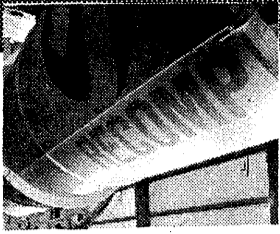


News

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The Western Front

Oct. 18, 1991/Volume 84, Number 6

Western Washington University

please recycle

Higher education "squeezed down" by other programs, Gardner says

By Jeff Collins
staff reporter

Governor Booth Gardner and 30 members of his Executive Cabinet descended upon the Bellingham area Wednesday for a full day of activities, including several appearances at Western.

After an executive cabinet meeting, Gardner dedicated 20 acres of Squalicum wetlands, attended a recycling seminar, visited the SEAMAR clinic, and spoke to political science students at Old Main. He also spoke to students, faculty, and members of the Political Science Association, answering questions on funding of higher education, growth and the environment, housing policy and the homeless.

"There are three things I have to keep my eye on. The first is K-12 education, that consumes roughly 50 percent of the state budget...it's a fixed expenditure...25 percent is social services... corrections and public safety add another three to four percent...the next large component is higher education which is 15 percent," Gardner said. He later added, "the major issue in the country is education...students need to worry about people in Japan and all over the world."

Gardner said the government tries to keep the enrollment costs at 33 percent of what it takes to put students through a four-year institution, and 25 percent for two-year schools. "You push behind 33 percent very far, and it really inhibits the opportunity for a lot of students to pursue an education."

All state agencies (with the exception of K-12 education) have been asked to prepare 5 percent budget cuts for the 1991-92 biennium. By Oct. 25, Western will submit its recommendations for half of those cuts.

Wednesday evening, the public was invited to a community forum at the Performing Arts Center. The small crowd in attendance vented frustrations and concerns on a wide range of topics including: wetland issues, wa-

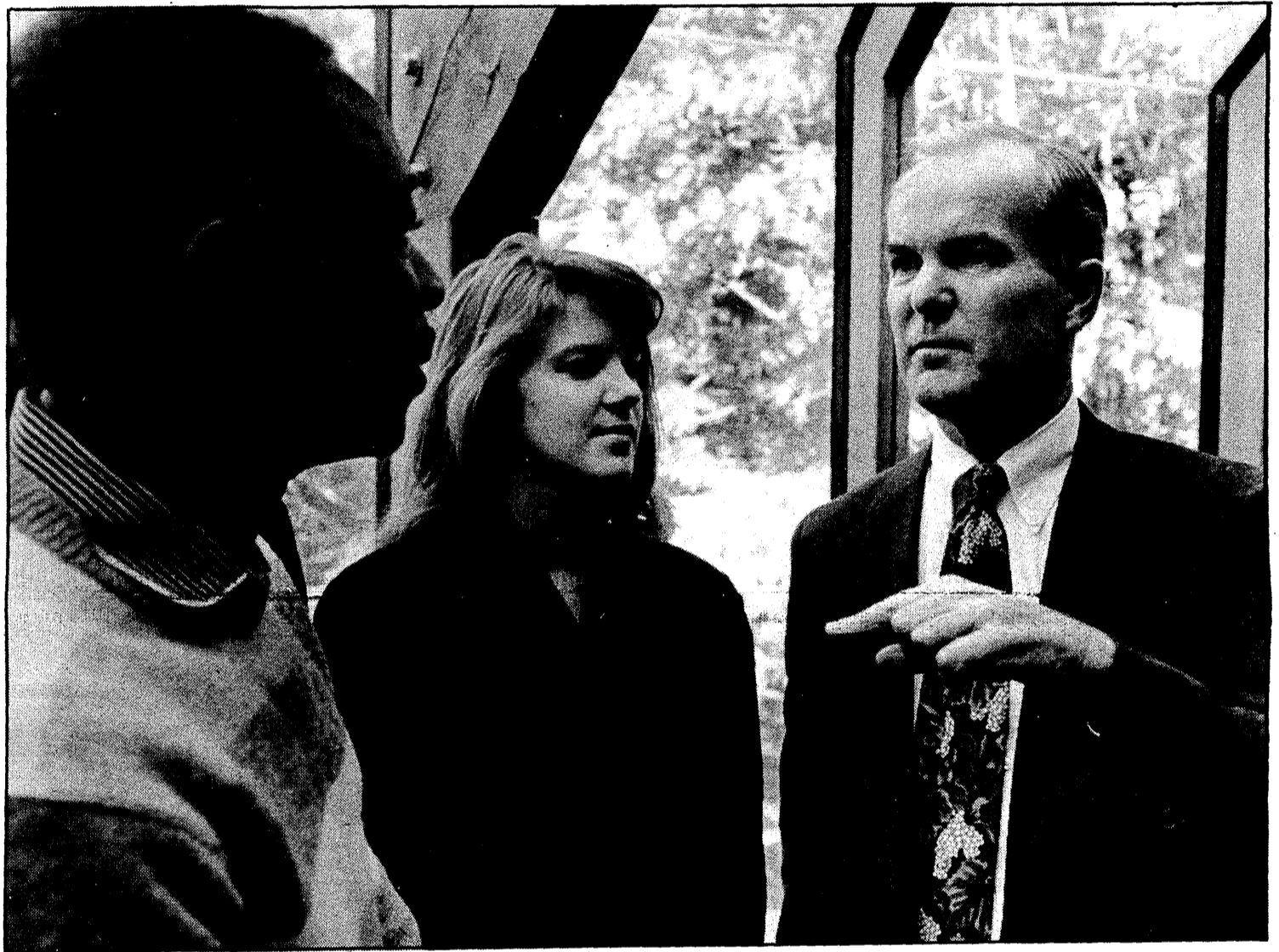


photo by Steven Kennedy/The Western Front

During Governor Gardner's visit with the Political Science Association, he met informally with Western students. Here, he talks with Terri Eckleberger and Jimmy Song.

ter right permits, homeless veterans, dysfunctional families, pension systems, health care issues, adult illiteracy, and budget cuts.

Twenty-eight people asked Gardner and his 30 cabinet members questions. Only two questions centered around higher education.

Higher education has been "squeezed down" by the guarantees allocated to K-12, and increasing so-

cial services programs, Gardner said. In 1985, higher education received 14 percent of the state's budget. He said the legislature has pushed "higher education into the 15 percent-plus range."

The "Whatcom County Community Day" public forum was supposed to break into "break-out sessions" where people could ask agency directors questions. But due to the

low turn-out, Gardner and his staff opted to open the remaining two hours for questions. A great number of questions were directed to Western graduate Dick Thompson, the Secretary of the Department of Social & Health Services.

Gardner, the governor of Washington since 1984, made his first extended visit to Western since the floods of November 1990. This past sum-

mer, Gardner chaired the Governor's conference in Seattle. The major issue there centered around health issues.

"There are 34 million Americans without health care in the U.S., 17,000 in Washington state...and a large number of people are working without health care," Gardner said. "We want to assure all Washington citi-

Please see Gardner, page 4

Survey finds more and more students take longer to graduate

By Charity Proctor
staff reporter

The number of students who take longer than four years to graduate is increasing, according to the results of a recent survey of non-returning Western students.

A partial summary of the survey's results was released Sept. 24. Western graduates from 1987-88 were questioned about the number of years they were enrolled in college, factors that hindered them from completing their degree in four years, total credits earned, and their opinions of various aspects of Western. Carl H. Simpson,

who worked on the survey and directs the sociology department's office of survey research, said the complete results will be released in either winter or spring.

According to the survey, 66.8 percent of students who attended only Western and took no time off from school graduated in five years or less. The numbers drop to 48.8 percent for students who transfer to Western who took no time off, 47.4 percent for students who took a break of only one or two years after one or two years, 44.4 percent for students who took a break of three or more years after one or two years in school, 10.2 percent

for students who took various breaks, and 9.3 percent for students who took various breaks after three continuous years in school.

Students who take longer than four years to graduate are becoming more common, especially in state schools, Simpson said. According to the survey, the reasons for this include the number of major credits required, students' taking extra courses for personal enrichment, course unavailability and financial problems.

The amount of time students need to graduate affects Western's admissions rate, said Karen Copetas, director of admissions. The greater the

student retention rate, the less students the school can admit, she said. However, Copetas said it is a good sign that students are staying at Western longer, because that means they are finding what they want.

Copetas also said the longer graduation time needed is not new, but perhaps just now being widely perceived. According to a report released in February 1991, almost 12 percent of high school students who entered Western in 1984 took four years to graduate, but 20 percent took five years. Nine percent took six years to graduate.

The majority of two-year trans-

fer students, 25.5 percent, took three years to graduate from Western after entering in 1984. About 11 percent of those students took two years, almost 15 percent took four years, almost 7 percent took five years and about 3.6 percent took six years.

Among four-year transfer students who entered in 1984, 11.7 percent graduated in two years, 15.7 percent took three years, 17.4 percent took four years, 8.2 percent took five years and 4.1 percent took six years.

Early findings indicate that while many factors influence time spent in

Please see Survey, page 5

Around the Nation/World

Gun control provision voted down

WASHINGTON (AP) The House voted down a ban on semi-automatic weapons Thursday. By a 247 to 177 vote, lawmakers agreed to strip the ban from a massive crime bill. The provision would have forbidden the sale of 13 types of semi-automatic weapons and ammunition clips that hold more than seven rounds.

The rejection comes a day after a gunman killed 22 people in Killeen, Texas, before taking his own life. The semi-automatic weapon used in the slayings would not have been covered in the ban—but the 17-round magazines the gunman used would have been. One lawmaker who supported the ban said the provision would have at least limited the number of bullets fired by the gunman.

Swap of hostages "moving along"

(AP) United Nations Secretary-

General Javier Perez de Cuellar said efforts to arrange a swap of Western hostages for Arabs held by Israel is moving along. He's appealing to all parties involved to cooperate. His comments follow reports from sources in Lebanon who say a U.N. mediator met for 20 hours with representatives of Lebanese hostage-holders.

Keeping child alive is abuse

ATLANTA (AP) The medical staff at Scottish Rite Children's Hospital said a 13-year-old girl on life support can feel only pain and her condition will never improve. The staff said keeping her alive amounts to child abuse.

An appeals judge, however, ruled the hospital must continue life support for the girl because her father wants it that way. The girl's father said he believes God will cure his daughter.

Young people need to steer from tobacco

(AP) A National Centers for Disease Control survey found that one quarter of the 18-year-olds questioned smoke regularly. Health and Human Services Secretary Louis Sullivan said the report shows that more work needs to be done to help young people steer clear of tobacco addiction and the

health problems that go with it.

"Sixteen Tons" songwriter dies

(AP) Tennessee Ernie Ford, best known for the song "Sixteen Tons," died Thursday in Reston, Va., nearly three weeks after being hospitalized for an advanced liver ailment. He was 72.

Friend George "Goober" Lindsay said Ford "was like entertainment water—he spread over everybody." Ford's son, Buck, said if there was anything Ford did, "it was to try to give back what everybody gave to him his whole life."

Around the State

High winds create fire in Spokane

SPOKANE (AP) Evacuees returned Thursday to their burned-out homes in the Spokane area as firefighters continued to battle more than 80 fires in Eastern Washington and Northern Idaho. Officials said fire destroyed more than 100 homes and killed at least two people. Winds eased Thursday, helping more than 2000 firefighters gain the upper hand on grass fires. Most of the large fires remain out of control.

Fires were ignited Wednesday by power lines downed by winds. The Department of Natural Resources said 25 major fires blackened about 38,000 acres around Spokane. Spokesman Rob Harper said it was the worst fire in the state in 50 years.

John Mellencamp undergoes tests in Seattle

SEATTLE (AP) Musician John Mellencamp became dizzy performing at Seattle radio station KXXR Thursday and was taken to a hospital. A spokeswoman for the station said Mellencamp became ill while singing the song "Rain on the Scarecrow" during a live broadcast. He turned white, stopped singing and said he felt dizzy. Mellencamp underwent tests at Swedish Hospital. He was in Seattle as part of a 17-city promotion tour. Doctors said Mellencamp nearly fainted because he was tired and not eating well.

Flagger killed on I-405

TUKWILA (AP) A highway construction flagger carrying a "slow" sign was struck and killed last night on Interstate 405 at Tukwila.

Another worker was struck and another worker was injured jumping out of the way. Those injuries were not serious.

The King County medical

examiner's office says the 36-year-old Skagit County woman who was killed worked as a flagger for the Eagle Crest construction company of Snohomish. Her name was not available.

Investigator George Rowley said the woman was killed about 11:30 when a hit-and-run driver plowed into the construction crew.

Washington State Patrol plowed Detective Jerry Cooper said the driver was involved in another accident at the next freeway exit where he was arrested by Tukwila and King County Police. He suffered minor cuts to his face. A blood sample was taken from the driver to check for alcohol.

Crosses placed in Seattle

SEATTLE (AP) Police here said the latest two crosses left outside homes in the city indicate the work of someone with a deliberate plan. Detective Linda Patrick said the crosses were made from the wooden pieces of political yard signs. The crosses were found early yesterday in the Columbia City neighborhood.

One was outside the home of an Asia-American woman and one was outside apartments occupied by white and Asian families. The location is about a mile from where crosses were set aflame earlier this week.

