

Physical access to campus poses problems

Disabled, sensory-impaired students seek improvements at Western

By Greg Garrity
staff reporter

Everyone knows how difficult it is to walk from one side of campus to the other in only 10 minutes.

Imagine being in a wheelchair and having to go from one side of campus to another in a limited amount of time.

Or imagine being hearing-impaired and not being able to hear your instructor. Imagine being visually-impaired and not being able to read your textbook, see the chalkboard, or watch videos in class.

For approximately 250 Western students, this is not hard to imagine — it is the reality they must live with each day.

Wilma Ferguson, program support supervisor for Disabled Student Services (DSS), a program coordinator and nine student-staff members, provide a variety of free services for students with all types of disabilities.

The slogan of the DSS, according to its informational brochure, is: "Western Washington University is committed to assuring that all programs and activities are readily accessible to all eligible persons without regard to their race, color, religion, national

origin, sex, age, disability, marital status, sexual orientation, Vietnam era or disabled Veteran status."

Ferguson said approximately 250 students have identified themselves to DSS, but many more are on campus.

"Many students have found ways to deal with their disabilities," Ferguson said. "We are here to help those who feel they need our assistance."

DSS provides disabled students a variety of technological equipment to aid them with their school work.

"We have a Xerox Kurzweil Reader which allows those students with visual impairments to read their textbooks through an Artic Voice Synthesizer," Ferguson said.

"Students can put their textbook onto a copy machine device which copies up to 11 pages at a time. The computer then reads their book to them."

Ferguson also said DSS offers tape-recordings of textbooks for visually-impaired students and for those who simply struggle reading written text.

"Regular textbooks are only truly accessible to those who can actually see and focus on normal type," said David Brunner, coordinator of DSS.

"At the beginning of the quarter, students bring us a textbook and a copy of their syllabus. Our student employees spend their time recording reading assignments onto cassettes. We try to stay at least one week ahead of the syllabus," Ferguson said. "Several students spend more than 20 hours a week reading textbooks."

DSS also has a Braille printer which allows students to print out their assignments or anything else in Braille. Visually-impaired students also have access to a Viewpoint Print Enlarger, which enlarges anything that is too small to be easily read.

"One student was so excited when she found out about the Viewpoint," Ferguson said. "She said she had never been able to read her name in the phone book before."

DSS also offers a variety of services for the hearing-impaired, including a Telecommunications Device for the Deaf.

"This allows deaf students to communicate by telephone. They type in their keyboard message, which is transmitted to the other person. Ideally, both parties have the system. However, it is also possible to go through the opera-

See Access, page 5

AS \$80,000 in deficit

Yet board member gets \$665 to attend conference

Lynnette Bonnema
staff reporter

With an \$80,000 shortfall looming over the heads of the members of Associated Students' Board of Directors this year, monitoring spending is a priority.

"Our budget is very minimal," said AS treasurer Onar Primitivo. "We have to watch out how we spend, and that's hard when we're trying to maintain the same level of programming without the \$80,000."

The shortfall stems from overall university budget cuts and from a decrease in the money

received from student activities fees. Each student pays \$30 at the beginning of every quarter to fund student activities.

That money does not exclusively go the AS but also funds athletics and departmentally re-

lated activities such as drama and the debate team.

After much debate during executive session, the board approved \$665 for Vice President of Internal Affairs Sun Yi to attend a conference in

California. The conference concerns the empowerment of Ko-

See Deficit, page 8



Photo by Cassandra Burdsal

Some areas of campus, such as these stairs at College Hall, are a nagging reminder that disabled access at Western is not yet complete.

Expo offers a hands-on look at on-campus housing

By Dawn Bittner
staff reporter

As spring quarter approaches, students are starting to think about living arrangements for next year. Off-campus or on-campus, apartment or house, living alone or with six roommates — these are just a few of the decisions that must be made.

Housing Expo '94, sponsored by University Residences, is an opportunity for students to explore their on-campus housing options. The event will take place from noon to 6 p.m. today in the Viking Union Main Lounge.

Each residence hall will have a table with an exhibit. Students will be able to look at a floor plan, find out what living is like and ask residents and staff of each hall questions.

Each hall will also show music and slide shows to give students a feel for the atmosphere.

Representatives of the South Campus and Ridgeway Fitness Centers, computer labs and dining halls will also be available to inform students of the services they offer to on-campus residents.

Students who attend the conference will be given a game card to be stamped at each exhibit, which will make them eligible to win prizes throughout the day; prizes include munch money and a free night at a Marriott hotel.

"This is a good opportunity for students to see what housing is available in one place at one time," said Pamela Keeler, graduate intern for University Residences.

Keeler said the purpose of the housing expo is to encourage more students to live on campus. Many students are not aware of what on-campus housing has to offer beyond the place they have been living, she said.

"We already have 91 percent of the freshmen. We want to in-

crease those who stay," said Kay Rich, director of University Residences.

"When someone really wants to move off campus, they should, but as well-informed consumers," Rich said.

Rich said University Residences loses money when the beds aren't filled. 150 empty beds equals a loss of about \$600,000, she said.

"University Residences is responsible for student funds. We are totally supported by student rates and activity fees. If we're not full, the students lose out," Rich said. "Even an increase of filling 100 beds would help."

Last year's open house allowed students to tour each hall with a passport. Students could win prizes based on how many halls stamped their passports.

"It was moderately successful, but we wanted to improve our outreach," Rich said.

WHAT'S INSIDE:

News: Is "Wild West Saloon Days" PC? — page 6

Features: Exploring the "Afterlife" — pages 10-13

Issues: Religious confrontation — pages 16-19

Campus and Bellingham CopsBox

Campus Police

Friday, Feb. 25, 6:05 p.m.: A woman reported two men standing in the Miller Hall Plaza. One man had his pants open and partially down while they held a conversation in which they degraded women.

Sunday, Feb. 27, 12:04 a.m.: Officers were called to Nash Hall because residents found two rounds of paint ball ammunition onto two windows as well as the 7th floor bathroom floor.

Sunday, Feb. 27, 3:09 a.m.: A witness reported seeing someone in the 2C parking lot attempting to open car doors. No arrests were made.

Monday, Feb. 28, 1:32 a.m.: Police found a man sleeping in his car in the 21C parking lot. Officers ran a background check and found an outstanding misdemeanor warrant from the Poulsbo Police Department. The man was arrested.

Bellingham Police

Saturday, Feb. 26, 10:59 p.m.: Officers were called to the 2200 block of E Street for a loud party. The four people who had thrown the party were having problems clearing the party and asked for assistance. No arrests were made.

Saturday, Feb. 26, 11:08 p.m.: Officers responded to the 1000 block of Otis Street for a verbal domestic dispute. Two people were arguing over the two children they were babysitting. The argument was resolved when the children were picked up by their parents.

Sunday, Feb. 27, 12:45 a.m.: A man was arrested at the 300 block of E. Chestnut Street for driving under the influence of alcohol and drugs and driving while his license was suspended.

Sunday, Feb. 27, 1:29 p.m.: Officers responded to the 3200 block of Northwest Avenue on a report of malicious mischief. Three juveniles were arrested and charged with malicious mischief and brandishing a weapon. The suspects were released to family members.

Sunday, Feb. 27, 3:40 p.m.: A man complained his ex-wife hangs-up on him and refuses to let him talk to their four-year-old son. He asked for the incident to be documented until he could get a court order.

Sunday, Feb. 27, 6:37 p.m.: A man reported he had caught a juvenile puncturing a tire on his car. He didn't press charges because the juvenile's parents agreed to pay for the damages.

What's up at Western

Campus Calendar

Tuesday, March 1, 8 p.m.: The music department presents the New Music Ensemble, directed by Roger Briggs in the PAC Concert Hall.

Wednesday, March 2, noon & 4:30 p.m.: The Center for Educational Pluralism presents a video series, "Ida B. Wells: A Passion for Justice," in honor of Women's History Month, in Miller Hall 250.

Wednesday, March 2, 6-8 p.m.: AS Sexual Awareness Center presents a workshop series on women's health called "Home Birth or Hospital Birth: Which Option is Right for You?" in Viking Addition 461. Childcare will be available in Viking Addition 454.

Wednesday-Saturday, March 2-6, 7:30 p.m.: The Theatre Arts department presents Shakespeare's "Hamlet," directed by Douglas Vanderyacht on the PAC Mainstage. Sunday's performance will be at 2 p.m. For more information or to reserve seats, call 650-6146.

Wednesday, March 2, 8 p.m.: The music department presents Composers of Western, directed by Roger Briggs, in the PAC Concert Hall.

Thursday, March 3, noon: The Bureau for Faculty Research and Sigma Xi present Philosophy Professor Hud Hudson lecturing about "Schopenhauer's Compatibilism" in the Wilson Library presentation room.

