

## The budget crunch

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## Broadway musical 'Barnum' hits the stage

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## Volleyball team celebrates victory

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# The Western Front

Oct. 11, 1991/Volume 84, Number 4

Western Washington University

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## Administrators grapple with ineffective Banner system

By Renee Brewer  
staff reporter

In the midst of a major budget crunch, Western administration and staff are struggling to make Western's new financial computer program fully operational.

Western made a complete change from its 14-year-old system to the new Banner system on Jan. 1, 1991, in the middle of the 90-91 fiscal year.

"If we were a corporation, this kind of conversion would put us on our knees," said Teari Brown, West-

ern Front business manager. Problems encountered with the new system include having to wait much longer to receive financial reports, needing several reports in order for the first few to make sense, waiting months for system updates before being able to make corrections in the system and several "down times" when the system doesn't work at all, Brown said.

"I don't think the system was anything we were led to believe it would be," Brown said.

The approximate cost of the Ban-

ner system was \$980,000, said Mel Davidson, a physics professor who worked with the system last year.

This includes \$350,000 for the software and the new, inter-relational database Oracle, \$100,000 for training personnel from Systems and Computer Technology Corporation—the company that produced the system—and their travel expenses, the salaries of three program analysts from the Computer Center and three employees from the Department of Fiscal Services for two years and the salaries of two temporary employees

hired by the Computer Center spring quarter, Davidson said.

Temporary employees have been employed by the Department of Fiscal Services to work with the Banner since spring quarter, said Mary Carlson, director of fiscal services. During spring quarter, accounting, purchasing and accounts payable departments all saw a dramatic increase in overtime, and overtime is still required by some staff in accounts payable, Carlson said.

"It was a very difficult conversion...we knew it would be difficult,

but we had more problems than we had anticipated," Carlson said.

The Banner system is a new product from the Systems and Computer Technology Corporation. In exchange for a discount on the purchase price and additional training and support, Western agreed to be an early test site for the program, Carlson said. Western was the third, and largest school to go online with the program, using more parts of the program than

Please see Banner system, page 4

## Farm workers' union urges boycott



photo by David Willoughby/The Western Front

Protesters gathered at the Performing Arts Center Wednesday afternoon to draw attention to the boycott of the Chateau Ste. Michelle Winery.

By Jeff Collins  
staff reporter

The President of the United Farm Workers of Washington State, Thomas Villanueva, spoke Wednesday to a crowd of approximately 200 students outside the Performing Arts Center concerning the economic problems facing farm workers.

Villanueva urged the consumers to boycott the Chateau Ste. Michelle Winery and described the living and working conditions of farm workers.

A boycott sponsored by the U.F.W.W.S. began in April of 1987 against Stimson Lane Ltd., the parent company of Chateau Ste. Michelle.

"The first couple of years of the boycott movement let the word out that...hey, we're here, we're fighting, now we have the overwhelming support from labor unions, but there's still a long way to go for Washington workers."

The rally's focus was to inform students and the community of

Bellingham that farm workers want democracy. The rally was also organized to gain support for the boycott.

Villanueva said Chateau Ste. Michelle "made a \$2.4 million profit last year, but the farm worker's only received a five cent increase." It's not only a struggle for justice, but for economics as well.

He said Chateau Ste. Michelle is the largest winery in the Northwest — makes 80% of all wines made in Washington, Oregon and Idaho.

"We're part of a grass-roots movement to help educate the public," said Rosalinda Guillen, of the Whatcom County Rainbow Coalition. "Farm workers want the same democracy as other workers."

Maurice Foisy, a political science professor at Western, said, "the farm workers don't have any rights to collectively bargain. Chateau Ste. Michelle and other wineries refuse to recognize the workers."

"The refusal to recognize worker's rights is a mentality issue,"

said Villanueva. "It's the same mentality as the plantation owners of the 1800's."

Villanueva said the U.F.W.W.S. demands the winery re-hire 13 workers fired for protesting the company, stop harassment tactics, and recognize the U.F.W.W.S. for collective bargaining purposes.

Villanueva said he's met with Allan Chateau, owner of the winery on several occasions. He said Chateau thought what the U.F.W.W.S. was proposing was unfair, but he never gave any specifics.

In 1989, the King County Democrat reported over 50,000 farm workers in Eastern Washington. During the late 1980s, Villanueva successfully lobbied for protection rights for farm workers. Washington voters passed a minimum wage initiative for farm workers in 1988.

By applying "street-heat," Maggie Hanson, a previous Democratic delegate, said, "we can unionize Chateau Ste. Michelle."

## Education report gives state high marks

But says more reform needed

By Charity Proctor  
staff reporter

Gov. Booth Gardner, state Board of Education President R.E. Jorgensen and Superintendent of Public Instruction Judith Billings gave education in Washington state a high grade in a status report released Sept. 30. However, the report and local high school educators said more change is needed in Washington's educational system.

The report describes the state's progress in relation to the national goals set by President George Bush and the National Educational Goals Panel two years ago. The goals address all stages of education, calling for improved student performance, a lower drop-out rate, the elimination of drugs in schools, increased adult literacy and the provision of adequate job skills training for all citizens.

Gardner, Jorgensen and Billings applauded the progress Washington state has made, but also acknowledged the problems.

Lisa Bjork, assistant principal of Sehome High School, said, educational needs have changed, and this must be reflected in the way children are taught.

Schools must accommodate students with greater needs, both academically and personally, she said. They need to better equip students for critical thinking and the life of learning they will need to keep up with today's world. Students need to become "knowledge workers," and teachers must be the facilitators of their learning, she said.

Sehome, a member of Washington's reform program, "Schools for the 21st Century," took positive steps, Bjork said. "Changes," Sehome's pilot pro-

gram of interdisciplinary classes for freshmen, allows students to take history (world geography) and English classes in a two-hour block. Material from both classes is incorporated, emphasizing writing and thinking skills. Bjork said 120 students are currently involved in the program, and science classes may soon be added to it.

Another possible change for Sehome could be a mandatory senior project in which students research and write about a community project, participate in the project and present the results to a board of teachers and community members, Bjork said. This would put pressure on the system to adequately prepare students for the project, as well as instilling a more serious attitude about high school in students, she said.

Jim DeWilde, coordinator of the Western tutorial center, said a more serious attitude is just what some students need. Many enter college unprepared to commit the amount of study-time needed to succeed, he said. Study skills tutoring is growing more popular at the center, he said. He stressed that communication with professors is paramount for students having difficulty.

Integrating technology into the high school curriculum is also important, Bjork said. But although Sehome's computer software includes word processing, science simulations and math tutorials, funding is inadequate. The school had no money to buy software this year, she said.

"Personally, I think the federal government needs to put money with their goals if they want them implemented," Bjork said. She

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## Copsbox

### Campus Police

Wednesday, Oct. 9.

9:45 a.m. Someone interrupted an individual attempting to break into a car while it was parked in the parking lot.

7:35 p.m. A building services worker noticed two sink handles were missing from a restroom in Arntzen Hall. They had been there the night before.

Monday, Oct. 7.

5 p.m. A man reported that a(n) unknown person(s) tore off two window stickers from his rear car window that read: "No Fat Chicks." Instead of the stickers, the person(s) painted in what appeared to be red nail polish, "No Needle Dicks."

### Bellingham Police

Wednesday, Oct. 9, 1991

9:35 p.m. A vehicle was backing out from 1313 E Maple as someone walked by. The pedestrian told the driver to watch it. The passenger in the vehicle displayed a

handgun and told the pedestrian to mind his own business. The vehicle left quickly, heading south on Samish Way.

8:49 p.m. An officer was dispatched to the 1700 block Of E. Sunset after receiving a report of a sex crime. The investigation is continuing at this time.

6:30 p.m. A witness at the corner of Meridian and Illinois saw a bus hit a "pedestrian" sign on Meridian. The bus left the scene heading north-bound on Meridian.

1:33 a.m. A man was reported for exposing his genitals at Forest and Holly streets. Police contacted him at Forest and Magnolia, arrested him, and cited him by summons.

Tuesday, Oct. 8, 1991

5:14 p.m. Someone found a child stealing vegetables from his/her garden. The owner caught the child and took him/her home. No police action was taken because the child said he/she was 4 years old.

3:36 p.m. Two people were having a disagreement over the fecal material left on the property of one person by the other person's dog. The police were called after the dog owner "touched" the property owner. The dog owner apologized and agreed not walk her dog by the property — and let it "do its duty."

## Around the Nation

### Thomas, accuser damaged in Senate hearings

WASHINGTON (AP) One senator says both Supreme Court nominee Clarence Thomas and Anita Hill, the woman who accused Thomas of sexually harassing her while she worked for him in the Reagan administration, will leave the Senate Judiciary Committee "badly damaged." Senator Orrin Hatch (R-Utah) — a Thomas backer — says he feels sorry for both Thomas and Hill. The Judiciary Committee resumes Thomas' confirmation hearing tomorrow.

### Baker continues work on Middle East peace efforts

WASHINGTON (AP) Continuing his Middle East peace efforts, Secretary of State Jim Baker met Thursday afternoon at the State Department with a group of Palestinian leaders. Baker is scheduled to leave Saturday for another round of shuttle diplomacy in the Middle East.

### Another cease-fire set in Yugoslavia

(AP) Yugoslavian government and Croats have agreed to an eighth cease-fire in the three-and-a-half month fight over Croatian independence. The government has agreed to withdraw Yugoslav federal troops from the rebel republic of Croatia, and Croatian militants will lift their blockades of army barracks. All sides involved in the fighting

will negotiate a political settlement addressing the grievances of the Serb minority in Croatia.

### Fired postal employee charged in killing spree

RIDGEWOOD, N.J. (AP) A fired postal employee is being held on \$1 million bail on charges he killed four people early Thursday morning, including his former post office supervisor. Authorities say Joseph Harris was armed with an Uzi machine gun and hand grenades during the two-town rampage. Harris told the judge at his arraignment in Ridgewood, N.J., that the charges were wrong.

### California Supreme Court upholds law limiting legislative terms

(AP) The California Supreme Court ruled a state law limiting the number of legislative terms a person can hold properly protects "against an entrenched, dynamic legislative bureaucracy." On a 6 to 1 vote, the court upheld the term-limit law passed by voters last November. An attorney for the state legislature says they will take the case to the U.S. Supreme Court.

## Around the state

### No word on survivors of Navy airplane crash.

(AP) The Navy is withholding word on two men aboard the A-6 Intruder that crashed Thursday in the Columbia River about 12 miles southeast of Wenatchee. Witnesses said there were no parachutes. Lt. Eric Roberson said the airplane, on a low-level training flight to a bombing range at Boardman, Ore., when it hit a cliff and pieces fell into the water.

The plane was based at Whidbey Island Naval Air Station near Oak Harbor. The Navy bombers from Whidbey are deployed on aircraft carriers. Although a number of Whidbey jets were involved in bombing Iraq, it's not known if this plane or the crew were involved in Operation Desert Storm.

### Brothers die in car accident

(AP) Two brothers riding skateboards in the street were hit and killed by a car this morning in Spanaway. Brendan Gass, 14, and Billy Gass, 16, were on their way to Bethell High School when, according to school district spokesman Jay Reifel, they were hit by a car that pulled out of a lane of traffic to pass a bus. The accident took place about a half mile from the school. Police have questioned the driver.

### Woodinville man charged in one wife's death, police investigating death of second wife

(AP) A Woodinville man will be arraigned today in Seattle on a murder charge in the drowning death of his wife last summer. King County Prosecutor's spokesman Dan Donohoe, says Randy Roth was charged today with first-degree murder in the death of his wife, Cynthia, who drowned July 23 in Lake Sammamish near Redmond. Roth says it was an accident because a wave capsized their raft. The charge accuses Roth of killing his wife to collect \$365,000 from two life insurance policies.