COPS BOX

Bellingham Police Department

Oct. 16
Two individuals attempted to steal a pizza bag from a delivery person in the 1300 block of Birchwood. They were unsuccessful, but the pizza bag and the delivery person's hat were damaged.

Oct. 16
A male resident of the 3100 block of Bill McDonald Parkway reported that the front left tire of his vehicle, which was parked in front of his home, had been slashed. According to the incident report, the owner felt the slashing may have had something to do with the fact that he has had four vehicles towed from his complex.

Oct. 16, 12:09 p.m.
A 25-year-old male was trespassing in room number 228 of Motel 6. Checkout was at 12:00. At 12:09, a police officer knocked and opened

the door. The officer discovered the man lying in bed, and there was drug paraphernalia all over the floor. The man was booked for possession of cocaine and drug paraphernalia, and also malicious mischief due to his breaking of two windows after the officers' entry.

Oct. 16, 3:00 a.m.
Two 16-year-old girls from Mt. Vernon were arrested when they and four other people inside a vehicle parked in the 200 block of 14th Street were contacted by Bellingham Police officers. The vehicle contained five open cans of Budweiser beer, 12 unopened cans and numerous empties. According to the report, both of the girls who were arrested had alcohol on their breath and admitted to having consumed alcohol. One of the girls had provided false I.D. information, "causing us some delay to finding the truth." The same girl had also "urinated her pants, which covered her

passenger seat."

Oct. 16, 1:17 p.m.

A female resident of the 1400 block of N. Forest reported that upon coming home she discovered her front door had been kicked in and found drug paraphernalia all over her house. The incident is under investigation.

Oct. 14-16

Seven people were arrested for shoplifting in Bellingham, four of them at the Bellis Fair mall.

Western Police Department

Oct. 15, 4:45

A backpack was stolen when it was left unattended for 1-2 minutes in Carver Gym.

Oct. 15, 3:00

The left rear taillight assembly of a car parked in lot 1R was reported stolen.

Oct. 16, 8:00 a.m.

Two "suspicious persons" were reported hanging around the Rock Ring sculpture. "Both were females in their 30s with heavy British accents," the incident report said.

Briefs

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 Audubon 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.

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

- **WINTER QUARTER DEGREE AND INITIAL CERTIFICATE CANDIDATES:** All students expecting to graduate and/or receive a teaching certificate at the close of winter quarter must have a senior/certification evaluation on file in the Registrar's Office, OM 230, by December 6. *Self evaluation packets must be returned by November 22 to allow for processing time.* To pick up a packet go to OM 230; for an appointment, call 676-3430. Deadline for spring graduates is March 13, 1992.
- **THE JUNIOR WRITING EXAM** will be offered at 3 p.m. 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 1½ hours.
- **MILLER ANALOGIES TEST** is by individual appointment basis with the Testing Center. For appointment, call X/3080.
- **PHYSICAL THERAPY CAREERS THROUGH THE ARMY:** A representative from the U.S. Army/Baylor University physical therapy program will be in CV 146 (biomechanics lab) at noon October 21 to discuss physical therapy career opportunities through the Army Medical Specialist Corps.
- **PREMED OPPORTUNITIES:** A representative of the U.S. Navy will be at the Academic Advising Center, OM 380, from 9 a.m. to noon and 1 to 2 p.m. Friday, October 25, to discuss opportunities for full scholarships with living stipends for medical school.
- **PRE-PHARMACY INFORMATION:** Nancy Murphy, UW School of Pharmacy, will be on campus Wednesday, October 23, from 1:30 to 3 p.m. in HH 215 to meet students interested in pharmacy programs and careers.
- **THE PEER MENTOR PROGRAM** assists new students in making a new transition to WWU and is administered by experienced American and international students through the Multicultural Services Center. Scheduled sessions include "Study Skills and Test-taking," October 16; "Cultural Identity," October 23; and "Friendships and Relationships," October 30. All sessions are from 3:30 to 5 p.m. in VA 461.
- **CAREER PLANNING AND PLACEMENT** presents "Real-Life Careers for Accounting Majors," noon today (October 18), WL Presentation Room. Free.

On-campus interview schedule

- **National Life Financial Services,** Tuesday, October 22. Submit CIF at sign-up. See company file in CPPC library.
- **CEIP Fund,** Tuesday, October 22. No interviews. One-hour information session at noon in VA 454.
- **American Home Food Products,** Monday, October 28. Submit CIF at sign-up.
- **University of San Diego, Lawyers Assistance Program,** Monday, October 28. Attend information session. Drop in 9-11 a.m.
- **Deloitte & Touche,** Wednesday, October 30. Submit resumé, application and CIF by October 16. Employer will contact you. Check back with CPPC after one week.
- **NR Smith & Assoc.,** Wednesday, October 30. Submit resumé, letter, application, transcript and CIF by October 16. Employer will contact you. Check back after one week.
- **The Boeing Co.,** Wednesday, October 30. Submit CIF at sign-up. Attend information session, 7 p.m. October 28, OM 280. Bring completed Boeing application to interview.
- **K Mart Fashions,** Thursday, October 31. Submit CIF when you sign up to interview. For company information see bind and company file in CPPC resource library.
- **Microsoft Corp.,** Friday, November 8. Submit by October 21: cover letter, resumé, transcripts, application, co-op questionnaire and CIF. Forms are available from CPPC, OM 280.

Death with dignity? Emotional, moral and technical issues fuel debate over Initiative 119

By Chong Kim
staff reporter

Do people have the right to die? That is the question to be asked voters when the polls open on Nov. 5, the day Initiative 119 is to be put before voters in Washington state.

The official ballot title is: "Shall adult patients who are in a medically terminal condition be permitted to receive from a physician aid-in-dying."

On the pro-side of Initiative 119 is Frank Shelton, the area coordinator for Initiative 119 in Whatcom County. He said he supports it because he watched his father and uncle slowly deteriorate from cancer. He witnessed first hand how much pain they had to endure before they died and said no

say as to whether the terminal patient should be allowed to die.

"Most people are afraid of painful dying...technology allows people to go through death without pain," VanWervan said.

She added part of the opposition is on a moral basis.

The initiative states any terminal patient has the right to ask the attending physician to stop life support and be aided in the dying process. If the attending physician for any reason does not wish to aid the terminal patient, the attending physician must make reasonable efforts to find another physician who will aid the terminal patient in ending their life.

In Sept. 1991, the Washington State Medical Association voted almost 4 to 1 in opposition to Initiative 119. Dr. Burton Vanderbilt, president

in advance whether a patient will die within six months. He added that some physicians may object on moral grounds.

Another stipulation of the initiative is that two impartial witnesses, who have nothing to gain by the death of the patient, must sign a document stating the patient is of sound mind.

According to Washington Citizens for Death With Dignity, there are nine safeguards to protect the initiative from being abused. Some of them are: "No person can request aid-in-dying for anyone else; A terminally ill patient may revoke his or her request at any time; Physicians may require a psychological evaluation if there is any question about the patient's mental competence; Aid-in-dying can only be voluntarily requested by a terminally ill patient who is a mentally competent adult."

The official ballot title and the official summary of Initiative 119 states: "This initiative expands the right of adult persons with terminal conditions to have their wishes, expressed in a written directive, regarding life respected. It amends current law to expand the definition of terminal condition to include irreversible coma and persistent vegetative state or condition which will result in death within six months; specify life-sustaining process may be withdrawn; permit adult person with terminal conditions to request and receive aid-in-dying from their physicians, facilitating death."

When Western students were asked to read the official summary and comment on their opinion, most expressed support.

"I had to watch my boyfriend suffer while his father remained in a 10-year coma. The family and father would not have wanted this. He finally died. In actuality, it was a 'relief' to

Please see Initiative, page 4

"Yes, I do (support 119). I think if someone knows they are going to die and are in pain, they should have the right to say what is done with their life."

Jessica Moreman, sophomore

one should have to suffer like that. While animals are put to a painless death, people are made to suffer, he added.

Opposed is Washington United, a political organization formed to fight Initiative 119 and 120. Luanne VanWervan of Washington United said the group opposes it because there is already a Natural Death Act in Washington state (passed in 1979), which allows a patient to request (through a Living Will) that life support not be used. Opponents say that under Initiative 119 the family has no

of the Whatcom County Medical Society of Physicians, conducted a poll of his own and found that out of 100 responses, 77 doctors voted against while 23 voted for the initiative. He said he supports the "living will," already in effect in Washington. He said he is against the idea of having to find another doctor who will take part in active euthanasia.

According to the initiative, two doctors must agree that the patient has six months or less to live. Vanderbilt said there is a lot of uncertainty about the ability to predict

Death with Dignity Initiative 119 debated at forum

By Steve McClure
editor-in-chief

Opponents and supporters of the "Death with Dignity" initiative, Initiative 119, gathered for a clash of opinions Thursday night in Lecture Hall 4. About 50 people were present to listen to the panel which included members of the medical community, a local minister and a Western philosophy instructor.

"I have been with people who died in great pain," said the Rev. Frances Reece Day from the Bellingham Unitarian Church. "I have also been with people who died with great dignity. I believe in the sanctity of life." Day, who supports the initiative, added that "Initiative 119 would not mandate choice, it would allow people who want the choice to use it, it will affect people who want to die with dignity and serenity."

Opponents of Initiative 119, however, see it creating a tremendous conflict of interest in the health-care community.

"The physician becomes both the healer and the executioner," said Dr. W. David Jones, a Bellingham physician specializing in internal medicine and lung disease. "I believe in the sanctity of life.. and the value of everyone. I think it (the initiative) is an ominous reversal in our societal values."

According to the official summary of Initiative 119, "This initiative expands the right of adult persons with terminal conditions to have their wishes, expressed in a written directive, regarding life respected. It amends current law to expand the definition of terminal condition to include irreversible coma and persistent vegetative state or condition which will result in death within six months; specify life-sustaining process may be withdrawn; permit adult person with terminal conditions to

request and receive aid-in-dying from their physicians, facilitating death."

Jones said he feared the initiative would give doctors enormous power, with no accountability. He added that the initiative could lead to a fear of hospitals and physicians by the elderly.

One woman from the audience spoke of the same thing. "If 119 is passed...there are doctors out there who may see a person they consider helpless and recommend death for them." She continued by asking the panelists, "How can you assure me that physicians will try their best to give the best possible health care?"

Day answered by saying that the law would not change the attitudes of patients or doctors, it would merely provide the patients with a choice.

Panelist G. Hugh Lawrence, a retired surgeon, added that "the bill does not release doctors from liability."

Other members of the audience see the initiative as a way out for people who don't want to see life through to the finish. "Is life just a game, and as soon as we know how life ends we can stop playing?" one man asked. He added that he was skeptical about the possible use of lethal injections to aid people in dying.

Lawrence responded that physicians are not going to use "baseball-bat medicine... We as physicians are still artists."

A few of the elderly members of the audience said they worry that if they direct the doctors not to use life support, their children or other family members will overturn it. They added that the decision would be made by the patient—not their children or a doctor.

Arlene Bauter, 53, suffers from lung cancer. "When my time comes I want that choice there. I may not use it, but I want it there."

Welcome Back Students

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Large number of bikes attributed to warmer weather, lack of parking

By Sue Kidd
staff reporter

They are chained to anything; stairways, handrails, trees, and signs are all used to lock bicycles up while students are in class. Many agree that bicycles are everywhere at Western this quarter and there is speculation over why so many bicycles are appearing.

"I think they (students) look at the parking lots, and see they are fuller than they ever have been before. People are deciding to leave the car at home and find alternate transportation to school," said Carl Root, who works in facilities and master planning.

"The amount of bikes on campus depends on the weather," Root added. Since this fall is particularly warm this probably contributes to the amount of bicycles on campus.

"There aren't any more bikes on campus this year, they're just in more noticeable places," said Russ Martin, director of public safety at Western. Martin also agrees that if there are more bicycles on campus, it can be attributed to warm fall weather.

Another reason that bicycles are locked to unusual places is due to a lack of parking available to bicyclists.

"There are not enough bike racks," sophomore Scott White said. White, a political science major, said he locked his bicycle to a tree outside College Hall the other day because it was closer to his class and there were no available spaces.