Thursday, March 3, 7 p.m.: Fairhaven College's History of the Future series presents "The Crossroads: A Festival of the Future," featuring performing artists, in the Fairhaven Auditorium.

Thursday, March 3, 8 p.m.: The music department presents Symphonic Band, directed by David Wallace, in the PAC Concert Hall.

Western Briefs

Community news and notes

On Campus

Today last day to schedule exit interviews

National Direct/Perkins and Guaranteed/Stafford Loan borrowers who are not returning spring quarter or are planning on graduating winter quarter must schedule an exit interview to terminate their loan.

To schedule an interview, stop by NDSL/Perkins Repayment Office, in Old Main 265, or call 676-2943 by March 1.

Transcripts can be withheld if students fail to appear for this required interview.

Woodring sponsors LGBA panel discussion

The Woodring College of Education's Center for Educational Pluralism presents a panel discussion on "Voices: Gay and Lesbian Youth," at 6:30 p.m., March 3 in Miller Hall 250.

The discussion features members of Western's Lesbian Gay Bisexual Alliance (LGBA) and others who will share personal experiences, talk about homosexuality in schools and speak on the recent initiatives which, if passed would not allow "special" civil rights protection to homosexuals.

For more information, call 650-3827.

Applications available for spring scholarships

The Scholarship Center is now accepting applications for the 1993-94 Academic Merit Scholarship. Four \$500 awards will be given this spring quarter.

To qualify for the scholarship, students must be a full-time sophomore, junior or senior and have a cumulative grade point average of 3.5 or better. Financial aid is not a requirement, but may be taken into consideration.

Established this year, The Academic Merit Scholarship is supported by contributions to the Western Foundation's general academic scholarship program for students with high academic merit and achievement.

Applications must be submitted to the Scholarship Center in Old Main 250 no later than March 18.

Biology students analyze Appalachian fungi, algae

Biology students at Western are involved in a study monitoring the health of forests sponsored by a \$2,600 grant from the Tennessee Valley Authority.

Lichens, which are combinations of fungi and algae living together, serve as prime indicators of a forest's health.

Acting as sponges, lichens absorb toxic chemicals such as mercury, lead and zinc that are in the air.

Students receive lichen samples which have been collected in the Southern Appalachian mountains and clean them in preparation for further chemical analysis.

Various indicator sites around the country are conducting similar experiments as part of a nationwide study investigating the state of the nation's ecological health.

For more information, contact Fred Rhoades at 733-9149.

International Women's Day commemorated

Celebrating International Women's Day, the Women's Center is sponsoring an International Women's Day Festival from 11 a.m. to 2 p.m., March 8, in the VU Main Lounge.

The festival will feature entertainment and food with an international flavor.

Performances include the Lummi Tribal School Dance Group, belly dancing, African dancing and drumming and flamenco dancing.

The Western Asian and Pacific Islander Student Union will be selling finger food.

The event is free. For more details, contact Jennifer Gay in the Women's Center at 650-6114.

Off Campus

Keep clean with city Parks and Rec classes

The Bellingham Parks and Recreation Department is having a basic soap-making class from 7 to 8:30 p.m. on March 10 & 17 in the Bloedel Donovan Pavilion.

Participants will learn how to make soap from scratch as well as being taught how to use herbs and oils to color and scent the soap.

Each student will be able to take home a good-sized bar or two of their own soap by the end of the class.

The class will be instructed by Kim Atkinson. Registrations need to be in by March 3.

Cost is \$12 plus a \$6 supply fee.

For more information, contact Janie Pemble at 650-6985.

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 FOR LATE-COURSE WITHDRAWALS** for students with late-withdrawal privileges. It is also the last day to withdraw from the University.
- **RSVP REGISTRATION** continues through March 11 at the appointment time sent to you in early February. Read the RSVP instructions, see your adviser, plan your schedule, then call RSVP (650-7787) at or after the time sent to you.
- **SPRING QUARTER DEGREE AND INITIAL CERTIFICATE CANDIDATES:** All students expecting to graduate and/or receive a teaching certificate at the close of spring quarter must have a senior/certification evaluation on file in the Registrar's Office, OM 230, by March 11. Degree applications must be returned by March 11. Applications are available in OM 230. Deadline for summer graduates is June 3. All student teacher candidates for fall, 1994, through spring, 1995, must have their senior/certification evaluation on file in the Registrar's Office by May 1.
- **DISABLED STUDENT SERVICES** is considering a name change. Suggestions from the campus community are welcome. Drop by OM 275 and leave a note in the suggestion box or call X/3083.
- **PARKING PERMITS MAY BE RENEWED FOR SPRING QUARTER** from 8:30 a.m. to 3:30 p.m. Monday through Friday at Parking Services. Anyone who does not have a winter quarter permit and is not already on the waiting list may purchase one, if available, on a first-come, first-served basis during these same hours beginning Monday, March 14.
- **AN S&A FEE COMMITTEE PRELIMINARY BUDGET HEARING** will be held at 5 p.m. Thursday, March 3, in VA 454.
- **A PUBLIC HEARING REGARDING 1994 HOUSING AND DINING RATES** will be held at 3 p.m. Thursday, March 3, in VA 455.
- **THE ASSOCIATED STUDENTS** is seeking a representative for the Excellence in Teaching Award Committee. This student would be responsible for evaluating nominees for this award. Time commitment is about two hours a week. For more information, contact Zach Harmon Robinson, X/3736 or visit VU 227.
- **INTERESTED IN TRANSPORTATION ISSUES AT WESTERN?** Now is your chance to get involved in devising the Transportation Management Plan as an Associated Students representative to the Transportation Management Plan Advisory Committee. Contact Zach Harmon Robinson, X/3736 or VU 227 for more information.
- **BUILDING YOUR FUTURE CONNECTIONS**, a Multicultural Services career conference for students of color and international students, will be held from 9 a.m. to 3 p.m. Saturday, March 5, at Fairhaven College. Yvonne Ward, Seattle attorney and WWU alumnus, is keynote speaker. Events of the day are free. To register or for more information, contact MSC, X/3843, Liz Partolan-Fray, X/3843, or Christine Cress, X/3268.
- **SPECIAL EVENT PARKING.** Lots 6G and 9V will be reserved beginning at 5 p.m. March 2 for the Women's Health workshop. Lots 11G, 13G, 14G and 25G will be reserved starting at 5 p.m. March 2-5 for Hamlet. Drivers who park vehicles in a reserved lot prior to an attendant's arrival and who leave them parked during the lot reservation period without prior authorization from the attendant will be considered illegally parked. Except for lots 8V and 10G Monday through Thursday, any G, V or C lot other than those listed here may be used. Permit holders may leave vehicles in reserved lots for work-related purposes.
- **OPEN MURAL COMPETITION.** Woodring College of Education invites artists to submit bids for a mural for the CENTER for Educational Pluralism, MH 250. Cost of the project may not exceed \$1,000. For bid guidelines, contact Sheila Fox, MH 318B, MS-9090. Proposals are due by March 28.

On-campus interviews

Graduating students and certificate candidates must be registered with the center in order to interview.

- Puyallup School District, Thursday, March 3. Signup required. Attend information session 9 a.m. or 1 p.m. Individual interviews follow.
- K-Mart Corp., Friday, March 4. Submit CIF when you sign up to interview. See company information in CSC library.
- Microsoft Corp., summer accounting intern. Submit CIF when you sign up. Also submit résumé, Microsoft application and an official transcript by March 4.

News from east to west

Local News

Police arrest teens three involved in drive-by shooting

PULLMAN — Pullman police said three teenage boys have been arrested yesterday in a drive-by shooting that left a man with a minor gunshot wound to the head.

Twenty-one-year-old Aaron Dittmer was hit when he looked out his window after hearing several gunshots Feb. 27.

Dittmer was treated at Pullman Memorial Hospital and released.

Police Sergeant Chris Tennant said the shots came from a small caliber handgun fired at the house from a passing vehicle.

Police have arrested three males aged from 16 to 17. Two boys are from Pullman and one is from Palouse. Police did not name the three.

Tennant said a decision on whether to charge the three will be made by Whitman County prosecutors.

Police continue investigation of girl found in Columbia river

VANCOUVER — Laboratory tests have revealed that an 11-year-old girl whose body was found in the Columbia River last month had been sexually molested.

Vancouver police said the death is being investigated as a homicide.

The FBI has also joined the investigation into the death of Mistie Micheletti, offering a \$5,000 reward for information leading to the arrest of her killer.

The fifth grader disappeared under

suspicious circumstances on Jan. 15. Her body was found in the Columbia the next day. At the time, police said it was possible that she had been abducted, but also possible that she ran away from home.

Police Captain Bob Kanekoa said that lab tests confirmed the presence of sperm in the girl's body.

Kanekoa said two detectives are working full time on the case, but are not focusing on anyone as a suspect.

Mistie's family members have insisted all along that foul play was involved.

