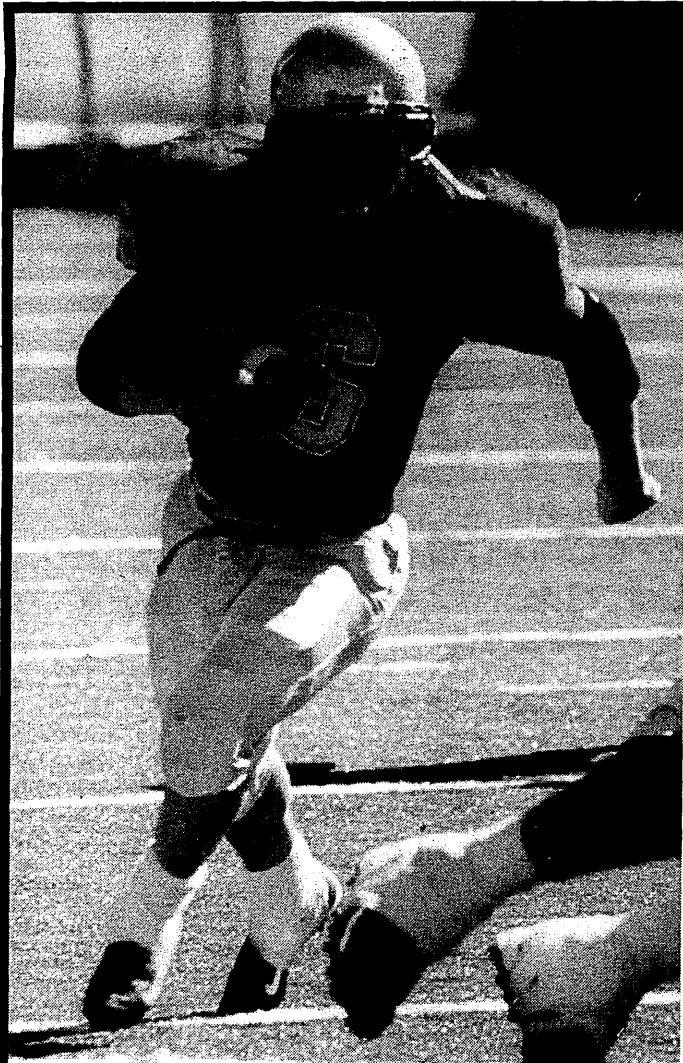
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VS

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1:00pm, Civic Stadium



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*Pay for your pass **TODAY** at the WWU Cashier!
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