"I get here way before class, and I still can't find any place to put my bike other than chaining it to a tree or something," said one student, who

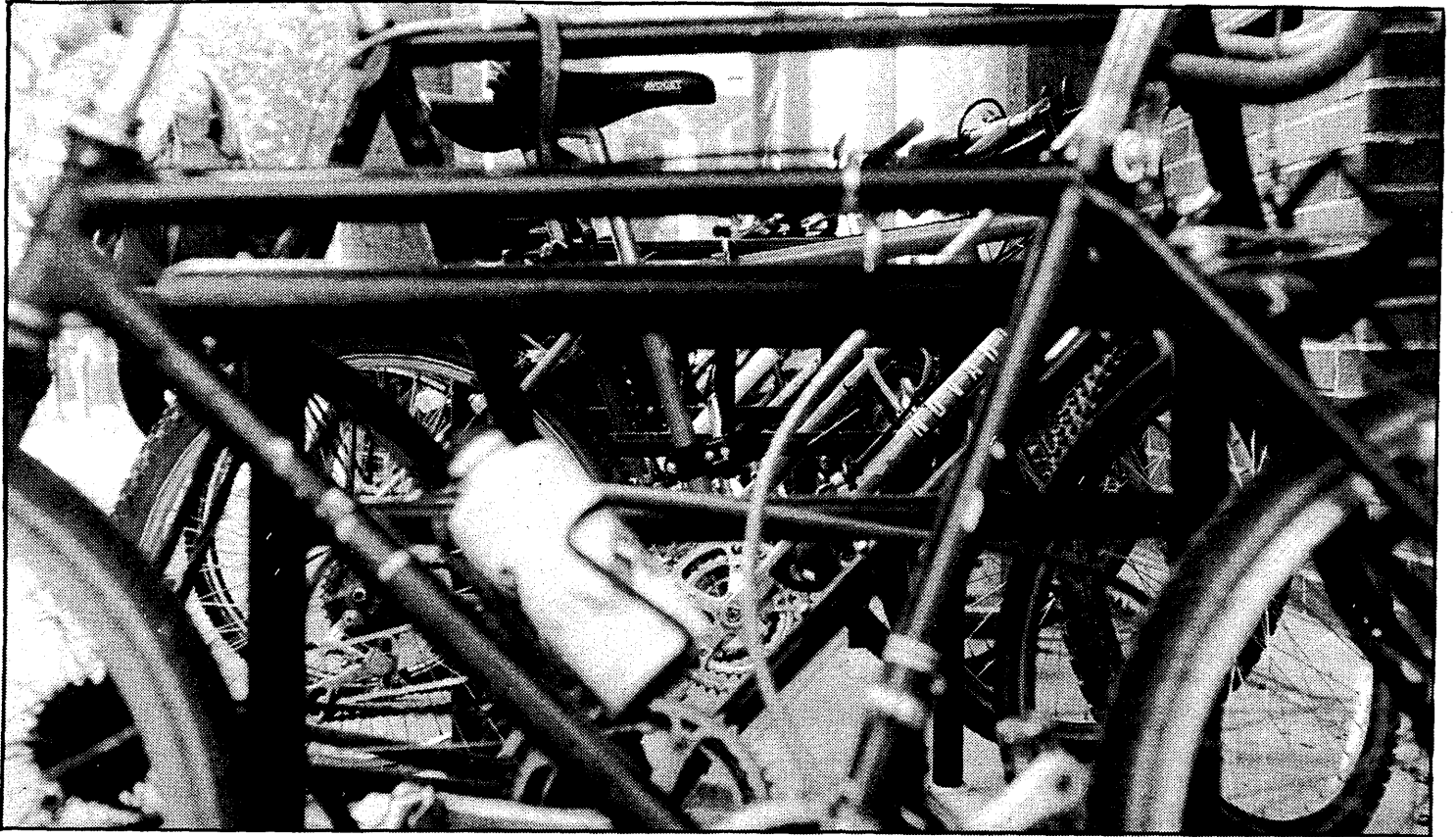


photo by John Lindblom/The Western Front

A myriad of mountain bikes: is their number exceeding the space available for them?

asked that his name not be revealed.

The physical plant is building 66 new spaces for bicycles that will be placed sporadically throughout campus. The racks were to be installed by fall quarter, but the project was delayed.

"The problem is that a vast majority of the work has to be done in the summer...the bike racks fell low on the list of construction...they will

probably be in place in the next few months," Root said. He added that spring quarter will be better for bicyclists who need to lock their bicycles during class.

A group of students conducted a study last spring between 9 a.m. and 10:30 a.m. on May 1. They found that 18 bicycles parked near the Ross Engineering Technology building were not parked in racks because there

were no available spaces.

The students also found that last year there were 12 spaces available for bicycles near Miller Hall. On the day of the study, only eight bicycles were parked in these spaces, and 12 bicycles in the area were not parked using the racks. The racks are old and students feel a newer design would increase usage in the area.

They also found that Arntzen Hall

only offered 14 spaces for bicycles. On the day of the survey the spaces were all used. There were 14 non-racked bicycles parked in the area.

Bicycles chained to lampposts, signs, and trees is causing maintenance problems for some.

"Locking the bicycles to building signs scratches them up...there is a maintenance problem there," Root said.

Initiative, continued from page 3

his family," said sophomore Heather Dean.

"Yes, I do (support 119). I think if someone knows they are going to die and are in pain, they should have the right to say what is done with their life," sophomore Jessica Moreman said.

"I don't think anyone should have to be on an artificial life

support system if they don't want to. Or if they are unable to make that decision for themselves, because they are in a terminal coma or terminal vegetative state, their family should be allowed by law to disconnect the artificial life support system if they wish. I don't know about this aid-in-dying stuff, but I feel generally, a policy (of) 'to each his own' would be

the correct policy," said sophomore Alex Hanson.

"I am against Initiative 119 because, especially in the case of the elderly, one may feel obligated to terminate their life to make room for the other patients. They also may feel as though they are a burden to society," said sophomore Susan Horn.

Gardner, continued from page 1

zens have access to health care."

Len McComb, director of the office of financial management, said tuition costs will rise as education costs go up, but the state plans on maintaining their 33 percent funding. He said costs will remain proportional to tuition costs, so education can be kept at a "reasonable level."

"A good deal of our work force in the future is going to be composed of people you wouldn't think of as traditional higher ed students...lot more women, lot more minorities, and those people have to help us compete in the

world market. So we have to keep higher education focused," McComb said.

Gardner said Washington's population growth requires more social services, while at the same time there are decreases in revenues. All this will make things "extremely difficult for state and local government in the 1990's," Gardner said.


"Of all the universities in the state, Western has responded more smartly to this issue...they saw it coming," Gardner said in regards to the impending budget cuts.

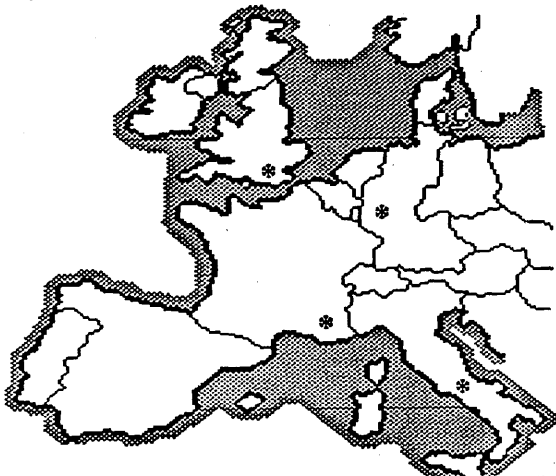
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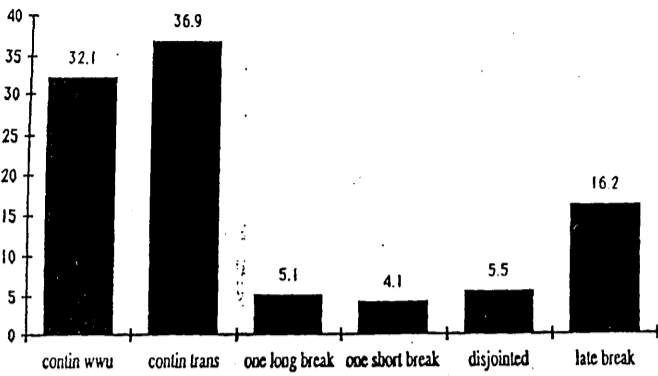
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Survey, continued from page 1

Six Trajectories through Undergraduate Study, Class of '87 and '88



The Trajectories Identified Above:

- CONTIN. WWU.** Began and graduated at Western, took no years off. All but a handful completed all their education at Western.
- CONTIN. TRANS.** Transferred to Western; took no years off.
- ONE LONG BREAK.** Began at Western or elsewhere; after one or two years, took break of three or more years; took no other breaks.
- ONE SHORT BREAK.** Began at Western or elsewhere; after one or two years, took break of one or two years; took no other breaks.
- DISJOINTED.** Began at Western or elsewhere; took at least two breaks (often, many more) of various lengths.
- LATE BREAK.** Began at Western or elsewhere; completed at least three continuous years of education; then took one or more breaks of various lengths.

college, two of the more influential factors are course unavailability and number of major credits required, Simpson said. Even students who take no breaks or electives may need more than four years to graduate. These are factors that may need to be addressed, he said.

The problem of access to classes is compounded because Western has more students, less funding, and less faculty, said Peter Elich, dean of the College of Arts and Sciences. Elich chairs the Enrollment Management Group, formed last spring to discuss problems regarding access to courses.

The group is working toward a long-range solution with Western's colleges and departments, he said. There have been fewer problems in recent years due to departmental and faculty flexibility, he said. One action many departments have taken is to drop some small elective classes, in order to free faculty to teach more necessary classes.

Further action may include allowing students alternates for courses they can't get into, offering fewer specialty courses, and increasing class size, Elich said. While policy changes may be recommended in the future, none have been imposed yet, he said.

The psychology department has, over the past few years, eliminated unnecessary courses, said Ronald Kleinknecht, professor and chair of the department.

"We're trying not to (cut smaller classes), because we value those classes very much," he said, adding that major-required classes have been retained. "We've had to eliminate some of the spice from the program, although the core is still there," he said.

The importance of electives should not be underestimated, Associated Students President Mark Aaserud said. Upon the release of the survey's partial results at an Oct. 3 board of trustees meeting, some people indicated some students take electives out of laziness, Aaserud said.

Electives not only give students other classes to take while waiting to take major requirements, but also prevent them from moving through college in "assembly line" style, he said.

Students should have a say in how they feel access to courses can be eased, Aaserud said.

"I think the students are going to find, over time, that the access problem will be eased," Elich said.

Students tour self-sufficient recycling plant

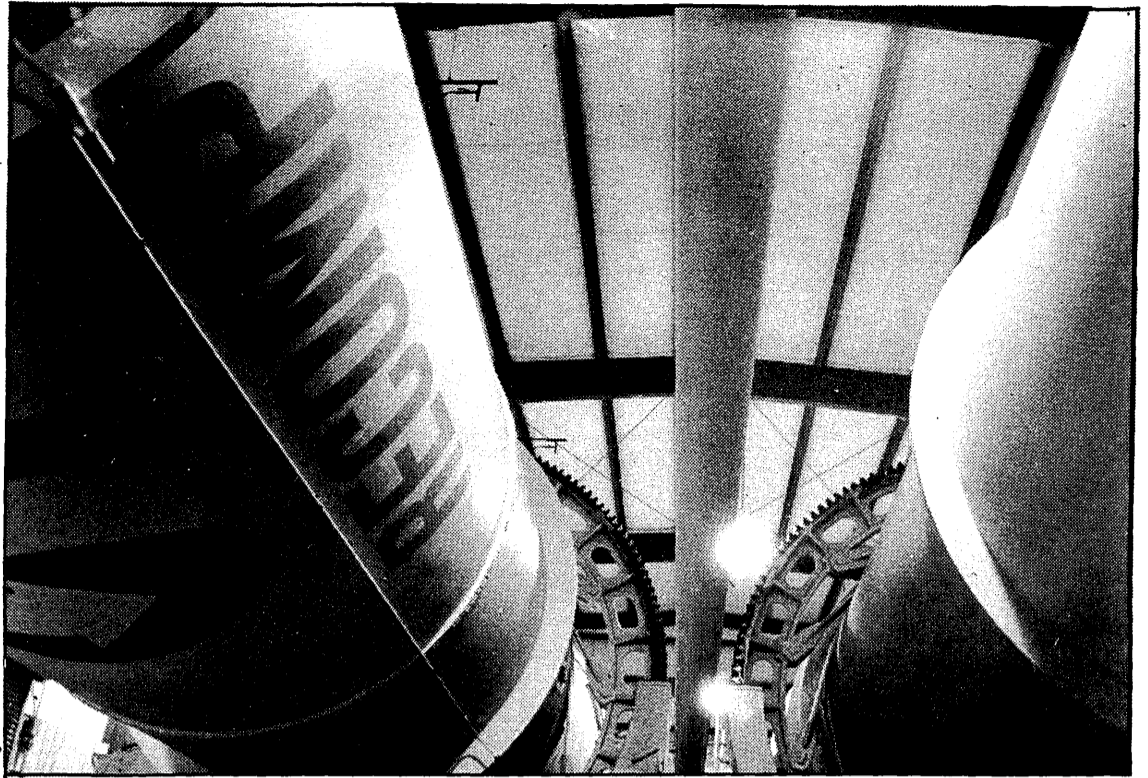


photo by Erik Kvilaas/The Western Front

Digesters at RECOMP, the first recycling plant of its kind in the United States.

By Theresa Pearson
staff reporter

The Associated Students Environmental Center offered students a rare opportunity last week by sponsoring a tour of the newly completed "material-recovery and solid-waste processing facility" just north of Bellingham in Ferndale.

The \$8 million facility, owned by RECOMP of Washington, is the first of its kind in the United States, said Lisa Meucci, resource manager. RECOMP bought the former incineration plant in 1990 and expanded the plant for recycling and composting.

Each day the plant receives 220 tons of garbage generated daily in Whatcom County. RECOMP incinerates 100 tons, composts 100 tons and recycles 20 tons. This is a 10 percent expansion of the county's 1989 recycling rate.

RECOMP's process recovers value from nearly every piece of waste it receives. Students watched as loads of trash were processed by this state-of-the-art, computer-operated "material recovery facility" (MRF) for

removal of recyclable materials.

Using magnets, screens, and manual picking lines, materials such as cardboard and scrap metals are recovered. Then the compostable portion is separated out—things like food scraps, paper products, and yard debris—and loaded into a 150-foot-long tube along with water, nitrogen and starter compost.