National News

Anti-abortionist accused of killing doctor goes to trial

PENSACOLA, Florida — Opening arguments are under way in the trial of the anti-abortion activist accused of killing an abortion doctor.

The prosecutor said a jail guard will testify that he overheard Michael Griffin admit the murder to his wife.

Bobbitt released from mental ward, continues job as manicurist

MANASSAS, Virginia — Lorena Bobbitt said she plans to return to her job as a manicurist, but she'd like to go to Disney World first.

Bobbitt released the statement after being released from a state mental hospital.

She'd been found innocent by reason of temporary insanity in the sexual mutilation of her husband.

Clinton said U.S. fighters tried to avoid shooting Bosnian planes

WHITE HOUSE — President Clinton said American fighter planes made every attempt to avoid shooting down four Bosnian Serb planes yesterday.

Clinton said the Serb planes failed to heed NATO warnings to leave a no-fly zone over Bosnia, so the USF-16's opened fire.

The president said helicopters have violated the no-fly zone in the past, but he said no fixed-wing planes had violated the zone.

He said those aircraft are much more serious military threats, so the violations are more serious.

Veterans of Spanish Civil War listen to words of Hemingway

SAN FRANCISCO — The voice from the past defends a long-defeated cause, but, even after more than 50 years, the words of Ernest Hemingway and the fight against fascism in the Spanish Civil War have their appeal.

American veterans of the Abraham Lincoln battalion in the Spanish Civil War got the chance last night to hear Hemingway himself defend the cause for which they fought.

Hemingway covered the war as a reporter, and made the recording in 1947 for the tenth anniversary of the defense of Madrid.

It hadn't been heard publicly since then. Now it's been re-issued by the Illinois

press. Illinois professor Cary Nelson said the tape and a previously unpublished Hemingway letter debunk the belief among some scholars that Hemingway soured on the anti-fascist campaign after WWII.

World News

Hijackers seeking 'political assistance' release 12 passengers

MADRID, Spain — Hijackers have released a dozen hostages from an Algerian airliner.

The plane was forced to fly to Southern Spain Sunday. The three hijackers held 127 passengers and crew before releasing 12 people including eight women, two men and two children.

A Spanish police spokesman said the hijackers are asking for "political assistance." It's unclear whether that means they want political asylum in Spain.

Russians suspect U.S. diplomat Morris is actually CIA agent

MOSCOW — Russia is giving U.S. diplomat James Morris seven days to leave the country.

Morris serves as a counselor at the U.S. embassy in Moscow, but the Russians suspect he is a CIA officer.

They said he's being expelled because the United States threw out a Russian diplomat last week.

News briefs compiled from the Associated Press wire service

Monday-Saturday 6:30 a.m. to 3 p.m. Sunday 8 a.m. to 2 p.m.

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BREAKFAST SERVED ALL DAY

WHAT'S HAPPENING?

Tuesday, March 1
Housing Expo
 Sponsored by the Housing Office
 3 pm, VU Main Lounge, FREE

Wednesday, March 2
Home birth or Hospital birth
 Forum on which option is right for you, childcare provided.
 6-8 pm, Viking Addition 461, FREE

March 2-8
International Women's Week
 Special events all week, concluding with International Women's Day on Tuesday, March 8th.
 Noon, VU Main Lounge, FREE

Thursday, March 3
Human Rights Production
 Sponsored by Amnesty International
 7:30 pm, VU Main Lounge, \$3

Friday, March 4
 AS Mama Sundays presents
The Mommyheads
 8 pm, VU Coffeeshop.
 \$2 students, \$3 general

Sunday, March 6
 ASP Films presents **Rudy**
 8 pm, Arntzen Hall 100, \$2

AS
 Respect Diversity, Teach Peace.

What's Happening Line 650-INFO

"EXACTLY RIGHT"

You have the right to expect your car to be fixed exactly right! If you've had a collision, even a small one, your car can sustain 'unseen' damage. The bodies of most cars nowadays are "unibody" — built as one complex piece of sheet metal.

A small hit on the front can throw out alignment in the back and cause problems with the drive train and steering components.

It takes precision equipment and skilled technicians to detect "all" the damage. That's why we use Wedge Clamp repair systems, equipment so accurate that we can repair your vehicle exactly to its original factory specifications — and all of our technicians are trained and certified unibody specialists.

Because if it's not fixed exactly right, it's not exactly fixed . . . right?

All repairs are backed by a written guarantee.

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Students explore nature of power in 'World Game'

World struggle for scarce resources 'experienced' firsthand in game

By Beth Demetrescu
staff reporter

What do you do when you are commissioned to design a World Fair exhibit and then your commission is yanked because your exhibit is too controversial?

You create it anyway.

That is what architect, author, inventor, poet and philosopher Buckminster Fuller did in 1967, giving birth to the "World Game."

The World Game workshop, held Feb. 26 in Carver Gym, gave Western students a chance to take a close look at the way resources and power are distributed throughout the world by playing the "game" or resources distribution.

Representing the percentages of the world population, 100 people take places on "the world's largest and most accurate map of the Earth."

Of the 100 people on the map, five are on North America standing for the five percent of the world's population found in North America.

The other 95 participants took their places according to population — not economic power or military might.

The participants are given props that represent resources, and then create a microcosm of the world by actively engaging in the solution of global issues such as hunger, literacy, population, AIDS and the environment.

The game was followed up by

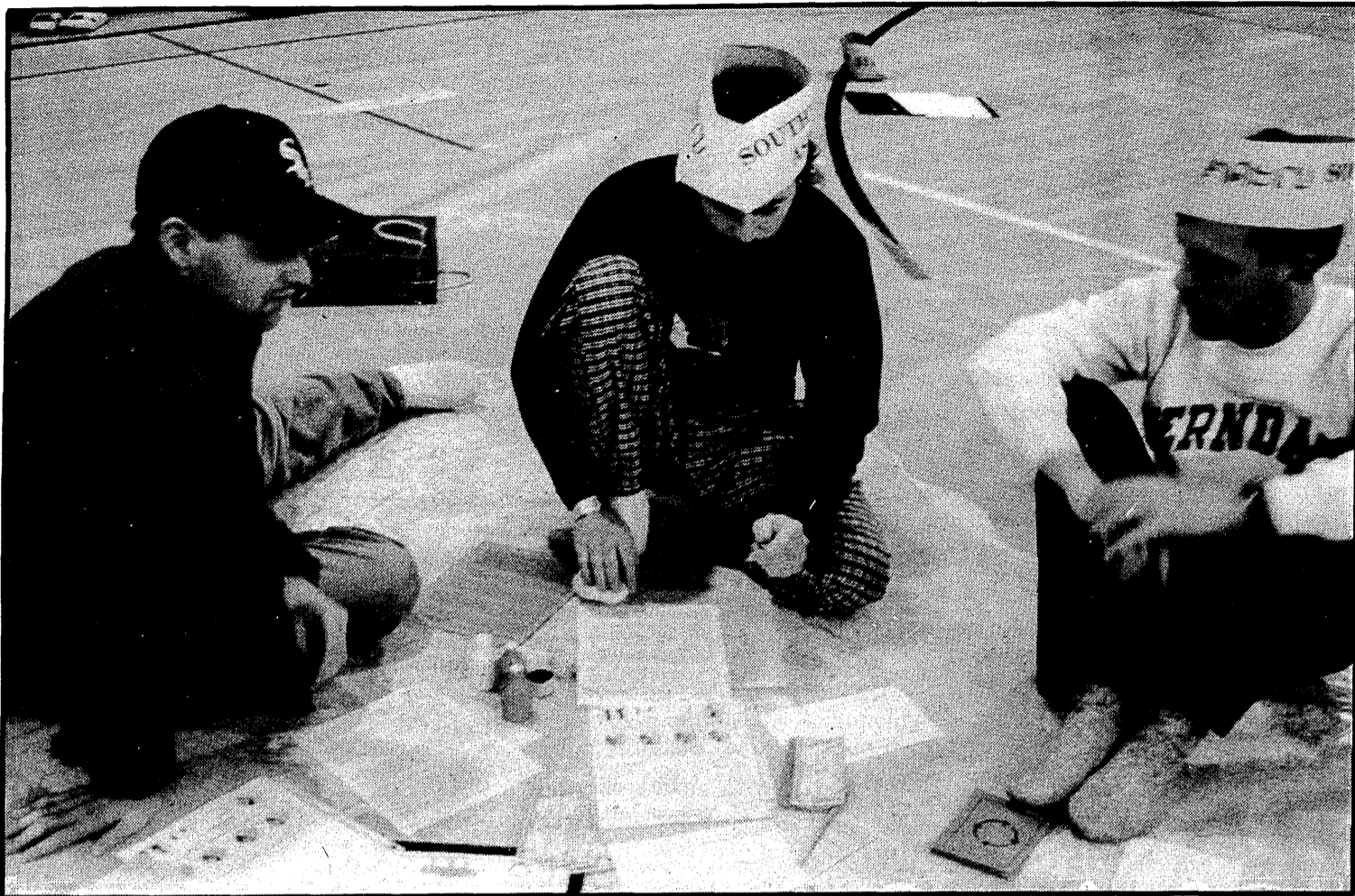


Photo by Cassandra Burdsal

Western students Gary Sarlan, left, Scott Blume and Nick Carlson, representing Southeast Asia, plot their strategy in the "World Game."

a slide show filled with pictures from around the world and pertinent quotes.

