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The Western Front

March 10, 1992/Volume 84, Number 34

Western Washington University

please recycle

Mathes' men ask for the top floor honors

By Merilee King
staff reporter

When room sign-up time comes every year, women with the highest priority dates scramble for a room on the ninth floor of Mathes Hall. Men don't have the option to live on this floor, they haven't for years.

"Statistical information from our incident reports shows men being responsible for 90 percent of the conduct violations. We are not comfortable with conduct violations potentially happening on the ninth floor," said Leah Shafer, resident director of Mathes.

"We think it's better for the guys to have it set up this way, we don't just think it's better for us. We think it's better for men in that living environment to have an RA (resident advisor) on the floor with them to provide the kind of role-modeling that pulls people together," said Anne Eskridge, assistant director of Residence Life for north and south campus.

The rooms in question have a panoramic view of Bellingham from the top of the hall. The windows extend further across the room than any others, except the one apartment available in the hall. The ceilings are vaulted, which once allowed for loft building. Lofts have since been banned.

The raised ceilings on the ninth

floor still provide an added feeling of space to the rooms. The ninth floor is the only half-floor in Mathes, the other half of the floor has the TV room and study carrels.

Heather Peterson, a ninth floor resident, said she wrote a letter signed by other female residents to the Office of Residence Life petitioning them to keep the ninth floor as a women's floor.

"Guys floors are a lot louder. Because the study carrels are up there, it should be women, it's quieter," Peterson said.

Jennifer Cole lived in Mathes for two years. Cole said she lived on the ninth floor during part of last year.

"I'm kind of glad they (males) couldn't be up there the year I was there. But I think it's not fair. I understand why, because of the noise. But I think it's about time they had it," Cole said.

Scott Cedergren, Mathes Hall president, has lived in Mathes for three years. Cedergren said he has brought up the possibility of allowing men to live on the ninth floor all three years.

Cedergren said he first brought up the subject at the end of the 1989-90 school year, it didn't work out for that school year, even though the sexes occupying several other floors were switched around.

At the end of the 1990-91 academic year, Cedergren said he and his

Western -- home of the Vikings?

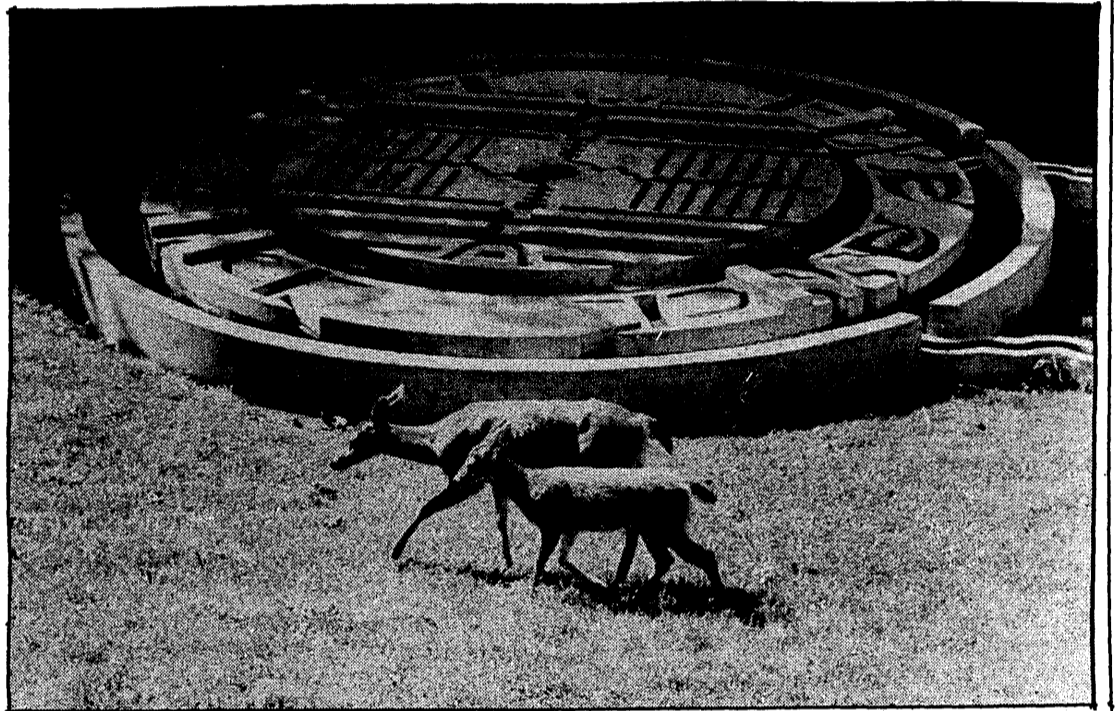


Photo by Steve McClure

roommate, Jason Valley, brought up the subject because during that school year the highest men's floor in Mathes then was the seventh, making the two top floors for women only.

"Mike Bartosh (associate director of University Residences) told us flat out, 'Yes, you are going to have the ninth for this (1991-92) year.' Then at the last minute, he said, 'no,' because they had already picked the RAs. He said the RAs couldn't be moved around, because a different

ratio of men and women would be necessary. We came up with answers for that, but they wouldn't budge on it. I got the feeling that it's not that he couldn't, but that he wouldn't," Cedergren said.

Men occupy the eighth floor this year, but the ninth floor remains for women only.

When making the decision to put males on the eighth floor for this academic year, administrators at Residence Life guaranteed that the

ninth floor would go to men for the 1992-93 school year.

At the Feb. 17 Mathes Hall council meeting, Shafer announced that the ninth floor would again be for women for the 1992-93 school year.

"We said that they (men wanting to live on the ninth floor) would sign

Please see Floor Dispute, page 3

Speech analyzes masculinity/femininity

By Vanessa Loveland
staff reporter

Kenneth Clatterbaugh, associate professor of philosophy at the University of Washington, answered questions about masculinity and its response to femininity last Saturday night at Bellingham's YWCA.

"I know that everyone is an expert in this topic," Clatterbaugh said. "Either you're a man in which you've been subjected to masculinity, or you're a woman in which you've been subjected to masculinity."

Clatterbaugh said the question of masculinity is raised especially in politics and sports. Clatterbaugh said male politicians are constantly trying to prove themselves as strong, under control and assertive. In sports, Clatterbaugh said men commonly embrace as a way of showing happiness and friendship.

"I just was watching a men's soccer game and two of the players hugged and kissed after scoring a goal, which is unmanly for some people," Clatterbaugh said. "People believe sports are a path to manhood where boys are taught to be competitive, not to cry, to be tough."

Clatterbaugh said there are two types of feminism written about in his 1990 book, "Masculinity: Men and Women, and Politics in Modern Society."

The first type is liberal feminism, Clatterbaugh said.

Clatterbaugh said the liberal feminist movement sprung up in 1966 out of the National Organization for Women as a response to the 1963 book, "The Feminine Mystique," by Betty Friedan.

Please see Gender Speech, page 2

Legislators won't pass tuition hike

By Sam Kitchell
campus government editor

Lawmakers' unwillingness to raise tuition as the legislative session winds to a close this Thursday is good news to college students across the state. At this point, tuition is scheduled to go up only five percent to adjust for inflation.

Associated Students Vice President for External Affairs Jessica Lee said getting the tuition increase taken out was the students' biggest accomplishment this session.

"I'd say it's a 90 percent chance that tuition won't go back up," Lee said.

AS Legislative Liaison Erika Snyder said neither of the parties are including tuition increases in their budget proposal.

"Three of the four caucuses have made it clear that they will vote against tuition increases," Snyder said. "So, it is unlikely there will be tuition increases."

The tuition increases were first suggested as part of Gov. Booth

Gardner's original budget proposal to help alleviate Washington state's \$900 million deficit. Gardner's plan would have used approximately \$44 million of student money to help pay off the debt.

Gardner's plan was soon tempered by other budget proposals, but they have all dropped the request for increased tuition as they travelled through committees.

The Jacobsen-Locke Bill or House Bill 2729 has moved to the Senate Higher Education Committee. Without the tuition increase request, the bill consists of the Washington College Promise Program which asks for a study to revamp the financial aid system.

The current financial aid system is based on a formula derived from 1977 statistics regarding the number of students relying on financial aid at that time. The proposed study would attempt to find if that formula is still valid.

Since the Senate has such a large agenda and limited time, it probably will not vote on the Washington College Promise Program this session,

but the idea will be alive next session in the House.

Senator Dan McDonald (R-48th District), the Senate Ways and Means chair, was instrumental in shaping the Senate budget. The McDonald Bill does not include any tuition increases either.

In other legislative issues affecting students, the verdict was not as favorable.

HB 1218, the Student/Trustee Bill, died on the Senate floor after its 92-6 victory in the House. The bill would have required a student to be on the Board of Trustees at state universities.

HB 1037, the Malicious Harassment Bill, passed the House and is currently in the Senate.

The bill toughens the penalties for someone who maliciously intimidates or harasses another on the basis of race, color, religion, ancestry, na-

Please see Legislative Update, page 3

Gender Speech, continued from page one

"This movement was very kind and very gentle to men," Clatterbaugh said.

Clatterbaugh said this was a movement in which women sought equality with men, so women began lobbying for equal pay, equal rights, social security rights and child care as a move to leave their restrictive housewife role behind.

"Women needed to involve themselves in wage-labor, education and in running their own careers and men needed to get more involved in the home," Clatterbaugh said. "Out of this came the notion of equal partnership as care-givers and providers."

As a result, Clatterbaugh said men and women would become competitive with each other for jobs and status.

For the conservative response to feminism, Clatterbaugh quotes from George Gilber's 1973 book, "Sexual Politics," which said the conservative approach maintains the traditional family structure of the wife as the keeper of the domestic domain and the husband as the breadwinner.

Gilber wrote that the traditional male role benefits society, yet it does not privilege men since men make the greater sacrifice. In addition, Gilber writes that everyone would not be better off in a feminist world since most people enjoy gratification in the domestic and sexual arena where female power is greater.

In 1968, the pro-feminist movement appeared. Clatterbaugh said in this movement, men were the enemy and oppressors of women. Women strived to help each other and give support to each other in combatting the sexism they received from men.

"With the red-stocking manifesto in the late 1960s, where women threw away their stenographers, dishrags, bras and anything else that symbolized the traditional role of women, men began to react to very unfavorably to feminism," Clatterbaugh said. "Men began to express fear toward femininity and it wasn't just conservative men who were shocked."

Clatterbaugh said one of the goals of this movement was to allow both men and women to become complete human beings.

"Women must get in touch with the assertiveness and competitiveness of their male side and men should get in touch with the nurturing and caregiving of their female side," Clatterbaugh said. "A society of androgyny would result and sexism would be gone."

The men's spiritual growth movement, which is receiving a lot of attention this year, is a lighter form of the pro-feminist movement. Robert Bly, in his 1991 best-seller "Iron John," explores spiritual growth issues.

"Bly argues that the traditional family is not a good place for men today," Clatterbaugh said. "Quoting from Bly, 'Boys are spending too much time with their mothers. To be a man, a boy must learn from a man, to be a woman, a girl must learn from a woman.'"

Clatterbaugh said boys learn from scripts of the path of manhood, which is socialized and reinforced in such activities as sports and Boy Scouts.

The emphasis of men as a part of a social class is the final approach proposed by Clatterbaugh. In this, men see power relations changing in corporate America. Clatterbaugh said with the influx of women and immigrants into the work force, white males are losing their majority status.