The mixture is rotated in the tubes for three days at a temperature of 140 degrees Fahrenheit. Then it's unloaded into troughs in a curing building, where it will spend about three weeks maturing. Once mature, the compost will be ready for use in horticulture and landscape.

Meucci said 80 percent of the compost RECOMP produces will be used by a local nursery. The other 20 percent will go to the University of Washington for testing.

Any waste left after recycling and composting is incinerated to produce power. The power that RECOMP produces is used to run the entire facility.

"We're entirely self-sufficient," said Meucci. Incineration also provides heat for Bonneville Foods' large

mushroom-growing operation next to the plant. RECOMP sells any leftover electricity to Puget Power.

The \$1.5 million mushroom facility opened in February and Bonneville Foods expects it to produce 320,000 pounds of Shiitake and Oyster mushrooms.

The mushrooms grow in "logs" made from hardwood chips and wheat bran. Workers implant the logs with mushroom spores, keep them in computer-controlled growing rooms, and harvest the mushrooms by hand.

The growing cycle for the mushrooms is about six months. When the logs are used up, they are composted.

Most of the mushrooms are sold to the food service industry and food wholesalers on the West Coast.

RECOMP, located at 1524 Slater Road, also provides an on-site drop-off recycling center. They accept not only recyclable materials like glass and aluminum, but also plastics, car batteries, scrap metal and even provide asbestos disposal.

RECOMP and Bonneville Foods are subsidiaries of Bonneville Pacific Corp., based in Salt Lake City.

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Mountain biking trails to tackle for beginners and advanced

By Rob Gwinn
staff reporter

Remember when jumping stumps and trail riding were the best things a kid could do? Well, it's not just a kid thing anymore.

Mountain bike riding has taken off, and more than ever people are getting out on their bikes and exploring Bellingham's toughest trails.

Tony Theimer of Old Town Cycles, 703 W. Holly St., said mountain bike sales have increased dramatically in the last five to six years.

"In 1985, most of the bikes sold were road bikes," Theimer said.

When speaking of road bikes, Theimer is referring to bikes resembling the old-fashioned 10-speed with "skinny tires and drop-down handlebars."

"Mountain bike sales were relatively low in 1985, but now there is a total market for mountain bikes, (with sales) increasing about 165 percent (since 1985)," Theimer said.

Mountain bike sales make up about 65 percent of the bike sales in the United States, Theimer said.

Avid mountain biker Mark Sofie, 27, said he usually finds enough time around a busy work schedule to ride three to four times a week during the summer months. He said his riding is reduced to only one to two times a week during the fall and winter due to the lack of sunlight hours. Sofie said he rides for pleasure first, then exercise.

"A lot of times I ride by myself,

but most of the time I try to find someone to ride with. It makes it competitive," Sofie said. "I like to get muddy, but my wife kills me."

Sofie said he became interested in mountain biking about four years ago when his neighbor Jack Hardy bought a mountain bike and brought it over to Sofie's house to show it off. Sofie was so intrigued with Hardy's toy that he went down to Jack's Bicycle Shop, located on James Street, and purchased a mountain bike for himself. He's been hooked ever since.

Sofie said Bellingham has several areas for mountain bike riding which provide difficulty levels ranging from beginner to the most advanced trail riding, with the most popular spots located on Bellingham's southside.

For beginners, he suggests the city's Interurban Trail because it is mostly flat, with only a few "tricky" parts. His favorite advanced trails include Galbraith Mountain, located off Samish Way, past Lake Padden, at the end of Galbraith Road; Fragrance Lake, located near Larrabee State Park and Lizard and Lilly Lakes, located past Larrabee between Chuckanut Drive and Interstate-5.

Theimer agrees with Sofie in beginning with the Interurban Trail, but also suggests areas around Whatcom Falls Park, located near Lake Whatcom and the horse trails around Lake Padden for novice riders. Theimer said plenty of advanced trails exist in the area between Whatcom Falls Park and Galbraith



Peter Donaldson rides his mountain bike along the Interurban trail.

Photo by Eric Kvilaas

Mountain.

Sofie said he works out at the Bellingham Athletic Club to supplement his bike riding and is lifting weights to increase his leg strength and overall body stamina.

"I ride more and more each summer," he said. "I'm getting into better shape, (and am) able to take on more challenges."

Theimer said the average price

for a "city bike with multi-speeds" is about \$250, while the average price for a mountain bike ranges closer to \$600, with advanced mountain bikes going into the thousands.

If you are unsure about what bike would be best suited for you, Theimer suggests taking the bike on as rugged a test ride as you can. The key is to get a bike that will withstand both you and your riding style.

"Test rides can help decide what will be strong enough for you specifically," he said.

As an important reminder he included that the components have to be strong as well.

But what if you only want to ride around the city, with occasional light trail riding?

In this case, Theimer suggests buying a cross-bike, or "hybrid," because "these bikes are lighter weight and are actually designed for people

who don't want a 10-speed-style bike," he said. "They have upright bars, strong brakes, and 21 speeds like a mountain bike, and they're geared-up for higher speeds (because) on the road you go at higher speeds than in the wilderness."

As far as advancing your skills as a rider, Sofie said the key is "getting on your bike, becoming familiar with it and practicing. That's a lot of what biking is, knowing your bike and how it handles. A lot of trails are tricky to maneuver in, going up or down. Get on your bike and practice."

Theimer said serious mountain bike riders need at least leather-palmed gloves and a helmet.

As far as getting started, Theimer suggests "finding some experienced mountain bikers to show you where to go. That's about 10 times faster than exploring on your own."

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Record Review

Public Enemy aims musical commentaries at blacks and youth

By Clayton Wright
staff reporter

Regardless of the size of a listening audience, lyrical attacks on political and/or social institutions often cause a media stir. The rap group Public Enemy has been at the forefront of such controversy since their release of "It Takes a Nation of Millions to Hold Us Back" in 1988.

Two albums later, the release of "Apocalypse '91: The Enemy Strikes Black (Def Jam/Columbia)," finds Public Enemy aiming their socially and politically motivated commentary primarily at blacks and youth.

Rapper Chuck D and comic side-kick Flavor Flav first came under attack after former member Professor Griff said Jews were the root of all evil in the world. Chuck D reportedly told Griff to find other employment and offered a public apology for the comment. Griff was later reinstated as a member of the group.

Several months after that incident, in the office of Def Jam

executive, Russell Simmons, Griff reportedly called white rapper MC Serch of Third Bass a Jew. Simmons banned Griff from the record label and Griff opted to pursue a solo career rather than fight the decision.

Even though activities outside the studio have brought most of the attention to the group, the music itself has often been criticized for being overly militant, bordering anti-white. But the issues Public Enemy examine usually are not completely understood by the public.

The first single off the album, "Can't Truss It," explores African-American history as related to racial problems today: "Now the story that I'm kickin' is gory/Little Rock where they be/Dockin' this boat/No hope I'm shackled/Plus gang tackled."

Public Enemy attacks Arizona for refusing to acknowledge the Martin Luther King Jr. national holiday in "By the Time I Get to Arizona." In the cut, "One Million Bottlebags," Chuck D also goes after the advertising industry for marketing malt liquor exclusively to blacks. Chuck D blames alcohol for much of the

black-on-black crime: "Genocide kickin' in yo back/How many times have you seen it/A black fight a black/After drinkin' a bottle."

Public Enemy also takes on media control in "How to kill a Radio Consultant" and "A Letter to the New York Post." During an interlude, the group has a Klansmember from the Ku Klux Klan thank blacks for killing themselves and solving the problems of the KKK.

The Bomb Squad production group of Keith Shocklee, Hank Shocklee, Eric "Vietnam" Sadler and Carl Ryder revamp samples from previous Public Enemy albums and integrate the new jazzed-up versions into the first two tracks off the new album. The creatively-sampled music and variety of sound effects, a trademark of Public Enemy, is once again prevalent.

The music and lyrics both hit hard, and Public Enemy simply has another hit.

Public Enemy will perform with Anthrax in Seattle Oct. 23.

Ballet company to perform unique combination of jazz and ballet

By Laura King
staff reporter

The Les Ballets Jazz De Montreal dance company will be dancing into Bellingham to make a one-night appearance at 7 p.m. Sunday, Oct. 20 at the Mount Baker Theatre.

Les Ballets Jazz is a unique combination of ballet and jazz which is unlike most dance companies. Instead of traditional classical ballet, Les Ballets Jazz uses modern dance with a fusion of jazz music.

"It is important to know this is not classical ballet," said Ruth Shaw, general manager of the Mount Baker Theatre Center. "It's jazz ballet, that's why they call it Les Ballets 'Jazz' De

Montreal. There won't be any frilly tutus. It's very athletic, very dramatic dancing."

The Les Ballets Jazz's dance company was formed in 1972, and since then they have performed in more than 50 countries around the world. The company's origin is Montreal, Canada and is considered Canada's most travelled cultural ambassador.

Genevieve Salbaing is both the founder and artistic director for this experimental technique of jazz and modern ballet. Over the past 20 years, Salbaing has been responsible for the nearly 1,500 performances viewed by an estimated over 1.2 million viewers.

Salbaing has gathered top people in both the ballet and choreography world to create this non-classical form of dance. The series of acts use trios, pairs and groups that draw the audience into the production. Les Ballets Jazz's energy is one of the key factors to their popularity and success.

Les Ballets Jazz tours both small and big cities alike. They spend a large part of their season on tour travelling around the globe. They have played in places such as, New York, London

and the Soviet Union.

Fourteen of Canada's best dancers make up the company.

"I really don't know how they train human bodies to do some of that marvelous leaping and things that the dancers do. It's very athletic, but very graceful," Shaw said.

The performance will last about two hours and a good number of seats are still available. Advance seating is available weekdays, 10 a.m. to 6 p.m. at the Mount Baker Ticket Center,

104 N. Commercial or charge by phone at 734-6080. Tickets can also be purchased at the door.


Tickets are \$18, \$16, and \$11 with a \$1 discount for children, students and senior citizens. Shaw said this will be the only dance performance at the Mount Baker Theatre this year. For further information on Les Ballets Jazz or other upcoming events at the Mount Baker Theatre, call their ticket center.

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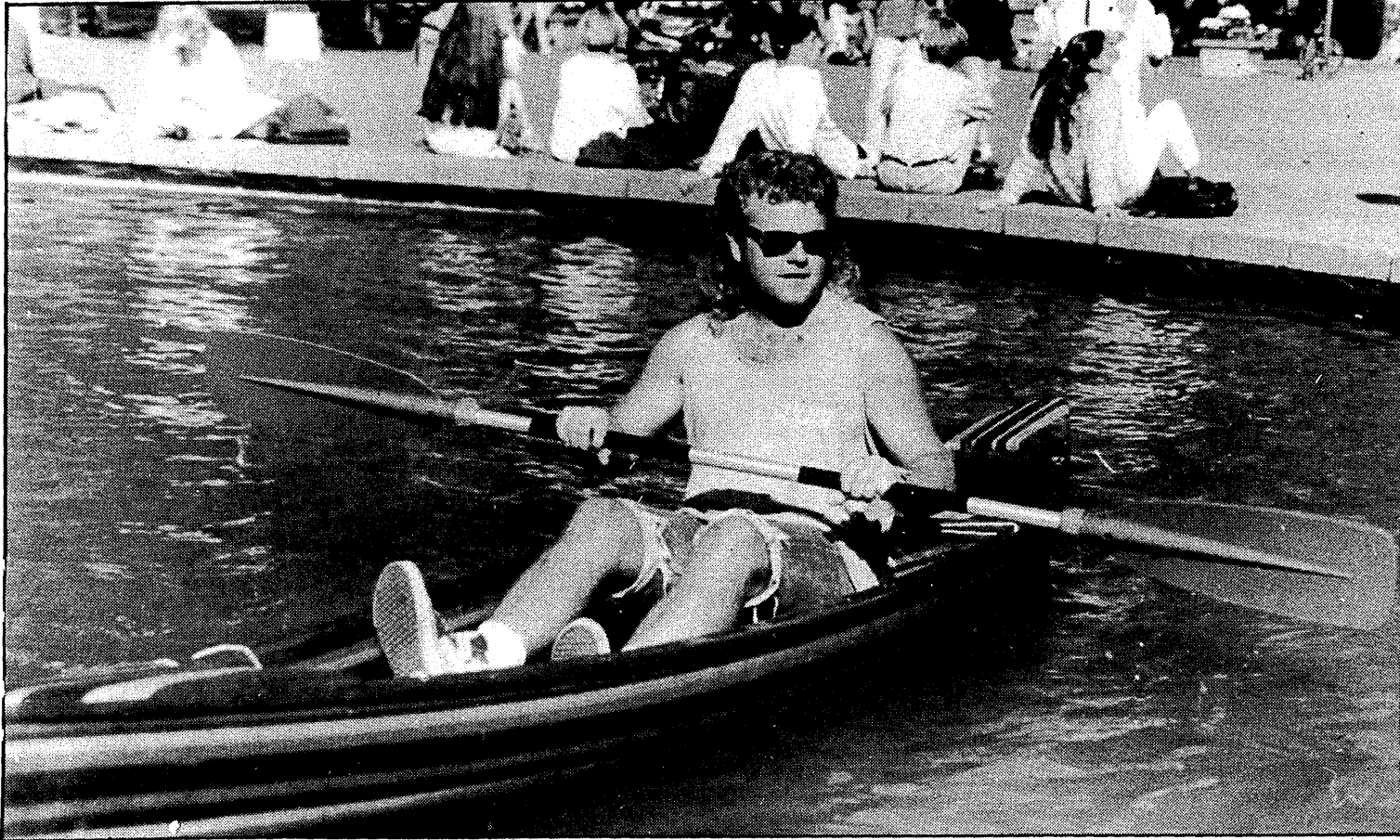
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Paddling through local lakes brings serenity and solitude



Doug Anderson, broadcast major, navigates one of the campus waterways.