As an institution, the World Game is a non-profit, resource and education organization.

It is an alternative to war games that seek to attract attention to the nature and complexity of national and global relations by getting humanity to think on a global level.

"The World Game workshop is a simulation of the global soci-

ety," workshop facilitator Dave Whitten said.

The World Game was brought

"The World Game workshop is a simulation of the global society."

— Dave Whitten,
Workshop facilitator

to Western in 1986 by then Western AS Productions Coordinator Chuck Dingee, an avid fan of Fuller, author of several books

including "Critical Path."

Dingee, a musician, went so far as to compose a song in honor

representative for the newly created World Game Northwest, and Whitten is Dingee's associate in boosting the World Game Northwest.

"To get involved, start by taking part in the workshop," Whitten said. "Software is also available."

"It is difficult (to get involved with World Game Northwest) since we are still kind of bootstrapping," Whitten said. "But we may need volunteers someday soon."

of Fuller's 88th birthday, which he will be performing at Mama Sundays.

Dingee is the regional repre-

Human Bowling +

Weekly Events with **CASH** prizes

Sundays at 7:00 pm

Mondays at 7:45 pm

Tuesdays after Sonics

Wednesdays at 7:45 pm

Pool Tournament

Dart Tournament

Pop-a-shot Contest

Air Hockey Tournament

\$4.00 entry \$1.00 contributed by Q.B

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*Every Sat & Sun check out the Quarterback Olympics.

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*Great Food and Fun, just stop by.

Sehome Village

647-8132

Excellence in Teaching Awards Nominations Due April 1

President Karen W. Morse has announced that two \$1000.00 "Excellence in Teaching" awards have again been made possible by The Western Foundation.

Awards are given each year to a faculty member from the College of Arts and Sciences and to a faculty member of the "cluster colleges"-Business & Economics, Fairhaven, Fine & Performing Arts, Huxley, and the School of Education.

The Following criteria and policies are used for selection:

1. No person shall receive this award more than once.
2. Only winners will be announced: candidates names shall not be published at any time during or after the process.
3. The candidate must be a full-time faculty member.. Visiting faculty are not eligible.
4. If a nominee wishes to be considered he/she will submit materials to the committee.
5. The committees may devise additional or alternate criteria upon announcement prior to the call for nominations. They will evaluate all material and make selections according to their best judgements.

Nominations are solicited from alumni, students, or faculty members by completing the attached ballot. Letters of evaluation may be attached. Faculty nominees of the College of Arts and Sciences may be sent to: Peter Elich, Dean, College of the Arts and Sciences, MS 9099. Cluster college nominations may be sent to Dennis Murphy, Dean, College of Business & Economics, MS 9072. Ballots must be received by April 1, 1994.

Faculty Nominee _____

Nominator _____

Name

Address

Zip

Signature of Nominee _____

Nominator, check one: Student Alumni Faculty

Center for Equal Opportunity seeks to reduce discrimination

Greg Garrity
staff reporter

It's just a small office tucked away on the third floor of Old Main.

Although one might miss it while passing by in the hall, this particular office serves a huge function on the Western campus: keep discrimination at bay.

The Center for Equal Opportunity (CEO) is constantly engaged in proactive measures to prevent illegal discrimination against groups which are protected by federal and state laws.

The CEO not only works with the disabled, but with anyone who feels they may have been discriminated against for any reason.

Sue Clausen, acting director of the CEO, said the two laws that most directly affect Western are the Americans with Disabilities Act (ADA) of 1990 and Section 504 of the Federal Rehabilitation Act of 1973.

According to the ADA, 43 million Americans have one or more physical or mental disabilities. This number is growing as the population continues to expand. Clausen

said the ADA is directly modeled after Section 504.

"The primary difference between the two laws is that Section 504 covers federal institutions such as public educational facilities that receive public funds," Clausen said. "The ADA on the other hand, extends the requirement from Section 504 to private businesses as well."

According to the ADA, "historically, society has tended to isolate and segregate individuals with disabilities, and despite some improvements, such forms of discrimination against individuals with disabilities continue to be a serious and pervasive social problem ..."

Clausen explained the act, saying, "Both of these acts require us to ensure that all of our programs, services and activities are accessible to the public."

This does not mean that every building must be accessible to the public.

"The Ridge may not be accessible to wheelchairs. Students may not get the exact building they want. There are housing facilities that are accessible to the disabled. This is what the ADA and Section 504

require of us," Clausen said.

"Ideally, our facilities should have no structural barriers. There are probably places on campus that are not accessible. It is the responsibility of the university not to operate programs where they are not accessible."

The CEO recently completed a self-evaluation of all the facilities on campus, as required by the ADA. The self-evaluation included an initial look at access to programs on campus and is available for public viewing in Old Main 375.

"We are now in the process of receiving public input on our findings," Clausen said. "I really encourage people to come up and take a look and let us know what they think."

The CEO not only works with the physically disabled, but with the visually and hearing impaired as well.

"We should technically have tactile or Braille signs for the blind. Someday we hope to have this. Until then, the people in Disabled Student Services provide support for students by providing escorts or recorded textbooks."

Along with insuring physical access to programs, the CEO also ensures admission to educational opportunities.

"If you can perform the essential elements of the position or meet the essential requirements for admission to programs, you cannot legally be denied the opportunity," Clausen said.

The CEO not only works with students but with faculty and staff

as well. Anyone on campus who feels they may have been illegally discriminated against is welcome to contact the CEO.

"The CEO basically serves as an intake center for various discrimination complaints. We can provide advice and point people in the right direction," Clausen said.

"I'm into equity," Clausen said. "I'm interested in making the playing field more even."

New director seeks new direction for Disabled Student Services

Disabled Student Services (DSS) may have a new name at Western. That is one of the main objectives for the new coordinator of DSS, David Brunnemer.

Brunnemer has several long-term and short-term goals for DSS. One of his first objectives is to change the name of DSS to reflect what the office really does.

"We would really like to incorporate the word 'enabling' into our new name," Brunnemer said.

Brunnemer recently came to Western from the University of California at Davis, where he was a counselor for disability management. His expertise is in learning-disability diagnosis.

Brunnemer is in the process of trying to set up a structured diagnostic criteria for learning disabilities. He hopes to set up a network of diagnosticians to keep costs down for Western students with disabilities.

"There will be many more changes in our office," Brunnemer concluded. "We hope to restart various programs such as the Disabled Students Advisory Committee and the student association, I.D.E.A."

Flexibility, creativity key to making campus accessible for disabled

Access,

Continued from page 1

tor," Ferguson said.

DSS is also responsible for finding an interpreter for hearing impaired students on campus.

Almost all of the technological equipment that is used by DSS was acquired about five years ago after a grant was given to the department from the Washington State Services for the Blind.

Among other services offered by DSS are academic advising and disability counseling.

"Many times it is easier for disabled students to work with other disabled students," Ferguson said. "They can easily relate with each other."

Ferguson said DSS also serves as a liaison with the faculty.

"If a student expresses concern with a particular professor or class, we talk to the professor for them," Ferguson said.

"We don't tell the professor what to do. We simply attempt to solve the problem. Also, many students, especially those with visual impairments, need more time to complete exams. We arrange this for the students with their various professors."

DSS also works with the scheduling

department to assure that disabled students have access to all of their classes. Although all of the academic buildings on campus are technically accessible, problems do arise.

"If a student comes to us and says they can't easily get to their class, we will do everything in our power to have the class moved to a different location," Ferguson said.

"This is also a reason why a select number of disabled students are allowed early registration.

For those students who have mobility impairments, we often have to have their classroom locations changed immediately. Also, students requiring extra time for ex-

ams need to have a schedule that is conducive, meaning no back-to-back to classes."


Shoshana Kehoe, a junior law and diversity major, is the student coordinator for DSS. Kehoe was born with achondroplasia, the most common form of dwarfism.

Only one in 10,000 people are born with the condition which involves the shortening of the arms and legs.

"The Americans with Disabilities Act (ADA) is out there, but it is our job to establish a voice. The ADA is meaningless unless we step up and make requests," Kehoe said. "I really think we're getting stronger and more visible on campus."



