



Polio outbreak a potential threat to county

First outbreak of the disease since 1979 threatens about 200 people locally, but immunizations are very effective

By Cassandra Burdsal
staff reporter

Polio may threaten Whatcom County residents who have not been immunized.

Cases of Type-3 polio have shown up in southern Alberta, Canada, where it spread from the Netherlands. Health officials believe it is currently spreading to Canada's Fraser River Valley and from there to Lynden.

Traveling people carrying the virus could

spread it further.

Health Officer Dr. Frank James said about 1,000 people in British Columbia and about 200 in Lynden may be at risk. They are currently being examined by the Whatcom County Health Department to determine if the polio virus is present. The preliminary results of the tests are expected to be available next week.

"If anyone's worried about it, they should get vaccinated," James said. "Anyone that completed the routine series of childhood

vaccinations is not at risk."

About 50 percent of the communities involved have already been vaccinated, but "some of the members of the community don't believe in vaccinations," James said.

Polio spreads easily among unimmunized groups. It doesn't usually spread in well-immunized communities because the vaccine is virtually 100 percent effective, James said.

This is the first outbreak of the disease since its eradication from the United States

in 1979.

"This is kind of a big deal," James said. "The outbreak has occurred in the same community in the Netherlands, the same community in Alberta, and the same community in British Columbia (as in 1979)."

Polio is transmitted through contact with body waste, saliva or mucus. The threat of contracting the virus is highest among people who have not been vaccinated. In Whatcom

See POLIO, page 3

Remaining presidential candidates share views and goals for Western

By Lynnette Bonnema
special to the Front

Western students and faculty heard speeches from two of the three presidential finalists during public forums May 17 and 19.

Karen Morse, provost at Utah State, and Ronald J. Henry, provost at Miami University in Oxford, Ohio, are both competing for the vacant position left by Kenneth Mortimer who became president of the University of Hawaii in March.

Morse is the first woman candidate in Western's history. She began her career at Utah as a part-time chemistry lecturer in 1968 and moved through the ranks to become provost in 1981.

She served on a nuclear-fusion advisory council for the governor of Utah after the cold-fusion controversy in 1989.

"I have extensive faculty experience and I understand what it takes to teach as well as develop programs and interact with students," she said.

Prior to being named provost at Miami in 1991, Henry, who is from Belfast, Northern Ireland was a theoretical atomic physicist. He's published over 110 refereed journal articles. He also served as vice president for academic affairs at Auburn University in Alabama for two years.

"I am well exposed to the quality of ... university Western Washington University would like to be," he said.

Both candidates emphasized the importance of a strong liberal arts education as well as diversity in the success of an undergraduate program. Morse said the most

important service of an undergraduate program is to set groundwork for future leaders and prepare students for graduate education. She said the key to helping students interact is understanding diversity and faculty should act as role models to provide diversity education and training to students.

"I think a liberal arts education is very important. That is what gives the strength to professional and pre-professional programs," Henry said.

Henry said the benefit of diversity at a school is that it subjects students to different viewpoints as they encounter various types of people in the professional world.

Morse said teamwork is important in all functions of a university. She advocated a shared-government system in which the president should be heavily involved in the faculty senate.

"I have been very open to faculty and students, that is one of my strengths. I'm not afraid of criticism in regards to my leadership," she said.

When asked how he would make classes more available to students, Henry said he would increase the time period for classes to be offered. He said often times classes were unattainable for students at Miami because many departments scheduled classes at the same time.

"We made sure there was better discussion between the department chairs in respect to course offerings," he said.

The Board of Trustees will make its final decision later this month or early June.

Praying for Boston sun

Solar hybrid Viking 21 heads east for the American Tour de Sol race

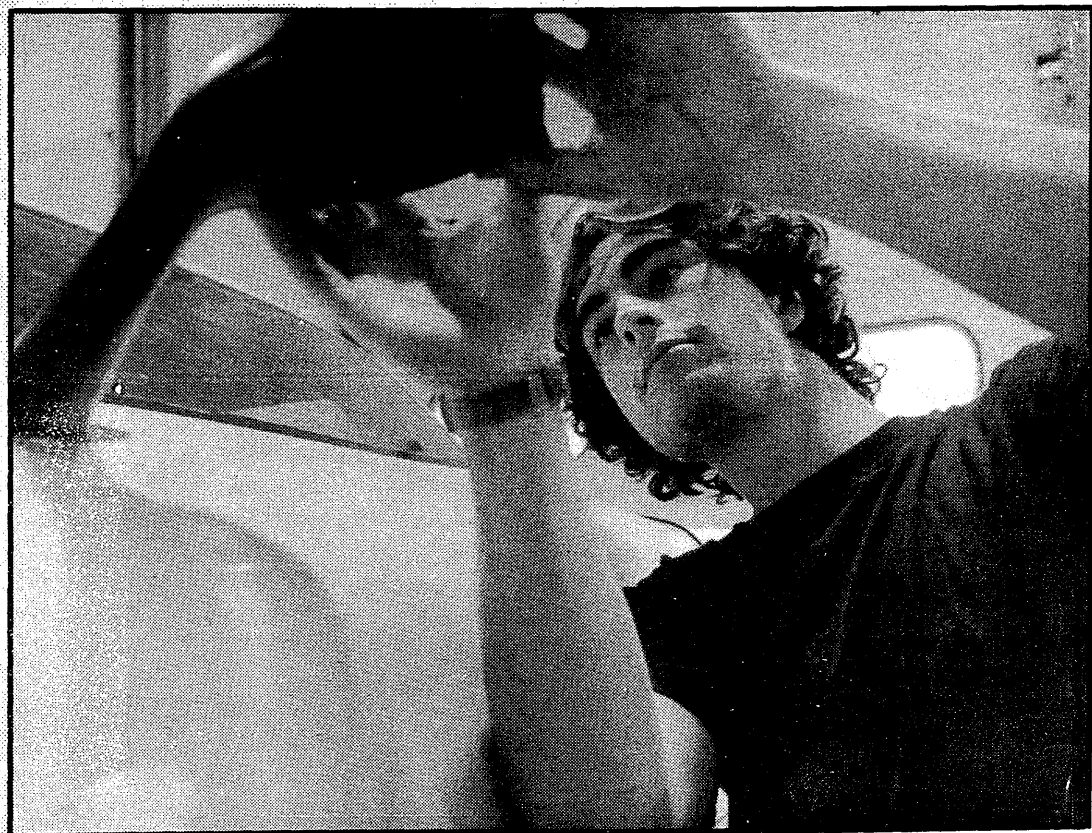


Photo by Matt Hulbert

Technology student Jason Brown adjusts one of Viking 21's new electric mirrors.

By Jeff Quiggle
Features Editor

The race car was in good working order, but the trailer that would carry it across the country wasn't.

Western technology students went on the road about midnight May 18, taking the Viking 21 in a trailer to a solar/electric car race in New England.

The team planned to haul the trailer by van to Boston, the starting point of the American Tour de Sol. But because of a problem with the trailer's axle, it was forced instead to return to Western early the next morning.

They got the problem fixed — after making some adjustments to their previous plans — and hit the road again at 9:30 a.m. May 19.

"I hope that's the end of them for a while," said Eileen Seal, full-time institute volunteer and wife of Vehicle Research Institute (VRI) Director Michael Seal, as she watched the van and trailer leave for the second time in 10 hours.

Seal said she saw the team off midnight Tuesday,

then went home thinking she would get a good night's sleep.

"Michael and I went home and fell into bed, and at two o'clock the phone rang," she said.

The team was only a half-an-hour out of Bellingham when a problem with the brake system on the trailer caused its axle to malfunction. Team members thought they could fix the problem on the road, but soon it became apparent they would have to return to the VRI to replace the axle.

They returned at 4 a.m. and replaced the heavier axle with a lighter one that had been on the trailer before.

In order to make sure the lighter axle would be sufficient, they removed heavy items from the trailer, including six 250-pound natural gas tanks.

The team will take only one small backup tank with them and will wait to fill up with natural gas when they reach the East Coast.

Michael and Eileen Seal said they will fly to

See RACE, page 2

The latest wire news

'Motor Voter' bill becomes law as Clinton signs

WASHINGTON (AP)—It's now going to be easier for people to register to vote. President Clinton has signed the "Motor Voter" bill into law.

It requires states to allow people to register to vote by mail, when applying for a driver's license or enlisting in the military. Clinton said the law is one less excuse for people to sit on the sidelines of democracy.

The signing represents a major victory for congressional Democrats, who passed one version during the Bush administration only to have it vetoed.

Critics have said the law will encourage fraud and place financial burdens on states.

Neighbors object to Bellingham aquarium

BELLINGHAM (AP)—Some neighbors of a planned aquarium in Bellingham are opposing a rezone that would allow it to be built in the Fairhaven area. At a hearing Wednesday night they complained about possible traffic problems and a loss of their views of Bellingham Bay.

Supporters said the \$21 mil-

lion, three-story aquarium would be a boost for the area. It would focus on marine life in Bellingham Bay, the San Juan Islands and the Inland Passage to Alaska.

Shoreline members quit committee over Rush

SEATTLE (AP)—Two Shoreline Community College members have quit a campus lecture committee in a dispute over whether conservative talk-radio host Rush Limbaugh should be considered as a speaker at the school.

Librarian Jean Roden said she resigned so she would not have to vote on the finalists. She called Limbaugh "a buffoon" who "would bring nothing but hate mongering."

Longview boy alive after 120-foot fall into river

KELSO (AP)—Cowlitz County Sheriff's Deputies said a 16-year-old Longview boy is lucky to be alive after he fell 120 feet from an overlook near Longview into the Columbia River.