Photo by Rick Jones

By Rick Jones
staff reporter

Few things in this world can free the soul from the stress and aggravations of school life like good paddling. No, not the kind your grade school principal doled out. I'm talking about that water-borne serenity that only comes from being around boats.

These last few weeks of blue skies and mild sunshine have offered a special treat to those who find their way to the banks of Whatcom County's lakes and shores of the Sound. Shore birds seem to congregate as if discussing whether to stay or leave on their annual escape from the Bellingham winter. Maples and alders spread their branches in flashes of red and orange as they prepare to jettison their summer coats. And as the dewy cold of autumn mornings settles in over the local waters, the crowds disappear.

There's probably no better way to experience the changing of the seasons than to slip a canoe or kayak into the water and glide silently along the shores of Bellingham's many lakes and secluded bays. Paddling in a low-slung craft like a canoe or kayak offers a unique perspective, making one feel much more a part of the water and

environment. It's hard to feel above nature when you're sitting four inches below the waterline.

So, where's a paddler to go?

There seem to be two camps in regard to local paddling. Kayakers and more adventurous canoeists tend to head for the bay. Those who desire a quiet paddle in flat waters usually aim for one of Whatcom County's six major lakes.

"You run out of room in most of the lakes," says John Janney, a kayaker whose son is a student at Western. "It seems like you just get paddling and you're at the other end of the Lake."

Steve Hindman, owner of The Great Adventure, a Bellingham outdoor equipment shop, also feels that the local lakes are not quite large enough to accommodate kayakers. "I don't spend much time in the freshwater, other than giving lessons at Lake Padden and playing scramble ball at Bloedel Donovan Park."

Scramble ball, Hindman explains, is a game popular among local kayakers, which is "like water polo in Kayaks." The games are usually attended by between 12 and 22 players.

Lake Whatcom's 5,000 acres of surface area makes it by far the largest of the Whatcom County lakes. And while much of its shoreline is heavily populated, Janney notes that the

southern portion of the lake does offer some unspoiled scenery. Signs of the lake's historic logging and milling operations still dot the shoreline in the form of pilings and abandoned boardwalks. Lakewood, the Western watersports facility on the southwest shore of Lake Whatcom offers a number of watercraft, including both canoes and kayaks, to Western students and staff wanting to explore by boat.

Coming in second in surface area, Lake Samish, at 825 acres, is another highly populated local lake. If the thought of paddling in someone's backyard seems appealing, this is the lake of choice.

Lake Terrell, on the other hand, offers a much more pastoral feel. Frequented mainly by birdwatchers and bass fishermen, much of the 440 acre lake has been sectioned off as wildlife sanctuary, which gives quiet paddlers an unequalled opportunity to see and hear a wonderful array of Northwest waterfowl. The south end of the lake is dotted with a number of islands which provide breeding grounds for the area's population of geese. In the spring, this collection of honkers fills the surrounding lands with a cacophony of squawks and screeches.

The northwest end of Lake Terrell shallows to a lawn of flowering water

lilies, which thickens to create a hydroponic boundary for bass boats. The result is a huge maze of waterways that screams for the canoeist to enter. The only break in the magical sense of solitude is the incessant hum of what must be Intalco machinery.

Launching at Lake Terrell is a piece of cake. A large parking lot surrounds a gravel ramp and beach on the lake's west shore. A bulletin board at the launch area announces any conditions that boaters should be aware of.

For a quick paddle, the obvious choice in the neighborhood is Lake Padden. The city park offers a scenic paddle with easy access and all of the amenities one could want. The lake is fairly small, only 150 acres, but provides a nice break from studies. A tour of the shoreline takes about an hour, more or less, and gives the paddler a great chance to race joggers around the lake.

One of the smaller lakes in the county, but one of my favorites, is Fazon Lake. Nestled in the agricultural land along the Nooksack River, Fazon is the ultimate quick getaway. The lake itself is probably less than 70 acres, but the dense walls of berry and brush give the lake the feel of an impenetrable fortress. A narrow corridor in the brush and trees allows a

finger of the lake to reach toward the parking area, hiding the extent of the waters.

The lake's perimeter is woven tightly, with grasses and lily pads which blend with the overhang at water's edge, giving the resident bass and trout shelter scurry to as boats and birds pass overhead. A lone heron presides on a snag at the eastern shore. My only warning...take some insect repellent.

Another local lake, which may take some pre-planning because of its greater distance from town, is Silver Lake. Located just north of the pseudo-Bavarian village of Maple Falls, this Whatcom County park offers not only some enjoyable paddling (even exciting, if the North wind picks up), but a great campground to sneak away to for the weekend. Silver Lake, at 185 acres, is not much larger than Padden, but its Alpine environment gives it the impression of being much larger.

Cabins surround the lake, but do little to distract from the smell of cedars or the chill breeze sweeping down from higher elevations. Explorers will also get a kick from picking their way up the channel that originates at the lake's southernmost corner. Parking is plentiful at Silver Lake. A wide beach and ramp invite easy access to a shallow bay near the park offices and bathrooms are clean and close by.

Probably one of the nicest places to put in on Chuckanut Bay is at the Larrabee State Park boat ramp, just south of Fairhaven on Chuckanut Drive. Heading either north or south from the launch, the bay's shoreline affords paddlers with close-up views of some of the strangest rock formations in the Northwest. Looking like petrified Swiss cheese, jagged outcroppings of Chuckanut sandstone rise from the bay in eerie, twisted lumps. Years of abuse by sea and weather have left the formations pocked with nature's own petroglyphs...not to mention those left by some who never should have gotten pocketknives for Christmas.

Don't have a boat? Well, they're not hard to get. The Outdoor Center in the Viking Union has a number of sea kayaks available to rent. The Great Adventure, on Chestnut and Railroad, also rent kayaks by the day or week.

Paddling gives a rare opportunity to experience a world undiscovered by the shorebound or the ubiquitous powerboater. That world, just yards from the shoreline, is clear and bright and full of sounds. Catch it while there's still some sun.

Robbie Robertson

By Jeff Collins
staff reporter

As the liner notes state, "Storyville: a section of New Orleans once dedicated to fast living, hot music and moonburnt nights." Robbie Robertson has released a concept record about "Storyville."

Recorded primarily in New Orleans, "Storyville" has a Neville Brothers-Yellow Moon-era sound. In fact, Art, Aaron, Ivan and Cyril Neville all contribute, as do Neil Young and Bruce Hornsby.

Robertson is best known for his work in the legendary band, The Band. Robertson, who was the creative driving force behind The Band, plays the guitar in this new album, but it's his enchanting Tom Waits-type voice and the overall production of "Storyville" that are moving.

"Go Back To Your Woods," with its wonderful chorus, is a song presumably about a country kid who goes to the city for a "thrill." The kid's soul-searching and lost youth are common themes throughout the album. "Resurrection" finds a modest, but brilliant guitar played by Robertson.

"Storyville" is more mellow than Robertson's first solo, released in 1987, and has no radio-ready hits. But it's an album that grows on you in the tradition of Van Morrison records.

*** - Good, not great

Soundgarden

By Jeff Collins
staff reporter

On my scorecard, there are seven great songs and five not-so-great songs on Soundgarden's "Badmotorfinger" release. These guys are the most intriguing re-hash 70s band to emerge in the last few years. When all their elements are working, primarily Chris Cornell's vocals and Kim Thayil's guitar, Soundgarden becomes a '90s version of Black Sabbath and a cross between Danzig and Metallica.

"Holy Water" and "Mind Plot," worthy of FM radio play, exemplify Soundgarden's raw talent. The mid-tempo "Somewhere" and "Searching With My Good Eye Closed" are sure to be Soundgarden classics.

But for each great song, a mediocre tune slips its way into "Badmotorfinger." On "Slaves & Bulldozers" and "Face Pollution," the group simply re-hashes the 70s with a clean, polished grunge sound.

Cornell's vocals occasionally sound like Sammy Hagar, as is the case with "Rusty Cage" and "Outshined." Although the guitar in those two songs is great, Cornell's vocals don't add a thing.

During the fall and winter, Soundgarden will be on the road with Guns 'N' Roses. The exposure Soundgarden will receive will be much warranted for this true rock n' roll band.

*** - Good, not great

Lakewood officials encourage participation

By Sam Kitchell
staff reporter

Idle sailboats, windsurfers, kayaks, canoes and rowboats await students just a short drive away from campus at Lakewood. These activities and much more are available at Western's waterfront facility on the south shore of Lake Whatcom.

Lakewood is a beautiful 10-acre plot of wooded land only a few miles away from Western but a million miles away from the bustle of classes and exams. It is nestled in between the lake and scenic Lake Whatcom Boulevard. A gravel path leads down the hill from the parking lot toward the water. It passes a sand volleyball court and a picnic area with a table and barbecue before it halts in front of a rustic log cabin and boat house. The docks and beach are filled with water craft prepared to embark.

This scene did not become a reality until 1981 when Lakewood was completely renovated. Lakewood's history began in 1922 when it was purchased by the college. It was then named Bellingham Normal School. The land originally purchased encompassed 100 acres and was named Knormalstad after the school and the trustee of the property, Kolstad. The 'K' was dropped, and it became Normalstad until it was renamed Lakewood in the 1930s.

Over the years, the land was sold mostly for logging purposes to raise money for the college until it decreased to its present size. Over the years, the natural law of decay took its toll and during the 1970s there was a big move to upgrade the facility.

Jeff Davis, the water sports facilities technician, has been part of the program since the 1970s. He credits the director of the Associated Students, Jack Smith, for playing a major role in making the new facility possible.

"He is the person probably more responsible than any other individual for what is here right now. He was the administrator in charge of Lakewood through the 1970s," Davis said.

Now, Lakewood is a waterfront, forest get-away with an abundance of water sport equipment available to students either free or for a minimal charge. The only complaint seems to be a lack of use of the facility.

Jim Schuster, Viking Union Associated Student director, said students do take advantage of Lakewood but not as much as they could.

"There is the capability for people to be out there picnicing, sunbathing, having a group out there playing volleyball, being on the Challenge course, being in sailing classes, leisure recreation boating or taking a walk through the woods," Schuster said. "I think it is unfortunate that too many students don't check it out early enough in the game. They don't really discover it until after they have been here for two or three years."

Jeff Davis said he didn't believe it was a lack of awareness that kept people from coming out, but an issue of getting out to Lakewood.

"I think that the difficulty of getting here keeps it from being busier. Due to the nature of weather, it is hard to plan transportation shuttles," Davis said. "We are focusing now on organizing groups to utilize the facility. We have been successful at this, but we are by no means maxed-out."

On the other side of the coin, Western student and windsurfing instructor Scott Gehring said fewer people has its pluses.

"I go out there to get away from the school scene. Little use could be a plus for those people who just want to go out there and mellow out. There is a lot of stuff to do out there, but it wouldn't be the same with a crowd hanging out there," Gehring said.

There is a lot to do out there and a big lake to do it on. The following is a list of available crafts:

- * eight kayaks (four doubles, four singles)
- * 16 canoes
- * 16 Alphas (two person sailboats)
- * five Lasers (one person sailboats)
- * 12 windsurfers
- * two row boats
- * one 21-foot Victory XXI (keelboat)

Lakewood offers free use of canoes, kayaks and row boats to valid campus identification or alumni card-holding members of Western, Whatcom Community College and Northwest Indian College communities.

The sailboats and windsurfers require a sailing card to use. In order to acquire a card, individuals must demonstrate their sailing capabilities during a Saturday or Sunday orientation period which is offered between noon and 4 p.m. The cards cost \$5 per quarter.

For those with a yearning to learn how to sail, the physical education department offers a variety of classes, and private lessons are available by appointment. A sign-up sheet for the private lessons is available in the VU Finance Office, Room 202. The cost is \$35 dollars per person.

A Challenge Course is offered among the towering trees of Lakewood. Also available is a large meeting room, the McDonald Lounge, which hosts up to 50 people for a variety of activities. Various offices in the Viking Union offer sign-up and reservation information.

Davis offers encouragement for students to take advantage of this unique opportunity.

"I have been involved with various kinds of sailing all my life and will remain involved for as long as I am able. I would encourage people who have been even vaguely interested in it to



Sailboats for rent at Lakewood. Photo by Erik Kvilaas

give it a try, because it is one of the few things that for sure is a life-long interest that you can start at school and have to play with for a long time," Davis said. "There is so many other places that you do it and so many situations. It is just a wonderful activity."

The opportunity to learn new skills or just enjoy old ones is offered Monday, Wednesday and Friday from 2 p.m. to dusk and weekends from 10 a.m. to dusk. The weekend preceding Thanksgiving will be the last one that Lakewood will be open until spring.