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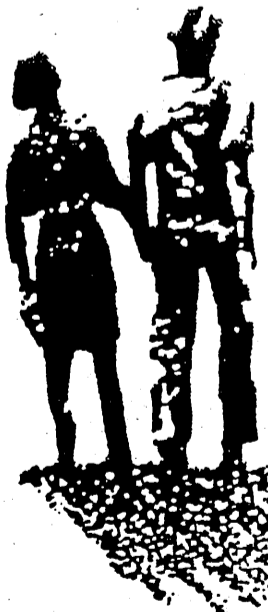
See Page 20

Was It Rape? Who Can Help?



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IHC struggles with political correctness

Council avoids controversy with community by renaming Western's 1994 casino night theme

By Liz Melching
special to the Front

"The Wild, Wild, Western Saloon" is no longer. Let the record show that Casino Night 1994 is now called "Wild Western Nights."

Some Inter-Hall Council (IHC) representatives expressed concern that the former title, "Wild, Wild, Western Saloon," might have implied alcohol and negatively portrayed Native Americans. They asked the casino night advertising committee to think of three new titles at the Feb. 3 meeting.

The representatives said the problem with the title stemmed from resident and administration concerns about the use of alcohol.

Elva Giddings, coordinator of alcohol and drug counseling and assessment services, was pleased that members of the Western community were thinking about the issue.

"I think it says good things," Giddings said. "It says that people are thinking about the use of alcohol among college students."

Giddings said the community plays a role in decisions at Western.

"We get judged a lot just by what people observe, regardless of whether it's a public function or not," she said. "We give impressions to the community about what Western condones and does not condone. It's important to be realistic."

A survey in spring of 1992 suggested that 76.6 percent of Western's student population drink alcohol at least once a

month. Of the students who reported drinking at all, 67.4 were not 21 years old.

Despite the statistics, some students did not feel the title of casino night was an issue.

"I can understand the concern, but I think it's kind of silly," said Bill Brocato, a senior history major. "Someone who's been around for Red Square dances knows that they are basically drunken brawls. Casino night is similar. No matter what they change

"I think most people are a lot more sensitive to (issues of diversity) than they are given credit for. I think those opposed are really underestimating people. It's political correctness taken too far."

— Rachel Templeton
Western freshman

the name to, it's going to be like a western saloon anyway. Many people show up having already drunk a lot."

Suzann Welch, a music education major, agreed the title is irrelevant. "I think that 'Wild, Wild, Western Saloon' is OK. College students have the maturity to understand that it's just a title and to not take it seriously."

"I think it's kind of silly," said Joe Liston, a junior East Asian studies major. "The implication of the use of alcohol? When I think of the wild west, I don't generally think of people getting wasted. There are more important things to be concerned about."

Some residents said they felt the title

also alienated specific groups. Fairhaven Resident Director Jodi Berman said she worried about the possible negative portrayal of Native Americans.

"The wild west was not a time in history that was particularly inclusive of all groups. Violence against Native Americans was certainly at a peak," Berman said. "When you have a broad theme like wild, wild west, you cannot control how people are going to interpret that. The theme is intended

to be fun. You don't want it to be exclusive of people."

Fairhaven Resident Advisor Eiko Osakada originally brought the concern to Berman. "People think about the wild west and the whites and the native savages. I didn't like the idea of 'we' and 'them.'"

Osakada was also worried about discretion regarding costumes. "I was concerned that people might come in costume wearing something like a war bonnet, having no idea of its meaning. It's not fair for (Native Americans) to have to go through that."

Some students disagreed. "The title doesn't imply (a negative portrayal). I think it's blown out of proportion," said fresh-

man Rachel Templeton. "You can draw those conclusions from anything around you. I think most people are a lot more sensitive to (issues of diversity) than they are given credit for. I think those opposed are really underestimating people. It's political correctness taken too far."

"I don't see (the connection)," said Bill Red Fox, a Native American junior business major. "I don't see anything pertaining to Native Americans in general. If it were to the extent that they served Crazy Horse beer, then I would be perturbed."

"It goes back to all of the mascot issues," said senior American cultural studies major Michael Vendiola, a Native American. "It's a good step, if the concern is getting rid of discrimination and stereotypes."

Most people seemed pleased about the decision to change the title. "It shows awareness toward issues, that other people's feelings were taken into consideration. I can commend them for that," he said.

Berman said she believes the IHC can deal with the controversy. "We do our best to be sympathetic to all groups," she said. "And I have absolute faith in IHC and how they handle these issues."

IHC Treasurer Alice Crawley said, "I think you've got to be sensitive to people. That's probably the best policy."

"I think it's a good idea that they changed it," said Kristyn Staal, an art education major. "I know that a lot of people might be offended by (the title). I think it's important that we respect everybody's feelings and opinions."

Senate fails to pass two higher education bills

The Legislative session ends for 1994 on March 10

By Greg Dean
staff reporter

Two higher education bills on the legislative agenda have essentially been killed before reaching a vote on the Senate floor this session.

House bill 1005, the student regents and trustees bill, and House Bill 2605, Rep. Ken Jacobsen's (D-Seattle) bill on tuition setting, were stopped in the Senate's committee on higher education last week.

House Bill 1005 has been one of the Washington Student Lobby's (WSL) highest priorities since the bill was first proposed 20 years ago. The bill has never made it through the Senate during its legislative life.

This year the WSL had high hopes of seeing 1005 made into law after the bill passed the House with a 82 to 12 vote.

However, the bill was hung up in the Senate committee and was eventually voted down Feb. 22.

The bill grants one position to a student representative on each of the public universities' boards of trustees.

"We just didn't get the votes. All we can do is try again next year," said Todd McGee, legislative liaison for Western. "We had two additional yes votes con-

firmed (in the Senate committee) at the start of the session, but those two seats were vacated and never re-appointed."

The second bill to die, House Bill 2605, was proposed by Jacobsen on Jan. 19. The bill called for the state to bring its universities into the top five in the country.

The WSL opposed the bill because it called for local autonomy of tuition setting. If the bill passed, it would have allowed each of the state's universities to set their own tuition.

"Let's give our institutions as much power as private universities," Jacobsen said, in an earlier interview with *The Western Front*.

The WSL felt that the bill would create divisions of quality between the regional institutions and would relieve the state from any political heat of future budget cuts.

"They (state representatives) could cut our budgets and then tell the institutions, you can raise tuition if you need more money. They can continue to cut spending without taking political heat," said Tres Gallant, AS vice president of external affairs.

The bill met its end when it was transformed into a study by the Senate Higher Education Committee last Saturday, Feb. 26.

"It has changed dramatically. It will most likely be a study. It doesn't look like there will be any law changes, at least not until next year," said Chris Jorgensen, assistant to Jacobsen.

The WSL, although opposed to local tuition setting, strongly supported the bill's mandate to bring Washington universities up to the top five in the country. They

see the change of the bill to a study as a victory.

"It (the bill) was raised to create an awareness of the problems in Washington's higher education

systems," McGee said. "Especially with I-601, it will be a different future for higher-ed."

The Legislature closes session for this year on March 10.

Tie one on for fashion



Photo by Jennifer Hill

Kena Greer makes last-minute alterations to model Ron Atkins' tie during Feb. 24 fashion show for Black History Month as Andrea Jackson looks on.

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Local homeless helped at Arlis's Restaurant

By Ruby Quemuel
staff reporter

*Glory, glory hallelujah.
Here's a blanket.
That'll do ya.
'Cause you homeless are so poor.
Build a shelter—there'd be more
So the needs of all the homeless
We ignore.*

That was one of the many verses sung in unison to the accompaniment of guitars which echoed from outside Arlis's Restaurant during Local 114 City of Bellingham Employees' first annual "Free Meals for the Homeless" Feb. 27.

The needs of the homeless were not ignored, as suggested by the song, as food, clothing and blankets were donated by the Bellingham community.

Deficit looms for AS, related budgets

Deficit,
Continued from page 1

rean-Americans.

"It's not the conference itself but a question of timing," Primitivo said.

"We can't plan a conference in advance because we don't get the information that far in advance."

Concerns about funding two

About 25 City of Bellingham employees showed their enthusiasm to make sure that there was plenty of food for the 200 people that arrived at the restaurant during the four-hour period. The servers went around tables asking if people would like more helpings of homemade turkey noodle soup, rolls, various homemade cookies, coffee and juice.

"Many people really donated their time and we're all excited to help," said Sondra Penfold, a member of Local 114.

"I thought it would be kind of nice if we get to help people that are not as fortunate as we are," said Linda Morgan, co-chairperson for free meals for the homeless event. "There are a lot of people who are having a rough time and we wanted to try to help the community."

new positions within the vice president of external affairs position were evident during the meeting.

Board members were leary about voting in the upcoming board meetings before knowing how much money will be available in the budget.

An AS subcommittee recently proposed creating one position to cover legislative issues only during winter quarter alone and an-

People were not shy to show their gratitude.