Cynthia was Roth's fourth wife. His second wife, Janis, died in a hiking fall in 1981 in Skamania County. The sheriff's office has reopened its investigation into that death. Roth was divorced from his first and third wives.

## Briefs

### Therapeutic Swim program

The Bellingham Parks and Recreation Department is sponsoring a therapeutic swim program at Western's university pool every Monday or Wednesday between 4 - 5 p.m. until Dec. 11. Open to all ages, the program offers special instruction, equipment, and assistance to persons with physical disabilities. The enrollment fee for one day is \$15. For more information contact Jill Heckathorn at 676-6891.

### Civil Rights Attorney Speaks on Disabled Student Rights

Salome Hayward, attorney advisor for the Association on Handicapped Student Service Programs in Post-secondary Education, will discuss legal and compliance issues pertaining to disabled persons in higher education during two free seminar sessions at the Viking Union Lounge on Wednesday Oct. 23.

The morning session from 8:30 till noon will focus of housing, admissions, and accessibility. The afternoon session will focus on faculty concerns, compliance "nightmares" and other educational issues.

For more information call Western's Disabled Student Services at 676-3083.

### Guatemalan Writer speaks at Western

Victor Montejo, a Guatemalan writer and anthropologist will read Oct. 16 in Lecture Hall 2 at 7 p.m., and Oct. 17 at 10 a.m. at the Northwest Indian College Building C-1. Montejo, is the author of "Testimony: Death of a Guatemalan Village," and "El Kanil: Man of Lightning."

### Women's education in the 19th century

A discussion on women's education in the first half of the 19th century, will be presented by the Fairhaven College Friday Oct. 11 between 4 - 5 p.m.

### Oil spill seminar to save birds

In an attempt to prepare Whatcom County for an unexpected oil spill the non-profit organization "Puget Sounders" is hosting an Oiled Bird Rescue Training Seminar. Locally trained volunteers can greatly reduce the number of bird and mammal fatalities common in oil spills. This concise seminar runs from 10 a.m. to 1 p.m. October 26 in the Harbor Center Conference Room. The event is co-sponsored by the North Cascade Audobon Society, ARCO and BP oil companies.

The volunteers are encouraged to bring old towels needed to replenish the current local supply. For further information contact Denise Snyder at 676-8094.

### Workshop for aspiring authors

Western Extended Programs is offering two workshops for writers interested in publishing their writing. The workshop titled, "Authors- Get Your Book Published" will cover the explain the entire process of marketing a book, both through royalty-paying publishers as well as by self-publishing.

Jacquelyn Peake, the successful writer of 8 books, will instruct the workshop. Both workshops run from 9 a.m. to 4 p.m. October 26 and will cost \$49. Seating is limited to thirty-five participants, early registration is recommended. For more information or to register call 647-6822.

## Notice

In the Oct. 8, 1991 issue of the Western Front two stories were run on the front page concerning Western's budget. The first story, "Western prepares for five percent budget cut" discussed an order from the state to prepare Western for a 5 percent cut from Western's operating budget. The second story, "Phase one construction officially begins," is about Western's \$5.8 million science facility project. Funding for the Science facility project comes from Western's capital and improvements budget — a separate account.

## 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 647-7287, 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

- THE JUNIOR WRITING EXAM will be offered at 3 p.m. on October 14, 15, 16, 17 and November 5, 13, and 18. The test takes about two hours; there is no fee. You must register in OM 120.
- THE MATH PLACEMENT TEST will be given at 9 a.m. October 30, 2 p.m. November 4, 7 and 14 and at 9 a.m. November 18. You must register in Old Main 120. A \$10 fee must be paid in the exact amount at the time of registration. Test takes 1 1/2 hours.
- TEST FOR ENTRANCE INTO TEACHER EDUCATION (TETEP) will be given at 2 p.m. on October 24 and November 19. You must register in Old Main 120. A fee of \$20 must be paid in the exact amount at time of registration. The test takes about two and a half hours. Three large group administrations are schedule for this quarter. If you cannot attend one of these, an individual test will be given for a \$30 fee.
- MILLER ANALOGIES TEST is by individual appointment basis with the Testing Center. For appointment, call X/3080.
- THE COUNSELING CENTER offers the following workshops during fall quarter: • Math anxiety reduction workshop • Adult children of alcoholics support group. For information or to sign up, contact the Counseling Center, MH 262, X/3164.
- CAREER PLANNING AND PLACEMENT offers free workshops on résumé preparation, cover letters, and interviewing and workshops and self assessment tests for choosing careers and majors. Contact Career Planning & Placement, OM 280.
- JEOPARDY, Western's literary arts journal, is now accepting submissions for its 1991-92 edition. Send or deliver manuscripts with SASE to College Hall 132.
- CAREER PLANNING & PLACEMENT presents two alumni panels: "Real Life Careers for Liberal Arts Majors," noon October 15, and "Real Life Careers for Accounting Majors," noon, October 18. Both will be in the WL Presentation Room.
- A REPRESENTATIVE COLLEGE OF PODIATRIC MEDICINE, Kitt Grant, will be on campus Wednesday, October 16, from noon to 2 p.m. in the Ethnic Student Center, VU 109, to discuss careers in podiatric medicine. Premed and exercise science majors are encouraged to attend.

### On-campus interview schedule

- United Parcel Service, Tuesday, October 15. Part-time loading/delivery. Sign up in Student Employment Office, OM 260. Direct all inquiries to Student Employment only.
- Larson, Gross & Associates, Tuesday, October 22. Submit résumé and CIF by October 10. Employer will contact you. Check back with Career Planning & Placement after one week.
- National Life Financial Services, Tuesday, October 22. Submit CIF at sign up. See company file in CPPC library.
- Celp Fund, Tuesday, October 22. No interviews. One-hour information session at noon in VA 454.
- American Home Food Products, Thursday, October 24. Submit CIF at sign up.
- KPMG Peat Marwick, Monday, October 28. Submit résumé and CIF by October 14. Employer will contact you. Check back with CPPC after one week.
- University Of San Diego, Lawyer's Assistant Program, Monday, October 28. Attend information session. Drop in 9-11 a.m.
- Arthur Andersen & Co., No campus interviews. Submit résumé by October 14. Employer will contact you directly.
- KPMG Peat Marwick — Anchorage, Tuesday, October 29. Submit résumé and CIF by October 15. Employer will contact you. Check back with CPPC after one week.
- Moss Adams, Tuesday, October 29. Submit résumé and CIF by October 15. Employer will contact you. Check back with CPPC after one week.
- Deloitte & Touche, Wednesday, October 30. Submit résumé, application and CIF by October 16. Employer will contact you. Check back with CPPC after one week.
- NR Smith & Assoc., Wednesday, October 30. Submit résumé, letter, application, transcript and CIF by October 16. Employer will contact you. Check back after one week.

Continued from page 1

## Local educators suggest solutions for reform

suggested tax reforms as a possible solution.

Even in the best of academic environments, obstacles such as poverty, drugs and an unstable home environment can hinder learning and encourage students to drop out.

"We just haven't gotten it to a point where kids aren't going to slip through the cracks," said Dave Tomlin, assistant principal and athletic director at Ferndale High School. Parental involvement needs to in-



Front file photo

With the current efforts at reform, educators and parents wonder what kind of educational future young children have to look forward to.

problems.

Bjork supervises "Connections," a summer program for eighth graders with drug, alcohol, personal and academic problems.

"Instead of being anonymous places, (high schools) need to be per-

sonal. Each student needs to feel that someone in the school has a personal interest in them throughout their four years," she said.

On a national level, Tomlin said comparisons between education in America and other countries don't

tell the whole story. The family structure is not as intact in this country as in other countries, he said. He suggested fundamental changes in the United States' educational system, such as an expanded school year. He also suggested more action and more

responsibility on the part of society.

"We all need to take possession (of this problem)," he said. "We've all been inundated with reports in the last 10 years. It's time for some action."

## Student's thesis chosen to represent Western

By Lori Corso  
staff reporter

A master's of science thesis by Western graduate Therese Conant was selected to represent the university at the Western Association of Graduate Schools' 1992 Distinguished Master's Thesis Award competition.

Conant received a bachelor of science degree in biology from Western in 1989. She completed her master's degree in biology at Western last June, and is currently living in South Carolina.

The title of Conant's thesis is *Ghost Crab Predation on Emergent Sea Turtles from Relocated Nests on*

*a Barrier Island, North Carolina*. The purpose of Conant's research is to assess the relationship between nest distance to the water and predation on emergent turtle hatchlings by the ghost crab, a major beach predator. Conant is responsible for the design and execution of the thesis field research. She collected all the data presented in

the thesis, travelling more than 3,000 miles on the beach during the field season.

"I am impressed with Ms. Conant's accomplishments. I believe her thesis represents an important scientific contribution to the field of

Please see Thesis, page 5

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## Parent and child courses allow kids to choose classes

By Debra Pitts  
staff reporter

Western's Continuing Education Department is offering parent and child activities courses this quarter, where moms, dads and kids can get involved in hands-on learning.

Susan Gardner, a program developer with the department, was instrumental in getting the parent and child program off the ground, said Erin Otis, course processor. Gardner continues to research which courses have been attended well and "what types of courses are viable for Whatcom County and this region," said Otis.

A variety of courses are offered in the parent and child activities section of After Hours, a schedule of courses prepared by University Extended Programs. In addition to parent and child programs, numerous

other courses are available to the public, as well as matriculated students, said Otis.

Families have shown a lot of interest in the parent and child classes designed for elementary school-age children.

"There's a lot of interest. Lots of parents have been looking for something like this... but it's the kids who choose what classes to attend," Otis said.

Fliers announcing classes are sent to local schools and a lot of kids look them over, decide what they would like and tell parents, she explained.

"Kids are going for the things definitely of interest to them. They're not told by mom what to do," Otis said.

Instructors also enjoy the classes. Instructors Bob Raudebaugh, Todd Morton and Kathleen Kitto — from

Western's Technology Department — each teach one session of a three-part technology series.

Raudebaugh, who will assist parents and children with paper car design on Oct. 19, "is an exceptional person" when it comes to working with kids, Otis said.

"We can't keep a lid on his enthusiasm," Otis said.

Morton teaches electronics on Oct. 12. He feels better prepared for this class session than he was for the first class he taught last Spring.

"That was my first experience last spring. The hardest part was trying to prepare for that level," Morton said, who said he thinks the "rough spots" have been worked through satisfactorily.

"Electronics is very abstract," said Morton. "Parents ask more advanced questions; kids get lost." It's impor-

tant to assess what level the kids are on and prepare for that level, explained Morton. "This quarter I'm not going to try to teach everything about electronics. I learned a lot last time," Morton said.

In addition to technology classes, other offerings allow children to explore colonial life, make books and learn about Northwest Coast Native Americans.

While parent and child activities is the heading chosen for the After Hours publication, adults and children do not have to be related to take advantage of the programs, said Otis. And an adult may attend with more than one child, she added. A lot of children want to attend a class, and they want to take their best friend. The program allows for that, she said.

Fees for the parent and child classes vary from class to class, but

the initial cost is generally for one parent and one child. Additional children are admitted to the class for a fee ranging from \$9 to \$15 per child.

Loie Haggen, of Bellingham, attended the "Singing Together" class this past summer.

Haggen brought two children with her from her church pre-school to learn songs, fingerplays and lullabies. They all had a great time, Haggen said, who recorded the class and frequently listens to the tape.

For Morton it was exciting to see so many kids attend the courses.

"The best thing was seeing so many kids come on a sunny afternoon. A lot of other activities were going on...but they (the kids) stuck around," he said.