Thomas Laakso, a plastics engineering technology student, has taken the opportunity to learn how to kayak and windsurf at Lakewood.

"It's free, why not use it? Having access to all those facilities is like having all those water toys and not having to buy them," Laakso said. "Another reason I enjoy going out there is that Lakewood has a summer cabin-effect. It is kind of like the vacation home that I never had," Laakso said.

Whatcom County trails challenge hikers

By Kevin Justik
staff reporter

Whatcom County holds within its confines a diversity of outdoor activity for all to enjoy. One such activity lies within the county's trails, which take us to the many wonderful parks and viewpoints.

Hiking in Whatcom County can be, and is, as diversified as the actual trails themselves. From Mt. Baker to Chuckanut to Bellingham, the trails range from amateur to advanced.

There are many lowland trails throughout Whatcom County where enjoyment can be found within the confines of creeks, marshes, and wooded areas.

Hiking the Lake Whatcom to Bellingham Bay trail takes from one to four hours and is a one to eight-mile loop with an elevation gain of 100 to 400 feet. This trail, like many of the lowland trails, is open all year around.

A portion of the route between

Bloedel Donovan Park and Whatcom Falls Park leads you past lagoons, beaver ponds, a state fish hatchery and several waterfalls.

The Interurban Trail, once the first transportation route between Bellingham and Mt. Vernon, is now used by hikers and bicyclists traveling between Fairhaven, Arroyo and Larrabee Parks.

It takes about three to four hours to travel the six-mile trail, which has an elevation gain of 200 feet.

Where the trail dips down into Chuckanut creek, the sound of water run-offs seem to echo off the trees in the creek's lowlands. This area of the trail seems to be heavily traveled by man, beast and machine. Amongst the foot prints and mountain bike tracks, horses have left behind their "calling cards," as if to lighten their load before heading up and out of the creek's valley.

The Fragrance Lake/Chuckanut

Ridge and Lost Lake trails are available all year-round and are perfect for the novice.

The Fragrance Lake/Chuckanut Ridge trail is a four-point-two to six-mile long hike which has an elevation gain from 1,000 to 1,800 feet. It takes approximately three to five hours.

The trail passes through deep forest on the way to the lake. An old path was recently re-opened to connect the lake with Chuckanut Ridge, which offers great views at the top.

With an elevation gain of 1,000 feet, the Lost Lake trail's five-point-five to six-point-five miles is also a respectable novice trail. It's open all year-round and takes about three to five hours to complete. Located on Chuckanut Mountain, the new sections of the trail may connect Larrabee Park with those of Pine, Cedar, and Lake Samish Parks.

If it's true mountain adventure

and challenge you seek, head on up towards Mt. Baker and the Cascades, where the trails are seasonal, have high elevation gains and are abundant and beautiful..

The Church Lake/Bearpaw Mountain trail is two-point-five to 11 miles in distance and has an incline of 500 to 3,000 feet. The season to hike this trail is between mid-July and mid-October.

From the summit, the High Divide, Mt. Baker and Mt. Shuksan are spectacular. The more experienced hikers with good map and compass skills may travel southwest from here to discover a number of small lakes and endless rolling meadows leading to Whistler Lakes and Church Mountain.

Climb to the lookout atop Winchester Mountain to see an impressive vantage point, offering spectacular views of major peaks, lakes and

the high alpine country. The trail is four to seven miles long and has an incline from 1,300 to 2,400 feet. It takes about three to five hours to complete the hike during the season, which is open from mid-July to mid-October.

The Church Mountain Lookout challenges the hiker with a high ratio of feet per mile. It is a fairly strenuous climb with the trail gaining about 1,000 feet per mile on the way up to the lookout site. Here you can soak up views of Mt. Baker, The Nooksack Valley, Mt. Shuksan and many other peaks on both sides of the border.

By exploring Whatcom County on foot, you can see first hand some of the incredible and breathtaking views of the Northwest. Experience everything from beach strolls to lake and stream hikes to the peaks of the North Cascades, all right here in Whatcom County.

Entertainment

Friday

The Up & Up:
Young Brains with Motherlode

Speedy O'Tubbs:
Tribal Therapy

Bellingham Bay Brewing Company:
Tiny Hat Orchestra

Mama Sundays:
The Laura Love Band

Saturday

The Up & Up:
Young Brains with Motherlode

Speedy O'Tubbs:
Rabbit Choir with G.T. Noah

Bellingham Bay Brewing Company:
Dead Moon, Mono Men and Marble Orchard

Sunday

Speedy O'Tubbs:
Inspector Luv and the Ride Me Babies

A.S. Movie:
"The Groove Requiem in the Key of Ski"
Old Main Theater
8 p.m.

More success for volleyball

Western wins two district matches

By George Tharalson
staff reporter

Western's volleyball team improved its District I record to 5-2, with key district victories Oct. 15 over the University of Puget Sound, and Oct. 17, over Lewis-Clark State.

It's nice to beat UPS, said senior Christy Buck. They are a big rival, even bigger than Central.

The Vikings were led by Gretchen Haakenson's 17 kills, Tamara Locke added 10, and Kerri Jostad had nine. Christy Buck led the way with three aces, while Haakenson added two. Defensively, Buck paced the Vikings with 15 digs, 12 from Bobbi Hicks and 11 each from Jostad, Haakenson, and Denise Dodge.

Western played better as a unit than in past games.

"We were more consistent...all the way through (the match)," Haakenson said.

"We're finally coming together (as a team)," Buck said.

Game one was close all the way through. Western held the lead through most of the game, but never led by more than four points. Key serving from Buck — including one ace — and April Lindsey helped pave the way to the 15-11 win. Haakenson, Locke and Jostad added clutch kills, to pace the Vikings.

Game two was all Western. The Vikings scored the first five points of the game. Buck's second of three aces in the match gave Western an 11-

1 lead. UPS was able to put three more points on the board, but that was it, as Western took a two-games-to-none lead in the match.

UPS would not give up, despite needing to win three straight games to win the match. The Loggers scored the first five points of game three, eventually jumping out to a 7-2 lead. However, two kills from Locke, and three consecutive points from Jostad brought Western right back in the game. Western took its first lead of the game courtesy of one of Haakenson's 17 kills.

Controversy hit on the next play. A ball appeared to be hit out by UPS, but was called off Western. After a long discussion by the two officials, players from both sides and the coaches, the call stood. Buck argued continued to argue the call and was given a yellow card as a warning from the official.

After the yellow card, the Vikings decided it was time to end the match and "get outta here," said head coach Chris Hartmann.

On the next play, Buck served up her third ace of the match, to give Western a 12-10 lead. The Vikings increased that lead to 14-10, before UPS scored two more points.

At this point the Vikings had to focus on the little things, Buck said. Passing needed to be good, and the Vikings could not let UPS get any more points. "We had to keep confident."

A kill from Denise Dodge gave

Western the serve back, and on Haakenson's serve, the Vikings closed out the match.

"We got our approach down," Haakenson said. The sets were great and the passing was better.

Errors have plagued Western throughout the season — service errors in particular. However, against UPS, the Vikings only committed eight service errors, down from 20 against St. Martin's last week.

"We played better as a team," Hartmann said. Movement was better. The team dug the ball up more, allowing the setters to get the ball and set up the scorers, she said.

UPS is a good team, Buck said. They don't quit.

"We had to be ready for anything," Haakenson said.

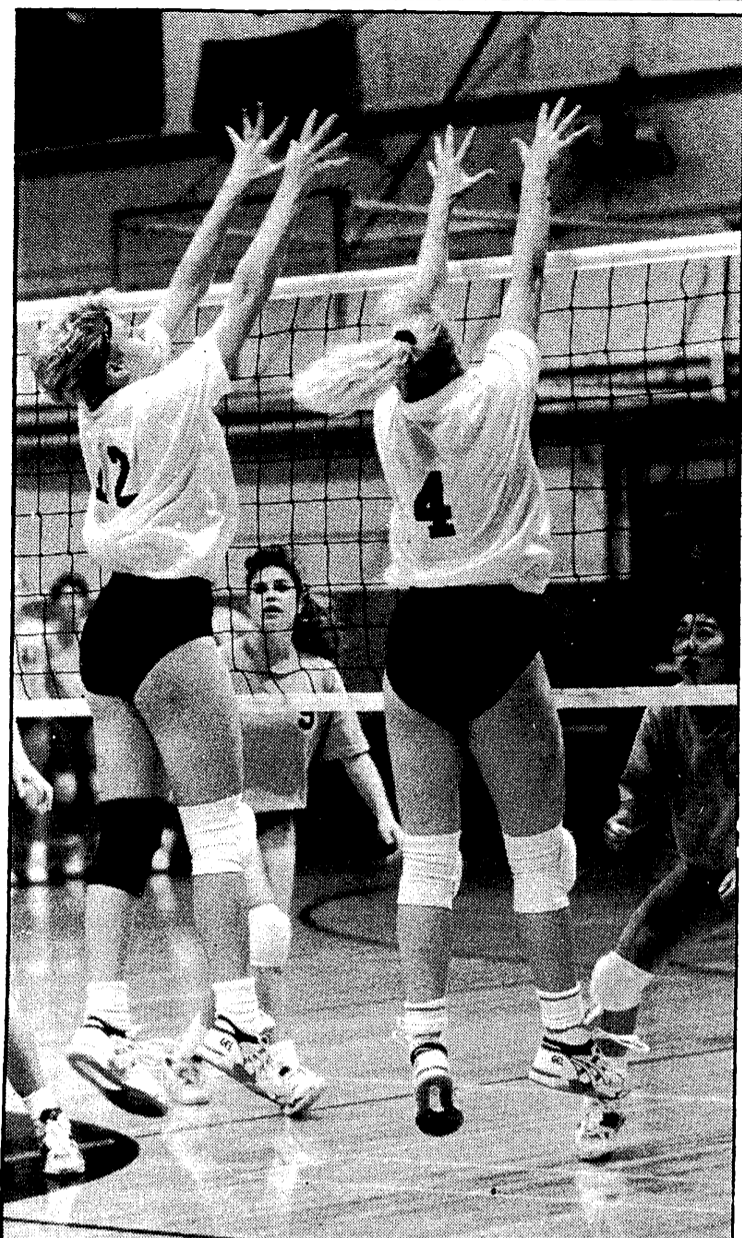
UPS beat Central earlier this year, something the Vikings could not do in two tries.

It took the Vikings four games to beat Lewis-Clark State, 12-15, 15-9, 15-10, 15-9. The Vikings were led by Locke's 15 kills. Kerri Jostad and Lynnette Bonnema added 12 kills each. Jostad and April Lindsey led the way with three service aces for Western.

Defensively, the Vikings were led by Jostad's 14 digs, Bonnema and Kris Little added 10 each. Locke led the team in blocks with 15, Bonnema and Jostad added 12.

Despite the win, Western Head

see Volleyball pg. 12



Denise Dodge (12) and April Lindsey attempt to block a UPS hit. Photo by Kristin Kline

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Commentary

Mariner managerial move a mistake

By Clayton Wright
staff reporter

Baseball, hot dogs and Seattle — an unlikely combination, don't you think? Most baseball critics would have agreed in the past. But not last season. For the first time in club history, the Seattle Mariners had a winning team.

I'm sure many people have seen the bumper sticker "I'm a Lefebvre Belivre" in support of Mariner Manager Jim Lefebvre. For three years they did believe. In fact, according to Mariner statistics, the team set a single-season attendance record in 1991 attracting 2,147,905 fans.

Unfortunately, Mariner General Manger Woody Woodward did not believe. He fired Lefebvre last week. Woody? With a name like that, what should I expect? Woody? I think you've seen "Field of Dreams" one-

too-many times. Woody, Woody, Woody. How convenient.

Even though the Mariners finished the season in fifth place in the American League West, and 12 games behind American League pennant winning Minnesota, their 83-79 record cannot be disputed. Furthermore, they competed in a league where every team finished above .500.

Lefebvre, 49, who came to the ailing club in 1989, compiled a three season record of 233-253; the most victories by any manager in club history.

If it wasn't for Lefebvre, the club would be in the same rut it started in 15 years ago when the team came into existence. How can Woodward overlook the steady progression of this ball club? Especially after their first winning season.

Steve Kelley, sports analyst for the Seattle Times, believes Lefebvre's firing was simply a personal conflict between the two. Earlier in the season,

Lefebvre publicly ridiculed Woodward over the organization's failure to go out and get a right-handed power hitter.

The leading candidate for the Mariner job is Bucky Dent, who coached at St. Louis last season. In the mean time, there's speculation Lefebvre might move on to the Chicago White Sox. Good move. Didn't the Chisox finish in second place this past season? Bucky and Woody—I suppose that would make a cute combination.

Maybe I just have a fear of failure. Maybe Dent is a qualified manager. But I'd kind of like them to continue to win.

The ongoing saga of losing teams in Seattle. Why is this city blessed with such cheapskates? Will the Mariners, like the Sonics and the Seahawks in the past, substitute progression with regression? Let's hope not. But in the mean time, I still think Woody's a woody.

TRIVIA QUESTIONS:

Who was the Seahawks first ever draft choice?
Who was the Mariners first manager?