"White males have been collectively losing power in the last 20 years," Clatterbaugh said. "With economic factors driving more and more people to work to make ends meet, there is dramatic thrust of white and non-white women and children going to work."

Clatterbaugh said this fact is hard for men to accept since the myth of the male as the sole provider is still prevalent in American society today.

Around the World/Nation**Iraqi official to visit United Nations**

AMMAN, Jordan (AP) — Iraq is sending one of its big diplomatic guns to the United Nations.

Deputy Minister Tariq Aziz arrived in New York Monday afternoon. The visit is aimed at blocking a confrontation with the Security Council, which accuses Baghdad of refusing to eliminate its weapons of mass destruction.

Aziz is also asking Jordan's King Hussein to intercede with the United States to ease an economic blockade imposed on Iraq shortly after its 1990 invasion of Kuwait. King Hussein is to meet Thursday with President Bush in Washington.

Former Israeli leader, Menachem Begin, dies

TEL AVIV, Israel (AP) — The man who led Israel into a peace treaty with Egypt and into a war in Lebanon died. Menachem Begin died of a heart attack early Monday in a Tel Aviv hospital. He was 78-years-old.

Begin had been in intensive care since suffering a heart attack last week. Doctors installed a pacemaker on Thursday, but his condition took a turn for the worse on Friday.

Begin had a long, popular and controversial career in Israeli politics. Early on, he was branded a terrorist for his role in the underground that helped establish the nation of Israel.

However, he's best known for the peace pact he signed with Egypt in 1979. The pact, brokered by Presi-

dent Jimmy Carter, earned him the Nobel Peace Prize with Egypt's Anwar Sadat. To this date, it remains Israel's only peace pact with an Arab state.

Despite the pact, Begin took an aggressive posture toward Israel's enemies, bombing Iraq's nuclear reactor in 1981. The following year, he sent the army into Lebanon to wipe out the Palestinian Liberation Organization. The 1982 invasion became Israel's most unpopular war.

After six tumultuous years as Israeli leader, he resigned without explanation and spent his remaining years in virtual seclusion.

Harkin drops out of presidential race

WASHINGTON (AP) — Sen. Tom Harkin, D-Iowa, is out of the running for the Democratic presidential nomination.

The candidate, who had packaged himself as the only true Democrat, is dropping out of the race after a string of poor showings in primary and caucus contests.

His traditional liberal message never caught fire. In addition, his campaign manager said Harkin is now \$300,000 in debt.

In his departure announcement at Gallaudet University, a school for the deaf in Washington, Harkin vowed to do all he can to defeat President George Bush in the fall.

"Old Joe" has to go says Surgeon General

WASHINGTON (AP) — The tobacco company which markets cigarettes using a cartoon camel is getting more pressure to get rid of the symbol.

The Surgeon General and the American Medical Association are demanding an end to the use of the "Old Joe" character by the R.J. Reynold's Tobacco Company. They

said it appeals too much to kids.

Studies published in the "Journal of the American Medical Association" in December found more than half of 229 pre-school-aged children recognized "Old Joe" as a cigarette ad, which is more than five times how many recognized what the warning on the cigarette pack is all about.

Monday's call comes almost two months after a similar call by an advertising industry journal. A January editorial in "Advertising Age" said the cartoon character, "subtly encourages youngsters to smoke."

Around the State**Bridge across Puget Sound unpopular with citizens**

VASHON, Wash. (AP) — Tacoma and Burien residents have had little good to say about the idea of a bridge across Puget Sound, but their reaction is likely to be mild compared to the reception on Vashon Island. A hearing on the study that includes the bridge proposal was scheduled for Monday night at Vashon High School. Already 100 people have joined a group called Bridge Opposition Organization, headed by Robert Millegan. He said several hundred islanders are likely to attend the meeting and he's worried some might get unruly.

The \$1.1 billion study was done by Booz-Allen and Hamilton Incorporated for the Washington state Transportation Commission. Options listed in the report include a suspension bridge from Fragaria, near Southworth on the Kitsap Peninsula, to the west side of Vashon to Seahurst, near Burien. The estimated cost is nearly \$1.47 billion.

Briefs**Concert will raise money for project to serve the homeless**

The Peace Resource Center will present a homeless benefit concert at 8 p.m., Thursday at the Fairhaven Auditorium. The concert will feature SEAWEED, Medelicious and MegaFred. Admission is \$4 or \$3 with a non-perishable food donation.

Spaghetti and film raise money for Students Against Nuclear Testing

The Hundredth Monkey Project, the Peace Resource, the Environmental Center and the Western Greens are sponsoring a spaghetti feed and movie night at 6 p.m., Thursday at the Shalom Center. A documentary about nuclear testing, "Bound by the Wind," will be shown after an all-you-can-eat dinner. A donation of \$5 is requested.

Business women's group sponsors Western speaker

Candice Wiggum from Western's Counseling Center will speak at the monthly meeting of Fourth Corner Business and Professional Women. Wiggum will speak on "The Psychological Effects of Job Loss on Relationships" at 7 p.m., Tuesday, March 17 at the Calico Inn Pancake House. Before the program, a social will take place at 5:30 p.m. and dinner will be served at 6 p.m.

Feminist author, activist to speak on Christian right wing and homophobia

Suzanne Pharr will speak on "The Homophobic Agenda of the Christian Right Wing" at 7:30 p.m. today at the Fairhaven Auditorium. The event is free.

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

- **ATTENTION NATIONAL DIRECT/PERKINS AND GUARANTEED/STAFFORD LOAN BORROWERS:** If you are not returning spring quarter or you are graduating winter quarter, you are required to schedule an exit interview. Stop by Student Fiscal Services, OM 265, or call X/2943 no later than March 11 to schedule your interview. *Transcripts will be subject to withholding if you do not appear for the mandatory interview.*
- **SPRING QTR. DEGREE & INITIAL CERTIFICATE CANDIDATES:** All students expecting to graduate and/or receive a teaching certificate at close of spring, 1992, must have senior/certification evaluation on file in Registrar's Office, OM 230, by March 13. *Degree applications must be returned by March 13.* Applications may be picked up in OM 230. Deadline for summer graduates is June 5.
- **SPRING PARKING PERMIT SALES:** Quarterly parking permit sales may be renewed for spring quarter through March 13 between 8:30 a.m. and 3:30 p.m. weekdays. Permits may be renewed at the Parking Services office. Unrenewed permits will go on sale starting March 16 on a first-come, first-served basis.
- **VOLUNTEERS NEEDED:** The Student-to-Student Office is seeking energetic student volunteers to help with Western Preview on Saturday, April 4. For more information, call X/3861 or stop by Old Main 200.
- **NATIONAL STUDENT EXCHANGE:** An informational meeting for applicants to the 1992-93 NSE program will be held from 3 to 5 p.m. Tuesday, March 17, in OM 530F. Applicants should plan to attend.
- **LOT RESERVATIONS:** Lots 10G and 8V will be reserved starting at 5 p.m. on March 13 and 14 and at noon on March 15 for the performance of *Last Respects and a Sneeze* in the Old Main Theatre. • Lots 11G, 13G, 14G, 25G, 2C and 9V will be reserved starting at 5 p.m. March 17 for the performance of the Munich Chamber Orchestra. The cooperation of the University community is requested for all lot reservations. Drivers who park vehicles in a reserved lot prior to an attendant's arrival and who then remain parked during the lot reservation period without authorization from the attendant will be considered illegally parked. Except for lot 10G Monday through Thursday, any G, V or C lot other than those listed may be used.
- **PARKING REGULATIONS** will be enforced in the following areas during the quarter break, March 23-27: 5G, 6G, 8V, 10G, 11G, 12G, 13G, 14G, 24G, 25G, 28G, 9V, 17V, Haggard Hall ramp, Bond Hall cul-de-sac, and all other reserved lots or restricted areas. Enforcement will be suspended in all other lots. Evening restrictions also will be lifted in 10G during this time. Temporary parking for this period will be permitted in the above enforced lots if space allows, with a temporary assignment permit issued by Parking Services beginning March 23. • The Visitor Center will close at 5 p.m. March 23-27. Normal closing hours of 7 p.m. will resume on March 30. • Free parking will be available in lots 21C, 26C and 16CR only on March 30 to allow time for students who have not done so to purchase or pick up permits. Permits will be required in all other lots. Enforcement in all lots resumes on March 31.
- **EAST ASIAN COLLOQUIUM:** Professor Scott Pearce will speak on "The Perfection of the Frontier Style: The Inner Domain of the Northern Wei," at 4 p.m. Thursday, March 12, in the Library Presentation Room.
- **COUNSELING CENTER SPRING QUARTER OFFERINGS:** • Women Survivors of sexual abuse, 3-5 p.m. Wednesdays starting April 8. • Women's Support Group, 4-5:30 p.m. Tuesdays starting April 7. • Eating Disorder Groups, time and date to be announced. • Adult Children of Alcoholics Support Group, Mondays from 3-5 p.m. starting April 13. Preregistration required for all offerings. Appointments required prior to first meeting for all but women's support group. For more information or to sign up, contact the Counseling Center, MH 262, X/3164.

On-campus interviews

- K Mart Fashions, Wednesday, March 11. Submit CIF at sign-up. See binder and company file in CPPC resource library.
- Portland School District, Friday, March 13. Sign up in OM 280 starting February 28 for individual interviews.

Floor Dispute, continued from page one

a contract saying that if they had one incident report they could be moved off the ninth floor," Cedergren said.

"After they gave us their word it was decided and that there would be a meeting this year to set up a contract. We didn't feel we needed to be up there all the time beating down their door. They haven't contacted us at all. They made this decision without us."

Cedergren said Valley and he were told they would be included in any decisions made.

"We collectively sat down as a group ... discussed this, and came to the conclusion that we should leave things as is.

"One of the things we came to is the eighth floor allows twice as many people to have an almost identical view, some of the bay and some of the street side," Shafer said.

"The fact that this year has been successful with the guys on the next to the top floor was a big plus for us. So let's reinstate that, let's make that part of the way we do assignments," Eskridge said.

The deciding group is saying that the guys will still be getting close to the same view, but the rooms are still

completely different, Cedergren said.

"We asked Leah who she could predict to sign up for those rooms next year. We think we are going to have a predominant number of sophomore males. The system history tells us that it's not good to leave a floor with predominantly sophomore males with no RA supervision. I wish that wasn't the case," Eskridge said.

"We want to assure that there was a lot of thought going into breaking this promise, a lot of thought going into asking the staff, assessing the situation, assessing the conduct and what's been the history. We want to assure that this wasn't a fly-by-night decision," Eskridge said.

Cedergren said that putting guys on the ninth floor would provide more spaces for women, since there is a shortage of space for women in the housing system.

Eskridge said that they had looked into this fact and come to the conclusion that the decision wasn't that simple. The way it would have to be worked out wouldn't provide that much more space, she added.

"We're making decisions around far more important issues than where

to put 18 extra bodies. In terms of making that a big factor in the decision, it just wasn't," she said.

Bartosh said that the proposal for a special quiet contract was rejected in the end because it would mix two types of communities.

Bartosh said they looked into a quiet contract for the top floors, just like Edens-North, but decided against it because they didn't want to mix a quiet community with a regular one.

"We have every reason to believe, not in terms of a bad self-fulfilling prophecy, but in terms of a realistic self-fulfilling prophecy based on our projections, guys have the potential for needing additional supervision—needing additional community development to do some preventative stuff, so that guys care about their building; care about each other and care about the community.