He had been riding with a 19-year-old friend Thursday when they stopped by the side of the road so the 16-year-old could relieve himself. He stepped over a guardrail, slipped on wet grass and went airborne into the water.

Western Briefs

Bookstore manager interviews open to public

Interviews for the position of Student Co-op Bookstore general manager are open to the public, starting with the first interview at 10:55 a.m. May 21 in Viking Addition 455. The other three interviews start at 10:45 a.m. May 24, 25 and 27 in Viking Union 408. Each interview lasts one hour.

Summer Stock auditions open this weekend

Local actors are invited to audition for roles in the Theatre Arts Department Summer Stock '93 this weekend. Children 5 to 16 can audition from noon to 4 p.m. May 22 for singing roles in "The Sound of Music," while adult singing and non-singing auditions will be from 1 to 5 p.m. May 23 for "Anything Goes," "The Good Doctor" and "The Sound of Music." Prospective actors can contact the department office at 650-3876 or stop by room 395 in the Performing Arts Center to receive an audition time.

Learn about San Juans wildlife refuge with slides

The North Cascades Audobon Society presents "Exploring the San Juan Islands National Wildlife Refuge and Wilderness Area" at 7:30 p.m. May 24 at the Pacific First Federal Savings Bank, 1336 Cornwall Ave. in downtown Bellingham. Mike McMinn of the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service will present a slide-illustrated program on the refuge, which is home to several colonies of nesting seabirds.

Video tells history of Asians in Washington

"Home From the Eastern Sea," a 59-minute video which tells the story of Asian and Pacific-Islander Americans in Washington State, will be shown at noon and 4:30 p.m. May 26 in Miller Hall 250. The presentation is sponsored by the Woodring College of Education Center for Education Pluralism.

APSU presents luau and floor show May 22

A luau at 7 p.m. and a Polynesian floor show at 8 p.m. are scheduled by the Asian/Pacific Islander Student Union May 22 in the Viking Union Lounge. Admission is \$8 for students and \$12 general.

Special Olympics fundraiser set for May 22

The Northwest Area Special Olympics presents its second annual "Tip-A-Cop" fundraising event from 5:30 to 8:30 p.m. May 26 at Best Western Lakeway Inn.

Law enforcement officers from throughout the Northwest will serve as waiters during a meal, with all tips going to Special Olympics. The evening will also include a silent auction of over 25 items, including a handmade quilt, a weekend at an Orcas Island bed-and-breakfast, and a Steve Largent autographed football and jersey.

The event raises money for Special Olympics' year-round training program for persons with mental retardation.

COPS BOX *Campus and Bellingham*

CAMPUS POLICE

May 18

11:54 a.m.: Cash and a credit card were taken from a backpack in the Archives Building. The victim left his wallet zipped in the outside pocket of his pack and left it unattended in the receptionist area of the building for about 15 minutes. The wallet was returned to the pack with the cash and one credit card missing. Nothing else from the pack was taken or disturbed.

1:58 p.m.: A woman left her dog tied to a sculpture near the Fine Arts Building. A female student

was treated at the Health Center for a bite believed to be inflicted by the dog. The investigation continues.

May 19

10:08 a.m.: A bike, valued at \$900, was discovered missing the morning after the owner parked and locked it in front of the Viking Union overnight.

BELLINGHAM POLICE

May 19

12:23 a.m.: A Horton's Towing driver had hooked onto and was

towing away a truck from the parking lot at 400 W. Holly when the owner ran up, unhooked the tow chains and jumped into the truck, saying he was going to take the truck. The tow truck driver said he might get run over that way. The officer assisted in settling the dispute. 10:56 a.m.: A person reported the theft of a POW/MIA flag that was ripped from the wall of the front lobby of the U.S. Post Office on the 300 block of Prospect Street.

1:12 p.m.: A person reported trouble with a guest who had overstayed his welcome and refused to leave.

RACE: Car penalized for being a hybrid

Continued from page 1

Boston to meet the team on Saturday, May 22.

The Viking 21 is designed to run on solar-electric power for city-driving, but uses compressed natural gas at highway speeds.

It will be penalized because it is the only car in the Boston-to-Burlington, Vt. race that uses natural gas in addition to solar power.

"If we don't burn any fuel at all, there's no point in having a hybrid," Michael Seal said. "What we're attempting to show is that hybrids make good sense."

Seal said electric cars are not the zero-emission solution to pollution their supporters claim. Most are charged from standard wall outlets, which draw from power plants that emit carbon dioxide and other pollutants that create smog. Even if the power plants burn natural gas, Seal argues it's more efficient to burn the fuel in the car

than to transport the energy over great distances to an electrical outlet.

Competition in the field of more than 40 entrants will come from the Massachusetts Institute of Technology, Dartmouth College, the New England Institute of

Technology, other schools and car manufacturers.

The Viking 21 has raced once before, but without solar cells. It took first place in the Pikes Peak Solar/Electric Challenge near Colorado Springs, Colo. in October 1992.

Explanation

Much of the text in the May 18 editorial, "Planet will prevail long after humans' demise," strongly resembles Michel Crichton's "Jurassic Park." Such writing could be labeled as plagiarism. The author acknowledges he should have credited Crichton for his writing.

The Front does not in any way condone plagiarism and highly regrets having writing in its pages that might be taken as such.

WWU Official Announcements

Deadline for announcements in this space is noon Friday for the Tuesday edition and noon Wednesday for the Friday edition. Announcements should be limited to 50 words, typewritten or legibly printed, and sent through campus mail to "Official Announcements," MS-9117, fax 7287, or taken in person to Commissary 113A. DO NOT ADDRESS ANNOUNCEMENTS DIRECTLY TO THE WESTERN FRONT. Phoned announcements will not be accepted. All announcements should be signed by originator.

PLEASE POST

- **LAST DAY TO WITHDRAW FROM THE UNIVERSITY** is Friday, May 28. That also is the last day for late course withdrawals for students with late-withdrawal privileges.
- **ATTENTION NDSL/FEDERAL PERKINS AND GSL/STAFFORD/FFELP LOAN BORROWERS:** If you are not returning fall quarter or if you are graduating spring quarter you are required to schedule an exit interview. Stop by Student Fiscal Services, OM 265, or call X/2943 no later than May 26 to schedule an interview. School records will be subject to withholding if you do not appear for the mandatory interview.
- **VU CLOSURE ON MEMORIAL WEEKEND:** Due to a lack of schedule events in the Viking Union, the facility will close at 5 p.m. on May 28 and reopen for regular hours on Tuesday, June 1. The LGBA dance advertised for Saturday, May 29, will be held at the advertised time. Access to KUGS-FM will follow normal procedures for holiday/after-hours access.
- **SUMMER QUARTER DEGREE AND INITIAL CERTIFICATE CANDIDATES:** All students expecting to graduate and/or receive a teaching certificate at the close of summer quarter must have a senior/certification evaluation on file in the Registrar's Office in OM 230 by June 4. Degree applications must be returned by June 4. To pick up a degree application, go to OM 230. Deadline for fall quarter graduates is August 20. It is strongly advised that fall graduates have their major evaluations before summer quarter. Many advisers/departments will be unavailable due to vacations and closures.
- **THE TEACHER CURRICULA AND CERTIFICATION COUNCIL** will meet at 3 p.m. on Tuesday, May 25, in MH 210.
- **INTERNATIONAL PROGRAMS AND EXCHANGES** will hold orientation interest meetings as follows: • May 26 from 2-4 p.m. in OM 435 for London, Avignon, Cologne, Siena, and Macerata; • May 27 from 1-3 p.m. on OM 355 for Morelia, Mexico.
- **SUMMER PARKING PERMIT RENEWALS.** Permits may be renewed for summer quarter from 8:30 a.m. to 3:30 p.m. Monday through Friday from May 24-June 4 at Parking Services on 21st Street. Those who do not have a spring quarter permit may purchase a permit between 8:30 a.m. and 3:30 p.m. Monday through Friday at Parking Services beginning June 7.
- **THE JUNIOR WRITING EXAM** will be given at 2 p.m. on July 7 and 19. • JWE retests will be offered on July 8 and 20 only during summer session. • Limited enrollment administrations of the JWE for "desperate" situations will be at 3 p.m. June 22 for first-time examinees and 3 p.m. June 23 for retests. • Except for the June 22-23 administrations, tests from summer administrations of the JWE will not be scored until fall quarter and results will not be available until the first part of November. • Registration for the JWE is required in OM 120. The test takes about two hours and there is no fee.
- **MATH PLACEMENT TEST:** will be offered at 9 a.m. June 22 and 24 and at 1 p.m. on July 12. Registration is required in OM 120 and a fee of \$10 must be paid in the exact amount at time of registration. The test takes about 1½ hours.
- **MILLER ANALOGIES TEST** will be administered on an individual appointment basis. To make an appointment, call the Office of Institutional Assessment and Testing, X/3080, or stop by OM 120.

On-campus interviews

NOTE: All signups are in OM 280 unless otherwise noted.

- **Express, Wednesday, May 26.** Submit CIF when you sign up. For more information, see signup folder.
- **Panasonic Office Information, Thursday, May 27.** Submit CIF when you sign up. See information in signup folder.

Foreign language professor named teacher of the year

By Eric Munson
staff reporter

Shaw Gynan, a Spanish and linguistics professor at Western, was recently honored as the 1993 post-secondary foreign language teacher of the year.

Gynan was awarded a plaque and \$200 at the 44th-annual Pacific Northwest Council on Foreign Languages on May 8 in Eugene, Ore.