"I got stuffed big time," said Renner McKinley. "The people that put this thing together all did a great job. I really appreciate them doing this."

"I think it's great," Lenny Lankaar said. "A lot of people are hungry out there and people really need a good home-cooked meal once in a while."

Food was donated by Arlis's Restaurant, the Bagelry, Haggen Foods and WonderBread. The Bellingham community donated blankets and clothes.

The remaining turkey noodle soup was donated to the Lighthouse Mission.

"A lot of volunteers want to do it again," Morgan said. "Most likely we'll do one again next year."

other position to cover legislative and community issues for the year.

The new positions would fall under the control of the vice president of external affairs.

"When we add positions within the AS, we have to find other places to cut," said Tres Gallant, vice president of external affairs.

"Money is a priority in every decision we make," Gallant said.

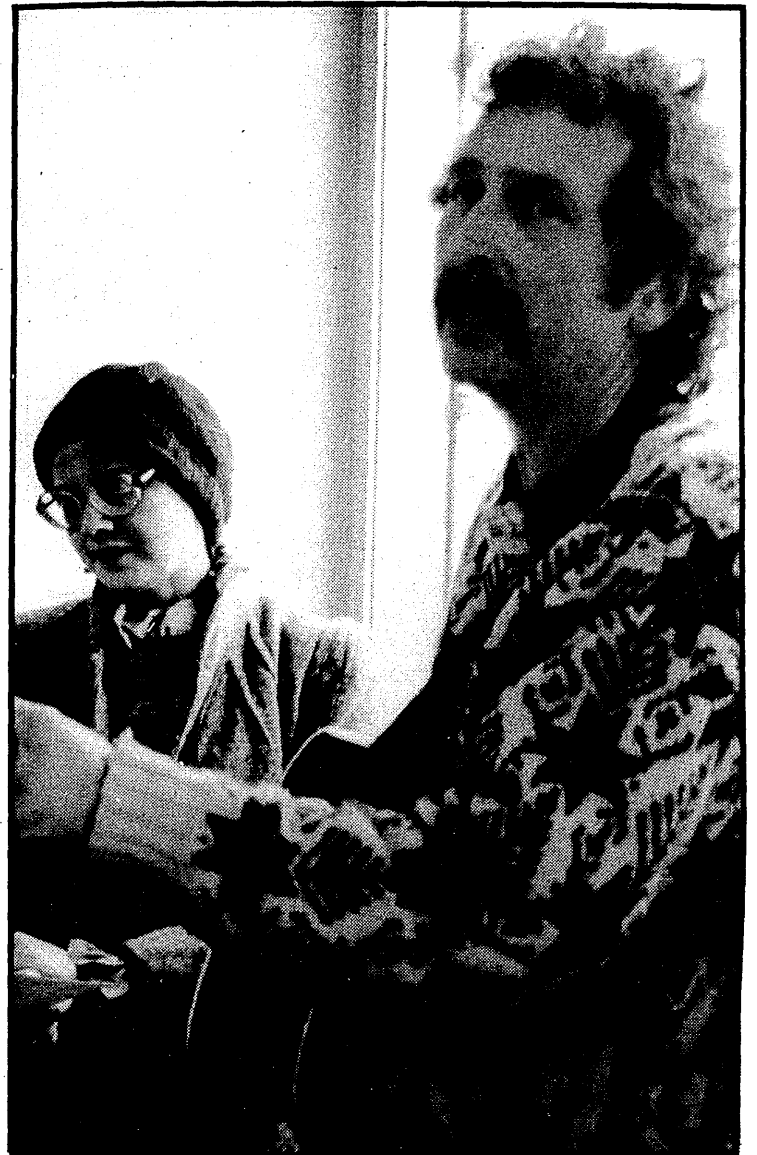


Photo by Cassandra Burdsal
Peggy Everett and Ted Smith volunteer their time and musical talent at a homeless benefit at Arlis's Restaurant.

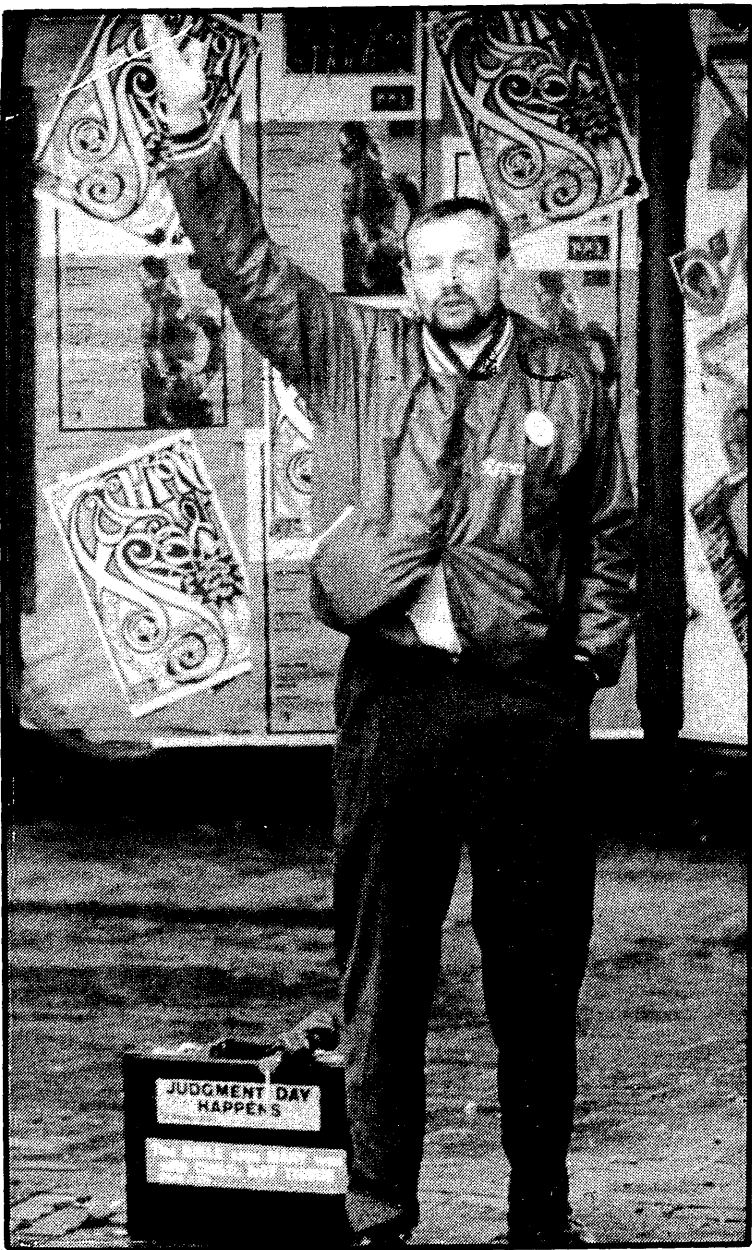


Photo by Steve Dunkelberger

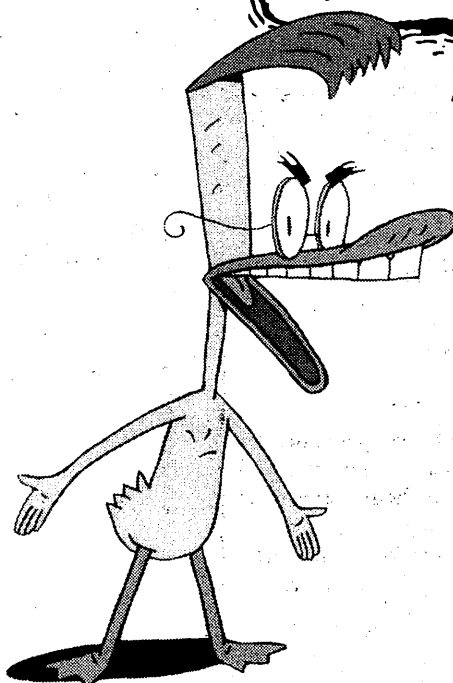
Tom Carlisle, 33, of Campus Ministry USA, draws a hostile crowd at Red Square Monday afternoon. Some students questioned his statements that Malcolm X was "a tool of Satan," Martin Luther King a "communist." Carlisle also denounced John Lennon and Elvis Presley as false gods.

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Profile

Western professor instills love of freedom after enduring oppression

By Wendy Gross
staff reporter

Professor Ning Yu is chasing the American dream.

When Yu came to the United States from China, his home country, he dreamed of enjoying nature and reading books. Accepting a position in Western's English department has allowed him both of those pleasures.

At the same time, Yu shares his love of the English language with students, emphasizing personal application of literature. His enthusiasm for the material rubs off on his students; class discussion is frequent and lively.

"I get personal, and I want my students to get personal. The key role of a college professor is to help students get personal about things so that they will have the willpower and intellectual power to deal with issues," Yu said.