For more information about the program or a variety of other "after hours" classes call 647-6822.

the previous two test sites did, Carson said.

"We were definitely out there as guinea pigs," Carlson said. One benefit of this kind of approach was

seen a system converted in the middle of the fiscal year," Brown said. Most of the problems with Banner arose from the way the system was implemented, Brown said. Brown was also

program option, which was used by other schools testing the Banner system.

Western planned to start Banner at the beginning of the 90-91 fiscal year and started to set up the necessary hardware, but the software wasn't far enough along, Carlson said. When the improvements were finished, the decision was made to install Banner right away, rather than waiting another five months, Carlson said.

"Because of Banner, I feel as if I am on a constant treadmill," Brown said. Due to the frustration of dealing with the system, trying to get help with the program and watching her time being eaten up by fighting with

Banner, Brown pushed the program aside to focus on other priorities. Not only did complaints seem to get shuffled around, but information about changes and problems didn't seem to reach staff struggling with the system, Brown said. She also said she felt other staff members were experiencing the same problems and burning out. Other staff members who were asked about the program refused to comment.

An inter-departmental committee was formed to gather feedback from the campus community in November of 1990, and memos accompanied monthly reports, Carlson said. Carlson speculated that lack of publicity and interest may have damaged

neth Mortimer is due late this month.

Jerry Boles was hired to serve as Western's first vice-provost for telecommunications. His duties include coordinating and supervising activities in computing, tele-communications and media services, Boles said. Boles estimates 25-30% of his time is dedicated to coordinating activity to improve Banner.

"The fundamental issues are increasing the viability of the software and getting users involved," Boles said.

"They have put me so far behind I can't tell you where they are now," Brown said when asked if Banner has improved.

Carlson has seen Banner improve

**"Because of Banner, I feel as if I am on a constant treadmill."**

*Teari Brown, Western Front business manager*

having direct access to the programmer to make suggestions, even though the program couldn't be tailored specifically to Western's needs, she said.

"This is the first time I have ever

surprised Western didn't run the old system parallel to the new until all of the problems were worked out.

"We didn't feel it was cost effective," Carlson said about the parallel



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**"It was a very difficult conversion. . . we knew it would be difficult, but we had more problems than we had anticipated."**

*Mary Carlson, director of fiscal services*

the group's effectiveness.

A "user interface team," headed by Vice-President for Business and Financial Affairs George Pierce, was created to handle complaints and create an effective training program. The first team-report to President Ken-

bit by bit since January, and is optimistic the new set of updates from SCT will improve it even more. Carlson said she will be satisfied with Banners performance.

"Am I satisfied today? Probably not," Carlson said.

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## State Board of Education revokes Central's teacher certification authority

By Jonathan Burton  
staff reporter

On Sept. 26, the Washington State Board of Education (SBE) revoked Central Washington University's teacher certification authority by a 14 to 1 vote. Central, the state's largest producer of teachers, certified nearly 400 teachers last year, said SBE Public Information Officer Marilyn Jones.

"Students were expected to meet 1978 standards," Jones said. Jones also said some administrators were not aware changes in certification standards were made recently. The SBE set new standards in 1988, and expected state schools to comply by 1991. Central failed to comply, Jones said.

The program at Central was found inadequate in basic teacher training and child abuse observation and prevention training, said Jones. Jones also said the eight week and three year required teaching experiences were not well documented or supervised. Evaluation of teaching skills and knowledge was also inadequate, Jones said.

Western complied to the standards set in 1988, said Theodore Mork, program area head of elementary education (CNI). Western offers teacher certification on an approved program basis by the SBE.

"We define our program within

the guidelines that are set by the state board (SBE)," Mork said. "We build programs according to those guidelines."

The SBE keeps track of state university certification in two ways, Mork said. The dean of education is required to fill out a dean's affidavit at the end of each year, stating that the school complies with state requirements, Mork said. Members of the SBE periodically inspect university documentation to ensure requirements are being met, Mork said.

He added that lack of adequate documentation may have been part of the reason Central lost its certification authority.

Each institution granted teacher certification authority is required to have a Professional Education Advisory Board consisting of no less than 50 percent teacher representation, Mork said. He also said each board is responsible for the documentation of its own programs.

Central has until the end of November, when the SBE meets next, to provide adequate documentation of their program. Central was unable to comment on the situation, but according to the Bellingham Herald (Sept. 27), "Central Washington officials, who had hoped to head off the board's vote, took the decision in stride and expressed confidence that the action will be reversed next month."

### Thesis continued from page 3

conservation biology. It is significant, not only from its scientific content, but also in that it reflects a creative original approach to a difficult area of research. It is not easy to measure predation on 100 turtle hatchlings emerging simultaneously from a nest in the middle of the night!" wrote Maurice Schwartz, dean of graduate affairs and research, in a letter nominating Conant for consideration of the prestigious award.

Conant's thesis was initially nominated by her thesis adviser, Gisele Muller-Parker of the biology department.

The 1992 Distinguished Master's Thesis Award will be presented next spring at the annual meeting of the Western Association of Graduate Schools. If Conant should win the distinction she will receive \$500, a certificate of award and travel expenses to attend the annual meeting.

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## Technology department students develop remote control for disabled

By Sam Kittell  
staff reporter

The disabled have found a staunch ally in Western's technology department. Dedicated to learning and devoted to advancing technologically, the department has found a way to combine the two in a way that makes the world an easier place to live for disabled people.

With funding from St. Lukes Foundation, the technology department has designed and created a remote control that will give people with impaired motor skills the ability to manipulate the functions of their television, video cassette recorder (VCR) or stereo without outside help.

The technology department at Western is involved in various projects in conjunction with St. Lukes. Projects include an automatic door, remote control for the door and the above-mentioned remote control. These projects are helpful to society and perfect for the manufacturing engineering technology students because their program emphasizes developing existing technologies and modifying them to meet particular needs, said Kathleen Kitto, the head of the project.

Kitto said the remote project was designed specifically for a former teacher living in Bellingham, now

suffering from multiple sclerosis. The woman prefers to remain anonymous at this time.

The outside of the new remote control is slightly larger than a normal remote control and is made of aluminum. This aluminum case contains 14 large, extra-sensitive buttons on the top and is designed to slip over a commercial universal model remote control that is programmable to individual televisions. The technology department chose the Memorex brand because Fred Meyer's offered to sell them for a wholesale price of \$30. If the project is successful on a national scale, Kitto hopes Memorex will donate the remote controls.

"It will be nice for people with multiple sclerosis and cerebral palsy to have those big buttons. Sometimes when I'm tired, I can't even hit those tiny buttons on the regular remote controls. It will help them to not feel so dependent on others. They must get very frustrated at times," said John Ramalho, a senior student in manufacturing engineering technologies. He is working on the final designs of the project.

The actual buttons will be one-inch square and will require only 100 grams of force (or one-quarter pound.) There will be seven on the left side for television functions and seven on the right for VCR functions. Since only six buttons are required to control the

television, Ramalho hopes to make the seventh button a switch between stereo and television. Underneath the buttons, computer keyboard switches will be wired to the appropriate switches in the commercial remote control.

Kitto said she hoped the project would be completed by Tuesday, Oct. 8 when department head David Harris, Kitto and Ramalho participate in a Volunteer Medical Engineer (VME) meeting in Seattle to seek approval for the design.


The VME is a group of engineers who work on designs for the medical field. If the group approves of the design, they will play a significant part in raising the funds needed to produce the remote control for the public.

Costs involved include the price of the commercial remote control, the case, the components joining the two together and the labor of the students. Although no exact price was given, the final product should cost less than \$100. The remote control will be free to the client and will be paid for entirely by fund raisers.

"I think there is going to be a pretty big call for the large button remote control because everybody with some motor function problems whether it is multiple sclerosis or muscular dystrophy has trouble getting at those small buttons," Kitto said.

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# Loaf will perform free concert at Fairhaven

By Karl W. Jensen  
copy editor

Headlining a hot concert tonight in the Fairhaven courtyard will be the crowd-wowing, ever-popular Loaf — one of the only bands no longer permitted to perform on campus without a damage waiver.

Performing with Loaf at the Fairhaven Recording Studio sponsored gala will be the new band Gypsy Sandcastle and phantom-band Boastin' Moses. Festivities begin at 8

p.m. Friday, Oct. 11.

Gypsy Sandcastle, with only a handful of performances under their belts, are a progressive, anti-electric alternative band, formed from a combination of several local bands: Cain's Libido, 3 Mickeys, Lovecraft and Loaf.

"We refuse to play electric instruments, but still play alternative rock music," said guitarist and Fairhaven Recording Studio Director Blake Michaelson.

Gypsy Sandcastle will "soon"

release their first album, "Alabaster Fear," on HBIH Records.

"It's a rare occasion when anyone under 21 can hear Loaf play," Michaelson said. So minors should keep that in mind.

Loaf should have a single coming out "real quick," band members said. They also went on to say, "Loaf is Loaf."

"To tell you the truth, I've never heard Boastin' Moses, but they've been described to me as 'artistic metal,'" Michaelson said.



photo by Dave Willoughby

Gypsy Sandcastle, a combination of four local bands, will perform at 8 p.m. tonight at the Fairhaven courtyard.

## Ethnic and minority writers reading series begins

By Lori Corso  
staff reporter

The Hubless Wheel, a Reading Series of Minority and Ethnic Writers, implies movement, progress and the evolution of ideas, said Omar Castaneda, of the English department and coordinator of the reading series. The Hubless Wheel celebrates the unity of diversity.

The Hubless Wheel Series began last winter as a collaborative effort between Western's English department and the Northwest Indian College.

The series, funded by Western's Arts and Sciences Diversity Fund, will feature Guatemalan author, Victor Montejo at 7 p.m., Oct. 16 in

Lecture Hall 2 and at 10 a.m., Oct 17 at the Northwest Indian College. Montejo will be reading and discussing his works.

Montejo, author of "Testimony: Death of a Guatemalan Village," "El K'anil: The Man of Lightning" and "The Bird Who Cleans the World and other Mayan Fables" left Guatemala a decade ago and is currently completing his doctoral studies in anthropology at the University of Connecticut.

"Testimony: Death of a Guatemalan Village," is Montejo's eyewitness account of the destruction of a Guatemalan village. Montejo details an accidental clash between the village's "civil patrol" and a Guatemalan army troop which leads to the

execution and imprisonment of many villagers.

"The Guardian:" said of Montejo's testimony, "Ever since genocidal fascism ran amok in Europe in the 1930s, there has been no more moving account of the destruction of a peaceful community by the forces of "order," "democracy" or whatever the uniformed goons may write on their banners."

Montejo's most recent work, "The Bird Who Cleans the World and other Mayan Fables" is described by Curbstone Press as... "tales that have a deceptive simplicity and charm. The broad range of these themes in this collection vary from political power struggles in the kingdom of animals to ethnic differences of people and

their cultures."

Castaneda, a Guatemalan American and accomplished writer, began organizing the Hubless Wheel Series partly because of his own personal interests.

"We are entering an era where multiculturalism is perhaps becoming the dominant theme," Castaneda said.

Peter Elich, dean of the College of Arts and Sciences approved funding for the Hubless Wheel Reading Series.

"It (The Hubless Wheel) provides a stimulating, intellectual, enlightening experience for students...it offers different viewpoints from different cultural perspectives," Elich said.

Kathleen Roy, a fifth-year Fairhaven student majoring in litera-

ture and women and ethnic studies, helped organize the Hubless Wheel Reading Series.

"We are trying to provide a place for ethnic and minority writers...who may not receive the exposure that they deserve," Roy said.