When asked why he won the award, Gynan said it was probably because of his students and their evaluations.

"The fact that I have such good students," he said. "It's easy to be a good teacher (with the Spanish students)."

"I hope they're not bored," he said. "I have been getting pretty consistently good evaluations from the students."

In a later phone interview, Gynan added, "My students and colleagues have been very supportive of me."

Gynan, who has been teaching at Western for seven years, said one thing he enjoys about his classes are the experiences his students share with each other.

"(They share) first impressions of foreign cultures, the new friends they made and the success they had at developing language skills," he said.

Gynan earned his undergraduate degree "of which I'm immensely proud," from

Georgetown University in Washington, D.C.

His masters degree was obtained at the University of Texas-El Paso and his doctorate from the University of Texas at Austin.

He likes the Southwest because he spent so much time going to school there. As a result, he is also president of the Linguistic Association of the Southwest (LASSO).

He still maintains contact with many friends in that area.

He is currently researching what motivates students to learn a foreign language.

"Some come back from studying (a foreign language) abroad with incredible skills...some come back speaking the same," he said.

Gynan said it was interesting to see what social and psychologi-

cal factors affect students when they study and the extent to which students immerse themselves in the culture and society they're visiting.

"The theories hold that those students most eager to identify themselves with the foreign culture are the most successful language learners," he said. "For that reason I strongly encourage foreign studies."

POLIO: Meningitis also a risk

Continued from page 1

County, about 50 percent of children younger than age 5 and approximately 5 percent of people older than age 5 have not been vaccinated. The elderly are the highest risk group for developing complications.

Paralysis will develop in one person out of 1,000 who contract Type-3 polio. If paralysis develops, James said, it remains for life.

"Of the remaining 999, 20 to 50 will develop meningitis," he said. Meningitis is an infection in the brain and spinal cord which results in severe headache and stiffness in the neck.

The remaining majority will have no symptoms or mild flu-like symptoms such as fever, headache, fatigue, nausea and vomiting that James said "the average person wouldn't know" from the flu.

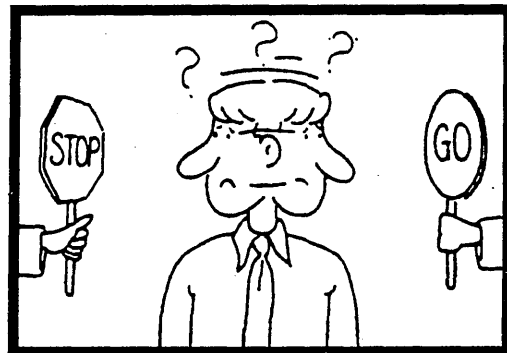
Vaccinations are available through private physicians and at the Health Department's Immunization Clinic.



Photo by Chong Kim

Shaw Gynan, a bicycle enthusiast and Spanish professor at Western, enjoys watching his students' language skills develop.

IS THERE LIFE AFTER COLLEGE?



A panel of Western alumni discusses the transition from college to career

Wednesday, May 26th

3:00-4:30 p.m.

Library Presentation Room

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SUMMER ADVENTURES

Do you have a younger brother, sister, cousin, or friend that would like to come to your college for a week this summer? ■ Hundreds of youth in grades 4 through 12 have participated in WWU's Adventures in Science & Arts, a summer academic enrichment program for youth. ■ Through hands-on activities, discussions and field trips, each weeklong workshop explores a single subject, in-depth, often not available in regular classrooms. ■ Sessions are geared for specific grade groups: grades 4-5, June 28-July 2; grades 6-8, July 12-16 and July 19-23; grades 9-12, July 26-30. ■ An optional residential program is offered for those who choose to live on campus during the week. ■

UNIVERSITY EXTENDED PROGRAMS
OLD MAIN 400
360-3320

New chemistry building to open this summer

New building will have an improved fume-exhaust system to make experiments safer and allow lectures to take place in laboratories

By Chris Wilke
staff reporter

Western's new chemistry building will officially open a

few days later than the original date of July 4.

Robert Schmidt, Western's construction representative, said the new building will be substan-

tially completed by this week. Students could legally use the building while a small crew of workers completes system installation and the final clean-up.

"It's no secret that the project had to be extended a few days," Schmidt said. He said it's not uncommon for unplanned complications to delay larger building construction.

The biggest obstacle the construction crew of 80 faced was the foundation's installation. They had problems with both the ridge's bedrock and the soft soil of the nearby soccer field.

The crew had to remove 14 cubic yards of rock from the ridge -- enough to fill the equivalent of 800 dump trucks.

For stability in the soft soil, workers inserted 3,800 linear feet of pilings, enough to stretch from Bill McDonald Parkway to Old Main if laid end to end.

Schmidt said the project has gone very smoothly and the building may be one of the quietest of its kind in the country.

"The building was designed for safety and quiet," Schmidt said. "It will be safer than Haggard Hall

with the way the air is exhausted.

The building has 87 enclosed boxes called "hoods" which contain controlled environments for chemical experiments. A microchipped sensor on the inside of the glass partition of each hood controls air exhaust and pressure maintenance.

"It's extremely quiet when the system's running," he said. "Students will be able to hear the lecture from across the room."

The building's air conditioning also has this sensor system. This safety feature will prevent the build-up of hazardous vapor in storage rooms.

"Western is fortunate to have skilled tradesmen taking pride in their work," he said.

Schmidt said he's seen many projects that are just thrown together in two to three days.

Bidding begins for the new biology building on June 2.

Schmidt said its construction may begin in late July.

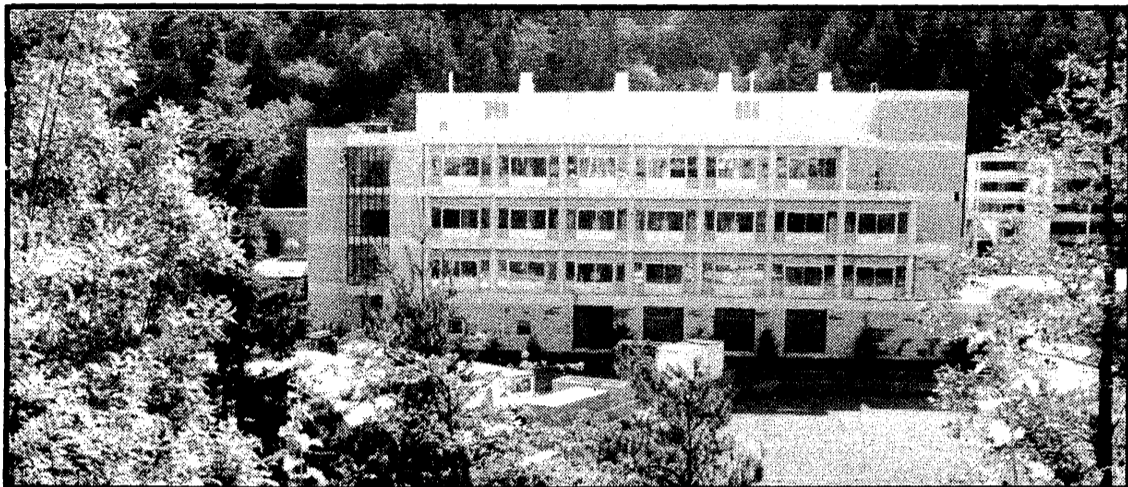


Photo by Matt Hulbert

Western's new chemistry building should open a few days after July 4.

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Ski to Sea brings plethora of events to Bellingham

By Chris Frost
staff reporter

It's May. Midterms are over, the sun is out, and Ski To Sea is right around the corner. With a plethora of events flooding Memorial Day Weekend, everybody is sure to find something to suit their fancy.

The Ski To Sea race, scheduled for May 30, begins at Mount Baker and ends in Old Fairhaven. It is a highly competitive relay race in which team members from all over the world ski both cross-country and downhill, run, mountain bike, road bike and canoe. The final leg is a kayak race across Bellingham Bay.

If you are not participating in the race, why not head down to the Ski To Sea Grande Parade at 3 p.m., May 29 in downtown Bellingham? The "Ultimate

Salmon Barbecue and Dance," from 4 p.m. to midnight takes place after the parade at the Assumption Church, 2116 Cornwall Ave.

The race begins at 8:30 a.m. May 30, and the first finishers are expected where "It All Ends In Fairhaven" by 2:30 p.m.

"It All Ends" is a street-wide festival that highlights the action-packed weekend. Food and craft booths, a beer garden, and live entertainment will fill the streets. The Old Fairhaven association is funding the children's art activities and face-painting at the festival. The festival is scheduled for noon to 7 p.m. May 30. The band line-up includes The Bumblebees, The Atlantics, Mark Dufrensne, and The McFarland White Band. Blues-artist Laurette Langille will emcee the event.



Photo courtesy of Jay Smiley
Michael Gibson, John Crist, Todd McBride and Rob Veal, the Dashboard Savivors, will play their southern country rock 'n' roll 8 p.m., May 22, at the VU Coffeeshop.

Other events that culminate the Ski To Sea race include the Ski To Sea Carnival, May 21 to 31 on Tom Glenn Drive near the Squalicum Harbor, the Ski To Sea Junior Race,

10 a.m. May 22 at Lake Padden, and the Taste of Whatcom, June 4 to 6 at the Squalicum Center.

For more information contact the Chamber of Commerce at 734-1330.