"The way to do that is not have them on the ninth floor; to have them with a good role model, to have them with someone to do some programming," Eskridge said.

"We would rather prevent in these situations than pick up the pieces from communities that's gotten out of hand," she said.

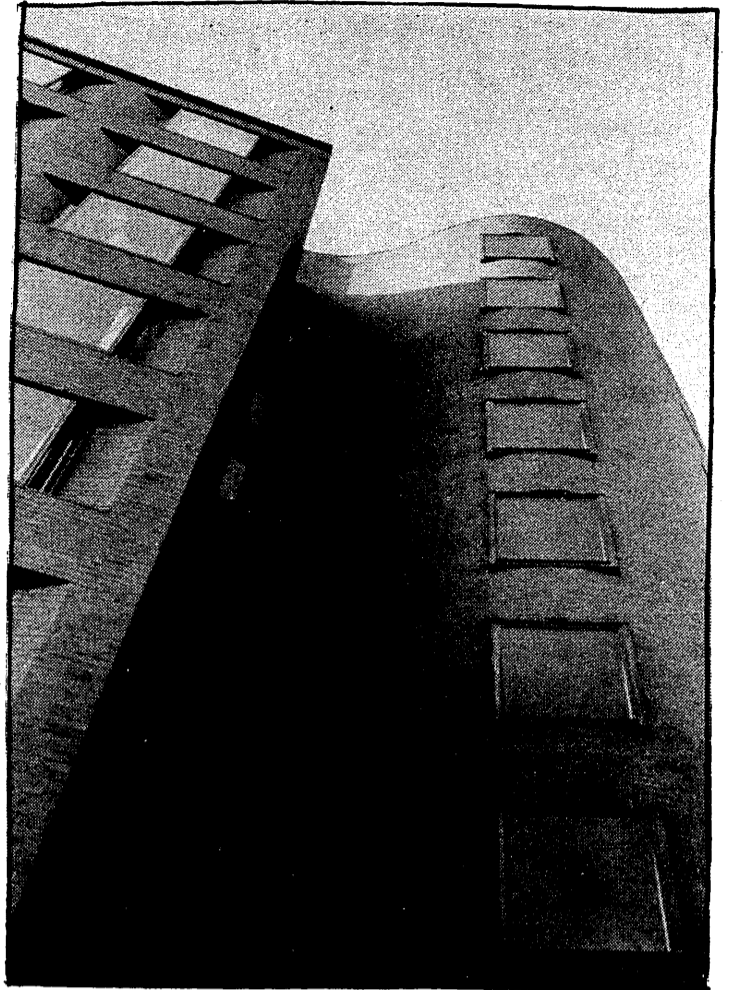


Photo by Jonathan Burton

University Residence administrators have denied males the chance to live on Mathes Hall's ninth floor.

Legislative Update, continued from page one

tional origin, sexual orientation, or a mental, physical or sensory handicap.

In order to be considered malicious harassment, physical harm or a reasonable fear of harm to a person or their property must be present.

The bill also requires training of law enforcement agencies on the subject of hate crimes and a monitoring of hate crimes that occur.

The Senate changed the wording of the bill from sexual orientation to gender and dropped the training requirement. The governor said he will not pass the bill without the inclusion of sexual orientation.

AS President Mark Aaserud said this year is really an example of students voicing their opinions on legislative issues that affect them.

"We are very excited about the tuition victory," Aaserud said. "We have been working very hard on keeping peoples' tuition low, and it looks like we might have saved \$44 million out of Washington students' pockets this year alone."

"The amount of student input this year has helped out significantly," Aaserud said. "Students that voiced their opinion might have saved themselves over \$300 a year. This year proved that when students voice their opinion, it really affects the legislature down in Olympia."

"During this recession in Wash-

ington state, those students that chose to invest one dollar in WSL made the best investment possible," Aaserud said.

"Those that invested one dollar saw a return of \$300. You don't have to be a business major to see that is a good investment," he added.

Aaserud said he feels students made headway this year even though they did not win a victory on every bill.

"Obviously, we are disappointed that the Student/Trustee Bill cleared the House significantly and didn't clear the Senate," Aaserud said.

"It is just a matter of students that believe in that bill, pushing it through next year."

The Western Front Advertising Sales Representative Position open immediately

- Position:** -Advertising Sales Representative
- Requirements:** -Prior sales experience helpful but not essential (training provided)
-Capable of dealing with the public
-Full time student enrollment required
- To Apply:** -Submit resume and letter of intent to Business Manager, The Western Front, College Hall 110

"Catch the W.A.V.E. - A Spring Break to Remember"

Spring Break! Time to head for the ski-slopes, the beach or just home for some R & R. Wherever you plan to go, play it safe. Don't drink and drive. Have a Spring Break to remember...because memories are only fond if you have them. A Safe Spring Break message from the Substance Abuse Prevention Center. Join in on the fun by participating in "Safe Spring Break Week" - March 9-13. For more information call: 676-3642

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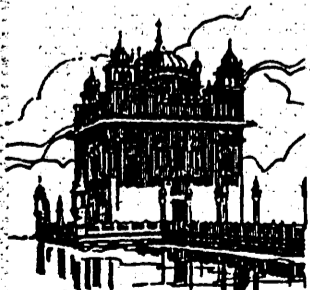
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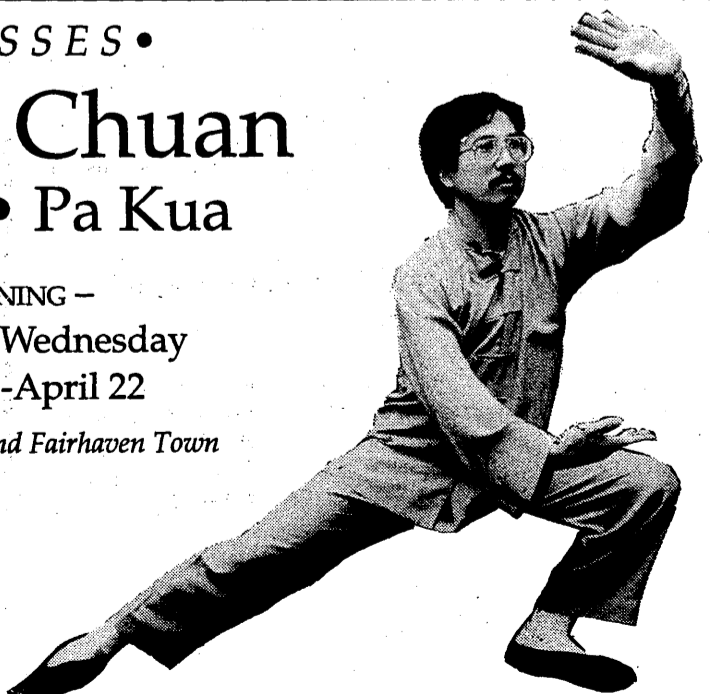
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Campus police demonstrate arresting procedures for DWI/DUI

By Amy Wold
staff reporter

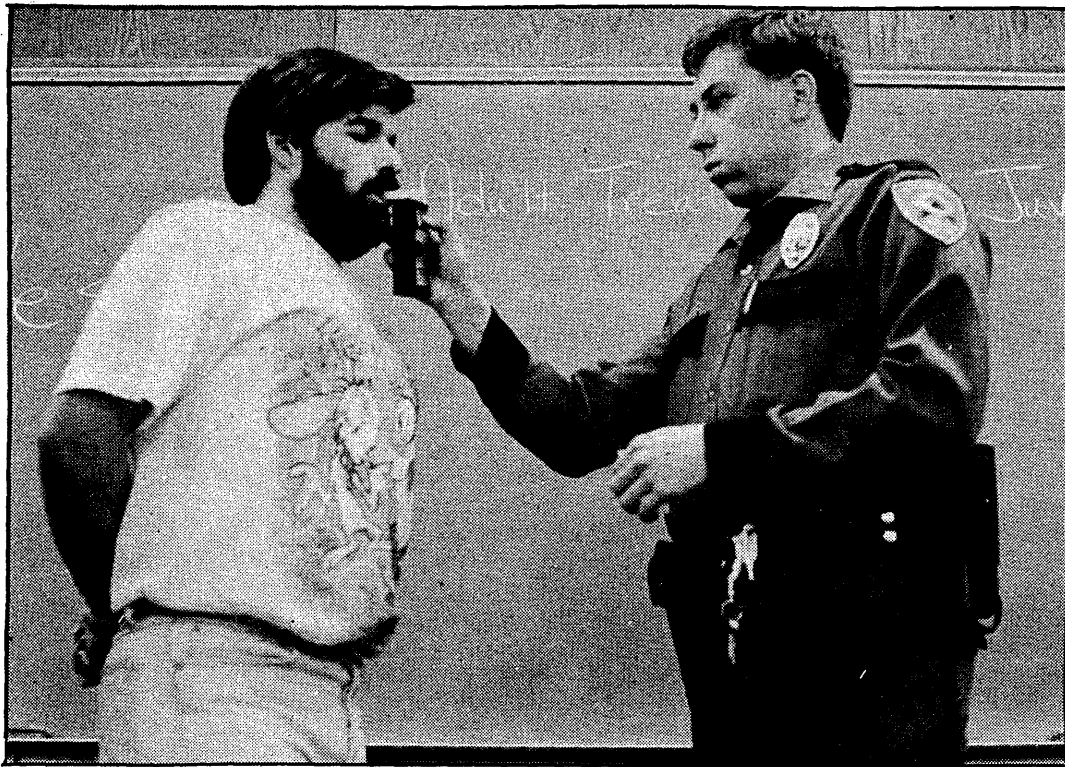


Photo by Cory Parris

Officer Kevin Woges, of the campus police, demonstrates the breathalyzer test.

Washington state's drunk driving laws and the police procedure when someone is suspected of driving under the influence of drugs or alcohol were demonstrated at 1 p.m., on March 6 in the Wilson Library Presentation Room.

In this state, a person can be guilty of driving while intoxicated (DWI) if their blood alcohol concentration is .10 or above, or if they are under the influence of drugs and/or alcohol even if their blood concentration is lower than .10.

"The idea is if your driving is affected, no matter how it happened, you have no business driving a car," said Lt. Dave Doughty of the campus police.

Doughty said if a car is able to be driven and the affected person is behind the wheel, then that person can be charged with a DWI because they are in physical control of the car.

"Law enforcement is taking a much tougher stance and you can expect in Whatcom County, and throughout the state, very little tolerance for drunk driving," Doughty said.

The campus police made a demonstration of a field sobriety test. For the presentation, an officer re-enacted a situation in which he suspected someone of driving under the influence. A man drank six beers in three hours for this demonstration and the audience was to observe the man's performance and decide for them-

selves if he was impaired.

The field sobriety test consisted of six separate tests the man was asked to perform. The first thing he was asked to do was to put his feet at a 45 degree angle, tilt his head back and close his eyes.

The officer looks at this to see if the man's sense of balance is impaired. The second test was to stay in this position, extend his arms and touch

the tip of his nose with the right and then left hand.

The third test was to take six steps forward, heel to toe, pivot to the right, walk back five steps, pivot to the right again and stand there.

The fourth and fifth test was to recite the alphabet and the months of the year. The sixth test was to hold out his right foot six inches, with his hands to his sides and count to 15.