The Hubless Wheel Reading Series will host Pakistani writer, Bapsi Sidhwa Nov. 8. Sidhwa is the 1991 winner of the Liberatur Prize. The Series will also feature award winning authors: Beth Brant, a Mohawk writer and Joseph Bruchac, author and director of the Native American Writer Distribution Project in April.

For more information contact Omar Castaneda at 647-6104.

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## Record Review - The Cult

By Jeff Collins  
staff reporter

With the release of their brilliant "Love" album in 1985, The Cult peaked. But 1991 brings a far different story from the English boys who have relocated to that rock 'n' roll, booze 'n' motorcycle paradise we call Los Angeles.

The Cult's last three albums, "Electric," "Sonic Temple" and the latest, "Ceremony," are basically one gigantic song. Each have the basic

formula of heavy guitar riffs and solos from Billy Duffy, countless "owwws" from lead singer Ian Astbury and two or three power ballads.

These guys have become the '90s version of Spinal Tap — or was it Spinal Tap? "Wild Hearted Son" and "Full Tilt" are as ridiculous as they are perfect for FM rock radio.

The album's inner sleeve slogan of "Earth, Soul, Rock 'n' Roll" says it all; The Cult wants to embody the sheer essence of rock 'n' roll so badly,

they have become a parody themselves of countless self-righteous bands. If life imitates art, then The Cult imitates all the cliches and foolishness of a rock 'n' roll band.

It's hard to say what the silliest song on "Ceremony" is, but "Wonderland" and "Indian" are definitely high on the list.

\* Weak - Why did they even release this?

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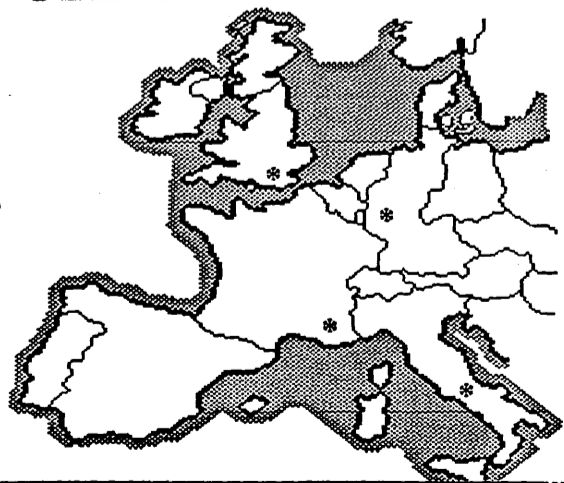
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## Caesar salad prepared on a tailgate

By Neil Landaas  
staff reporter

As far as I am concerned, the Caesar Salad, when prepared right, is the best meal in the world. Not many people know how to prepare a traditional Caesar Salad. Most restaurants offer only cheap imitations of this classic dish.

The finest Caesar Salad I ever consumed was not prepared in some pompous downtown dining establishment. It was made on the tailgate of an old Ford pickup truck by a fellow named Oscar.

As the old Ford rumbled up the Yakima Canyon toward Ellensburg, Oscar told our small group of picnickers how his grandfather had invented the Caesar Salad while work-



ing at a small seafood bar in Acapulco, Mexico.

We parked on a dusty highway turnout, where Yakimonians gather to catch catfish from the Yakima river. As the Eastern Washington sun was dipping behind the rugged walls of

the canyon, Oscar placed a tin cup of water on the still warm intake manifold of the Ford's old V-8 engine.

As the water warmed, Oscar mashed together two cloves of garlic, an inch of anchovy paste, a dash of salt and pepper into a mealy paste. After dropping an egg into the now very hot water, he added a shot of red wine vinegar and a splash of Worcestershire sauce to the paste. The fervent smell of Acapulco began to cut through the dry desert air.

Oscar pulled the egg from the water and cracked it in his palm. The white dribbled through his fingers and fell to the dusty ground. The yolk, however, remained resting in the cradle of his fingers. This was then quickly whipped into the vinegar and garlic mixture, making a beautiful

golden brown base for the Caesar dressing.

It was later explained to me that heating an egg in hot water for about 60 seconds is called coddling. Coddling a yolk makes it thick, giving a salad dressing its texture.

By this time, everyone was exceptionally drunk and unaware of just how dangerous cooking on a highway turnout can be. Oscar, proud of his salad dressing, raised a cheese grater in one hand and a Lucky Lager bottle in the other. A sort of victory sign for culinary achievement, I guess.

Wavering back and forth in a drunken stupor, he stumbled out onto the highway, where he froze in the high-beams of an oncoming cattle truck. As the Kenworth thundered by, air-horns blaring through the canyon,

fate was on Oscar's side. He had managed to dive belly first back to the safety of our dusty turnout.

Sobered by this experience, we watched as Oscar managed to grate a large handful of Parmesan cheese into the dressing. After adding about a cup of olive oil, the dressing was tossed with fresh Romaine lettuce and toasted croutons.

Served with grilled catfish and french bread, it was probably the best damn meal I ever had. What really made the experience great was that it was done entirely on the spur of the moment, and between four people cost us each about three bucks.

So you see, you really don't need a whole lot of money to cook a good meal. All you really need is one good head (of lettuce).

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# Homecoming committee plans for more parti

By Tina Prather  
staff reporter

The plan of the 1991 Homecoming Committee is that no one will be able to make it through October 16-20 without participating in the festivities, or at least seeing them. The committee of 35 began planning the event in January to the theme of "Celebrate The Good Times" and they're hoping everyone will do just that.

Kelly Guise, events coordinator for the Alumni Affairs Office, said they started the planning so soon because it's such a large undertaking.

"We try to involve everyone, young and old, and we think we have something for everyone," she said.

The committee has made up promotional kits for downtown businesses, informed alumnus of the special events planned just for them, and organized a wide array of student activities, including a fireworks display and the traditional homecoming dance.

Homecoming is back due to a renewal of student and alumni interest, said Carole Wiedmeyer, public information officer and co-chairman of the Homecoming Publicity Committee.

"Two years ago students actually put on a homecoming dance of their own," Wiedmeyer said. "It just sort of took on a life of its own since then."

Wiedmeyer also said she anticipates greater participation from the local businesses this year. Last year there was only one participant in the downtown business decorating contest. This time the committee has decided to help the businesses by providing them with decorating starter kits, complete with streamers, posters, pom-poms and footballs. They are also encouraging on-campus decorating with a judging contest for dorm decorations.

"Last year's dorm participation was pretty nil," said Rhonda Brice, liaison to Residence Life for the homecoming committee. "This year

we're trying to push for more people to know what's going on, so they have a chance to participate."

Ennen's Foods and The Fair Market will have food drives all week long with the proceeds going to the Bellingham Food Bank.

"This is something new we're trying to pull together. It gives the community a chance to get involved," Brice says. "We're also trying to create a competition among the halls in the dorms as well."

The committee has also arranged radio spots on KISM in the morning throughout Homecoming week using various alumnus, students, football players and cheerleaders to announce the day's upcoming events.

There will also be a Homecoming Hotline number available to students for getting up-to-the-minute information on the latest Homecoming happenings.

Kristie Lundstrom, the alumni office manager, has created the "Official Raspberry Homecoming Brownie" especially for the Homecoming event. They will be sold for 91 cents at all the food vendors and coffee shops around campus during Homecoming week.

"It's dee-licious," said creator and baker-extrordinaire Lundstrom.

The alumni office has also arranged for a Special Featured Alumni Guest to sit with President Mortimer during the Homecoming game against the University of Puget Sound. Howard Wilder, an ex-Western football player and graduate of the class of 1937, called to ask about the Homecoming festivities and became the honored guest.

"He's a real ball of fire," Guise said of Wilder. "We thought he was a special guy, so we decided to give him special treatment."

Guise said they had good response to the idea of bringing back Homecoming from alumni who experienced a Western Homecoming, and those who did not.

Pat Rhoads, student activities co-chair, says that another reason the

tradition is back is to give the college one more big event to add to the list of events it already offers.

"Of course students come to school to learn, but they come to school to have fun too," Rhoads said. "When students look at our college we'd like to have some of the big events that other schools offer."

"It's like taking a tradition and trying to make it new," Wiedmeyer said. "There are some people who don't want to be involved in Homecoming. Tradition here has always been a lack of tradition. But Homecoming has changed a lot over the years. For example there is no longer any royalty. It's much more inclusive. There is even one day for non-athletic events that will be simple, but a lot of fun."

The committee has also tried to incorporate student and alumni interaction by scheduling panel discussions for students held by successful alumni speakers. The panels, put on by the Career Planning and Placement Center, will discuss careers for liberal arts and accounting majors.

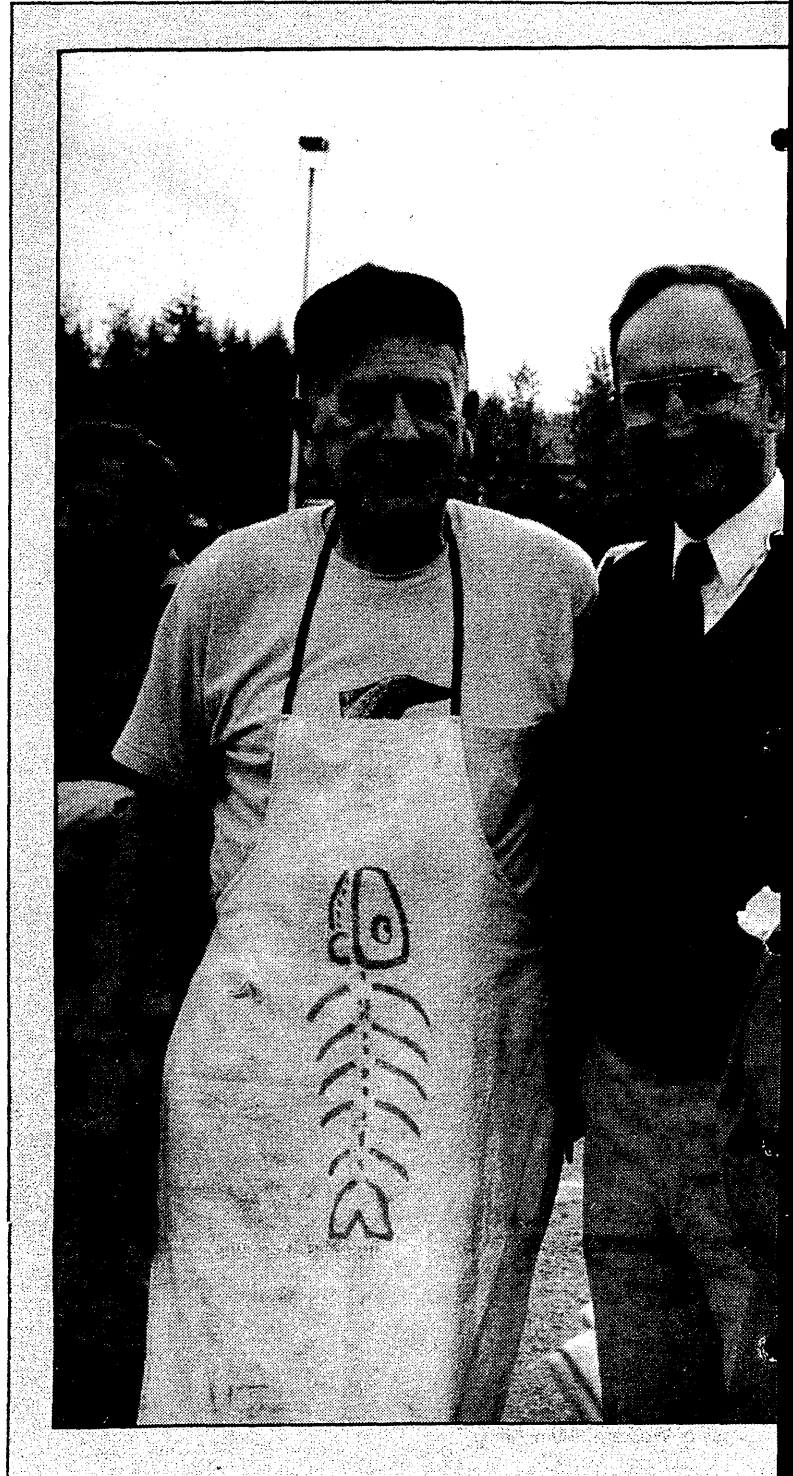
A lot of time and effort has gone into planning the whole affair.