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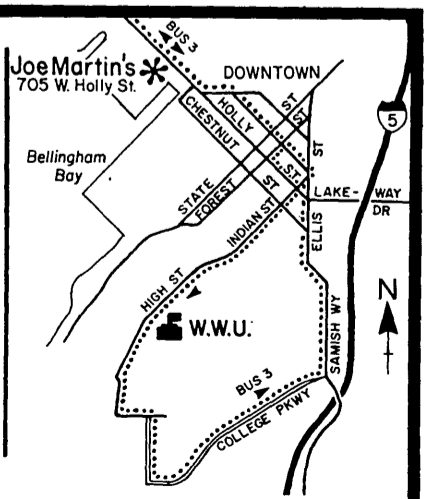
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Ice Hawks bring pro hockey to B'ham

By Darril Fosty
staff reporter

In just one year the Bellingham Ice Hawks hockey team will have went from the basement birdies of the British Columbia Junior League to high flying predators devouring its competition all the way to first place in their division.

In only their second year, the Ice Hawks have emerged into one of the best teams in the league while averaging over 1,400 people a game. This is up over 300 more than last year giving them the highest totals in the league.

"If you went to the other nine teams' games you would realize the difference in the fans. We have the wildest, craziest, loudest fans in the league and everyone likes to play in front of fans like that," coach Mike Collins said.

Collins, who was on the road recruiting all across Canada and the United States, believes because of the fan support he has an easier time

recruiting players than other B.C. Junior teams.

"In this league recruiting is everything and I use the fan support to my advantage. The ten new players we recruited have stepped in and really made an impact."

Although about 30 of the 100 players that tried out for the team were Americans all are Canadians and most of them are from the lower mainland.

"A lot of the best American players come out of the Minnesota area and it's hard to get them to come out to Bellingham since they don't know anything about this area."

"The lower mainland has a lot of good players so its easier to get them to come and play here," Collins said.

Collins describes the Ice Hawks as being a small, aggressive and talented team which can challenge the best teams for the championship (the Centennial Cup).

"In the division the main competition is Nanimo, they look real tough. The interior teams like

Chilliwack, Penticton and Merritt are always strong also. In this league, to win I think you need a small fast team and that's what we have. We're in a three-year building plan. But who knows, we might be in competition for the championship this year," Collins said.

Collins does admit their is room for improvement. "Our offense has been scoring, those totals are good, but we need more depth at defense. Although the defense has played pretty well so far."

With the interest in the team being high and hockey interest on the west coast is the future of the Ice Hawks in the Western Hockey League playing teams like Seattle, Tacoma and Spokane?

"We have the biggest and best facilities in the league. To have a Western Hockey League team you would need around 5,000 seats. If bleachers are added this arena has the capability of 4,000 seats. Further down the road I don't see why not becoming Junior A, but I don't know what the owners' plans are," Collins said.



Photo by David Willoughby

Ice Hawk Rob Hutson (22) jostles with Nanaimo's Jim Ingram (29) in front of Nanaimo's goal.

Playoff-hopes crushed for men's soccer

By Brad Niva
staff reporter

Play-off hopes for Western's men's soccer team were fizzled by the University of Puget Sound Loggers Wednesday Oct. 16 in front of a home crowd. Even after a hard-fought pounding by the Vikings, the Loggers were able to sneak two goals by the Western defense and escape with a 2-1 victory.

The first half started out slow with mistakes from each team causing frustration for all. Fouls were abundant all over the field, causing tempers to flair.

After back-and-forth play on the field during the first half, and continuous attempts on goal, Western had to sit down at half-time and try to focus on how they could score some points.

As in the first half Western had problems converting shots to goals. The problem seemed to come when Western got into scoring opportunities, but couldn't work the ball into the net.

Finally with 18 minutes left on the clock, junior Greg Morris scored the first goal of the game, rocketing a shot past the Loggers' goalie.

Eight minutes past Morris' goal, the Loggers were given a direct free kick in front of the Western goal. Jason Buxel took the shot, and stuck it in the goal just to the left of Western's goalie, senior Paul Maycock.

With the score now tied, Western went on the offensive again trying to score. But after continuous frustra-

tion for the Western players, senior Steve Bowmer was given a red card and ejected from the game.

Puget Sound took advantage of being one man up, and went for their second goal. Ian Wells scored the second goal with a few minutes left, to clinch the win for the Logger's.

When the final whistle blew,

Western's district play-off hopes were ended, while the Logger's rejoiced in disbelief of a win.

Coach Kevin Quinn discussed his reasoning for the disappointing loss, "It was an up and down game, and we are such a better team than they are,

see soccer pg. 12

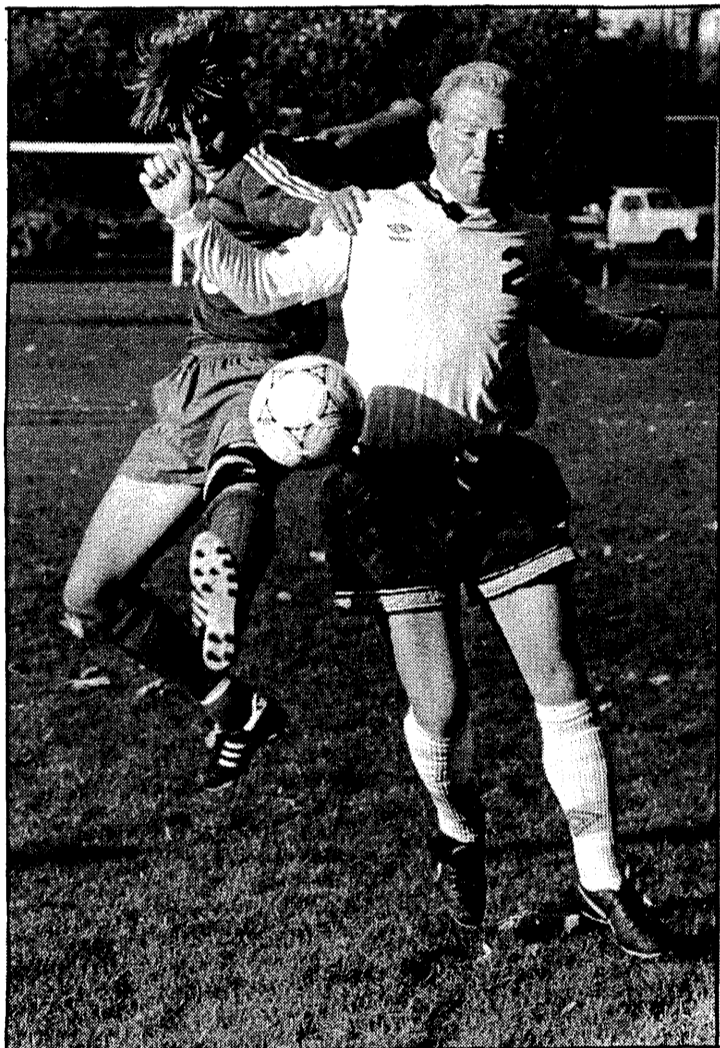


Photo by Steven Kennedy

Brett Carlsen (No. 2) battles a UPS player for the ball.

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cont. from page 11

No threeppeat for two-time district soccer champs

but we just couldn't finish the ball." Western had seven shots on goal, while Puget Sound had five on goal. Western's goalie Paul Maycock had

This lack of focus seems to be the one hurdle that the men's soccer team needs to pass to get into a winning mode.

"When things are going bad, good things just don't happen for us."

Kevin Quinn

three official saves versus Puget Sound with six saves.

"When things are going bad, good things just don't happen for us," said Quinn. "We needed someone to put the ball in the goal, and it just didn't happen. Greg Morris had a pretty goal, but it was typical of what we were doing to them. On that goal we were able to finish, but on all the others we didn't finish."

"We needed to score four goals and beat them, but the guy's just didn't want to," said Quinn.

Western is out of the district playoffs but they still have a chance in the Northwest Collegiate Soccer Conference, which they could still win if they pull themselves together.

"The NCSC we could still win, but we've got some tough games ahead like Oregon State University, Seattle Pacific University and Whitworth College. They're all very good teams, but if we could play the way we know we can play, we'll be alright. But we need to have an urgency to score some goals, because right now we're not playing like we need to."

Western hosts OSU on Sunday, Oct. 20. The game promises to be a hard fought, competitive game, with the men soccer players of Western trying to turn their record around.

Volleyball cont. from page 10

Coach Chris Hartmann noted some room for improvement. "We made far more errors than we did against UPS," he said after the match. "Our serve receive is not where we want it, its been lackluster the last couple of weeks." Once the Vikings get their serve receive down, it will be difficult for opponents to score off them, Hartmann said. "We finished strong."

Western travels to Tacoma, Oct. 18 and 19 for the Puget Sound Invitational. Western joins the University of British Columbia, Portland State, UPS, Central and Seattle Pacific in the tournament. Next regular action for the Vikings is a visit to UPS, Oct. 25. The next and final home match of the season is Oct. 30 against Pacific Lutheran University.

Homecoming '91

Football team hosts UPS

Compiled by Front staff

The football team takes on the University of Puget Sound Loggers in this Saturday's homecoming game. The game will be played at 1:30 p.m. at Civic Stadium.

The Vikings, 2-2 for the season and 1-1 in Mt. Rainier League contests, are coming off a 22-21 defeat from PLU, while UPS, 1-2-1 for the season and 0-1 in league, lost 55-20 to number one-ranked Central Oct. 12.

The game will feature one of the leagues top rushers in UPS's Gary McCurdy. McCurdy piled up 2,098 yards and 24 rushing touchdowns in his first two seasons. He is on pace to become only the second back in the Northwest to ever rush for 4,000 yards. The first was Western's Pat Locker, who gained 4,049 yards from 1976-79.

The Loggers scored 19 consecutive points to pull out a 22-13 win over Western last year in Tacoma. McCurdy ran for 241 yards and two touchdowns in the game. He currently ranks fourth nationally in rushing (133.8 yards per game).

"He (McCurdy) hurt us last year,

breaking loose for long one. We have to make sure when he's tackled that we wrap him up. He's an excellent running back," coach Rob Smith said.

Defensively, the Loggers are lead by outside linebacker Jeff Johnson and cornerback Ryan Gray.

Last week against PLU, the Vikings piled up 409 total yards, compared to 292 for the Lutes. Steve Brummel led Western in rushing with 100 yards. Quarterback Matt Sayre was 10 for 21 for 124 yards while Brian Howard was 7 for 19 for 102 yards.

Coach Smith said that, with a few exceptions, he was very pleased with the game.

"We've got to realize that if they (PLU) are No. 2 (in the country), then where are we. We're not that far behind," he said.

Freshman wide receiver Jeff Starr emerged as a rising star for the Viks with six receptions for 123 and two touchdowns.

"He's a big target and he's not afraid to go into traffic. He's capable of that type of performance (against PLU) each week," Smith said of Starr.

Next Week

A special Western Front Homecoming announcement.

TRIVIA ANSWERS:

Steve Niehaus was the No. 2 pick in the 1976 draft.

Darryll Johnson was the first Mariner manager.