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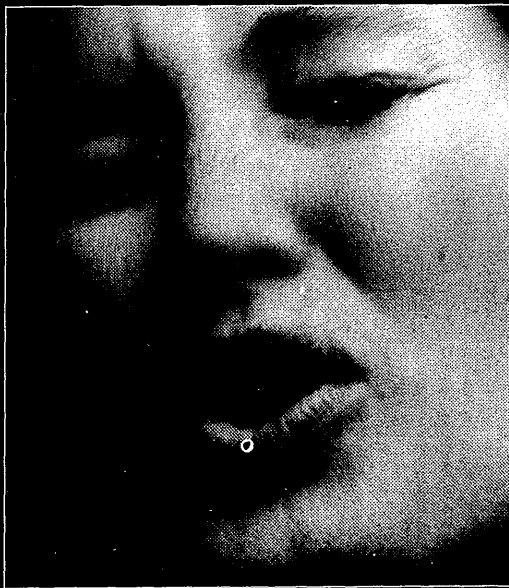
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*Around Town***Friday May 21**

Sundogs, 9:30 p.m. at the Bellingham Bay Brewing Company.

JP Falcon, 9 p.m. at the Beach House Pub.

Rabbit Choir, Dashboard Savors and Nowhere Garden at Speedy O'Tubb's Rythmic Underground. Call for more info.

Ski to Sea Junior Parade, 6 p.m. beginning at the corner of Virginia and Cornwall downtown.

Fairhaven Studio Benefit with three local bands at 9:30 p.m. at the Up & Up Tavern

A Piece of the Pie, 7 p.m. at the Show Off Gallery at 1210 C St.

Saturday May 22

Paper Boys, 9:30 p.m. at Bellingham Bay Brewing Company.

Small and Lawndart, 9:30 p.m. at the Up & Up Tavern.

Dianne Ardourel, 9 p.m. at the Beach House Pub.

The Puridins and Swerving Birds at Speedy O'Tubb's Rythmic Underground. Call for more info.

Junior Ski to Sea Race at Lake Padden for children in grades 3-8.

Tuesday May 25

Ranganiketan, Manipuri Cultural Arts Troupe, 7:30 p.m. at the Mount Baker Theater.

On Going Events

Rainier Shows Carnival, May 21-31. Call the City of Bellingham for more info.

At Western

The Dashboard Savors and Terry Lee Hale, 8 p.m., May 21 at the VU Coffee Shop. \$4 at the door.

Claudia Fitch, Seattle Installation artist, 4 p.m., May 24 at Fine Arts 238. Critiques will be held at 10 a.m. and 1:30 p.m. in the painting and drawing rooms of the Fine Arts Building.

"Lorenzo's Oil," 6:30 and 9 p.m., May 23 in Arntzen Hall 100.

*Western Theater: four s***Fairhaven plays focus on relationships**

By Chris Wilke
staff reporter

Friends of Fairhaven College will present a double-bill performance about personal relationships and the definition of self-discovery. "Raise Me High, Swing Me Low" will start the show on the weekend of May 21, while "Woyzeck" will have top billing for the weekend of May 28.

Siobhan Dhonache, writer, director and lead actress of "Raise Me High" said her play is about family relationships and the personal discovery of sexuality and spirituality.

The play is about the evolution of an Irish woman immigrant to America in terms of her relationship with herself and her family — particularly her mother and her father, and her acceptance of her sexuality, Dhonache said. "She's pursuing her own spirituality which is not dependent upon religion."

She described her lead character, Grainne, as a spirited, strong-willed and incredibly assertive woman who is coping with her dysfunctional family. Dhonache had to step into this role May 16.

"We've had a series of mishaps, yet we're pulling it together

as a cast," the Fairhaven student said. "Due to unforeseen circumstances and injuries, there have been a number of recent cast changes.

"One of the funny things about this is it's a work in progress," she said. "It's challenging with a constantly changing script."

She said she looks forward to the second week of performances because her play will then run second. With this change in order, the audience will have time to provide feedback for future rewrites that they wouldn't have had during intermission.

"Woyzeck," the other play, is an 1836 German work translated by Fairhaven student Michael Hill and directed by faculty member David Mason. Playwright Georg Buchner wrote four versions of the play before his death at the age of 23. The play's 23 short scenes keep the audience riveted.

"Woyzeck" is essentially about a man who really can't do enough no matter how hard he tries, whether it's supporting his family or pleasing Maria (his common-law wife), the Doctor (a comedic quack), or the Captain (his commanding officer)," Hill said.

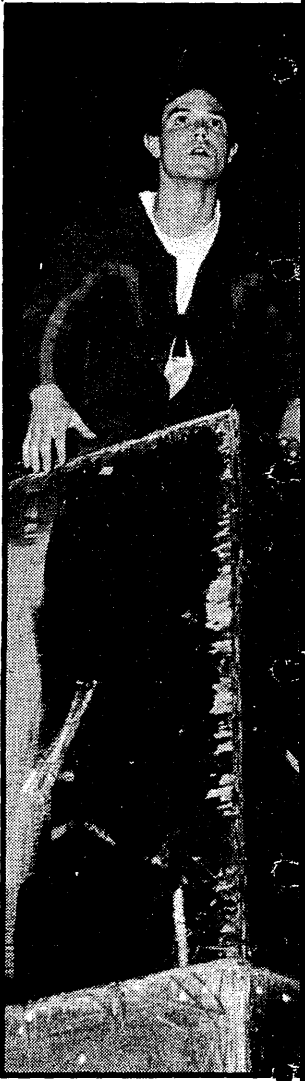
Hill gives a powerful perfor-

mance as Woyzeck, a man torn apart by duty, science, love and jealousy. His portrayal of Woyzeck's descent into insanity and violence mirrors Mel Gibson's recent portrayal of Hamlet.

David Mason's lighting effects and stage design concepts were inspired by the art of Caravaggio, a late Renaissance painter who contrasted light and shade, and dealt with common people's themes. Mason took advantage of the parallel that Caravaggio and Buchner shared: The use of human models with dark secrets.

"Michael is tremendous (in his portrayal of Woyzeck)," said Staci Tucker who plays the female lead of Maria. "He really puts in place those who have been displaced by society, and you have a real sense of what society would deem as his vileness and baseness. Yet in reality, you see the very humanity within him that society tries to ignore in order to justify their behavior towards the lower classes."

Friday and Saturday performances are at 8:15 p.m., while Sunday matinees are at 2:15 p.m. The show costs \$2; call 650-3680 for reservations.



Nathan Van Ness plays the title character in "Woyzeck."

'Trust' tackles singles scene with bitter-s

By Greg Dean
staff reporter

"I don't miss her. I miss how I felt with her," said Gretchen (Colleen Burke).

The spring director's series continues with Steven Dietz's "Trust." The play, directed by Teddi Anne Yaeger, is about the

tumultuous emotions of loving relationships.

"Trust" speaks about the singles scene in quip humor so great, it could roll you off your seat at times. "The girls have shared diets and boyfriends. Both fade and neither get the desired effect!" said Leah (Leah Bosworth).

The play, however, does not take the fairy-tale 20-something

gush route that comes out in movies like "Singles." It addresses the pains of the breakdown of trust in a relationship.

"He called you Beck, like a beer?" asked Cody (Jacob Sidney).

"He unbuttoned my shirt and pulled my bra with his teeth," said Becca (Hilda Marie Guttormsen). "These are lies. I want you!"

Yaeger decided to do this piece

the first time she read it. "I picked it up and read one or two scenes into it and I knew that I wanted to do it. This play attacks what is the core of when trust is broken."

The play tackles the controversial issue of love without being held to the norms of heterosexual relationships. Trust treats the issue of homosexuality in the play quite plainly. It is never questioned. Only two people feeling the emotions

The emotions in the play relate to anyone who has been on a first date that goes sour, or falling out of a near marriage. "It's something that so many people relate to. They will experience some of the play in them," said Yaeger.

"Trust" is a contemporary work that has scenes set in a format that a younger adult audience can relate to.

The play opens with a character walking on to the stage to a different musical artist that represents the concept behind the characters' personality. The music back drop throughout the play is the audience know it is a contemporary work. The soundtrack features acts such as R.E.M., Indigo Girls, Screaming Tree, and

The characters are written with depth and are fully developed. Most of the cast. At times, some of the acting slipped away from

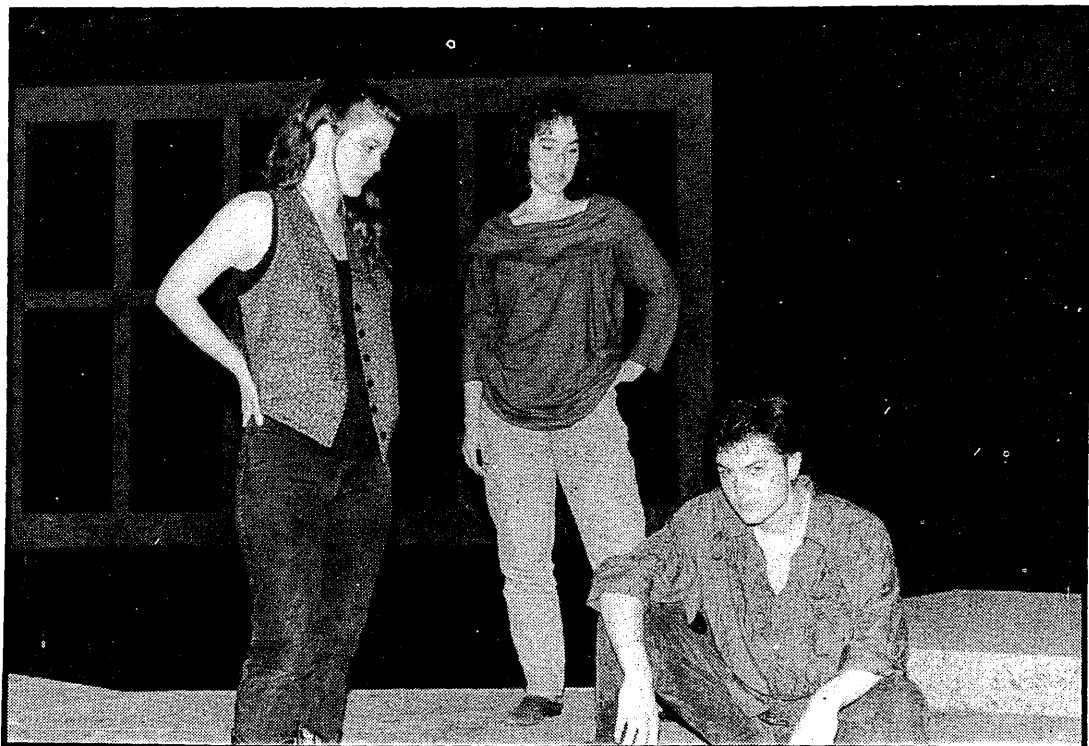


Photo by Ric Brewer

Leigh (Leah Bosworth), Becca (Hilda Marie Guttormsen) and Cody (Jacob Sidney) confront the perils of the singles lifestyle in "Trust."