"You can't please everyone, but we're trying really hard," Rhoads said. "I think it's done, but with all the details you can never tell. Everyone has been really good about helping out."

"It's a tricky thing to pull off at the beginning of the year," Wiedmeyer said.

The committee mailed information to over 40,000 alumni and 10,000 students, but a lot of people get missed at the beginning of the year due to moving problems and new addresses.

"It's not easy to have a lot of student involvement in the fall," Wiedmeyer said. "You have to really break through the noise. As soon as their feet hit the bricks on the 25th, we're throwing this at them. Next year we'll probably try to do it later in the year. But for now, it's a good ice-breaker, and it gets people together right away to do something fun."



Chet Ullin (left), President Mortimer and his wife, Lorraine enjoy barbeque. Ullin is a 1937 Western graduate who was the first

## Homecoming tradition returns to Western

By Sam Kitchell  
staff reporter

Celebrate the good times! Come home! This is the call to arms sounded by the 1991 Homecoming Committee. This call is expected to evoke a myriad of responses from an alumni that does not remember the "good times" of homecoming, simply because there was no homecoming at Western between the years 1969 and 1990.

Over the past 21 years, the homecoming tradition has become a Western non-tradition. Kevin Bryant, director of athletic marketing and promotions and the homecoming committee chair, explained that Western was a political hotspot during the Vietnam years. People were dodging the draft, going to Vietnam, and protesting the war. Fairhaven was covered with hippies and was known for its alternative life-style; demonstrators laid down on I-5 and blocked traffic, and 300 students ran over the border to the peace arch. Celebrating homecoming just wasn't high on the priority list.

Tom Wigg, a record-breaking running back for the undefeated 1971

Western football team, whose photo and jersey still hang in the Carver gym hallway, described the time as one fraught with too much political tension to worry about homecoming festivities.

"Western always seemed to go against the normal traditions," Wigg said. "Athletics wasn't the focus in the past. The Western administration wasn't sure they wanted to back athletics, so there wasn't a lot of support for homecoming anyway."

The final grunt for air was issued by the 1969 homecoming queen. The queen was a 450-pound pig named Grenalda who was nominated by the rugby club. In addition to the pig farce, only 22 people signed up for the homecoming dance. The overwhelming emotions of the time were enough to deter future homecoming committees from forming for the next two decades.

During those two decades, a "sort of perverse pride" was formed by Western students. There was a real lack of school spirit. It was a feeling of being above that type of event. Many on-campus students and alumni feel like homecoming is not part of their tradition or their understanding

of what Western is all about, Bryant said.

A wide range of feelings were apparent last year when the homecoming committee sent out invitations for the first time in 21 years. Responses ranged from outrage to joy, from disbelief to excitement. Bryant said that some alumni sent their invitations back with notes scribbled on them demanding that they not be sent this stupid stuff again. Other people he didn't even know came up and gave him hugs at the homecoming dance and thanked him for bringing homecoming back.

The 1990 homecoming week was mostly administratively coordinated. It was an attempt to get the ball rolling. There were between 6,000 and 8,000 participants last year. Bryant said that the purpose of the week was to allow people to celebrate Western, to re-establish a sense of pride and football was a way to get people together.

This year has brought an increased amount of student participation both in planning and in reaction.

"We've gone from doing something for the students to doing something with the students," Bryant said.

Jim Goldberg, a senior business major and committee co-chair, can see a big change from last year.

"It is much more publicized and there is a lot more excitement," Goldberg said.

Western pride is surging once again. The athletic teams are performing well, U.S. News and World Report has listed Western as one of the top two 'up-and-coming' regional universities in the West, and Western has a leading technology program that is working on a revolutionary design for an automobile that runs on solar power. The timing is right for the successful return of homecoming.

Wigg said he believes that the administration is finally starting to recognize the value of the athletic programs and is investing more on campus facilities.

"I am glad to see the weight room get fixed up and the athletic teams get more support from the administration," Wigg said. "Western is a big part of the community and beginning to take more interest in playing that role. I think bringing back the homecoming is a good idea."

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1990 homecoming salmon  
er all four years in football.

**By Dave Lambert**  
suede columnist

Walking down the railroad tracks, the two men greased along the thin iron rails, scuffing their leather boots across angular rocks and creosote ties. The sky was defined by the tree tops so that it flared out into the distance, becoming more and more vast. The night around them was chilled.

Dean looked up from the tracks. He turned towards his friend.

"Do you ever think that there's something out there? I mean...I can feel it sometimes. It's like some sort of crystal that's in my hand, only I can't tell whether it's burning or freezing."

His palms were open now, at his waist. His body looked as though it were ready for some sort of spiritual Fourth of July.

His friend turned toward him. He took a deep breath and wrinkled his forehead. Then he looked away, moving his head up and down like a buoy.

"Yeah," he mumbled.

"I feel that way when I hear a train in the distance. The black breath whispers of smoke into the night...I



can see them without looking. Then the feeling builds, slowly with the sound of the screaming contact points. The motion takes over. Then silence... The train has passed."

"We better get back soon. We've walked a long way."

"It's funny. There are days when I feel like something else is in control of everything that I do. All that I am becomes part of some greater scheme...I know that all of this will be ground down some day, and returned back to the mantle. But it doesn't matter because I am here now...today. I just want to..."

"I know what you mean. Are you hungry?"

"Yeah, lets turn around. You probably have to get back."

The two profiles did an about face and began covering old ground. The ocean was far enough away that the sounds of the waves mixed together, creating a constant background for the two men's footsteps. They tried to walk on opposite rails, competing for distance. Dean's knees began to buckle and before he could get his arms up for balance, he fell. The other man was looking far down the tracks, holding his arms out like wings.

"That's pretty good, you look like a bird trying to take off," laughed Dean.

"Ah, it's probably just a coincidence."

"Yeah, and my piss smells like tuna fish. What the hells up with you anyway? Don't you have any..."

Just then the rails began to screech. A train was coming. The sounds were getting closer and closer. Dean jumped off to the side while his friend kept balancing on the tracks. The black steam engine appeared out of nowhere, moving around a bend of sandstone.

"Cut it out," yelled Dean.

At the last second, the man leapt

out of the way, landing on his hands and knees in the rocks. The engine sped by, shoveling through the darkness. The screech yielded to a much deeper, lurching sound of train wheels. Dean grabbed his friend and pulled him up with a powerful jerk. He started to yell but the noise from the train drowned out his voice.

His friend looked down at the rocks, the tears welling up in his eyes. They began spilling out, darkening the color of the gravel at his feet. His head shook and his hands trembled as the train kept moving.

After some time, Dean saw the red caboose round the bend. Quickly, he bent down and scooped up a handfull of the darkened gravel. As the caboose streaked by, he pitched them into its side. They clanged on the sheet metal and fell between the tracks. The train edged quickly out of sight.

"Dean...I'm..."

"Yeah, I know."

Quickly, Dean parted the tracks with his boots and began walking at a brisk pace. His friend followed, in silence.

## 'Necessary Roughness,' a solid but predictable film

**By Clayton Wright**  
staff reporter

"Necessary Roughness," the new comedy release from Paramount Pictures, is solid but predictable. A completely unoriginal idea that is effectively presented; a credit to a screenplay that tries to fill as many holes as it creates.

Scott Bakula, the Emmy-nominated star of "Quantum Leap," plays a 34-year-old freshman quarterback recruited by Texas State University in an effort to keep the football program free from NCAA violations.

In the previous year, TSU won the national championship but was later cited by the NCAA for a plethora of recruiting violations that led to

probation and a virtual end to the football program.

The path to rebuilding the program was slowed by several obstacles. The biggest being the dean of the school who believed that athletics deserved zero funding. So to keep the program down, the dean had to uncover other NCAA violations.

As luck might have it, Bakula falls for a professor at the university and immediately the dean suspects she may be fixing grades for football players to protect her love interest and save the team. So the struggle begins. The rich kid on the team (Jason Bateman), who either cheats or has to have his dad buy his grades, is about to run away from football and school, until Bakula convinces him

he can't just walk away. So he studies. And guess what? He passes.

Of course that's not good enough for the dean, so he takes the tests and decides he'll grade them himself.

Here's the real twist in the plot. The team stinks for the the entire movie. It's great. I expected to see this team, recruited entirely from the student body, make the one week turn around and contend for the national championship. Boy, was I surprised! In fact they're so bad they can only manage one win. Of course it's the very last game against the undefeated team in their league. (Did I ruin the ending?)

The evil dean decides to present his grading to the president of the university at the final game (I guess

he doesn't have an office). Just as he's about to reveal the incriminating evidence, Bakula (who needless to say isn't best friends with the dean) comes charging out of bounds during a play and knocks the dean silly. And to make matters worse, the president fires him, and good has once again overcome evil.

Bakula gets his girl, and the team manages to avoid further violations and salvage the season with a win. (I'm sorry. I was so excited that I had to tell someone).

It's good solid entertainment, but I don't think Sinbad will be nominated for an Academy Award. It's worth at least one snap up.

## 'Barnum' to bring circus to the stage

**By Jeff Flugel**  
staff reporter

For one night only, the "Greatest Show on Earth" is coming to Bellingham.

With all the flash and dazzle of the circus which earned that title, the award-winning Broadway musical "Barnum!" promises tricks, tunes and plenty of three-ring action for all who attend. The show will begin at 7 p.m. Sunday, Oct. 13 at the Mount Baker Theater. This song-and-dance comedy kicks off the Mount Baker Theatre Center's 1991-92 "Limelight" Performing Arts Series.

"Barnum has jugglers, clowns, acrobats, swordswallowers, trapeze artists—they're even bringing in a special truss for tightrope walkers," said Ruth Shaw, General Manager of the Mount Baker Theatre Center.

The musical is based on the life of Phineas Taylor (otherwise known as "P.T.") Barnum, co-founder of the legendary Barnum & Bailey Circus. It portrays Barnum as a born showman, a man obsessed with turning humbug into larger-than-life attractions for public consumption.

The musical concentrates mainly on the memorable events of

Barnum's early life, Shaw said, such as his building a museum that supposedly housed the stuffed body of a whale, among other things. It was after this museum burned down, and Barnum was at a low point in his career, when he met James A. Bailey and went on to form the Barnum & Bailey Circus.

The musical also focuses on Barnum's personal life with his wife, Chairy, and the conflict that arises between his innate flamboyance and penchant for humbug, and her respectability and adherence to truth.

And all is told with an appropriate degree of showmanship.

"There will be a lot of fantastic action on stage," Shaw said. "It's got a big cast, lots of color. It's loads of fun and captures the feel of the circus, but it's not a kiddie show, it's a family show."

Originally produced for Broadway by director/choreographer Joe Layton in 1980, "Barnum!" won a Tony award for British actor Jim Dale in the title role. (Actress Glenn Close ("Fatal Attraction," "Hamlet") was also on hand as Barnum's wife.)

Later, another actor made the lead role his own, before going on to even greater fame as a mad, masked opera-lover.

"Michael Crawford played



Photo courtesy of Mount Baker Theatre

**The cast of 'Barnum!' will perform the award-winning Broadway musical Oct. 13.**

Barnum on Broadway before he did "The Phantom of the Opera," Shaw said. "I was fortunate enough to see a videotape of one of his performances. He was amazing!"