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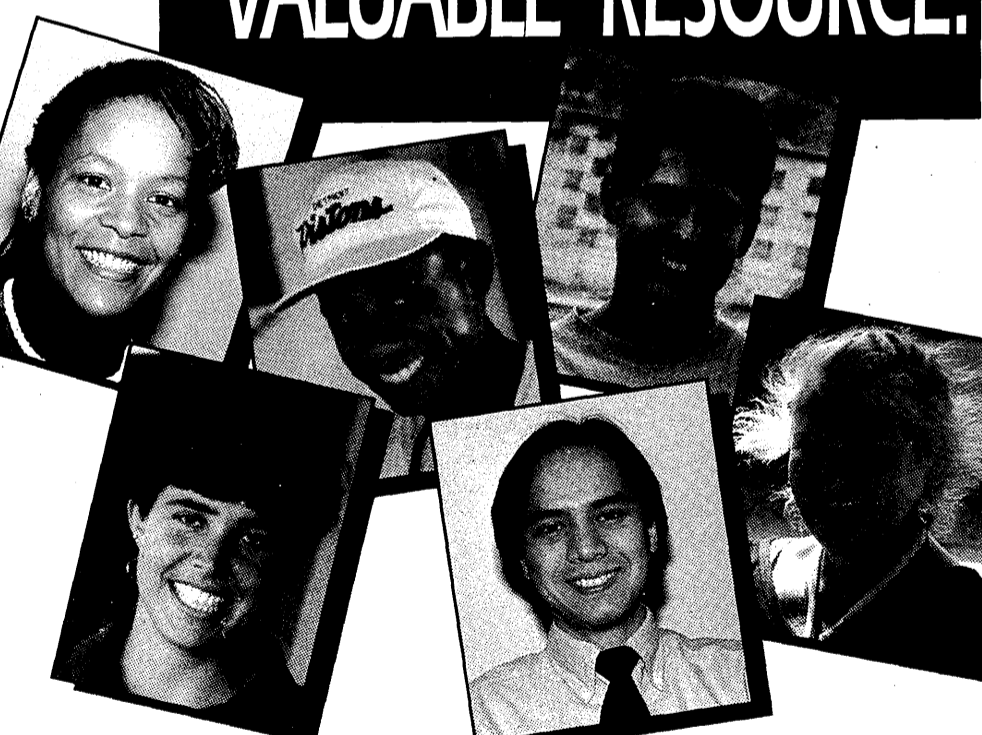
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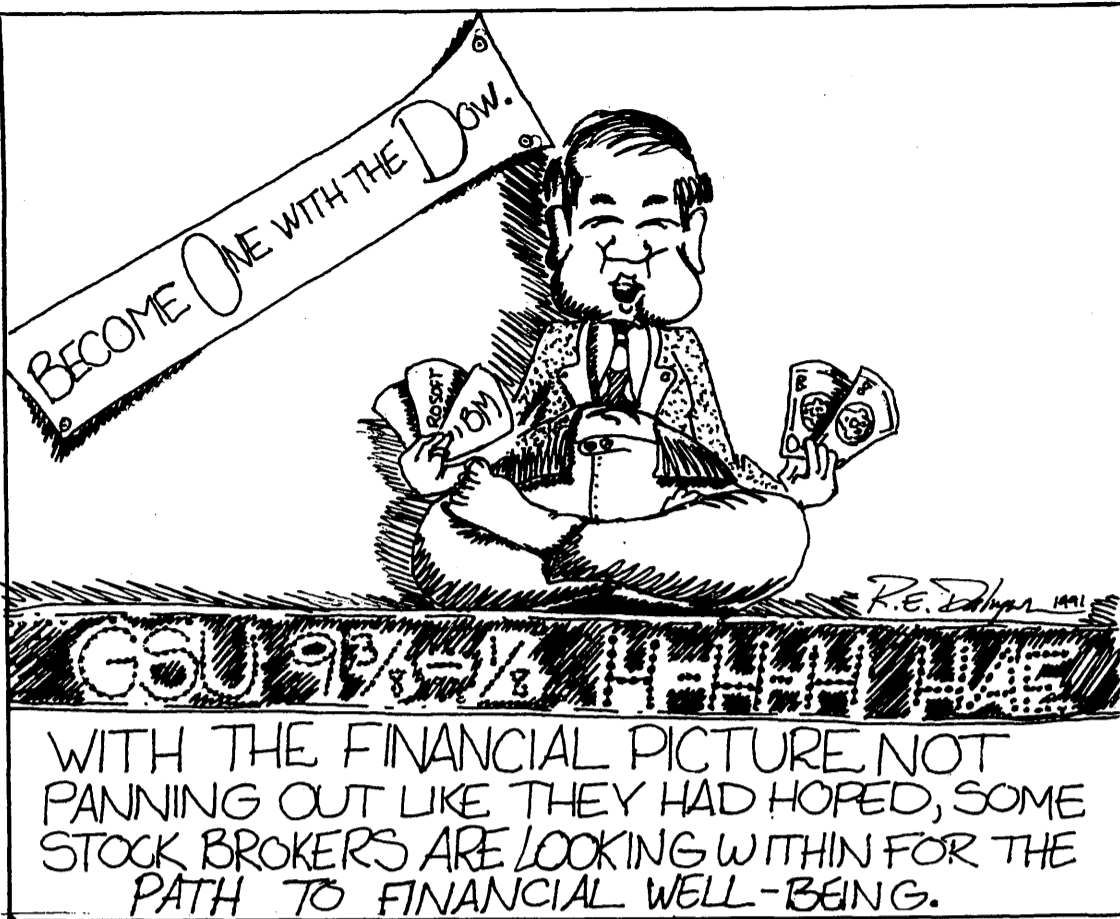
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"But he's got high hopes..."

Johnny Herber
staff reporter

Doesn't it seem that we, as a people, tend to judge things too quickly and often misread even the best intentions? Look at President Bush. He wants so badly to become "The Environmental President", but all those golf games and photo opportunities are doing no good.

Currently, there's a congressional investigation into claims that the Bush administration pressured regional chiefs of the Forest Service to disregard environmental laws in favor of logging concerns. As usual, most observers are jumping to conclusions by looking at the bad side of the situation, when, in my opinion, officials were merely attempting to support what I've always thought to be the real mission of the Bush administration. Not a "New World Order" or a "Kinder, Gentler Nation", but a mission summed up by one phrase: "Save a tree!"

I've noticed this trend in the President's actions ever since the Reagan years, when he still did his own shopping. I imagine that one day, as he was paying for a bag of pork rinds at a Washington, D.C., convenience store, the clerk asked him if he wanted a paper or plastic bag to carry them in. Stopping for a moment to think about it, he probably quipped, "You know, I don't really need to do the bag thing. I'll just save a tree!" and decided to take those words to heart.

In terms of this new investigation, there is testimony claiming that Chief of Staff John Sununu told Forest Service officials that the management plan for

Be responsible, save the children

Debra Pitts
staff reporter

Matthew Parsons made the news in September. The 12-year-old Snohomish County boy made the front pages of newspapers such as The Everett Herald and The Seattle Times.

Matthew Parsons' father also made the news in September. Charles Allen Parsons, 35, went to jail for allegedly hurting Matthew.

Charles Parsons still can walk and talk and take care of his personal hygiene. Matthew cannot.

Matthew Parsons is comatose, still in critical condition at an Everett, Wash., hospital where he was admitted on Sept. 16 after he allegedly was tortured over a period of days.

If the Matthew Parsons' story is true, then Matthew was enmeshed in a web of abuse. He knew it. His family knew it. And others must have seen signs of abuse along the way.

Apparently Matthew wanted the truth to be known. The beatings he received in the days prior to his hospitalization seemingly were provoked by Matthew stating he was an abused child in a school assignment. The paper angered his father and Matthew took the blows — literally.

In at least one newspaper account of the Matthew Parsons tragedy, authorities said no prior abuse reports had been made against Matthew's father. Yet, Charles Parsons allegedly kept his son home from school for several days and over the period of those days beat young Matthew into unconsciousness. Apparently, nobody

Yellowstone National Park had to be cut from 60 pages in length to 10. Those officials who objected were later transferred.

Of course, some might see this situation as scandalous. My hunch, though, is that Mr. Sununu didn't mean that environmental laws should be ignored, he was probably just trying to follow a presidential order to conserve paper.

This is atypical of how good intentions can be so horribly misread.

Everyone makes jokes about Dan Quayle being Vice President, but think of how many trees are saved each year from all the books he can't read. That was a choice made by the President; a national sacrifice made for the environment.

This alone should show that the President is committed to that institution. Naturally, some feel that he should be committed to another type of institution for making those kinds of decisions, but for now he should be vindicated.

The House of Representatives, appropriately, has started the ball bouncing. It seems that House members wrote 8,331 bad checks on their Capitol bank accounts last year. The public outcry over the fact that these members paid no penalties for bouncing those checks has caused the Capitol bank to be closed. I don't think that was the right thing to do, though.

Think of all the paper being saved by allowing House members to write rubber checks. I think we should follow their example and write more rubber checks ourselves. It's a doubly effective plan. For the environment, we could theoretically save entire forests, and for ourselves, we could finally truly become the "land of the free".

reported this episode of abuse or any others that might have happened in the past.

I hope you are asking "why didn't someone report Matthew Parson's plight before the final moments of torture had passed?" I hope that question is on the mind and tongue of every person who has read or heard about young Matthew.

Some of the nearly two million child abuse reports made to various agencies across the U.S. each year receive immediate attention. All are supposed to get at least some attention. Those not reported receive no attention at all.

Not making reports of known or suspected child abuse allows situations to continue where little people are hurt by big people, sometime irreparably.

However slowly, however poorly we think the child protection systems in this country work, they can't work at all unless someone makes the report.

What we have in this country is societal members who sometimes can't or won't tell authorities about child abuse they actually witness or have reason to believe is occurring.

What we're often left with is after-the-fact punishment for the abuser, medical and psychological care for the abused and funerals for the most unfortunate.

What we need is morally and socially responsible people who will notify others of abuse. We need authority figures who understand the seriousness of the abuse issue and will take immediate investigative action.

And each of us needs to be willing to confront an abusing person in action, to say to such a person, "what you are doing to that child is wrong; it is, in fact, criminal."

Fearing harassment or physical confrontation is not a good enough reason to look the other way. Neither is fear of

see Abuse, pg. 15

Frontline

Recent violence shows need for gun control

Guns don't kill people, people kill people. No. It's those damn bullets.

Those damn bullets, acting upon their own free will, killed 22 people in Texas Wednesday.

Drive-by-shootings, gang related murders, and the L.A. free-ways were all in vogue this past summer, as death continues to grow in popularity.

America has a fascination with death and violence, as witnessed by the popularity of movies like Terminator 2. But movies and cartoons cannot be blamed for the increasing violence in our country.

Society must be, at least partly, to blame. The recession causes economically-based depression, which can lead to acts of aggression. But economic woes aren't the sole cause, the legal system should be put under a microscope to focus on the root of the problem.

America is a petrie dish breeding a growth of gun-related violence. People cry out for protection, but nearly any one can get a hand gun permit. And any dope with an inclination can get a gun on the street.

The easy availability of guns leads directly to the amount of violence. All could be right in the world if a clause had been left out of the Bill of Rights. That clause guaranteed our right to "keep and bare arms."

Our forefathers feared the British army would crash in and steal the fledgling country's autonomy. Such a threat was real, at the time the United States didn't have a standing army and a militia was the best defense they could muster. It was necessary for the people to keep firearms.

Such a threat no longer exists, the British army wouldn't dare invade. America has an effective military, as witnessed by Iraq, and there is no real need for every person on the street to carry a gun.

So why do they?

Because they can.

And what else can they do?

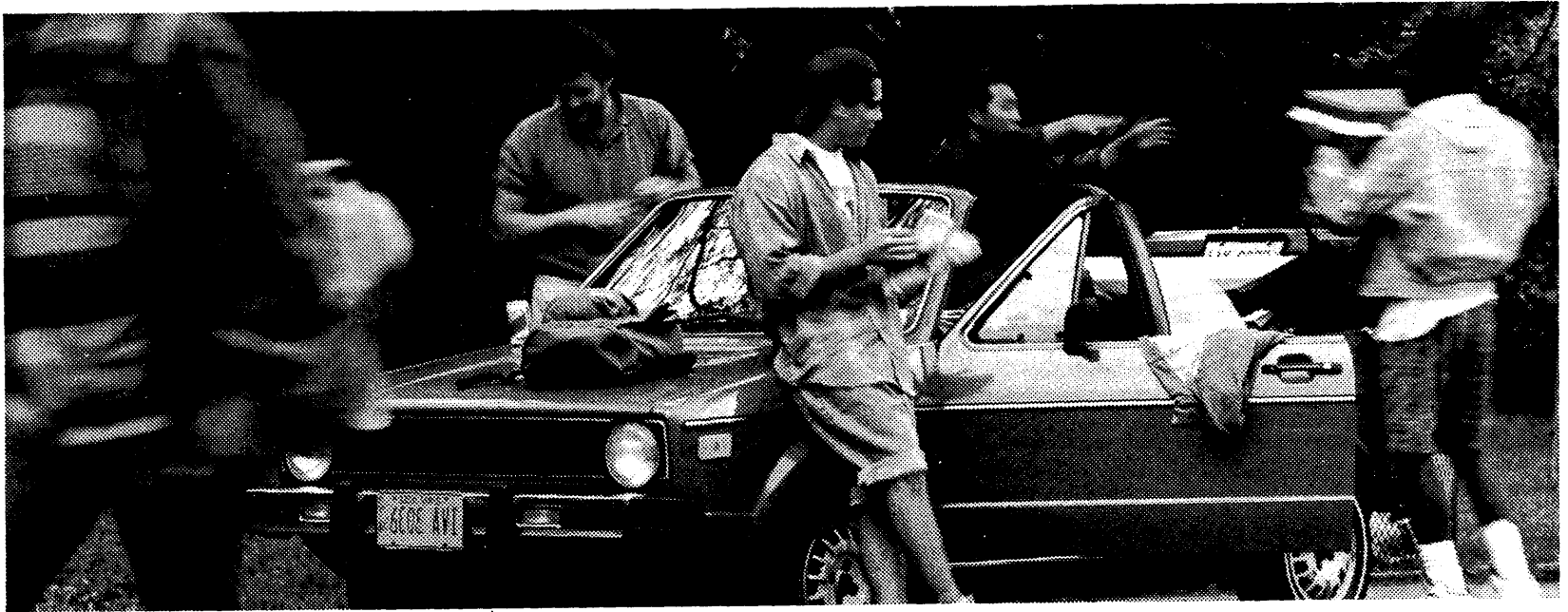
Shoot each other.

It doesn't take a genius to realize that it is unnecessary to have the populus of this nation taking pot shots at each other. Now is the time to update the words laid down by the writers of the Constitution. Gun control laws need to be passed and enforced.

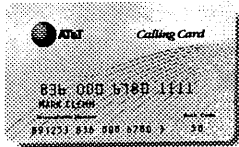
The Western Front

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The Front is the official newspaper of Western Washington University. Editorials reflect the majority opinion of the Front editorial board: the editor, managing editor and news editor. Signed commentaries and cartoons are the opinions of the authors. Guest commentaries and letters are welcome. The Front is produced by students. Four pages are funded by student fees. The rest is funded by advertising revenue. Advertisements in the Front do not reflect the opinion of the newspaper. The newsroom is in College Hall 09 and the business office is in College Hall 07. Phone numbers: 676-3162 (newsroom), 647-4938 (editor) and 676-3160 (advertising). Published twice a week. Entered as second-class matter at Bellingham, WA 98225. USPS identification #624-820.



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