Shows to run this weekend

Performance group gives shocking, energetic show

By Danette Reeff
staff reporter

You may shed a few tears but you'll be laughing when you see "I'll Give You Something to Cry About," presented by Western's performance group We're Not Your Mother (WNYM).

This high-energy, fast-paced, two-hour production is comprised of 14 performances, each lasting from 30 seconds to 10 minutes. Most pieces are written, produced and performed by Western students.

Planning began this winter and will culminate in three shows this weekend. The performances begin at 10 p.m., tonight through May 23 in PAC 199. Admission is free.

Artistic director Brian Culver directed three WNYM productions and will pass the reins to co-artistic

director Erich McElroy next year.

"What the show becomes depends on the performers," Culver said. "We don't know what the show is going to be until the performers get together."

McElroy said he looks forward to the responsibility.

"Each show is different," McElroy said. "It pretty much creates itself. We're always looking for a different voice."

The production contains a variety of oddities from singing teapots and dancing vampires to stressed-out clowns and crowd participation.

English-theater student Jason D. Martin wrote and directed "Object of Desire" — a humorous, thought-provoking piece poking fun at the objectification of women through role reversals.



Three redneck men, played by Lyndie "The Great" Simmonds, Kate Randall and Valerie Bush, toss back a few at a bar while one man (Bush) laments his role as a male sex object.

"Women just screw me and use me," complains the man during his tirade. "They get me drunk, take me home, and make me do things."

The trio then breaks into song accompanied by a drag band (Aaron Nicholson, Brett Anderson and Michael Bajuk).

Although the performers are

the most visual part of the program, Culver exalts the crew mem-

bers. "I've always said the performers aren't the stars of the show," Culver said. "The stage crew is."

Be warned! This show may not be suitable for children. The often-abstract themes lean toward sex, violence and political issues. The performances shock and provoke.

Anything goes, Culver said. "No restrictions."

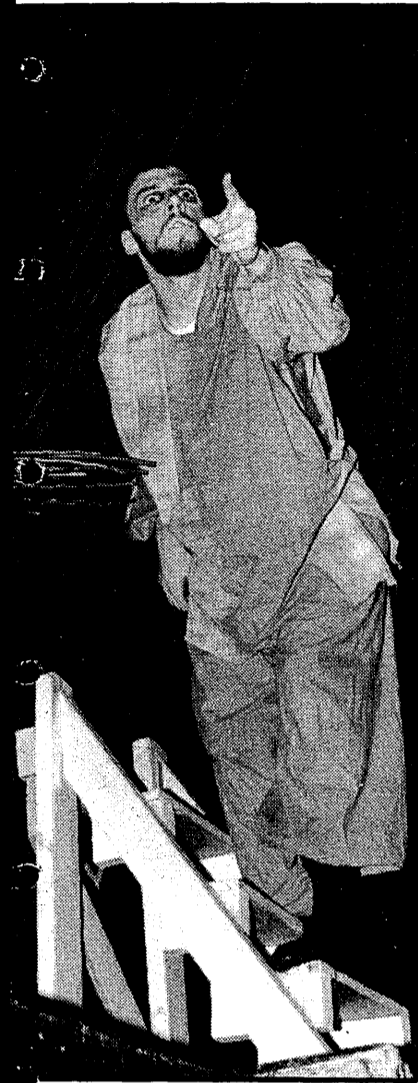


Photo by Ric Brewer

...dres (left) and Michael Hill plays "The Great" at Fairhaven College.

Sweet humor

conversational flow of the play. Aside from a few occasions, the acting is strong and powerful.

Hilda Marie Guttormsen as Becca provides a powerful display of loss. Her performance at the final discovery of deceit in her relationship defines the solid feeling of pain and loss at the hands of an unfaithful lover and liar.

"I don't want the gifts to go to waste," exclaims Becca as she sends a glass from her bridal shower shattering against a wall.

Hugh Harper, Amy K. Gordon, and Colleen Burke give good performances as well. Their characters display the difficulty of trying to find love and only finding despair.

Jacob Sidney and Leah Bosworth give solid performances of arrogance. Sidney's performance, however, seems at times a bit flat. He seems to only give across the emotion of anger but has difficulty showing anguish.

"Trust" is a powerful play and has a great deal of comedy to keep the audience smiling. The story is more than a pretty little romantic comedy. It is a tough statement about the pains of love and deceit.

"Trust" runs through May 22 at Old Main Theater. Yaeger notes that this play is for mature audiences and children should not attend. Tickets are \$5 for general admission and \$3 students.

Shampoo Planet explores life after Reagan and an over-advertised world

By Ric Brewer
staff reporter

After the consciously ambiguous labeling of the twenty-something crowd as "Generation X" in his first book, 32-year-old Vancouver author Douglas Coupland has again written a tale of the post-Vietnam, credit-card generation in his second novel, *Shampoo Planet*— a story as unnerving as the yowls of mating cats.

With a life so polluted by advertising that even his hair is a registered trademark, Tyler Johnson is the main character and tour guide through a world where the young peoples' consciousnesses began with Reagan and are now left with the unconscious evils of everyday life.

Tyler is trying to live down the hippie idealism of his ex-flower-child mother, Jasmine, and his friends with ignominious '60s monikers such as Harmony and Skye. He also has a double-trouble, double-girlfriend problem with "the French Babe," whom he had a fling with and Anna-Louise, his hometown steady.

Tyler is the epitome of those who only remember times of plenty, false security and the empty promises given to the Reagan youths whose minds are centered not in their groins, but in their wallets.

Staking his future in the

"intellectual puppy mill" of hotel/motel management classes at the Lancaster, Wash. community college, Tyler dreams of working for the kind of mega-corporation his mother once firebombed.

His faith in ambition is tested as he confronts technological global angst in Europe ("I had never seen a landscape in which human beings seemed so irrelevant"); the destruction of earth ("We've all guessed which year panda bears will become extinct"); and visions of post-technological Hell ("... screaming housewife mummies in pearls dog-paddling in the molten coke lakes of the Anti-Pittsburgh"). "Life," writes Tyler's mother, "will become like throwing a Frisbee in a graveyard."

Shampoo Planet is an engrossing read, Coupland strings words together which make even the most innocent of commercial luxuries seem like the most sensuous of Satan's lures.

The book, however, is not something you will want to read right after your dog has died and the rent is overdue. Coupland confronts the often joyless pursuit of success and the disillusionment in its fulfillment — in short, troubles we all endure. But the amphibian transformation that Tyler makes from hunter to

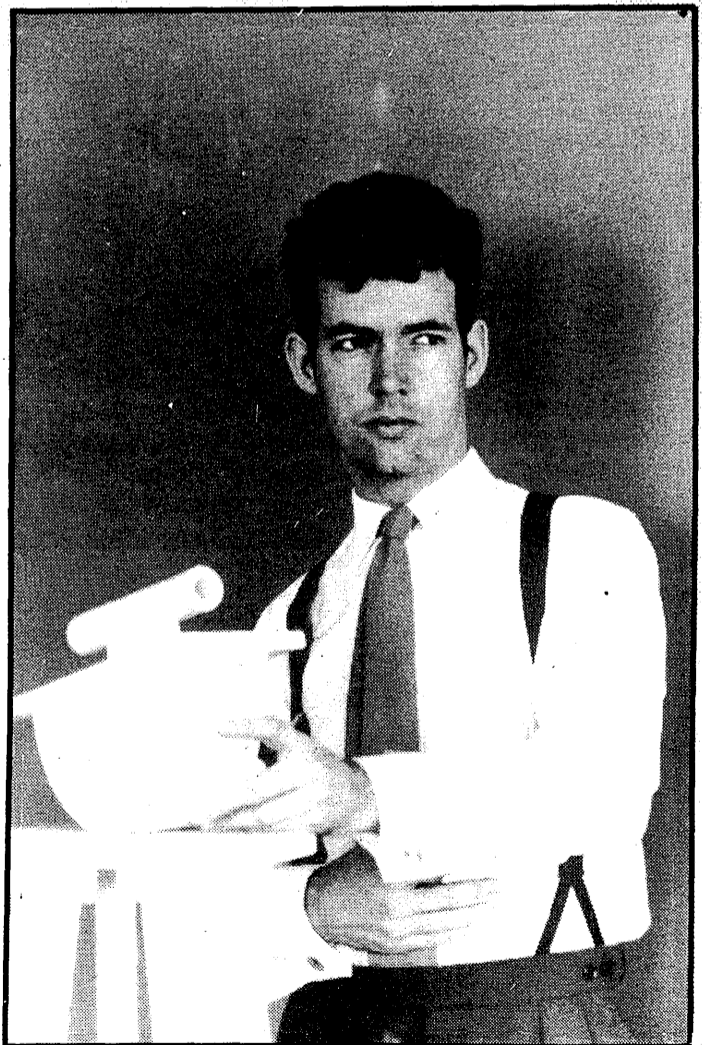


Photo courtesy of N. Procylo

Author Douglas Coupland will read from his book, *Shampoo Planet*, at Village Books on May 22.

prey illustrates his growing comfort with his place in the world and his relation to those who revolve in his orbit.