Yu is familiar with willpower. Growing up in Beijing during the Cultural Revolution, he saw his country in turmoil and his family torn apart.

"My father was imprisoned — I was on my own, my siblings were sent to a remote countryside, my mother was sent to another remote province. I was 14. I picked up horse droppings and sold them as fertilizer to farmers

to feed myself."

Before he was imprisoned for "nonconformity to party policies," Yu's father, a professor educated at a British college, had begun teaching English to Yu.

Yu loved to learn and adored reading. However, in the midst of the revolution, schools were closed, Chinese books were burned and education opportunities were limited.

"I had to study English on my own," Yu said. "If you're a kid, when somebody asks you to do something, you may not want to do it. When somebody says, 'No, you can't do it,' you want to do it very much."

Schools eventually reopened, but after completing junior high, Yu was told that he was not qualified to continue his studies. He worked as a bricklayer for five years while he continued to educate himself.

He was finally permitted to attend college after passing the required entrance exam. A visiting professor from the United States introduced him to American literature.

"He came with a lot of books. Some, the party would say, 'yes, you can teach these to the students'; others, he was not allowed to teach," Yu said. "But he brought in the books anyway."

Yu fell in love with American literature, especially the works of Henry David Thoreau. He was encouraged by another professor to continue his studies in the United States.

"I said, 'I don't have any relatives in the United States, my father is not a billionaire, how can I study in the United States?'" The professor told him he needed only to apply, and she offered to help him complete the applications.

Yu was accepted at four institutions and chose the University of Connecticut to finish his education.

A summer spent teaching Chinese-American children English sparked his interest, and he has since taught courses in Asian-American literature.

Yu is married and has a 9-year-old son. He received his Ph.D. in May 1993 and began teaching at Western fall quarter, 1993.

Two classes Yu is teaching this quarter deal with American literature: one has an Anglo-American perspective, the other has a minority perspective.

"I think my two classes are very well-connected with each other because the American dream was the first thing that the European immigrants came for," Yu said. "The American dream was

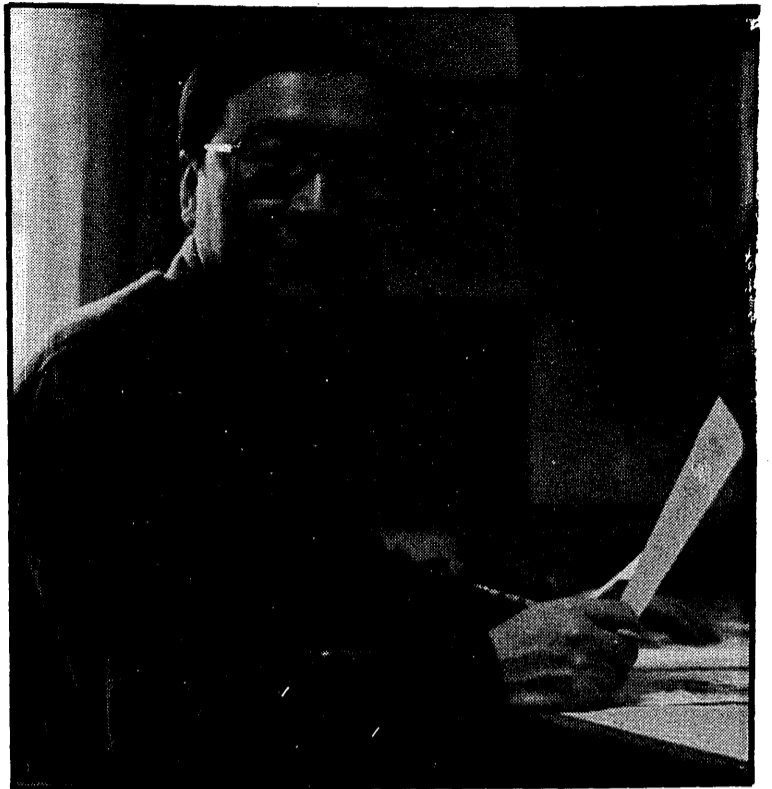


Photo by Michelle Reilly

Western Professor Yu, who as a youth endured and escaped oppression in China, seeks to instill the love of freedom and 'American Dream' in his students.

also the same thing that brought Asian-Americans across the ocean. It's another ocean, that is the only difference. The dream itself, it's the same.

"It is so wrong for one group of dreamers to rob another group

of their dreams," Yu continues. "Never give up, never say die! Chase your dream—even though it recedes all the time, try hard. If you don't get that perfect dream, at least you can do better than now."

Post Abortion Syndrome

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Across from the Pier in White Rock B.C.



Complex Mormon afterlife is a house with many mansions

By Nick Davis
staff reporter

It's late at night and you're driving on a snow-covered downtown street in beautiful Salt Lake City — and yes, you are a Mormon. Not just a Mormon, but a good, practicing Mormon. You don't drink alcohol or tea, smoke or use tobacco products and you don't wear a bikini either.

As you drive along the streets, you think about your place in the church. You remember your mission when you were 19 years old as you drive by the Tabernacle, the Mormon Temple and the Delta Center (home of the Utah Jazz basketball team). You look over your shoulder to catch a glimpse of the Brigham Young Monument and just as you turn back, SMASH!

The major three-car accident caused by the slick road takes your life. Your time on this earth is over. What's next? Where does a Mormon go after death?

Mormon afterlife is one of those unfortunate beliefs that get ill treatment. Their afterlife isn't much different from the afterlife of most other religions. A Mormon's spirit is held to exist in an afterlife, as is a Catholic's, as is a Christian's.

Even though there are similarities, there are also differences.

Renata Forste, a sociology professor who is also a practicing Mormon, said their afterlife beliefs are different than most views.

"We lived before this life as spirits ... and have experiences here and when we die, the body is cremated or buried and your spirit continues to exist in an afterlife."

Forste also said they believe in a resurrection. After death the body and spirit are reunited in the afterlife in

perfect form for everybody. Mormons believe their reunited body and spirit continue to live for eternity — they are immortal. The person continues to exist as an individual.

"Essentially, the difference I think with Mormonism compared to some of the other Christian religions is that we don't believe in just heaven and hell ... there are several places that people will continue to live eternally," Forste said.

Mormons believe that their Father's (God's) house has many mansions and people can go to different places, not just heaven or hell. He added that where people go in the afterlife is dependent upon the kind of people they are.

"It's not so much about fair and unfair. It's about who you would be comfortable with. And to live in God's presence — not everyone is prepared for that," Forste said.

Mormons believe that in the afterlife, people still have the chance to learn about Jesus Christ and his teachings.

Victor Manwaring, director of the Institute of Religion located across the street from Highland Hall, said the gospels are "preached to spirits who hadn't had the opportunity to learn about it before." Once a spirit is in a place in heaven, it is not stuck to that one place.

When Mormons die, a judgment determines what place they go. "Christ judges us. Those who lived to inherit all that God has, will dwell with God," Forste said.

Understanding the Mormon afterlife is just as hard as understanding any religion's afterlife. How easy is it to understand what happens after we die? Has anybody reading this died before?

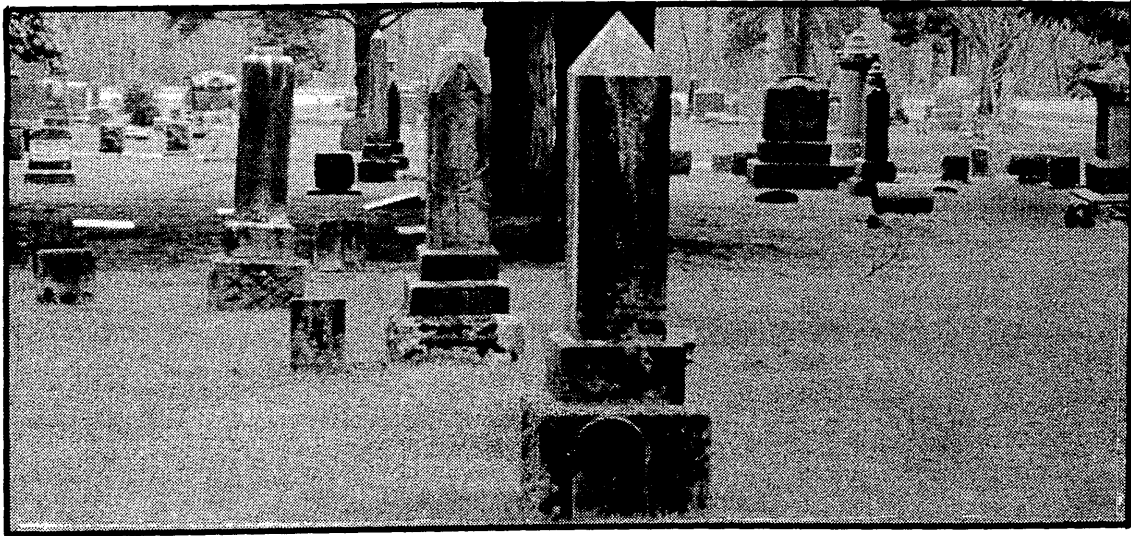


Photo by Chris Frost

A question of faith?