"A lot of the tests are two tiered. We're looking not just at how's the balance, but how well he follows instructions," Doughty said. The subject of the demonstration didn't listen very well to the instruction, was a little off-balance and hesitated to think when reciting the months.

In this demonstration, the officer had probable cause to believe the man was drunk. The man admitted to

drinking six beers, and the officer could arrest him and take him in for a breath or blood alcohol content test. Washington has an implied consent rule that says when you get a drivers' license you have automatically given your consent to this test. If a person refuses this test, they can have their license revoked for one year.

A person can refuse to take a Portable Breath Test (PBT). Doughty said if an officer is going to ask you to take this test, he is probably prepared to arrest you, so a person's best bet is to take it. The PBT is not admissible in court as evidence.

Penalties for a first conviction of a DWI include a minimum of 24 consecutive hours in jail up to a one-year maximum.

In Whatcom County, Doughty said a first conviction usually will bring a 365-day sentence with 364 suspended. Fines for a first conviction in Whatcom County range from \$400 to \$500 and offenders will lose their license for 90 days. The person must also go through an alcohol/drug evaluation that could result in either Alcohol/Drug Information School or treatment.

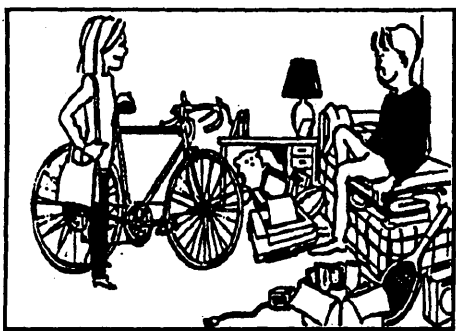
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International women's issues discussed by panel

By Daniel Carollo
staff reporter

Oppression, race, human rights, solidarity and justice were the main themes at a two-part panel discussion last Wednesday and Thursday night in the Viking Union Lounge. The discussion, "Women in the Struggle for Solidarity and Justice," was part of International Women's Week 1992, presented by the Women's Center.

The panel, comprised of eight women speakers, addressed issues of race, class, gender and U.S. foreign policy from a multi-cultural perspective.

Darcy Alexandra, a senior in Latin American studies and the organizer for the discussion, said the forum represented "the dynamics of women's organization in an international scale... The fact that women play a very central role in creating change in our world."

Alexandra said the significance of this forum was its global perspective on understanding human-rights issues, particularly those of women.

"Understanding that women around the world have similar vision—the vision for perhaps a more dignified future," Alexandra said.

The speakers at the Wednesday discussion included Rosalinda Guillen, a member of the United Farmworkers' Solidarity March Committee and Western's Minority Advisory Committee, and Dian Million, a Native American poet and national spokesman for the Leonard Peltier Defense Committee.

Million, an Alaskan native American, spoke about the adverse effects of colonization in native American territory. She said America is not the "melting pot" that many people suppose it is.

"Modern society wants to break apart Native American tribes to make them into individuals without their tribal heritage," she said. "We're (modern American culture) a bunch of individualists—we don't care about community."

Million said she attributes much of Native Americans' vulnerability to alcoholism to external oppression.

In her presentation, Million used the term "resistance consciousness", meaning people should become aware of oppression and resist it wherever it exists.

"We will resist in whatever way we feel is right—our survival here heavily relies on solidarity," Million said.

"We all need to be in this together. We share a common reality

— which is the United States," Million said.

Also speaking at Wednesday's discussion were Roisin Sheehy-Culhane, an organizer with the Irish Solidarity Committee and human-rights educator and Gladis Sibrian, the U.S. representative for the Salvadoran Farabundo Marti Front for National Liberation (FMLN).

Sibrian, who is from El Salvador, said the FMLN has fought the Salvadoran government for 20 years. One of the FMLN's goals is the demilitarization of the Salvadoran society and to end all military rule by Oct. 31, 1992, she said. The Salvadoran military has been the source of persecution and death for those who have spoken out against the government, she added.

"Not one death are we going to tolerate. We will charge the government with any death," Sibrian said.

Sibrian said the group wants a true economic and political

"(The forum represented) the dynamics of women's organization in an international scale... The fact that women play a very central role in creating change in our world."

-Darcy Alexander senior, Latin American studies

democracy and change the FMLN from an underground organization to a legal party. Without the oppressing hand of the Salvadoran military, there will be more room for political debate and a stable democratic government, she said.

"There can be no peace without the government," Sibrian said.

Sheehy-Culhane said Ireland has been an oppressed country for almost 900 years. Before the forces of religion and British imperialism took over, the laws of Ireland came out of the customs of the times and not from "above," she said as she explained Ireland's history. In that time, women were warriors along with men. Ten forms of marriage were considered legitimate, but rape was considered a crime, Sheehy-Culhane said.

"We want to drown our sorrows on St. Patrick's Day because that's when Christianity was brought (to Ireland)," she said.

Sheehy-Culhane said oppression in Ireland has come from two forces: the British government and the Catholic Church. In Ireland, the church and the state are not separate; which has made

it difficult for women to obtain abortions, she said. Sheehy-Culhane said she was referring to the recent incident in Ireland in which a 14-year-old girl was denied access to Britain to have an abortion. She said she sees liberalizing the abortion laws as a step forward for women's rights in Ireland.

The Irish women's movement is in a unique struggle because not only are they struggling to gain women's rights, they are also struggling just to freely voice their cause, she said.

Sheehy-Culhane gave an example of the stifling of free speech when a group of women tried to march in Belfast on International Women's Day. The British police tried to stop them and push them off the streets, saying that their message was inflammatory.

The women refused to leave and pushed right up against the police who in turn told them they would be shot if they did not turn back, Sheehy-Culhane said. The following week, the women tried to march again but a group of British Boy Scouts were already marching. This continued week after week, she said, until they finally won in court the right to march.

Thursday's panel discussion included Patricia Woods, an African-American organizer with Seattle's Outreach Services, an AIDS prevention organization for homeless people and substance abusers, and Saba Mahmood, a national board member of the Palestine Solidarity Committee.

Mahmood spoke about the Palestinian Women's movement.

Mahmood said she drew similarities between the "patriarchal" societies of Palestine and the United States.

"Women are still discriminated against by the patriarchal society, much as they are in this country," she said, referring to the fundamentalist Islamic structure in Palestine, in which women are expected to be submissive to men.

Mahmood said the Palestinian women's movement must fight on two fronts; the patriarchal system and also against the effects of Israeli occupation.

She also said the more radical women's movement is primarily a secular struggle. The women act with the assumption that "religion can be used.. to oppress other sectors of society," she said.

Alexandra said she hoped the panel's discussion would inspire others to action.

"I hope that for those who attended, that the event provides some sort of catalyst to become more actively involved in creating change in their community," she said.

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The Elderly

Facing problems and finding solutions in a modern society

Students offer companionship through Elderly Ministry

By Daniel Carollo
staff reporter

"Even to your old age and gray hairs I am he, I am he who will sustain you. I have made you and I will carry you; I will sustain you and I will rescue you."

This verse from Isaiah 46:4 illustrates the concern for the elderly felt by Western student volunteers involved in Elderly Ministry.

The ministry, which is organized through Campus Christian Fellowship, includes students from the Inn, Campus Crusade for Christ and the Shalom Center.

Every week, almost 20 student volunteers divided into three teams visit the elderly residents at Sehome Park Care Center, Highland Convalescent Center and St. Francis Extended Health Care to read stories, pray or just talk. A fourth team organizes a Sunday worship service at St. Francis.

Polly Anderson, a graduate student studying speech pathology, is the leader of Elderly Ministry. She said the purpose of the ministry is to recognize and try to meet the social and spiritual needs of the elderly — especially those who are not frequently visited by family members.

"The overall intent is that the elderly are not forgotten — that they are still loved and cared for," Anderson said. "Coming from a ministry basis, it is to tell them that they have a friend in Christ."

Elderly Ministry also sings Christmas carols every December and organizes a spring picnic for the elderly in May.

Anderson, who describes herself as mostly a "talker," said working

with the elderly has challenged her to be a listener.

"I've learned to listen more and give them time (to respond) and allow there to be blocks of quiet time," she said.

Anderson said working with senior citizens requires a genuine desire to care and to show compassion.

"(It is) a willingness to share with them...to accept them as who they are and to take what they are giving to you."

Sally Majkut, the volunteer services coordinator for St. Francis, said Elderly Ministry is a valuable service, since the full-time staff cannot invest much time socially and spiritually in the lives of the residents.

"It's really important that we care for the whole person — that means spiritual, too," Majkut said. "We have a strong policy of not pushing people (toward religious belief). But for those who need that, we want to provide that."

Majkut said the ministry keeps residents from being socially isolated and makes them feel they are a valuable part of the community.

Many of the elderly residents do not have family to come visit them. There are several reasons for this, Majkut said. Some residents have never married and do not have sons or daughters. Also, people are more mobile today, and family members usually live far away.

"People are really mobile and spread out," she said. "The extended family has changed."

Trez Hensley, a plastics engineering student, has been involved with Elderly Ministry for three years. He visits Sehome Park Care Center every Thursday.

Please see Elderly Ministry, page 9



Photo by Jonathan Burton

Elderly Ministry's Trez Hensley, right, and Oma Littleton, 92, share a hug.

Social security

Misunderstanding the system's role can lead to money troubles

Scott M. Ayers
staff reporter

Roy Walker has met many interesting senior citizens during his stay in Whatcom County.

Walker, who works for the Northwest Area Agency on Aging, is in the business of searching out and helping older northwest Washington residents who cannot make ends meet. He said most of these people want help but have a great sense of pride that keeps them from searching it out.

"We had one client who was 107-years-old. When she was younger, her parents ran a boarding house where she helped take care of needy people who stayed there," Walker said.

He said the woman wondered why no one wanted to take care of her now, after she had helped take care of others.

"This woman wanted to retain her dignity and respect...she shouldn't have to go through the humiliation of asking for help. The deal this woman thought she had with the world doesn't

exist," he concluded.

Much of the help seniors rely on comes from the social security system. Social security has come under increased scrutiny by both the public and politicians in the recent past, but Walker and others said it is doing as much as possible for the elderly.

"Some people are saying the social security system is not 'doing the job'," Walker said. But he stressed the system was never intended to provide completely for retirement. It is a supplement for pension and retirement plans seniors acquired through working, he said.

Mike Herbst, operations supervisor at the Social Security office in Bellingham, agreed. He said his office does a good job of providing for seniors who have planned well enough for their retirement. The Bellingham office provides social security checks to 19,600 beneficiaries in Whatcom County and another 8,550 living in Canada. Most of these are senior citizens, but checks also go out for disabled citizens, medicare treatments

and other federal insurance policies.

Walker said the system is working to a large extent. "Social security is a huge bureaucratic machine, and from an individual point of view it looks uncaring. The social security fund is huge, but it actually pays its bills, unlike other parts of the federal government," Walker said.

Herbst takes pride in this. "I think we give excellent service," he said.

His office pays more than \$14 million dollars a month in benefits and does so more quickly and with less bureaucracy than many federal agencies.

"If you come into our office with the proper papers and apply for your social security benefits we can just about guarantee you a check in two weeks," he said.

Herbst said he has seen the agency improve in the past 20 years. "The system fouls up on less than one-tenth of 1 percent of the claims made. That's not bad," he said.

Walker said he agrees.

"I'm very glad this country has

social security and medicare," he said.