The performance boasts 17 musical numbers composed by Cy Coleman, creator of such well-known show tunes as "If My Friends Could See Me Now," "Big Spender" and "Hey, Look Me Over." Coleman's latest hit was the 1991 Best Musical Tony Award-winning "City of An-

gels."

Michael Stewart provided the lyrics for the show's songs. Stewart is best known for his work on "Bye Bye Birdie" and "Hello, Dolly!"

Mark Bramble, who later collaborated with Stewart on the hit "42nd Street," wrote the book for "Barnum!"

Besides winning a total of three Tony Awards, the musical has been a smash with theater critics since its initial production, garnering praise for its clever and rambunctious stag-

ing, talented and lively stars and supporting cast, and mix of playfulness and period charm.

Tickets for "Barnum!" are \$19, \$17 and \$10, with a \$1 discount for children, students and senior citizens. Tickets can be purchased weekdays, 10 a.m. to 6 p.m., at the Mount Baker Theatre Center, 104 N. Commercial, or charged by phone at 734-6080. Tickets are also available at the door the night of the show.

## Law provides tuition waivers for female athletes

By George Tharalson  
staff reporter

Women's athletics at Western received a financial boost this year, courtesy of the state of Washington. The boost comes in the form of tuition waivers for female athletes.

In 1989, Gov. Booth Gardner signed a bill making available state funds for women athletes. The law went into effect at the start of fall quarter 1991.

"The bill is a great step forward," said Lynda Goodrich, Western's athletic director.

The law represents the first time the state of Washington has endorsed the concept of tuition waivers.

Tuition waivers are much like scholarships, except they are funded by the state, she said. Funding for scholarships is raised by Western, through private fund-raising.

According to the tuition-waiver law, "The total of these waivers is not to exceed 1 percent of total tuition and fees garnered by the university."

For Western, 1 percent of total tuition and fees this year is approximately \$140,000, Goodrich said.

The tuition waivers free funds previously used for scholarships, Goodrich said. The freed funds are then used to expand current women's programs or provide additional women's sports

to equalize the percentage of women varsity athletes. This amount would increase as the amount of scholarship money increased.

The second phase of this program would convert men's scholarships to tuition waivers and the replaced funds will be diverted to additional women's sports. Any additional money for tuition waivers would be earmarked for women athletes.

The waivers replace tuition scholarships only, said Steve Card, associate director of athletics at Western. Scholarship money will still be used for expenses such as books and housing.

The primary purpose of the tuition waivers is to give women more opportunities in athletics, Goodrich said. The waivers "fund state institutions with money to make it more equitable between men's and women's athletics," she said.

The recruiting process in women's athletics will be improved, said Carmen Dolfo, women's head basketball coach at Western.

Western will also be able to better recruit coaches for women's athletics when necessary, Card said. However, Western currently is not advertising for any positions.

The tuition-waiver legislation is based on a state law requiring equal opportunity for women to participate in athletics, Goodrich said. "Institutions not providing (equal opportunity) could lose funding."

An equal number of offered sports does not mean equal opportunity, she said. For example, fall quarter has volleyball for

women and football for men. Volleyball has 12 people on the team while football has around 100. The number of participation slots is more of a factor than the number of sports offered.

The waivers provide a great opportunity for female athletes, Dolfo said. Basketball players, for example, know they can concentrate on going to school and playing basketball, while working less or not having to work at all.

All available waivers for the 1991-92 academic year have been allocated, she said.

Women athletes currently under scholarship received tuition waivers this year, Goodrich said. Coaches were asked whom else should be considered for remaining funds.

Women athletes interested in getting tuition waived for next year should talk to their coaches, she said. Coaches will inform the athletic department of whom they think should receive tuition waivers.

The tuition waiver program does not discriminate between resident and non-resident athletes, Goodrich said. Non-residents will be able to receive full tuition waivers, including the out-of-state portion of their tuition.

Washington is only the second state to adopt a tuition-waiver law, Goodrich said. Colorado was the first.

"It's a great opportunity for women," Dolfo said. "Women have come a long way in athletics."

## Football team takes on second-ranked Pacific Lutheran

By Darril Fosty  
staff reporter

After a 26-21 come-from-behind victory over a tough Simon Fraser team on Oct. 5, the Vikings return home to face the number two nationally ranked Pacific Lutheran University Lutes, in the annual Hall of Fame game, 7 p.m., Saturday at Civic Stadium. The new members of the Western Athletic Hall of Fame will be honored at halftime (football player Butts Girard, crew standout Darrel Vreugdenhil, basketball player Stan Peterson and Sehome High School gymnastics coach Nola Ayres).

Western is tied for first place in the Columbia Football League's Mt. Rainier division standings with PLU, and nationally number one ranked Central Washington, with a 1-0 record.

A win would probably move the Vikings into national ranking while ending a 13 game winless streak against the Lutes.

"If we want to be considered for the playoffs, we have to win our games at home. We have a great challenge ahead in PLU. It's not a must win, but it's pretty darn close. We're expecting a big crowd and we need that support," Viking Head Coach Rob Smith said.

The Lutes come into the game with a 3-0 record, while having won 14 of their last 15 regular season games, and outscoring their opponents 97-37.

"They've been on a roll. They have good players and they execute real well. You know that they won't beat themselves and we've got to do the same," Smith said.

"We hadn't been able to do that the first two weeks and with the aggressive way we play we should do that. The important thing is to turn them into points and we did that a couple of times," Smith said.

The Viking offense is averaging 30.7 points per game this season, but Coach Smith said he thinks improvement is needed to defeat PLU.

"I'm feeling good about our running game, but we have to improve on third down conversions," Smith said.

Western has converted 26% (11 of 43) of their third down conversions, versus 45% (23 of 51) by their opponents.

"The offense is beginning to feel pretty good about themselves," Smith said.

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## Freshman shines as volleyball team defeats St. Martin's

By George Tharalson  
staff reporter

Western's volleyball win over St. Martin's Oct. 9, wasn't the only story that night at Carver Gym. The match also marked the emergence of freshman Kris Martin as an integral part of Western's team.

Martin entered the match with Western trailing 9-0 in the first game.

It was exciting to get out and play, Martin said.

"I was really surprised to get the call," Martin said.

Martin spent most of the season on the bench. This was the first home match she played this season.

"Kris Martin played the best match of her life," said Western Head Coach Chris Hartmann. "She had kills at critical times for us. She kept us in the match."

She performed at a much higher level, Hartmann said. Despite being "sick as a dog" the night before. In fact, illnesses hit six Viking players over the last week or so.

If Martin was sick at all Oct. 9, she was sick of not playing. She was all over the court—diving for the ball many times to keep it in play. Offensively she had nine kills and one service ace. Defensively, she had 13 digs and one block.

Kris played a fabulous game, Tamara Locke said.

The call to Martin wasn't the only change made in the first game. With Western trailing 8-0, senior April Lindsey was benched. Lindsey has been a starter since her sophomore

year, and earned NAIA District 1 all-star honors last season. She usually plays the entire match.

Hartmann felt a change was needed to spark the team. Lindsey's position was one where such a change could be made, he said.

Despite the 9-0 deficit, Western came back to win game one, 16-14.

The comeback showed perseverance and determination on Western's part, Hartmann said.

"I want to see it at the beginning (of the game), too," Hartmann said.

"We finally realized (St. Martin's) would not just give us the game," Locke said.

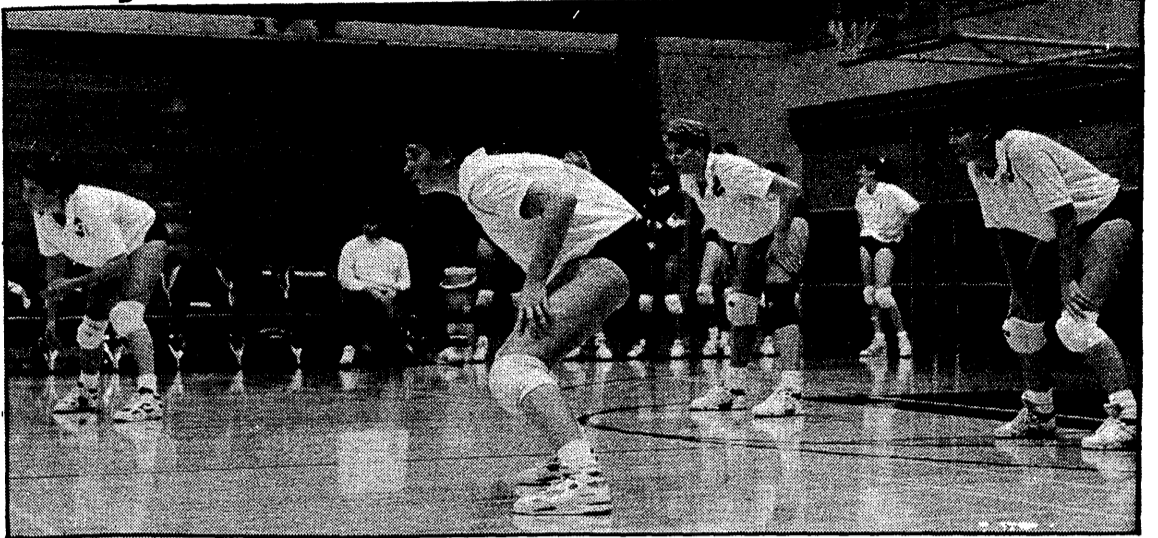
"We were working on supporting each other," Martin said.

The team needed to play each point as it came, and not worry about previous points or mistakes.

Western fell behind in each of the remaining games. In games two and three, once St. Martin's took the lead, they held on to win, taking both games 15-12.

In game four, the serving of Denise Dodge, the play of Locke and Martin and the team's overall hustle resulted in an 18-16 win, evening the match at two games all. Game five marked Lindsey's return. She promptly made her presence felt with four key kills, one of which set up match point at 14-12. On the next serve, the Vikings closed-out the match.

"It was an exciting game," Hartmann said. "The team did some things consistently. April came into



Kris Martin, Lynnette Bonnema, Denise Dodge and Kerri Jostad (L-R) prepare to return a St. Martin's serve.

Photo by Rich Waters

game five looking to score, and her kills really helped the team."

Denise Dodge led the Vikings with 23 kills, Lynnette Bonnema added 18 and Locke 16. Dodge led the team with five service aces and Kris Little added two. Defensively, the Vikings were led by 13 digs from both Martin and Locke, 12 from Bonnema and 11 from Kerri Jostad. Locke and Dodge led the Vikings with 2 blocks each.

Dana Schonewill led the Saints with 18 kills, Julie Losano added 16 and Christi Plummer 14. Losano and Ronel Helbig led the team with five service aces each. Defensively for the Saints, Katy Morse led with 17 digs, Helbig had 16 and Losano had 14. Plummer and Schonewill led the

Saints with 2 blocks each.

The Vikings continue to be plagued by errors, committing 20 service errors and 39 on the attack. St. Martin's committed 8 service errors and 42 on the attack.

The team is still not working together, Hartmann said.

"There's no flow, it's six individuals doing their jobs — it's not comfortable," Hartmann said.

The team has reached the point where they should be coming together, he said.

The Vikings take a break from district play and head to Oregon for the Western Oregon Invitational, Oct. 11 and 12.

Western is now 3-2 in district play, 15-7 overall.

### BRIEFS

Cross-country runner Kris Maraveller is the Sarducci's/Western female Athlete of the Week for Sept. 28 to Oct. 5. Maraveller placed 21st in a field of 114 at the Fort Casey Invitational on Oct. 5.