Coupland will make a per-

sonal appearance and read from his book at 7:30 p.m. May 22 at Village Books, 1210 11th St. in Fairhaven. The event is free.

Competition will be fierce at national track and field meet

By Michael Sniezak
staff reporter

Western's track and field team is sending 17 athletes to compete in the national meet May 20 through 22 at Abbotsford Rotary Stadium in British Columbia.

Coach Kelven "Pee Wee" Halsell said he is taking advantage of the proximity of the meet to give experience to some of the younger runners that qualified or are entered with the coach's discretion.

"We get five free entries per team," Halsell said. "We got some people in that way. Being so close, we can utilize it. We're going to be able to bring more people than some schools just because we're so close."

"It is a national meet. There's going to be a lot of good competition and a lot of good track and field going on," Halsell said. "It's so close, it would be a shame not to get up there and see it."

Halsell said knowledge about running at a national tournament can be decisive.

"We're trying to get some young kids some experience at the national level," he said. "It's going to be harder for them (to score), but actually some of them have really good shots."

"I do think that the experience of knowing what it is to run at a national tournament does help. You go in your second year knowing what it takes," Halsell said.

The scoring weight for the Vikings will be carried by two returning national runners.

Kris Maraveller is taking her

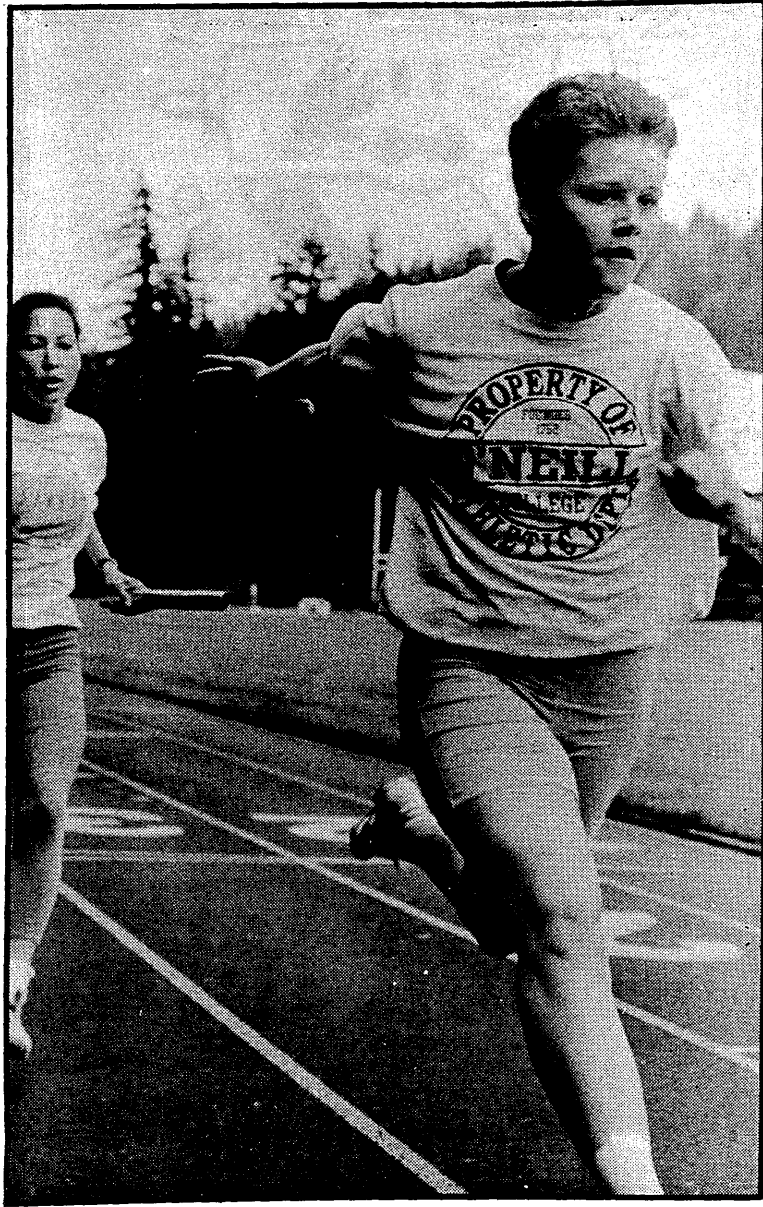
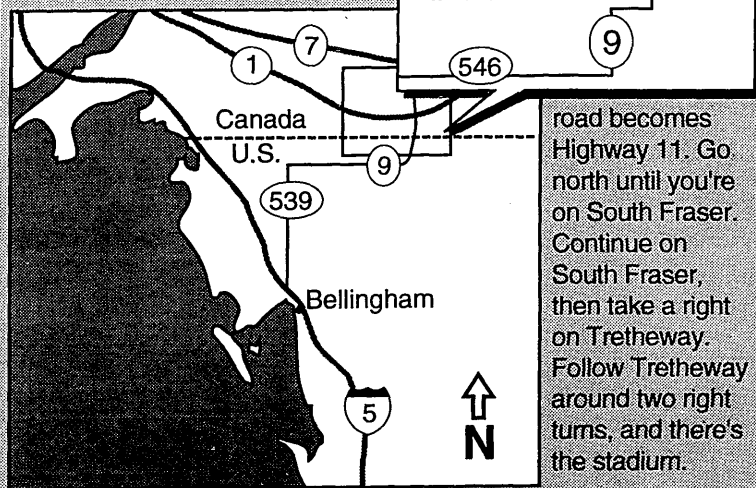


Photo by Haidee Jezek

Western's Shannon O'Neill awaits a baton hand-off from Flo Mark-Booth in a practice before Nationals.

National track and field championships

To get to the NAIA track meet in Abbotsford you can take Highway 539 north until you reach Badger Road (546). Then take a left onto Highway 9 into Canada. Once in Canada, the



road becomes Highway 11. Go north until you're on South Fraser. Continue on South Fraser, then take a right on Trethewey. Follow Trethewey around two right turns, and there's the stadium.

Graphic by Matt Hulbert

second chance at the 10,000-meter run at the national meet. She will also be running the 5,000-meter run.

Returning All-American Jeff Van Kleeck will try to improve his sixth-place finish in the 5,000-meter run last year.

"He (Van Kleeck) has run a faster time this year and bettered his P.R. (personal record) in worse weather," Halsell said. "I think he is more fit and he's ready to go."

Most other individual participants are making their first trip to the national meet.

Western record-holder Deanna Balderson could score the Vikings some points in the discus event, as well.

Halsell said steeplechase runner Eric Heathershaw, Western's only running district champion, also has a realistic chance to score at his first trip to the national meet.

"Our best shots are with Jeff

Van Kleeck in the five (thousand) — he's a returning All-American," Halsell said. "We have a good shot with Eric Heathershaw in the steeplechase and Brent Fazio in the javelin."

Sophomore sprinter Brandi Stevenson is scheduled to run the 400 hurdles and the 400 relay, but a foot injury could keep her from running. Her injury could affect the team scoring.

"For the women, our best chances are Dee (Balderson) in the discus, Kris (Maraveller) in the ten and five (thousand)," Halsell said, "and the four-by-one (hundred meter) relay and the sprint medley in that order. That depends on Brandi's (Stevenson) foot whether she runs it at all or not."

Halsell said he hopes both teams place in the middle of the pack of about 50 competing schools.

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Health and Fitness

Aerobics offers more than just a workout

By Haidee Jezek
staff reporter

What can you do to stay in shape all year while listening to music and having fun? For some Western students, aerobics is the answer.

Aerobics involves a series of body movements such as jumping, kicking and moving the arms in coordination with the beat of music.

"Coordination is important. It started out as jazzercise, which is more like dancing. It started out as fun — to have a good time," said Angie Grizzel, aerobics instructor and Fitness Coordinator at Buchanan Towers.

"It builds cardiovascular endurance," said Amy Maxwell, Director of Intramural Aerobic classes. "It decreases body fat and increases your energy level because it stimulates your body's chemistry as you work out. You have to work out at least three times a week for endurance, but four or five times a week is recommended. Someone who's been

doing aerobics for six months is going to burn fat faster than someone starting out," Maxwell said.