Still, there are some - like victims of poor financial planning - who are in need when they reach retirement.

"The system provides basic support for old age, but for people who don't have other sources of income it's going to be tough," Herbst said.

The average social security check in the United States in 1992 for individual seniors is \$629 a month, Herbst said.

Walker said it is difficult for low-income seniors to meet the costs of basic daily living.

"There are people out there not getting the help they need. We try to find them," Walker said.

Social security benefits are based on the amount of money individuals contributed during their working years. For some, this is little or nothing.

"Social security was not specifically designed to replace pensions or savings, and people shouldn't assume it does," Walker said. "Unfortunately, many people had no other formal employment that provided for their

retirement. They have no pension, no savings and spent their lifetime working for low wages. There are a lot of people just trying to get along."

"Housewives are a good example," he said. "Many worked low-income jobs or didn't work outside the home at all. They didn't really contribute to social security, so they can get less out."

These seniors have to patch together a network of funds through subsidized housing, food stamps and Medicaid to add to their social security and medicare benefits.

"They have to use the food bank, the clothing bank and are being forced to make choices between heat and food, for example. They are just living month-to-month," he said. "They constantly need assistance; this becomes a tremendous weight on a person's self-esteem."

Please see Social security, page 8

Volunteering helps seniors give back to community

By Rob Easley
staff reporter

Since 1972, the Whatcom County Retired Senior Volunteer Program (RSVP) has helped people 60 years and older to be actively involved in their communities. One of RSVP's current ties to Western is an ushering program set up between Western's Athletic Department and RSVP.

Beginning this school year, RSVP has provided senior volunteers to assist at Western sporting events, such as volleyball, football and basketball. Attending every game, six volunteers help with ticket-taking at the door and ushering people to their seats.

Bud Kinsey, a five-year RSVP volunteer, is one of the seniors working at Western games.

"This is an interesting job. We get a chance to meet different people — like parents and grandparents of players — they're all very nice people," he said.

RSVP started as a national Con-

gress-mandated program in 1969.

In 1986, Whatcom County RSVP increased its program to provide opportunities for volunteers of all ages.

RSVP links almost 1000 volunteers, many of them Western students and retired faculty and staff, with non-profit organizations throughout

around campus," Ekland said.

Kinsey said he achieves personal satisfaction by helping people through volunteering, and RSVP has helped him achieve what he wants to do.

"I can pick my job. It leaves me independent-free to do what I want to do," Kinsey said.

"I'm doing what I want to do. I think it's a matter of giving back after taking for so many years. It feels good to give back to people."

--Joe Pickard
RSVP volunteer

the entire county.

Ekland said Western is one of the larger organizations that use RSVP volunteers.

"We've been providing volunteers to Western for some time now. We've had people assist in the State Archival Department, as well as at KUGS radio...plus other departments

"Volunteering is very important. There's a lot of people that can't afford necessities that we comfortable enjoy, such as driving somewhere, and I like to help those people," Kinsey said.

Joe Pickard is another volunteer who works at Western games. Volunteering for a total of 11 years, the past

three have been with RSVP. Pickard said he likes the way RSVP is run.

"It (RSVP) gives a person a broad spectrum to volunteer where he likes to work. Acting as an agent for volunteers, it's a means of selecting what you want to do. RSVP has so many outlets," Pickard said.

Pickard said he believes the volunteer work he does is beneficial both for the volunteer and the community.

"I'm doing what I want to do. I think it's a matter of giving back after taking for so many years. It feels good to give back to people," Pickard said.

Throughout Whatcom County, there are many things that just wouldn't happen without volunteers. Because they are assigned only to non-profit agencies, Ekland said volunteers are a way of giving support to agencies and people that don't have enough resources to provide for themselves.

Executive Director of Whatcom County RSVP Ruth Ekland said the program reimburses senior volunteers

for their out-of-pocket expenses, such as gasoline, and provides volunteers with liability insurance. RSVP is the only volunteer service in Whatcom County that offers such assistance to the volunteer.

"We can do that because we're incorporated. We have a 21-member Board of Directors that can design and run programs as they need to help the community," Ekland said.

For more information about RSVP and about volunteering opportunities for people of all ages, contact the RSVP Volunteer Center at 734-3055 or 398-1112.

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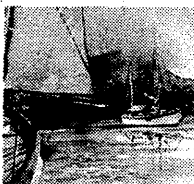
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Young and old find friendships at St. Francis

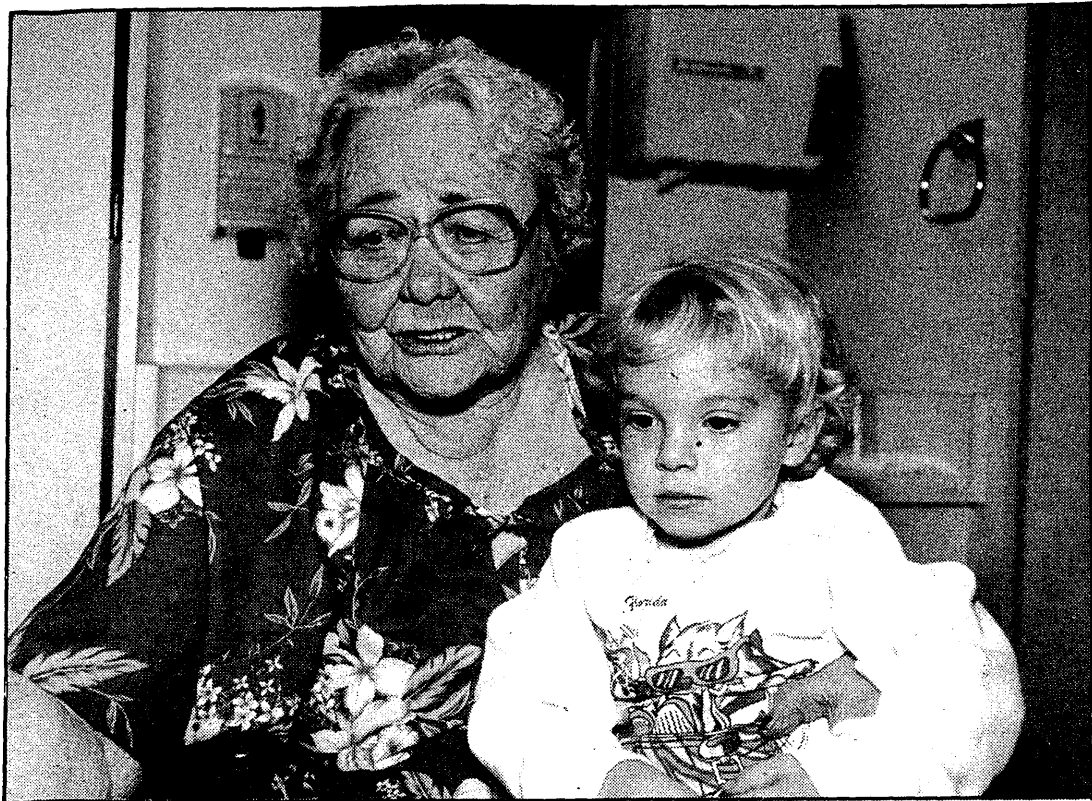


Photo by Matt Hulbert

St. Francis Extended Health Care provides 50 daycare kids with 120 caring grandparents.

By Amy Wold
staff reporter

Many of us have fond memories of our grandparents. They always seemed to have a cookie with your name on it or some little gift that made your sore knee go away. The 50 children at St. Francis Extended Health Care are going to have even

better memories because they don't have just two or three grandparents — they have 120.

St. Francis Extended Health Care began combining the care of children with the care of older residents in April, 1985. The result has been beneficial to both groups.

"There was a need for child care around here, and the administration

wanted to start up an extended health care center in the same building," said Cheryl Lorimer, director of the St. Francis Child Care Center.

"One of the benefits (of this arrangement) is the happy, loving environment. Having the grandmas and grandpas here for the kids is great because most of the children don't have grandparents in the Bellingham

area," Lorimer said. "Having the vitality of the children around keeps the residents young and active. It's a fun place to be for both children and residents."

The children are split into six groups according to their ages, which range from 18 months to six years. There are even kindergarten classes for the older children. There is one teacher for every 10 children of ages three and above. For those younger than three, there is one teacher for every seven children.

Each of the groups has 30 minutes of scheduled intergenerational activities they do with the residents. These activities include music, singing, snack time, exchanging cards and gifts, picnics and a kite flying trip and an Easter egg hunt scheduled for the end of March. The residents and children also do an intergenerational quilt every year that is raffled off as a fund raiser.

Another activity is the family dinner. Once every two months, two families come in and the kids and residents make dinner. The dinner always involves a lot of conversation. They usually make something that involves a lot of cutting so residents and kids can get involved with what each other is doing. For example, a baked potato with all the toppings and a fruit plate provide a chance for interaction between the families and the residents.

"Wheelchairs and walkers are no barrier for kids," Lorimer said. The kids may initially be shy because they are being introduced to strangers and

a new environment, but they warm up quickly to their new grandparents.

The children also become more comfortable outside of St. Francis with people who are in wheelchairs or using walkers. Lorimer said there is a lot less staring and curiosity from these children because it's nothing unusual for them.

Along with the scheduled time together, there is also the unscheduled. When children go from one activity room to another they stop to talk, hug and basically enjoy being with the resident "Grandmas and Grandpas".

The children, like children everywhere, tend to make a lot of noise, but the residents don't seem to mind. People who are thinking about moving into St. Francis are told about the day care facilities and take this into consideration before moving in.

The children aren't at St. Francis on the weekend. Lorimer has been told by residents, "It sure was quiet without you." They were glad the kids were back, she said.

"Originally we thought, 'Are we going to alienate a portion of the population because we have kids?' It has never happened," said Jim Hall, administrator of St. Francis. Hall said combining the two generations is not a new idea. However, other programs usually have a separate building for the day care or a visiting program instead of both together.

"Ours is unique from the standpoint that they're together all day," Hall said. "It isn't just the snapshot. They see the best and the worst of each other."

Specialized Transportation gives seniors a lift

By John Pressentin
staff reporter

Many of the older Whatcom County residents find a close link to the services and activities in Bellingham, and other cities, because they have access to Whatcom Specialized Transportation. This is a wheelchair accessible transportation service offering curb-to-curb service for handicapped and senior citizens throughout the county.

The service is designed to assist senior citizens who cannot effectively use the public bus system, getting to and from medical and health facilities, shopping centers and the senior centers. Any person 60-years-old and older who lacks a transportation al-

ternative and has some physical or mental disability is eligible to use the service. Persons using it must call 24 hours in advance to request a ride.

"It's just really nice knowing there is a way to get around, when you're completely home-bound," said Katie Morisal, a Ferndale senior citizen.

Morisal had to quit driving five years ago because of arthritis in her leg and deteriorating eyesight. For a while she had to rely on her daughter to get her places, until she found out about the service. Living ten miles from the city center in Ferndale, she said if it weren't for specialized transportation she would have to move somewhere closer to the city's services.

"I have no possible way to get

into town without the service because my daughter isn't always around to help me. But now I can get the groceries and medicine I need," she said. "But the service also links me to people."

The drivers of the buses are generous and are "willing to go out of their way for passengers," Morisal said. She is thankful for her driver, who once went out of her way to take her to the store for medication on a weekend when the service was closed.

"How many services will stick their neck out for you at no extra cost," she said. "But I'll tell those drivers are absolutely marvelous!"