Football player Lynton Hyde was named the male Athlete of the Week for Sept. 28 to Oct. 5. He had 17 tackles, two deflected passes and one interception in the Oct. 5 win against Simon Fraser.

Whatcom Transit Authority will be offering 25 cent rides to the Oct. 12 game against PLU. The shuttle will run between 6-7 p.m. and will stop at three campus locations: Birnam Wood, Buchanon Towers and in front of the Viking Union.

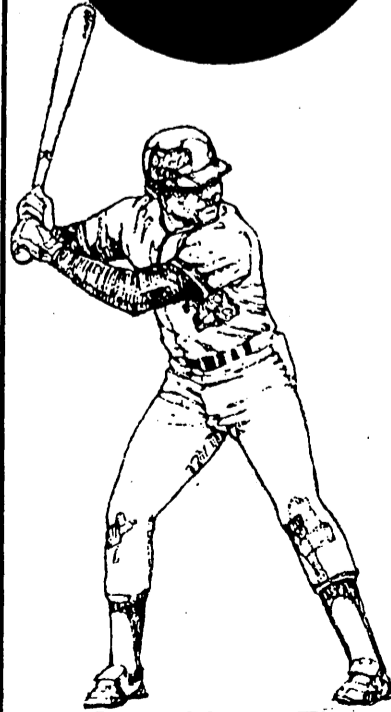
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# THE BUDGET CRUNCH

## Student education a must for a bright future

By Karl Jensen  
copy editor

On Tuesday, April 30, only 18 months after being singled out as a model of low cost improvement of failing schools by the Bush administration, the Richmond, Cal., Unified School District closed its doors. All 31,000 students of the 47-campus school district — California's 15th largest — were sent home 32 days short of the official school year's end.

On April 19, the school district filed for bankruptcy — it had been operating on an \$8 million loan from the state. The governor refused, however, to sign legislation for additional loans, and the school district was forced to close early.

Stories such as this one are becoming all too common, while our elected officials ignore public schools and American children's educational needs.

Problems in the U.S. educational system have become widespread, and will continue to multiply as long as funding for public schools remains inadequate and the state and federal governments continue to remain complacent while the quality of this country's public educational system plummets.

In New York, a proposed college tuition hike by Gov. Mario Cuomo of \$500 (to \$1,950 per year,) caused demonstrations and take-overs of administration buildings at City University and other state institutions. Students were, in

fact, summoned to court to answer for the horrible crimes against humanity which occurred during these demonstrations.

Black and Hispanic students also demonstrated in front of the Cornell University administration building on April 16, to protest financial aid cuts which will, said Ricardo Morales, a spokesman for the students, hurt minorities the most.

In Missouri, struggling Tarkio College "was so desperate to increase enrollment and stay alive, that it dealt out loans and grants to ineligible students until it owed the federal government more than \$22 million." (quoted from the New York Times, "A College Acts in Desperation," 4/17/91)

Even at the nation's most prestigious colleges and universities, financial troubles are hitting home.

"Yale faces an estimated \$10 million deficit, largely because of unforeseen expenses such as its decision to expand its campus security force. And further cuts seem certain in future budgets." (quoted from the New York Times, "Yale Students Protest," 5/3/91)

At Yale, student activities have been cut, faculty positions are being trimmed and entire departments may have to be eliminated.

All around the nation, public schools, both at the high school and at the college level are suffering from lack of funds. And it's not the public's fault.

This year, private gifts to American col-

leges and universities went up 10 percent to \$9.8 billion. In fact, "philanthropy from all sources has increased by 55 percent since 1984-'85... Adjusted for inflation, donations were up 21 percent from five years earlier." (quoted from the New York Times, "College's Private Gifts," 5/3/91)

Here at Western, this issue hits familiar territory indeed. With the budget cuts, the possible cancellation of the Geography program, faculty positions in jeopardy, financial aid dwindling, tuition rising and enrollment increasing yearly, the issue of proper educational funding is brought to our immediate attention.

The government's method of funding public schools is definitely flawed, and something must be done before irreparable harm is done.

For instance, in Majestic Beach, N.Y., there are public schools that spent \$17,000 for each student last year, while boasting of computers in every classroom, and a vast array of extracurricular programs. Yet only a short distance away, in the William Floyd School District, only \$7,614 was spent on each student, more than half of which attend school in temporary trailer-style buildings because no money is available to build permanent space (from the New York Times, "Poorer School Districts," 5/6/91.)

Some outraged school districts have taken their anger into court. And law suits have become common practice in some states.

Despite legal claims, there are no constitutional requirements that educational spending

be equal. However, "if the legal challenges succeed, school administrators agree, they could lead to radical changes in the state's financing of education. Some affluent districts could face higher property taxes to cover a loss of state aid and could even be ordered to share some of their tax revenue with poorer districts." (quoted from the New York Times, "Poorer School Districts," 5/6/91)

The costs of our public educational system, both at the high school and at the college level, are a hard burden to bear for this country's government and tax-payers, but we must begin to do a better job in funding education. It has become nearly a cliché these days, but this country's future is in its children and its educational system.

If the children of today are not allowed to learn and to grow in an educated environment, the future will not be as bright as many believe. Many sacrifices must indeed be made to offer an impressive and thorough public education to the students of today, but it's one of the most important programs our government provides for its citizens, and we must not let it deteriorate as it has been.

Problems ranging from school closures, law suits and dwindling financial aid, to struggling colleges and campus protests confront our public school system today. We must work to overcome these problems and to create a thriving atmosphere for the next generation of student, or our culture

## Student concern could help minimize budget cuts

By the Associated Student  
for The Western Front

The University is facing budget cuts. This is a given. It is obvious that no one at the University likes the fact that we need to cut 2 and 1/2 percent out of our budget. This is tough on students, faculty, staff and administration.

The reason we are facing cuts is that the state doesn't have a sufficient amount of funds. All state-run agencies are making budget cuts, the five public universities being among them.

In the near future, the state will need to deal with the issue of increasing state revenues. This could be done by raising sales tax, levying a state income tax, etc. Olympia will wrestle with these

issues when session opens.

Right now, as a university community, we need to deal with finding 2 and 1/2 percent that we can cut out of our budget. In order to do this we must look at our institutional priorities. The primary focus of Western is the teaching of students. That is our number one concern. This quality of education for students includes factors of faculty to student ratio, classroom size, availability of classes, the need for modern facilities, etc.

When cuts are being made, the University's priorities need to be kept in mind. The student body needs to have availability of input into these critical decisions.

any student input on it: the University Planning

Committee. There is a special UPC meeting Friday, Oct. 11 at 4 p.m. in Old Main 355. The regular meeting is on Tuesdays at 11 a.m. in Old Main 340. These are open meetings so anyone can come and give input. Those interested can call Joseph Crook, the UPC chair to get budget information and the UPC agenda.

Open forums are also being held on the budget cuts. Concerned students should come to these and give their opinions. They are taking place at 2 p.m. on Friday, Oct. 11 and Wednesday, Oct. 16 in Parks Hall 104.

We can also let our legislators know that we will not stand idly by while the quality education that we expect becomes less and less of a possibility. We must make them aware that we are

concerned with growing class sizes, unavailability of classes, the need for modern facilities, and diminishing student housing. So exercise your right and vote for those you believe will foster education. Call the Legislative Hotline at 1-800-562-6000 and inform the legislators that when they decide to allocate more money for higher education they are investing in the future of the state and the nation as a whole.

Interested students can also become involved in Washington Student Lobby. Western has a chapter right here on campus in VU 221. For information call 647-6124.

Students will feel the budget cuts. Where we feel depends on how concerned we are.

### Students sound off

"Things are barebone now; I can't imagine what it would be like with another budget cut."

—Stephen Arnold, senior,  
Journalism

"Maybe they should stop paying state officials so much and think about people like students who don't have so much money."

—Dave Stubenrauch, senior,  
Business

"At least they don't cut dollar-pitcher night."

—Cathy Ernstine, senior,  
Business

"I know some people that had to transfer because their majors were cut. Will this (cut) force people to transfer out?"

—Mark Chavez, junior,  
Business

"I'm already on the five year plan and I don't plan on being here for six years."

—Ashley Bryan, junior,  
Communications

"It bothers me that the cuts are so 'under the covers'...and it's so evasive of what action is going to be taken. I understand that nobody knows what's exactly going to happen or what Booth Gardner is going to do. It really angers me that we can't decide what's going to be cut - give our suggestions."

—Sarah Burkhalter, senior,  
Human Services

"I think it all depends on what it's being taken out of. I hope it doesn't cut back meaningful programs to the campus like sports programs or other special events."

—Tom Zimmerman, junior,  
Computer Science

"It's a bad sign of the times. In my opinion I wish they could cut the budget in some other area besides the university, but they certainly don't see it that way."

—Chris Craggs, senior,  
Science Education

"I know previously, education had 50 percent of a state budget. It's too bad so much has gone from education to bureaucracy."

—Cameron Munro, senior,  
English

"I don't like it. It's hard enough to get classes and money as it is. It's just going to cut into our education."

—Becky Engelherdt, junior,  
History

"If they make cuts now, who knows when it's going to stop. If we take 5 percent, next time they'll try and take more."

—Ryan Morris, freshman,  
Industrial Design

"I think they know better than we do where the money is needed. I trust them, but it doesn't make me feel better. You can only do the best with what you're offered."

—Holly Kemper, senior,  
Marketing

"It's too bad administrators look at education as a place to 'cut the edges off' the budget, rather than an investment in the future."

—Sallianne Fortunato,  
senior Political Science

"I'm transferring to the UW."

—Cathy Mabee, senior,  
Communications

Compiled by Lori Corso, Art Hughes  
and Clayton Wright

## Frontline

## Thomas' accuser being victimized by Senate

The recent uproar concerning the appointment of Judge Clarence Thomas to the Supreme Court has not only brought to light possible sexual harassment charges, but also the total insensitivity of the nation's leaders.

The way in which the accusations brought forth by Thomas' former aide have been handled has been a perfect example of male ignorance toward the reality of harassment of women in the workplace. The Senate had no idea that its "good old boy" attitude would be the recipient of such vehement public outcry. What the American public is now witnessing is 200 years worth of chauvinism in the male-dominated Senate.

The Senate is treating Anita Hill like she is the criminal, not the accuser. Senator Simpson, R-Wyo., said in a recent article in *The New York Times*, that "It's most appalling to believe any charge that the Senate or the Judiciary committee does not take seriously a charge of sexual harassment. That is a very unfortunate statement, wholly without foundation."

Sorry, Senator, but that's hard to believe. Before these charges became public, the Senate seemed more than willing to sweep this bit of information under the proverbial carpet. It was only after they were slapped in the face by the huge outcry from women across the country that the leaders of the Judiciary Committee realized it may not be politically advantageous to ignore the charges.

Unfortunately, President Bush was not paying attention to this lesson. He has launched his own campaign in support of his candidate for the Supreme Court. His plan involves ruining the credibility of the accuser.

Caught in the middle of this "political hardball" is Anita Hill. If the charges are true, then she has been the victim of harassment not just once, but twice. Her character and integrity has been thrown into the public meat grinder by a group of men who have no idea what it means to be harassed. Thomas supporters are ripping her credibility to shreds with not a thought for the emotions of the real victim.

Republican leaders are looking at the Democrats with blood in their eyes for releasing the charges to the public, calling it an attempt at "character assassination" of Thomas.

Thomas is not the victim.

There are too many questions regarding Thomas' character and the true reasons behind his nomination to continue these hearings. If these charges are even partially accurate, then Thomas is not the right person to be sitting on the bench in our country's highest court. At the same time, there are a number of Senators who have shown that they are not the right people to be sitting in the Capitol halls.