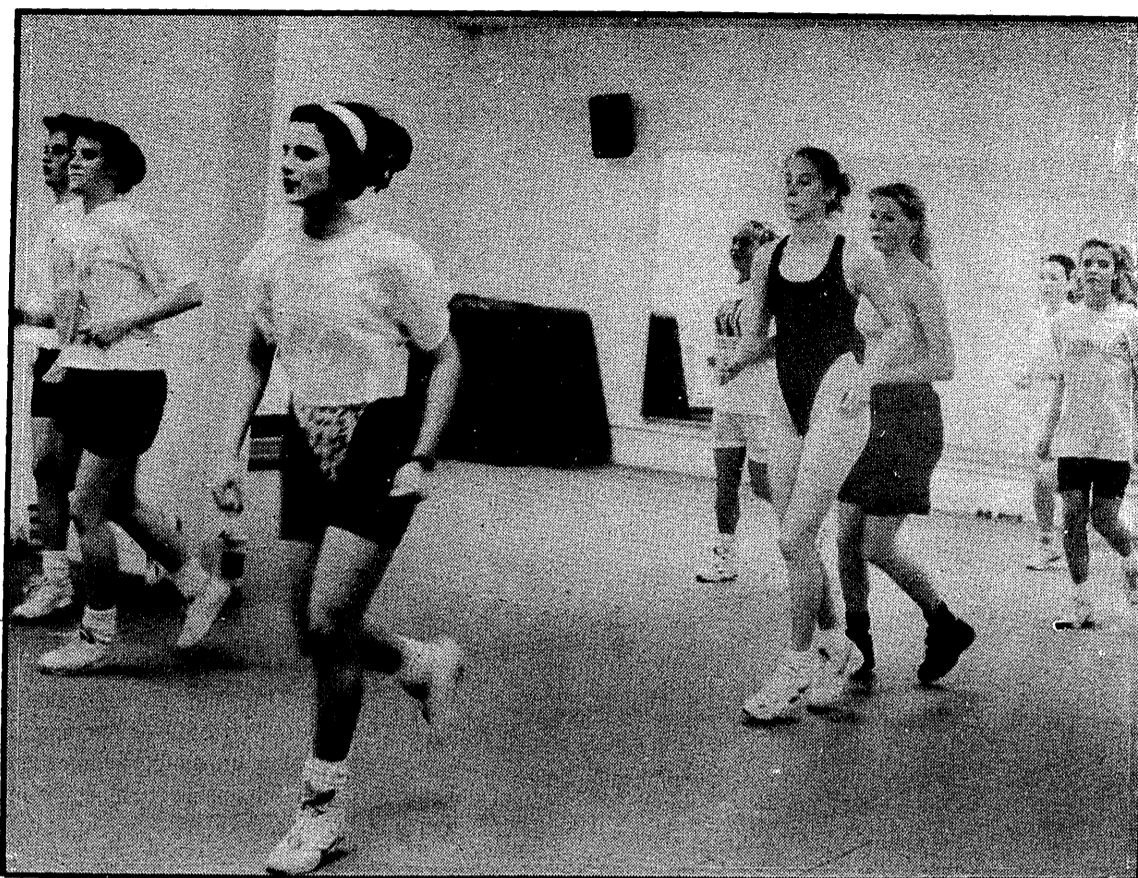
In recent years, aerobics has taken on new forms, concentrating on different goals. "There's step aerobics, a lower impact workout," Grizzel said.

Bench step aerobics involves mostly using the arms, legs and buttocks to step up and down on a six- to 18-inch bench. The higher the bench, the harder the workout.

"It's not like running. It's gentler on the joints," Grizzel said. "It's pretty intense because you're using the largest muscles in your body, which gets the heart rate up."

Other aerobic programs include interval aerobics, (using hand weights during an aerobic workout) and body sculpting, which targets muscles for greater strength. "Hip-Hop" aerobics uses the latest dance steps to raise the heart rate.

While physically challenging, aerobics also serve as a stress reliever, Maxwell said.



Amy Maxwell, director of intramural aerobics, leads an intramural aerobics class.

Photo by Haidee Jezek

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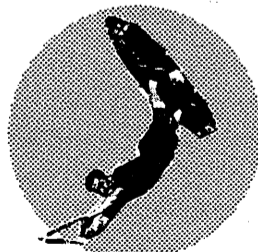
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Frontline

Embarrassment shouldn't be root of getting rid of prejudice

What do you think of when Waco, Tex. is mentioned? How about Hayden Lake, Idaho? Towns attract stigmas through media coverage of their troubles, and when negative national attention is brought to a small community, the embarrassment is often hard to overcome. The way to deflect the national attention is to do away with the trouble — maybe even voting it away.

Bremerton was faced with such a dilemma this last week. Some students at Bremerton High School got together and tried to ban openly gay students from the student council.

The national spotlight turned to Bremerton. Students discussed the issue on "Good Morning America." Others were flown to New York to appear on "Donahue." Countless other television and radio shows dealt with the issue of the Bremerton banning.

Before national attention was drawn to the issue, student representatives approved the proposal to bar homosexuals from student council, 49-47. After national attention, the proposal was defeated by a school-wide vote — 57 percent to 43 percent.

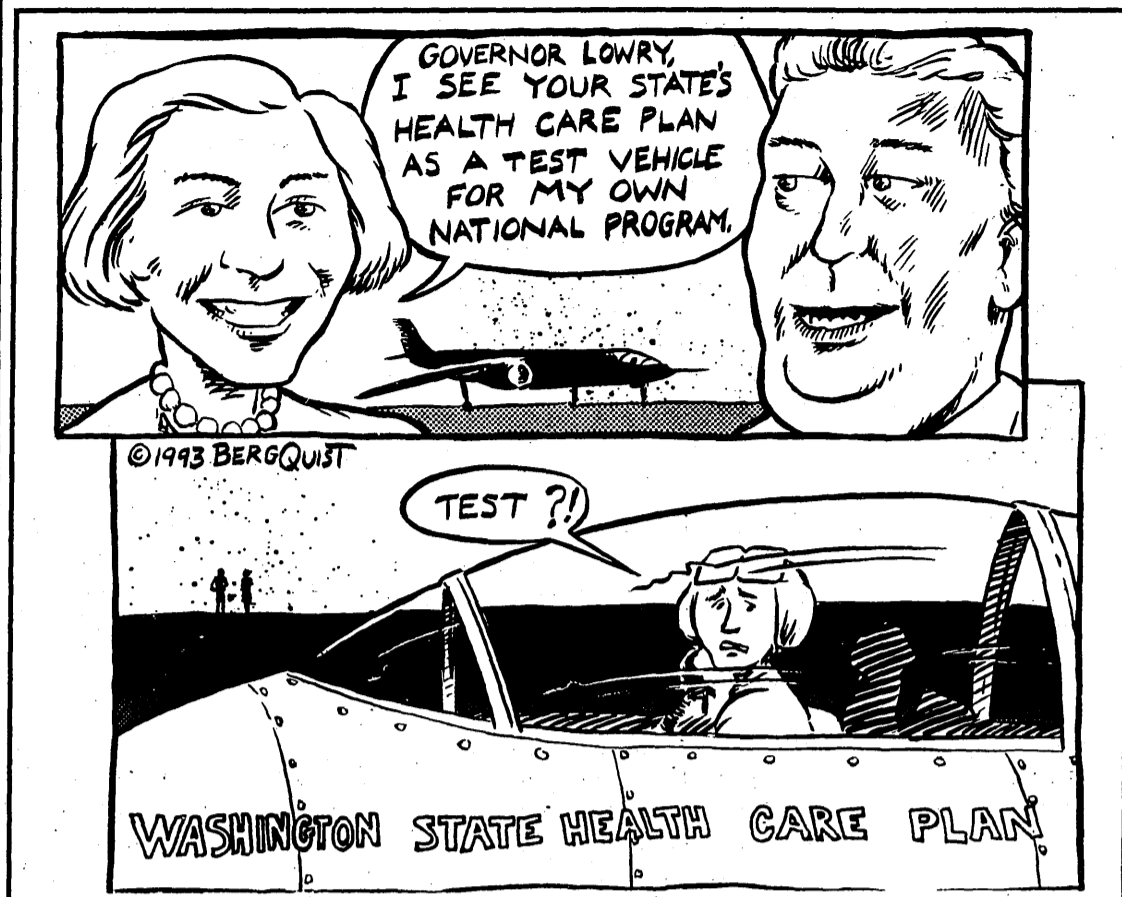
"I'm proud of my school," Bremerton High School senior Sharon Cosca told *The Seattle Post-Intelligencer* in the May 20 edition. "This has been so embarrassing. It's been all over the news — all over the world."

Albeit the student representatives don't account for all the people at the Bremerton High School, something has to be behind the swing in sentiment of the school's students. The national and international media attention could have been just enough to send the proposal to defeat. Had students passed the proposal, it could have been embarrassing for both the school and the community. Both would have a stigma attached to their titles.

It would be a shame to think such a proposal was voted away because it was embarrassing and not because it was discriminatory. Obviously, not all the students voted against the proposal because they thought it was embarrassing, but the sway could have just been enough to swing the vote.

Even though the national spotlight will now turn away from Bremerton, the issue should not be dropped. Understanding and allowing for differences between people leads to a better community. Bremerton High School Principal Marilee Hansen summed it up best when she told *The Seattle Post-Intelligencer*, "We are all surprised at the number of people who supported the proposal. That's a wake-up call...(and) the vote shows we have some educating to do."

—R.E. Dalrymple, Editor in Chief



Worry about planet, not gay lifestyles



By Steve Arnold
staff reporter

About four years ago, I was just starting to realize that in addition to being farsighted, buck-toothed and overweight — I was gay. No way, I thought. Impossible. Not this too!

I recall one night in late autumn 1989. I was sitting in an Italian cafe in Pioneer Square, listening to my friend Todd tell me all about being gay. I imagined the entire restaurant could hear him discuss the details of his life. I sunk behind the Chianti, deathly afraid someone would recognize me ... the new fag on the block. I pictured the phone at my parents home ringing later that night "Hello, Mrs. Arnold? Your son's a fag. click..." Looking back I realize I was a little paranoid, if

not self-absorbed.