While most riders are impressed with the service, they all miss the independence of being able to drive

on their own.

"It's just something you accept," said Olivine McCarthy. "I still have a legal license, but I don't feel comfortable driving anymore."

One of the most popular destinations for the riders are the Whatcom senior centers. The specialized transportation vehicles make daily trips to the seven Whatcom senior centers, located in Bellingham, Lynden, Ferndale, Blaine, Point Roberts, Sumas, Welcome and Everson. The centers offer a wide range of services, where friendships can be fostered, creativity expressed and skills developed.

"I don't know where I'd be without this place (senior center)," McCarthy said. "It's my chance to

get out of the house. I come and play cards here a lot and talk to friends."

Whatcom Specialized Transportation is part of the Whatcom County Council on Aging, a non-profit, private organization. They depend on a variety of funding resources to operate. Funding is provided by the Whatcom Transportation Authority, State and Federal funds and individual donations. Riders are not required to give anything, although there are suggested donation prices.

The director of the service, Dave O'Connell, said more than half of the county's senior citizens live in rural areas. With more than 4000 riders using the service, the service a big responsibility to assist the senior citizens of the county.

Social security, continued from page 6

If a senior's income remains below the poverty level even with social security checks, he or she is eligible for supplemental security income to bring their monthly income to \$414 a month, Walker said. "This really is not very much. A lot of older homeless people just can't afford to rent. Some of these folks move in with their families, others are living in cars or living on the streets."

Walker doesn't blame the problems of poor senior citizens on the social security system, but instead on society itself.

"This is a big societal issue...how do we care for our elders?" he said. "There are some positives, but the demographics are causing familial pressures. The burden for caring for family basically falls on women in our society. In some cases the elderly are moving in with their daughters. This is causing in-family tension."

"This situation puts a tremen-

dous weight on a (seniors) self-esteem. They're having to grovel," he continued.

But he also sees positives in the strength he observes in most older citizens whom, he said, have proved they can survive just by living so long. "Older people, in general, are survivors. Many survived the depression, most survived several wars and family members dying. They are not unexperienced with loss."

Walker's agency, established by the governments of Whatcom, Skagit, Island and San Juan counties, tries to help needy seniors by coordinating services in the region so those who need help can get it easier.

He said the task can sometimes be difficult.

"We try to provide seniors with information and assistance. The problem is, there are so many different agencies with different rules and so much bureaucracy it creates a need

for an office like ours," Walker said.

Herbst and Walker both said the number of elderly living in poverty is a small fraction of the total senior population.

"There are many older people with wealth and support systems," Walker said.

Herbst said he agreed.

"There are really not too many retired folks who would like to have more. In the past 10 years I have seen a lot more awareness of what people are looking forward to in retirement," Herbst said. "We serve about 1,400 people with Supplemental Security Income, these people have very limited incomes...some of them are elderly."

But, unlike fifteen years ago, the majority of people reaching retirement age are a lot more aware of what they need to do to live comfortably in their old age."

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Elderly offer advice on love, happiness

By Margaret Olsen
staff reporter

The elderly are an incredible source of wisdom. Their advice on love, marriage, happiness and many other subjects comes from the variety of experiences they have had in their lives.

Family and love are two things some residents at Highland Convalescent Center said they feel are important.

"Family is very important. There isn't any question about that," said Gus Gustafson, a 95-year-old Highland resident.

Marriage, and all of the happy times that go with it, is one of the most important memories in the minds of these seniors.

"Marriage stands out. I was married for 65 years to the same woman," Gustafson said.

"I haven't lived 87 years without memories! My husband and I had a trailer and we did a lot of travelling," Hayes said.

"I determined to be a Christian and lived by my moral standards. The second (memory that sticks out in my mind) is to marry my good husband. We raised our children in the church," Hayes said.

Gustafson said he felt cooperation and compatibility with a spouse

helps a marriage.

"Treat each other with respect at all times," he said.

Some elderly people, like the ones at Highland, said they feel marriage is being taken too lightly by youth nowadays. These seniors said they think a few things should be taken into consideration before marriage.

"Communicate and talk," said Agnus Wiggins, 79, a former resident of Highland. "Don't go to sleep at night mad. Talk about finances -- who's going to be the bookkeeper and pay the bills in the family. Always be honest with each other. It seems to me if they'd follow those things they'd do pretty good."

"I think they (people thinking about marriage) should be counseled on what they expect by a minister before they get married. Before they get married they should agree on certain things," said Laura Johnson, a 74-year-old resident at Highland.

"I'm very much in favor of marriage counseling that ministers are doing before a wedding," said Vera Hayes, an 87-year-old Highland resident. "A lot of young people are living for the moment, not for the future. They don't have plans for the future, for what they're committed to."

"For marriage, I think you need to get things out on the table and talk

about them. You have to agree on what your goals are," she said.

There are other factors to consider to keep a marriage strong, these seniors said.

"They have to agree on things. I think a church life means a whole lot for them to be happy. My husband and I always got along really well and (we) went to church," Johnson said.

"First I think they should be educated and go together for awhile, not just three or four weeks. If a person is attractive it doesn't necessarily mean they'll be a good husband or wife," Wiggins said.

"Take vacations. You need a little play along with the work. A workaholic isn't any good," Gustafson said.

However, marriages don't always work out and a divorce occurs. Unless there is a good reason for the divorce (such as abuse), some of the people at Highland said they don't think it's a very good idea.

"I think divorce is terrible in most cases. Young people get married nowadays with divorce in mind. We got married with a vow in mind and a vow is a sacred thing. My husband and I were married 60 years. Our solution to our problems wasn't divorce -- it was to talk things out and to come to a satisfactory conclusion," Hayes said.



Photo by Charity Proctor

Laura Johnson, resident of Highland Convalescent Center, said, "(people that lived together) got arrested in those days."

Hayes said children suffer the most in a bad marriage because they hear their parents fighting. It's very difficult for a child to hear that, she said.

"Marriage is a sacred thing. They should outlaw it (divorce) unless there's abuse or something like that. It's absolutely disgusting," Gustafson said.

"I never got a divorce. It's too easy for them to get a divorce now," Johnson said.

These seniors said they feel living together before marriage breaks down the morals of a family.

"I think they (people who live together) ought to be spanked. It's a breaking down of morals. The men have all the advantage. They can pick up their marbles and leave anytime. It isn't right," Hayes said.

"I don't think it's proper. They got arrested in those days (when I was younger)," Johnson said.

Marriage is very important to these seniors. The love of friends and family and the knowledge that happiness comes from within are also important, they said.

"I think you've got to know that people love you. People should say to each other at least once a day 'I love you.' Hug your children and say 'I love you' before you send them off to school. That could take care of a lot of our problems if we did it right," Hayes said.

"Happiness is within. You have to take your situation and make your happiness out of it. Our country has become a land of amusement. People think happiness finds them," Hayes said.

Elderly Ministry, continued from page 6



Photo by Tyler Anderson

Student Polly Anderson, leader of Elderly Ministry, enjoys Fred E. Wells' humor and company.

Hensley said it matters a lot to the residents when people come to visit them.

"When no one visits and no one seems to care, what do they have to live for? If they're bedridden...and nobody ever comes to talk to them, there's not really much there."

Hensley is now visiting Oma Littleton, a 92-year-old woman who he described as "alert and with it." She appreciates even things that most people regard as trivial, he said.

"She talks about the flowers outside her window...you get a sense of the fact that she is very aware of her surroundings. She has nothing else to do, so she tries to find something that's important," he said.

"It makes you think about life a little more -- about how many freedoms and abilities we have and how selfish (we are)," Hensley said.

Lynlee Willette, a senior English major, has also been involved with Elderly Ministry for three years. In those three years, Willette has consistently visited 83-year-old Laura Morin.

When Willette first met her, she said she would tell the same stories over and over again each week.

"By the third week, I knew exactly what she was going to say before she said it," Willette said.

"As she got to know me better, she would introduce me as her daughter or her sister or good friend," she

said.

Willette will graduate in spring, but said she still plans to visit Morin.

Anderson said people who visit the elderly often learn a great deal about themselves.

"People can learn more about themselves -- things that make them impatient, things that make them angry and unkind," she said.

"You learn a little about how age takes its course. You learn that these people cherish the memories they have. And although they sometimes can't put everything into concepts and words, and they (sometimes) are not totally functioning persons...they're still persons."

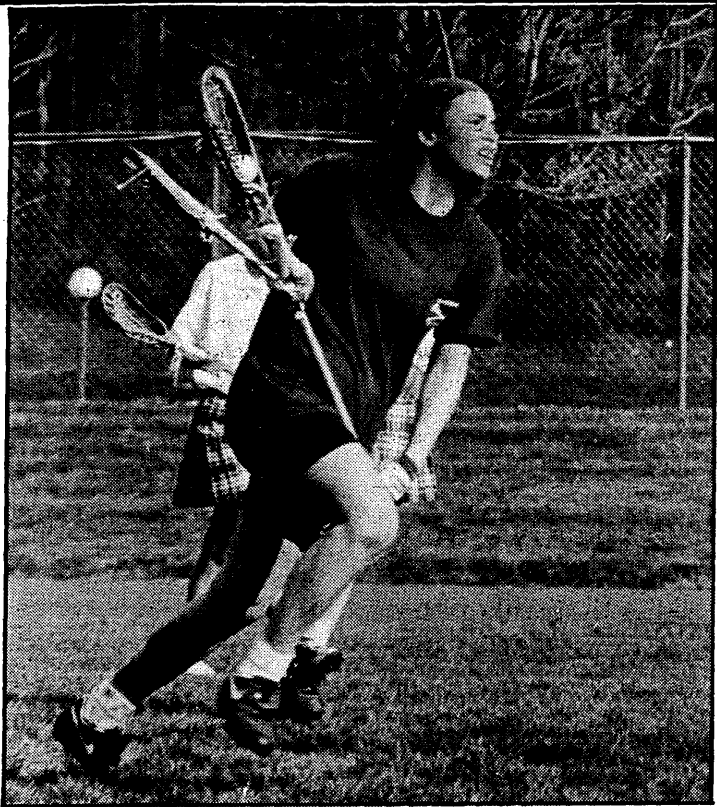
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Women's lacrosse ties UW, 7-7, defeats Whitman, 10-8

By Michael Sniezak
staff reporter

The Western women's lacrosse club overcame inexperience and poor playing conditions to tie the University of Washington 7-7, and beat Whitman College 10-8 last Saturday.

Behind captain and coach Elana Borselli, the women counted on a balanced attack to keep them in both games.

"It has to be a whole-team thing," Borselli said. "We can't just say, 'if our defense is good we can slack off on offense.' That's the only way to score."

Improvement has been a key for the Vikings, who are playing with five returners.

"These girls have improved

100 percent ever since they walked on the field in the fall," Borselli said. "We have five returning players. That's it. The rest of them are brand-new freshman or just brand-new players in general."

"It's about 95 percent freshmen out there," three-year veteran Jo Kummerle said.

The team understands there is always room for growth and improvement, Kummerle said.

"There still is a lot of stuff we need to work on," Borselli said. "It's amazing how much improvement I see everyday with these girls."

The condition the field also affects the women's play. The saying, "the ball is stuck," was heard more than once in Saturday's game with the Huskies. Because of the bad field conditions, the ball would occasion-

ally get lodged in the mud.