## The Gates hearings: Senate fails to address the CIA's secret wars

By Geoffrey Patrick  
staff reporter

The Senate confirmation hearings of Robert Gates, President Bush's nominee for the position of Director of Central Intelligence, have produced more discussion of the CIA and the American intelligence community than any event since the partial revelation of the Iran/Contra scandal. Unfortunately, however, those who have any understanding of the Iran/Contra scandal and other recent activities of the American intelligence community, as they relate to democracy in America and political stability around the world, realize from watching the confirmation hearings that, once again, legislators are skirting the important issues.

The Iran/Contra affair involved the intelligence community's orchestration of secret arms sales to Iran in exchange for hostages, with the profits being used to finance weapons for an American-organized guerilla army attempting to overthrow the elected government of Nicaragua (after Congress had banned this kind of "aid"). In the wake of the affair, instead of discussing any kind of meaningful and concrete procedural reform to limit the power of the intelligence agencies and the executive branch to covertly meddle in the affairs of foreign nations, Congress tended to limit its inquiry to comparatively insignificant questions like whether Ronald Reagan, in all his glorious senility, knew about the scam.

Similarly, in the confirmation hearings of Robert Gates, the Intelligence Committee of the Senate has neglected—at least in the portions of their inquiry they've deemed suitable for consideration by the American public—dealing with the viability of the Executive Branch's frequent implementation of covert operations. Instead, most of the criticism of the CIA has centered around testimony regarding the politicization of the agency. This is certainly a valid topic, but from the hearings it seems apparent that the senators don't see much connection between the politicization of the agency and the covert operations it's been engaging in.

The current debate over the politicization of the CIA reflects a growing suspicion in Congress that the information it provides is sometimes misleading and biased, due to attitudes and actions of high-ranking officials and/or a general climate in the agency favoring analyses which conform to preexisting conceptions and agendas. The adversarial nature of relations between presidential administrations and Congress means there is an impetus to pass on to legislators information which rationalizes the administration's goals and to suppress that which doesn't. Theoretically, agendas are supposed to be based on information, not the other way around.

If legislators were really interested in the politicization of the CIA, they would address its most dismal manifestation: covert operations. In the years since World War II, the governments of Guatemala, El Salvador, Nicaragua, Honduras, Brazil, Venezuela, Chile, the Philippines, Vietnam, Laos, Cambodia, Iran, Iraq, Angola, Indonesia, Timor, the Dominican Republic and Panama (a partial list) have all been victims of clandestine subversion by the United States. As information about these operations has gradually filtered into the public record (little thanks to the mainstream media), it has become apparent that the CIA is the most

insidious device in a toolbox full of instruments designed to pound third world nations into subservience to American foreign investment interests.

The purpose of the intelligence community is, at least theoretically, to gather information about foreign nations which the executive and legislative branches of government can use to set policy. This is actually a necessary and legitimate function. There is a difference, however, between gathering intelligence and covertly attempting to alter the political climate in foreign countries through promoting violence. Congress should take into account and elaborate this distinction by passing legislation which, as effectively as is legally possible, limits the use of the intelligence agencies to intelligence gathering functions.

Don't get your hopes up, though. Just last year both houses of Congress passed a bill which (almost) as effectively as legally possible gave the president power to engage in covert operations. According to the Christie Institute writers Sara Nelson and Lanny Sinkin, the misnamed "oversight" section (Title VII) of the 1990 Intelligence Authorization Act:

—"authorized the president to conduct covert operations, an authority never before explicitly recognized in Legislation, and erroneously asserted that this presidential power has a constitutional basis;

—"explicitly denied any power on the part of the Congress to disapprove covert actions;

—"provided that the president may use any federal agency or entity, not just the CIA, to fund or conduct covert operations. This step would vastly expand the resources available for such operations and make oversight even more difficult; and

—"allowed the president to use third countries and private contractors to conduct or fund covert operations."

Ironically, in spite of the fact that this bill declared legal almost all of the abuses of the Iran/Contra scandal, Bush vetoed it. He objected to one clause that required him to notify Congress each time he planned to use foreign governments or private companies to carry out covert actions.

One of the most disturbing things about the Gates hearings and all the talk about politicization is that the Senate might actually appear to be interested in reform when, to the contrary, their actions reveal a widespread consensus that covert operations are a viable function of the intelligence community. Don't be conned into accepting the way in which the Senators have defined the current debate.

The procedure the Senate is currently engaged in is actually somewhat meaningless; they're deciding whether or not to accept Bush's nominee, and that is all. At the most, all the attention may scare the intelligence community into appearing to be more objective, but it is absurd to even think that any meaningful change could be affected through the choosing of the DCI, even if getting a tighter grip over intelligence was the goal of Congress. You can rest assured that Bush, himself a former Director of Central Intelligence, knows all the dirty little details of the business and ultimately will see that someone who is willing and able to carry out his goal gets the job.

## The Western Front

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You can tell a crook by his cover

By Johnny Herber staff reporter

The Supreme Court confirmation of Clarence Thomas has now been put off and we're starting to hear his supporters uttering harsh phrases like "sleazy politics."

I wasn't going to say anything, but since accusations are flying, I do have some thing that's been on my mind.

I like to think that I'm a trusting person, but I have to admit that I don't believe President Bush's claim that he had nothing to do with the now infamous Clarence Thomas ads.

These were television commercials aired prior to the hearings with the intent of discrediting members of the Senate Judiciary Committee members who opposed Judge Thomas' nomination. The ads were reminiscent of the "Willie Horton" ads used to destroy the presidential campaign of Michael Dukakis in 1988, but the President, as one would hope, denied any knowledge of the commercials existence until after they had been on television.

I watched him at the time, though, and the thing that's bugging me is that he delivered his entire statement about the ads while looking at the ground. Actually, he was seated at his cabinet meeting, and it looked like he was playing with his feet. Of course, he might have athlete's foot or a really nasty bunion, but while he was on camera, I also could hear his cabinet members laughing in the background. It just wasn't very convincing. But, in all honesty, is that enough evidence to imply that he wasn't being honest?

Well, it may be, according to a recent study done at the University of California San Francisco. The study found that subjects detected lying better if they concentrated on body language and facial expressions rather than on what people actually said. Of course, common sense and past research would have told

us that even without this study, but what makes the study especially relevant here are some secondary findings about the people involved. The subjects of the study were FBI, CIA and Secret Service agents, judges, psychiatrists, police officers and college students. Out of all these subjects, not only were the Secret Service agents the only subjects able to detect lying over 50 percent of the time, they did so at a significantly higher rate than anyone else (80 percent).

Although baffling to the researchers, this makes perfect sense to me. Whereas you and I might fib on a given day and occasionally meet a compulsive liar, Secret Service agents spend every day dealing with and protecting our country's highest officials. That's why they performed so well: in terms of lying, these agents spend the majority of their time surrounded by the professionals!

I mean, judges and other law enforcement officials meet criminals who lie, and psychiatrists help mentally ill patients who lie, but Secret Service agents have direct contact with politicians, who in this country have historically been a perverted mixture of both. It's no wonder that the Secret Service can spot a lie at the drop of an eyebrow, they've got more experience to draw upon.

I can see them looking at the examples in the study and thinking things like, "Hmm, he shuffles his feet like Dan Quayle did when someone spilt root beer all over the President's desk," or, "Watch how this woman shifts her eyes like Sununu did when we found that dent in the White House limo."

What does all this have to do with the President and Clarence Thomas? Just this: when the President was making the aforementioned statement, I distinctly saw several Secret Service agents wink at one another.

So do Thomas' supporters have the right to complain about "sleazy politics?" I think I'll just leave that decision to the experts.

LETTER

Dear Editor,

I appeal to the "equal time" concept in fair journalism. If you print stories about astrology and spiritualism it would be good if you print other alternatives. I would like to develop one for another Features section about Biblical Concept of Universal Sovereignty.

Don Walters

CORRECTION

Tuesday, Oct. 4 The Western Front misspelled Robert Fulghum's name in the Frontline. The Front regrets this error.

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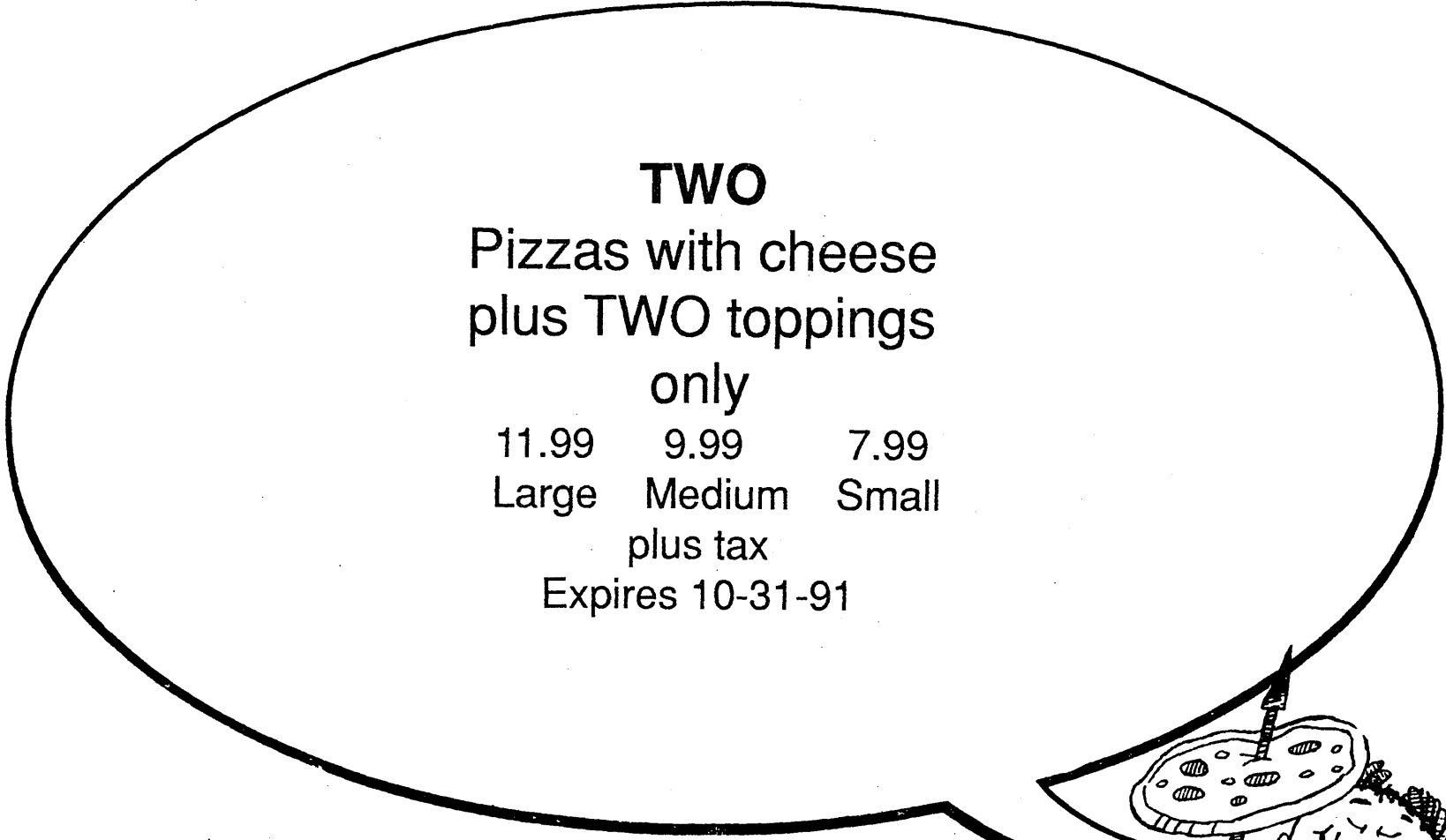
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