Four years, a dozen roommates and four or five boyfriends later, here I am, sitting in front of a computer in Bellingham writing a bitchamentary, wondering what can be said that hasn't been said, screamed or whined before.

In four years, some things haven't changed. Gay women and men still populate our world, country, city and university. No matter how comfortable they are or how visible or invisible they choose to be, these people are still our teachers, siblings, parents, employers, friends and neighbors.

Now it's 1993. Internationally, people are starving, killing, raping and ecologically desecrating the planet ever more efficiently. In our own country, urban violence, unemployment, poverty and drug and alcohol abuse plague our society. Why then, does our society choose to

devote such negative energy to gay people? Who cares? Who really cares and why? Why must we judge a particular portion of humankind on such a small part of their lives? Do we not have better things to worry about?

Our government put men on the moon in 1969, but 25 years later, we still can't feed, house or give adequate health care to everyone in our country. Now we sit around wondering whether gay people should be in the military. Where are our priorities? Where are our heads?

So, seven years short of the 21st century, a portion of society still remains fixated on gay people and the things they imagine gay people do and don't do. How much longer will it be until we are able to get over ourselves and get on with our lives?

With the amount of hate and tragedy in our world, why is such a small amount of love so damned offensive? Think about it, folks.

The Western Front

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Don't stay silent about Gay Rights



By Maureen Sweeney
special to the Front

Recently, the Oregon Citizen's Alliance (OCA) "No Special Rights" Initiative (Measure 9) sought to amend the state constitution in order to label homosexuality "abnormal, wrong, unnatural and perverse ... to be discouraged and avoided." That measure failed, but only by a small margin. Since that defeat, affiliates of the OCA are pushing for amendments in Washington, Idaho and 12 other states that would make homosexuality unconstitutional.

In response, lesbians and gays in Washington formed the Washington Citizen's for Fairness/Hands-Off Washington Project. Sub-groups (coalition councils) are now being formed at the county level throughout the state. The primary goal of Hands-Off is education — specifically regarding the use of the phrase, "special rights."

The OCA would like you to believe gay rights equal special rights. That equation can be used to

justify anti-gay initiatives like Measure 9 in Oregon and those introduced in Washington and Idaho. The tactic is simple: Get the general population to believe that lesbian and gay people are demanding *more* rights. In reality though, lesbian and gay people are simply demanding *equal* rights, the same human rights heterosexual people take for granted: the right to a job, a home and a family. Clever strategy. And it works.

But it works only if you close your heart and your mind. It works only if you are willing to replace compassion and common sense with hysteria and religious fervor based on ignorance. It works only if you believe you have the right to define (divine?) for others how they should think, live, work, love and act. It works only if you already align yourself with the nationally organized Christian Coalition (as George Bush did in the '92 election by courting the support of Pat Robertson). It works only if you really believe that all of us can be neatly categorized as decent or indecent people.

To support the kind of hate legislation spon-

See GAY RIGHTS, page 11

GAY RIGHTS: OCA is a threat

Continued from page 10

sored by the OCA you must convince yourself that gay, lesbian and bisexual people are not as valuable, not as human as heterosexual people, and do not deserve basic human rights. You must believe the one or two "decent" homosexuals you know are anomalies. You must deal only in slogans and accusations and not with real people. If you are Christian, you must ignore the teaching of Jesus. Finally, to support legislation that seeks to outlaw homosexuality, you must not explore your own motives, your own fears, or your own pain. You must cut yourself off from your own humanity.

Historically, horrible acts have been committed against other human beings because the majority cut themselves off, because they saw injustices before them but did nothing. Such a time is with us again as the agenda of the Christian Coalition gains momentum. If you are not aligned with either the far right (Christian fundamentalist) or the far left, (lesbian, gay, bisexual) then you have tremendous power. It will be your group — this large, undecided majority — who will ultimately decide whether or not the systematic oppression of gay, lesbian and bisexual people is legalized. Spokespersons for the OCA have made it clear that this is a test. If they succeed in denying civil rights here, other groups — like women and people of color — who have also won "special rights" could be the targets of similar legislation.

Your silence signals your assent. You must decide whether you will educate yourselves about these issues or rely on myths and information about gay, lesbian and bisexual people. You must decide whether you will offer your compassion and support, or be swept away by fear and hatred.

Maureen Sweeney is a faculty member of the English department

Environmental degradation leads to human suffering

Dear Editor:

This letter is in response to Jason Barbacovi's opinion piece: "Planet will prevail long after humans' demise," in the May 18, 1993 *Western Front*.

With the inevitable decline in population, and possible extinction of homo sapiens — yes, as Jacob Barbacovi puts it — the "Planet will prevail long after humans' demise." The question is, however, what condition will the planet be in as the greatest industrial feast ever draws to a close?

Should we continue on the current path until, as Edward Abbey puts it, "half the nation and half the planet becomes one smog-shrouded, desperate and sweating, insane and explosive urbanized concentration camp?"

Should we heed the warnings of Earth Day instead, and realize that industrialization combined with over-consumption and over-population have set in motion forces that will not only bring about a degraded environment, but

lead to human suffering on a scale not yet seen on this watery orb hurling around the sun?

"Nothing we can do can even come close to destroying the planet," he said. Of course we can't literally destroy the planet, but we can destroy life on the planet, every last bit of it if we put our minds to it. I ask you, Mr. Barbacovi, is this the course that humanity should take? Should we continue to alter and destroy the habitat that is ideally suited for our existence as well as other life forms?

The message of Earth Day that Mr. Barbacovi calls "a misguided one" is a call for the protection of all life forms. It is a recognition that we can destroy ourselves along with all other life forms, but that we would rather not pursue such a negative course of action.

In the second to last paragraph, Barbacovi writes: "This doesn't mean that we have to forget the Earth entirely, we still have to live on it." Where else would you want to live?

On the moon? On Venus where the temperature is more than 700 degrees Celsius?

We can reduce the Earth to a place where "a small colony of bacteria — will survive somewhere." That is not the future anyone should strive for. Reducing consumption and human population while protecting diverse habitats and species is the goal of Earth Day and the environmental movement.

"We can still have Earth Day, but why not make every other day Humanity Day?" Mr. Barbacovi, every other day is Humanity Day. As well as chainsaw day, bulldozer day, nuclear waste day, erosion day, pesticide day, herbicide day, open-pit strip mining day, oil spill day and Georgia Pacific pulp mill plant-spewing chlorine gas day.

In closing, I turn once again to the words of author and self-styled agrarian anarchist Edward Abbey: "Be of good cheer, the military-industrial state will soon collapse."

Craig Coonrad

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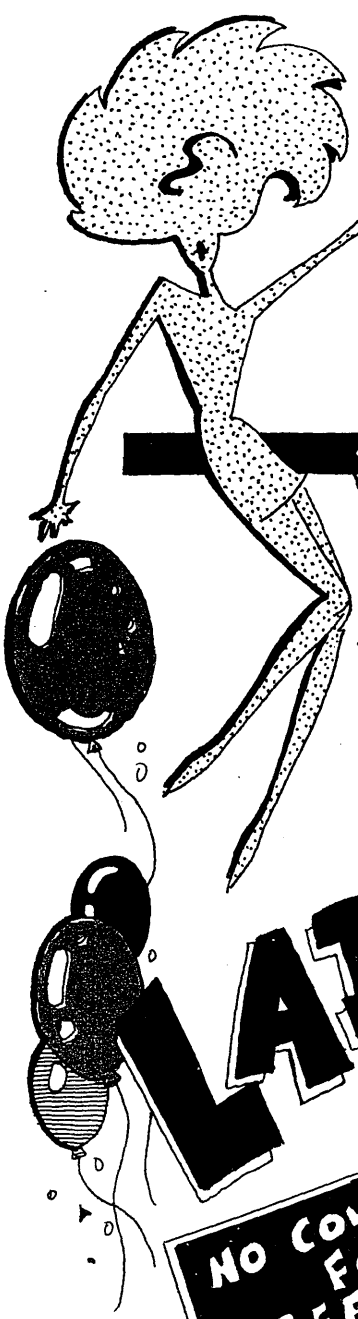
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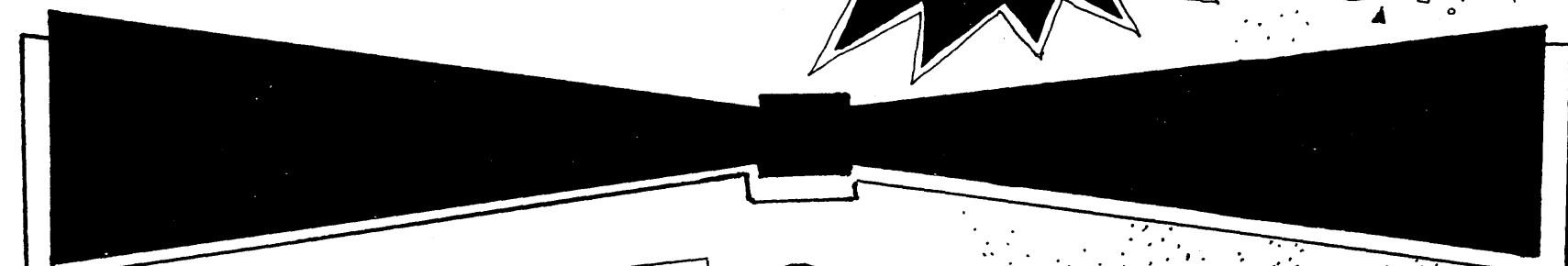
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