"Just playing-wise, I thought we did an excellent job this weekend—considering the field we have to play on," Borselli said. "It was bad."

For Kummerle, the match with the University of Washington was somewhat of a homecoming. She played her first year there before coming to Western.

The returners encourage the newcomers with hard play and verbal encouragement, Kummerle said.

"I've always been one that talks the whole way. Especially with a lot of new girls that don't know exactly what's going on," Kummerle said. "They need somebody to scream and yell and say where to go and what to do. Anytime anybody makes a goal it kind-of gets you going."

Photo by Jonathan Burton
Darcy MacFarlane (Fr.) is one of the rookies contributing to Western lacrosse

Varsity status delayed for softball club; season gets started

By Michael Sniezak
staff reporter

The Western women's softball club is counting on the veterans for winning season before they bump to the varsity level. The team will move to the varsity level for the 1993 season along with the University of Washington.

This move will make recruit-

ing players a lot easier because they will be able to compete in a national tournament and keep track of league standings, shortstop Marie Schott said. Western is not allowed to do either of these things as a club sport.

"We were given varsity status (for this year), but some problems came up," team co-captain Schott said.

Before this, Western's fast-pitch softball team was forced to gather its

players from city-league fast-pitch teams because high schools in Washington play slow pitch.

The city-leagues have given Western 15 returners and some excellent new players, Schott said.

"This year since we have so many returners, our strength is coercion," Schott said. "Everybody is exceptional."

With play from catcher Kelly McFadden, seasoned veteran Laurrah

Williams, co-captain Minda Davis and the rest of the players, the team should do much better than in the past, Schott said.

"We were kind-of shaky right now because the weather," Schott said. "And we've had some problem with practice fields."

The women played their first games last weekend in a tournament in Salem, Ore. at Willamette Uni-

versity.

The women's first home game is on March 19, against the University of Puget Sound.

"We just play to play," Schott said.

Despite problems with finding teams to play, the women have managed to keep having fun a priority.

"We have a good time," Williams said. "We're friends on and off of the field."

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Season of competition comes with spring for men's crew

By Laura Hussell
staff reporter

While most students are still asleep in their beds, the Western men's crew team is out battling the wake and debris on Lake Samish.

Practice starts around 5:45 a.m. and lasts until about 7:20 a.m. The team recently extended their meetings from five to six days a week in anticipation of their upcoming season.

Early morning practices are traditional to the sport of crew. A lot of university teams have to compete for space on the water with boats and other recreational equipment during the day, so the early morning hours are ideal, Head Coach Fil Leanderson said.

"Once most kids get used to being active that early in the morning, they find they like it,"

Leanderson said.

Crew members practice all year with the official start of the season coinciding with the beginning of the school year. The team practices through fall quarter and take a break during winter vacation. Then practice kicks into high gear during winter quarter. Actual competition does not begin until spring quarter.

Although the team has been practicing for about six months now, Leanderson said he has yet to determine exactly who will be on the varsity boats. This year's varsity team boasts at least one year experience with almost every member and has a substantial number of rowers back from last year's successful lightweight boat.

The Western crew team looks as if it will match up closely with the typical intercollegiate crew team. The average participant in the heavyweight boat will be 6 feet 3 inches tall and weigh 185 to 190 pounds. The aver-

age lightweight-boat member will be 5 foot 9 inches to 6 feet 1 inch and weigh about 160 pounds, Leanderson said.

This year's program has a total of 48 members, all of which are trained in the same skills to allow for substitution among the boats.

Western's team uses two basic boat-racing formations in competition. The first includes a total of nine people including eight rowers and one coxswain; the second boat formation is a five-man combination with three rowers and one coxswain.

It takes patience and timing in order for eight people to learn to row together. Ultimately, the strokes should look effortless and carry a boat across the surface of the water quickly, Leanderson said.

"We're not at that level quite yet, but the men are working hard and developing well. We are getting closer to the level we should be at for competition," he said.

During the last six months of practice, the team has been concentrating on improving their strength, endurance, technique and timing.

"Our stroke rate has been pretty slow so far, but we are beginning to increase it to get us up to racing speed," Leanderson said.

Unlike other sports, the crew team does not compete within a defined league. The actual season starts the first weekend in April, but Western's first race hasn't been decided yet.

Leanderson said he has asked for an invitation to a race held in

California, but he hasn't heard back yet. This race attracts top competition from across the country including many of the Ivy League schools.

The men will also compete in the Husky Invitational race, three races in the Tri-Cities and the Cascade Sprints race — which will be in Bellingham.

The team is ultimately working toward competing at the Pacific Coast Rowing Championships in Sacramento, Calif., at the end of the season. This race attracts 1,800 schools and is

The training program is also specially designed for crew. In addition to the morning workout, team members spend up to eight additional hours training off the water. Team members spend this time lifting weights, running and working out on machines that increase their stamina.

Leanderson said it takes a lot of time and dedication to develop the skills and body it takes to be competitive in crew. Crew members are encouraged to stay active in the summer months in order to stay physically fit. The men are encouraged to participate in activities they enjoy and which distance them somewhat from the sport of crew.

"Some people can be really burned out on crew by the eighth or ninth month, so it's important for them to use the summer months as a recuperating period," he said.

On the other hand, some team members enjoy participating in crew year-round. Some members row in summer camps while others participate in rowing clubs. One team member even rowed to Alaska with a friend this last summer, Leanderson said.

"We've got a lot of fun people rowing this year. Our goal is to work hard and develop the skills that will enable us to race up to the expectations we have set for ourselves," Leanderson said.

Crew members do get a break in their early-morning schedule one day a week — Saturday practice starts at 8:00 a.m.

"Our goal is to work hard and develop the skills that will enable us to race up to the expectations we have set for ourselves."

-Coach Fil Leanderson

the largest intercollegiate racing regatta in the country. The top boats out of this race go on to nationals.

"A good expectation for us is if we can get in to the second level finals of the competition. This would place us seventh fastest on the course," Leanderson said. "We're not that big of a school and we've got a pretty small program. This makes it tough to race with schools like Harvard and UCLA."

The sport of crew is unique because the members of a collegiate team don't need any previous experience such as in basketball or football.

Western sports briefs

Hockey: Beat the University of Washington, 7-3 on Mar. 7 at the Whatcom Co. Sports Arena. Western will play against Trinity Western at 3p.m. on Mar. 14 at the Whatcom Co. Sports Arena.

Intramural basketball: Championship games will take place from 5 p.m. to 10 p.m. in Carver Gym B tonight. Representatives from Nike, Inc. will be sponsoring contests and giving away prizes throughout the night. Admission is free.

Indoor softball: The Saggy Diapers defeated the Stud Muffins 15-10 in the championship game on Mar. 7.

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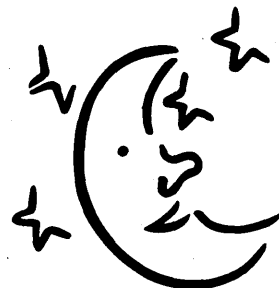
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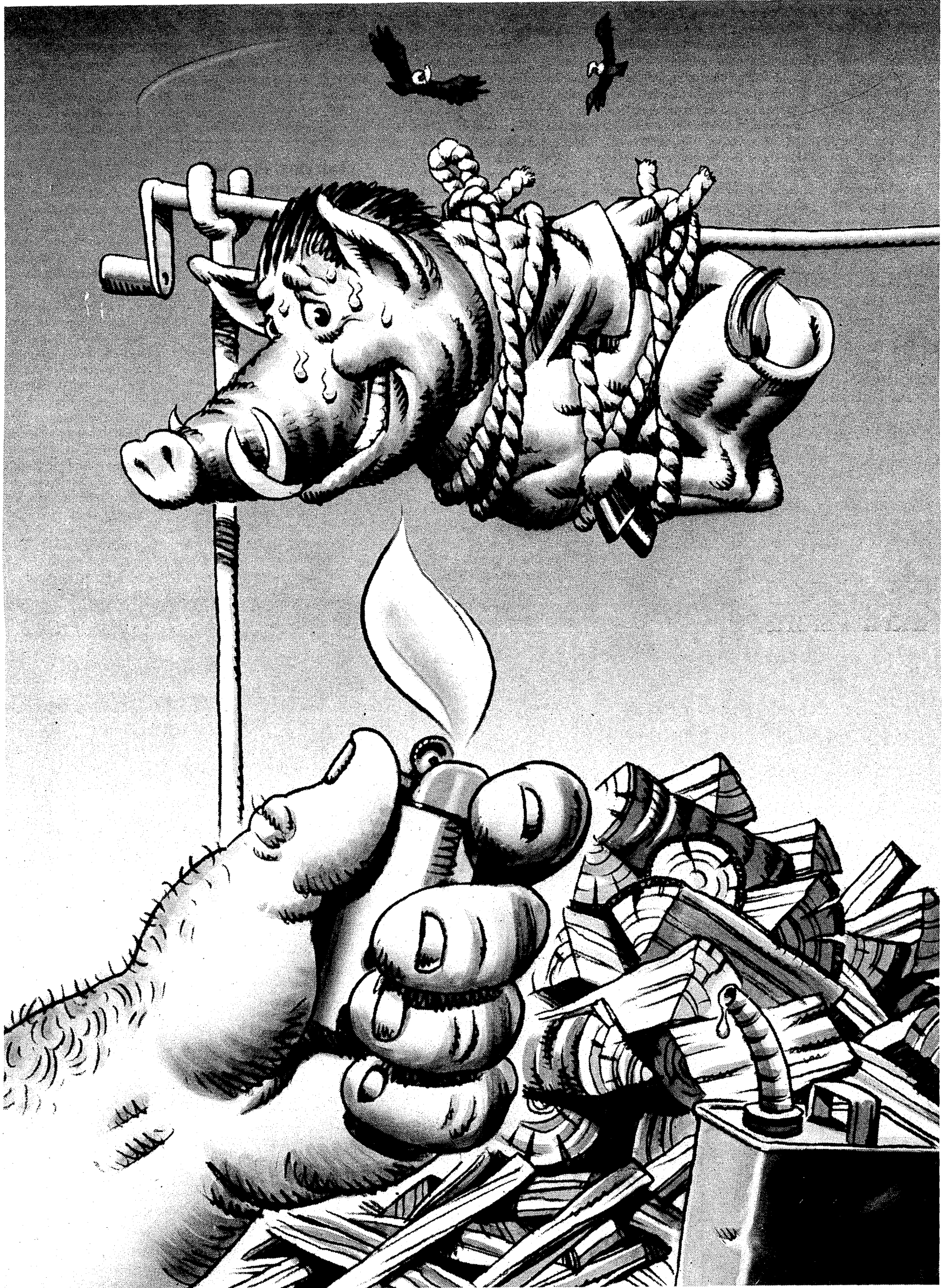
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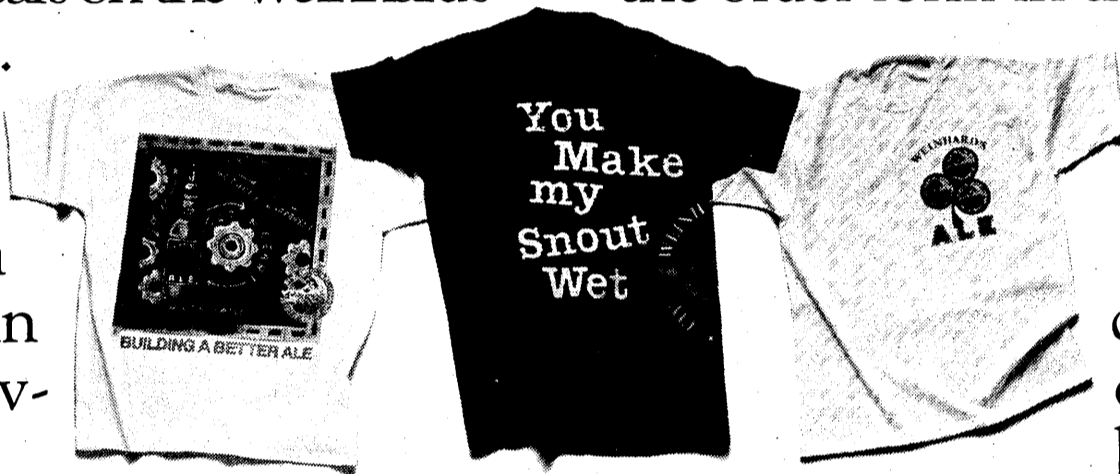
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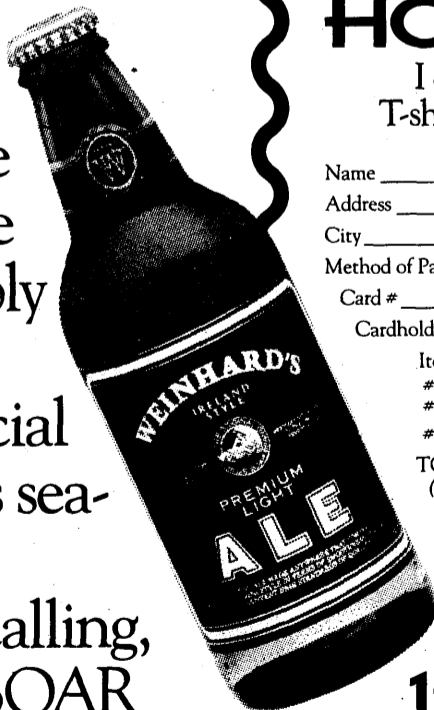
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Marriott fails to meet students' needs

By Christina Rustvold-Smith
staff reporter

Perhaps the problems I'm about to address should be directed toward the upper echelons of Marriott Food Service, but I believe our student government should be aware of and take action on the following concerns.

Though I realize not everyone at Western has been here long enough to recall, but the Viking Union Eateries used to be a great option to the "food" served in the dining halls, and the VU Coffee Shop was open to students with meal cards until 8 p.m. every night. In other words, Plaza Pizza was not the only choice available to students working, studying or attending classes on campus in the evenings. The coffee shop has closed its doors on the students for dinner and Marriott is forcing some students to spend money they don't have on old pizza or fast food off campus.

I'm very surprised the board of directors hasn't noticed the early 4

p.m. closing of the coffee shop, but then they don't seem to be having long, productive meetings as they have in the past, and they then proceed to Stanello's for dinner. But for the rest of us who have classes in the evenings, work late on The Front, or participate in hall council meetings, we no longer get to eat when we are hungry, but when Marriott dictates.

Another problem with the food services which was brought to my attention as I was writing this article is the difficulty vegetarian students experience when trying to eat on campus. A few people have told me the best option for them is the Taco Bar or the Potato Bar, but now they both close earlier than the rest of the coffee shop does. There are options, I've been told, in the dining halls and the deli but the choices are limited and get monotonous.

Also, that Potato Bar isn't what it used to be. Students used to be able to choose three toppings, such as broccoli, turkey, ham, cheese and pizza topping, and then it was steamed to

melt everything together. All this cost under \$2. Now, for \$1.99, you have a choice of bacon bits, onions, butter and sour cream for your potato, or for \$2.99 you can have a salad with it. Such a bargain.

Now I'm sure Marriott will offer some kind of pat answer like "price increases are necessary to improve the eateries," but I haven't seen many improvements in the quality of the food they offer. Sure, we now have "Bigfoot's Bistro" and the Pizza Hut Express in Arntzen Hall, but none of these "improvements" meet the needs of the students. Just ask them.

Considering that Associated Students President Mark Aaserud said in the Jan. 23rd AS Review "when student dollars are going toward words of empty promises, at some point necessary steps need to be taken," perhaps he should take necessary steps to listen to the students and perhaps offer a solution to the lack of food availability on campus for the evenings.

Individual habits need to be changed

By Chris von Seggern
issues/opinions editor

I saw something a couple of weeks ago that made me think. It made me think pretty hard about the society I live in and the role I play in our methodical rape of this planet. Let me tell you about it.

As I was leaving my apartment in Birnam Wood for another afternoon of fun and profit in the newsroom (and let me tell you, both are to be had in limitless abandon), I walked past a partially disassembled car in the parking lot. My first thought was, "Oh, fun, working on the car in the rain." Then I noticed that the radiator was taken apart and antifreeze was spilling over the concrete into a storm drain. That wasn't so amusing.

Storm drains in Bellingham spew their contents either directly into the bay or into the creeks and rivers in the area, which in turn empty you-guess-where. That means that little pond of dirty water, motor oil and antifreeze I walked past was headed eventually for Bellingham Bay, probably passing through the local watersheds en route. That or anything else we dump into a storm drain doesn't just go away when we can't see it anymore. It's still there, contaminating

Whatcom Creek or killing fish in Bellingham Bay. Antifreeze is highly toxic. Drink a bottle of it and it'll kill you about as dead as you care to get. Motor oil isn't so wonderful either.

This was an isolated incident, sure. A couple quarts of antifreeze diffusing into the bay isn't such a bad thing. When you add up the amount of various toxic chemicals washed into the watershed every day all over the Bellingham area, things start to look kind of grim.

The real problem is, when you build a city where there used to be forestland or fields, all that pavement doesn't absorb the rainfall that used to just soak into the ground. Instead, the runoff enters the storm drains, carrying whatever toxic chemicals our apathetic, wasteful society has spilled all over the ground, and carries it into the local environment. Storm runoff carries mercury and other heavy metals, oil, and about everything else on the ground into the local watershed, compounding the pollution caused by industry, cars and other aspects of a technological society.

Bellingham is surrounded by some of the most beautiful places in Washington. It would be a tragedy if one of this area's most wonderful assets were to be unnecessarily fouled

through our carelessness.

So let's start taking the time to get rid of our toxic chemicals in a responsible way. Instead of dumping antifreeze, solvents, motor oil, etc. into a storm drain and forgetting about them, dispose of them properly. Used motor oil can be recycled by anyone with access to curbside recycling. Oil should be placed in a sealed screwtop container, such as a gallon milk jug, clearly marked "oil." For other household toxics, the City of Bellingham Public Works Department, in conjunction with Whatcom County, runs a waste-disposal site which will accept them. Although the address of the facility is not advertised, to discourage unauthorized dumping, those with materials to dispose of can call the Public Works Department at 676-6850 for information.

It's time ordinary people like you and me started taking responsibility for our own contributions to pollution. The philosophy, "out of sight, out of mind," is outmoded and dangerous. Before our pollution problems will really get any better, every one of us will have to become more responsible. Let's get moving -- we have a long road to travel.

Frontline

Father, authorities both guilty of neglect

A homeless boy's frostbitten feet had to be amputated after he and his father were found in an abandoned bus in Morgantown, W. Va.

Douglas K. Roupe has been charged with felony child neglect and released on a \$10,000 bond after treatment. But, Roupe said a state agency would only give him food stamps to help him care for his 11-year-old son.

It was up to Roupe to provide the rest.

With only a bottle of ketchup and a bottle of mustard in the abandoned school bus the two were living in, it is hard to imagine Douglas Roupe eating much more than his son. But should he have the custody of a child he can not care for adequately?

Could this incident have occurred in Washington? Probably. The issue of homelessness is being neglected by many states.

In King County, there are an estimated 10,000 homeless people, according to The Seattle Times, March 2, 1992.

Imagine ... the number of homeless people in King County is comparable to the student population at Western — having no place to sleep tonight.

Another 75,000 people are at risk of losing their homes if a pay check is missed, according to a King County task force.

The issue of homelessness is now being connected with child neglect.

Each state neglects its homeless problem, and the issue of child neglect, in one way or another.

The government has a duty to see that every child grows up in a safe and healthy environment, as Roupe with his child. If Roupe's situation was as bad as it appears, he should have turned his son over to the state until he could get back on his feet. However, the system is just as guilty of neglect as Roupe is.

In an article in Saturday's Bellingham Herald, West Virginia State Trooper G.L. Clark III said he found "only a foam mattress, a bottle of ketchup and a bottle of mustard" when he arrived at the makeshift home of Roupe and his son. Clark also said the child seemed to be suffering from malnutrition and told Clark he hadn't eaten for a long time.

If Roupe had taken his son to the doctor seeking medical assistance for frostbitten feet or malnutrition, would he have been helped? Would he have been able to pay for help? Probably not.

Roupe thought he was helping his child as much as he could. He provided shelter, some food and love. But, it wasn't enough.

It shouldn't be the government's place to nourish every outstretched hand — but when a little boy's stomach, his toes and his heart are unkept by his guardian, he should no longer remain in the custody of his father.

The controversy today is who is more at fault? A system that is not concerned of the well-being of a particular child or a father who doesn't fulfill his responsibilities as a child's caregiver.

Letters to the Editor

Welcome to Wayne's World

Dear Editor,

Wayne Iverson's letter, published March 3, contains many logical errors.

The first is what logicians call a "straw-man argument." Iverson's claim that "the idea of teaching creationism in biology is on equal footing with the idea of teaching people in physics ... that the sun revolves around the earth," oversimplifies creationism and then scoffs at it — a straw-man argument.

Wayne's second goof is to make a sweeping generalization. He says, "only the most extreme elements in Christendom actually believe the creationism tripe." Such broad statements need to be backed up with a truckload of evidence, which Iverson doesn't provide. What kinds of demographic research has he done?

His third mistake was to call creationism "tripe."

Logicians refer to such name calling as "horse laughs," and immediately roundfile statements containing them. Horse laughs aren't logical arguments against anything. Instead, they are crude, simplistic attempts to arouse readers' emotions and prejudices. They are also attempts at intimidation. Those without specialized knowledge might think: "If this grad-student is calling creationism tripe, it must be tripe, since I can't refute him."

Wayne's fourth goof was saying that creationism was based on the Reagan-Bush brand of "ultra-right political agenda ..." This is simply not true. Creationism was inspired by the teachings of the Bible, NOT the Republican Party, and it was found in textbooks until the mid-1940s — long before Reagan and Bush entered politics.

Wayne uses another horse laugh, the term "reli-


Cont. next page

The Western Front

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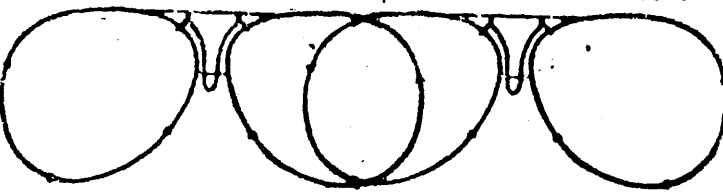
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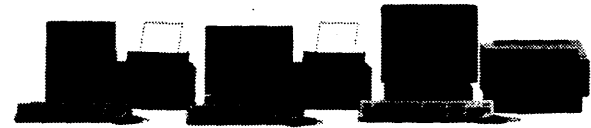
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