By Greg Dean
staff reporter

Does God exist? Is there a "higher power?" Do you refuse to ask or answer the questions?

Atheism and agnosticism are terms used to describe non-believers and doubters in the belief of a creator.

If you answered no to the first and second questions then you are an atheist. If you chose not to respond and, as in the third question, would rather not ask, you are agnostic.

Discussion regarding the belief in God requires a definition of God.

"God is an all-powerful, all-knowing person, who is the creator," philosophy instructor Frances Howard-Snyder offered as a definition. "An atheist wouldn't believe in that (definition of God), but someone who refuses to choose is agnostic."

The Encyclopedia of Religion defines atheism as, "the doctrine that God does not exist, that belief in the existence of God is false," whereas

agnosticism is "primarily vacillation, perplexity, irresolution ... to be of two minds, to stand at the crossroads of the mind."

The terms agnostic and atheist are often referred to only in Judaeo-Christian terms, but they apply to all religions.

Atheism is the rejection of religion of any kind. Agnosticism is doubt, but does not deny the righteousness of all religions.

Many people are drawn to these doctrines of skepticism. There is no one single reason why but there are larger themes.

"Many people have become atheist because the vision of suffering in the world," Howard-Snyder said. "Another reason is the problem of silence — that people do not hear from God."

People see the promise of religion as peace, but the world still suffers. The question of why a God would allow its creations to live in a world of pain, hate and destruction is one tenet of

disbelief.

Additionally, religion has historically provided answers to unsolvable questions. However, modern history has generated a great deal of answers with science. With continuing scientific advancements, faith is questioned.

Science may also be considered by some to be a religion. It provides all the criteria of a God — it answers creation, creates rules for the universe and is all-knowing in that it attempts to answer all of the questions we ask.

Religious people often debate the lack of moral structure found in atheism and agnosticism.

"Some religious writers say God is morality and without a God, there can be no morality, but there are several religious writers who disagree as well," Howard-Snyder said.

Atheism and agnosticism are not religions. Rather, they're doctrines that do not or do not choose to subscribe to a belief in God.

Intelligence, in

By Helen Buller
staff reporter

The first card Jonathan Davis turned over was Temperance. I figured OK, that makes sense. I've always felt I was too conscientious about seeking balance. The next card symbolized change. No surprises there — it's registration week.

What followed was a bit more unsettling. Nothing freaky, but it made me think. And that's basically what modern metaphysical readings are about. They honor the spiritual side of human nature, this psychoanalysis with a twist.

Michael Mirdad of the Mirdad Center, 1311 Cornwall Ave., said not to expect a robed figure, black cat, crystal ball or requisite raven when at a reading. Many of today's metaphysicians agree that mystique is a carry-over from the days of witch hunts and the Inquisition, when mystics and heretics were persecuted, and forced to do their work underground or else be burned.

Threats of live cremation aside, the art of prophecy is alive today and takes many forms. Mirdad said psychic techniques are as varied as the practitioners, but astrology, Tarot and psychometry (what many police agencies are turning to for information) are the most popular.

The common denominator for all forms is symbolism, but Mirdad said many readers depend on a holistic approach. This approach involves two basic types of prophecy, induction and intuition. Induction is considered an art or technique, something that can be taught — a left-brain function of logic. Intuition is a natural gift and can't be taught. It is more the right-brain function of feeling or emotion.

Mirdad said all clairvoyance can be spiritual as well as analytical and that different readers and subjects can reach various levels of awareness.

Ultimately, all the forms are interconnected and come from the same source, he said.

Mirdad also makes a distinction between reading and divining. For him, a reading uses both technique and intuition, whereas divining involves drawing clues from something divine, a higher power.

Doug, an astrologer, said he

Book review

The conversion of a non-b

By Joanna Cerar
staff reporter

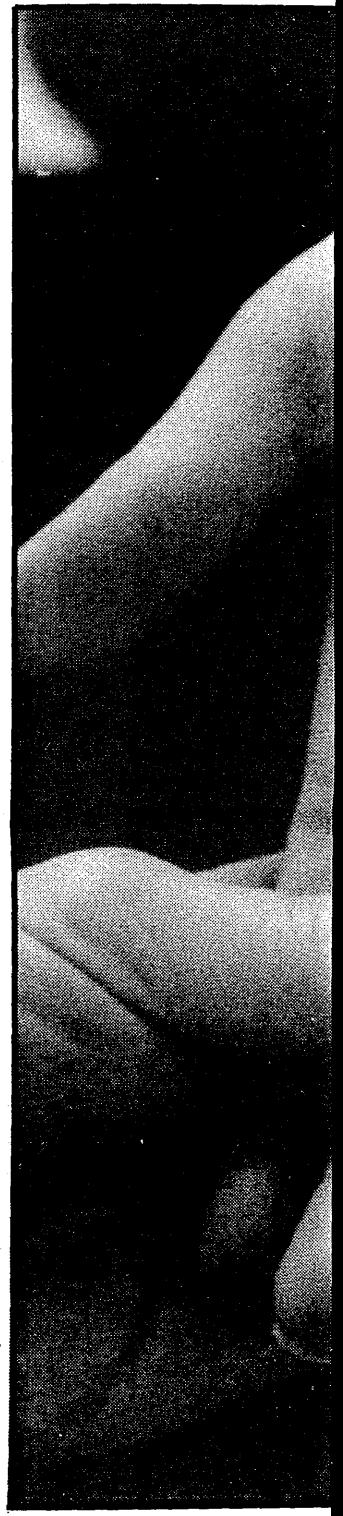
"Many Lives, Many Masters," by Dr. Brian L. Weiss, is "the true story of a psychiatrist, his young patient, and the past-life therapy that changed both their lives." Sounds questionable, doesn't it?

The book is Weiss' tale of his experience with reincarnation that began when an established psychiatrist, he distrusted anything that couldn't be proved by scientific methods. Then he met Catherine.

When she came to Weiss for help, Catherine was tormented by debilitating anxiety and phobias. Weiss eventually decided to hypnotize her, and was surprised to find she described three other lifetimes. Catherine suddenly improved after her first session, though she had no memory of what she had said.

"Many Lives" describes Catherine's subsequent sessions and Weiss' amazement at what she told him. Neither Weiss nor Catherine believed in reincarnation until the words couldn't be disproved.

Catherine described her past lives as servants, a sailor, a prostitute and a nun among others. Sometimes she identified people from her past lives as people in her current lifetime. Weiss guided Catherine to her death and afterlife in each



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Intuition, clairvoyance

intelligence when practicing Tarot or astrology and other things. "As a magician, I view the Tarot as an

Most metaphysicians will present themselves in a manner and act as counselors. "Instead of giving astrology, they're giving you insights, a sense they have with you, of ideas for you to consider," he said. Davis takes this approach when reading Tarot. He is not a vocation at all and said he prefers to view himself as a medium that reflects what the subject shares with him. The subject, the meaning or appearance of which trigger

psychological and sometimes spiritual awareness for the subject. In this way, the Tarot is similar to a fun, self-help Rorschach test.

Davis said he uses the cards to help a subject answer questions for themselves at a particular point in their lives by sharing with that person on several levels. He gives not only the symbolic representation of the cards, but also a reflection of what that person shares from the conscience with verbal communication and from the subconscious with non-verbal body language.

Mirdad said many of today's psychics don't practice in-depth, spirit-invoking divination. He also cautions against novice use of channeling, seances, ouija boards and the like. He said these methods are powerful and potentially dangerous because they can provide an entrance for negative or non-evolved beings.

The concept of an astral plane and powerful, yet unevolved, beings that feed off human emotions may give some people shivers and bumps or summon devilish images. But Mirdad said he considers Satanism a perversion that has nothing to do with metaphysics.

Metaphysics instructor Lucille Gora said the satanic issue comes up often. "In my belief system, the fact that I can communicate with spirits tells me there is a divine consciousness. It strengthens my belief in the concept of God or a superior being," Gora said.

Gora, who said all people have clairvoyant potential, teaches courses covering past lives, healing and other metaphysical methods through Northwest Freedom University (NFU).

Several Bellingham shops are sponsoring exhibitions in the next few months. On March 12-13, Auriel/Akasha Books will host a psychic fest with Tarot, astrology, numerology, runes and clairvoyants. There is no cover-charge and a reading costs \$12. In April, Auriel/Akasha Books and Books for Change are sponsoring a psychic fair in Bellis Fair Mall. Also, the Mirdad Center will host a Whole Self Expo, April 23. Entry is free and readings cost between \$10 and \$20.

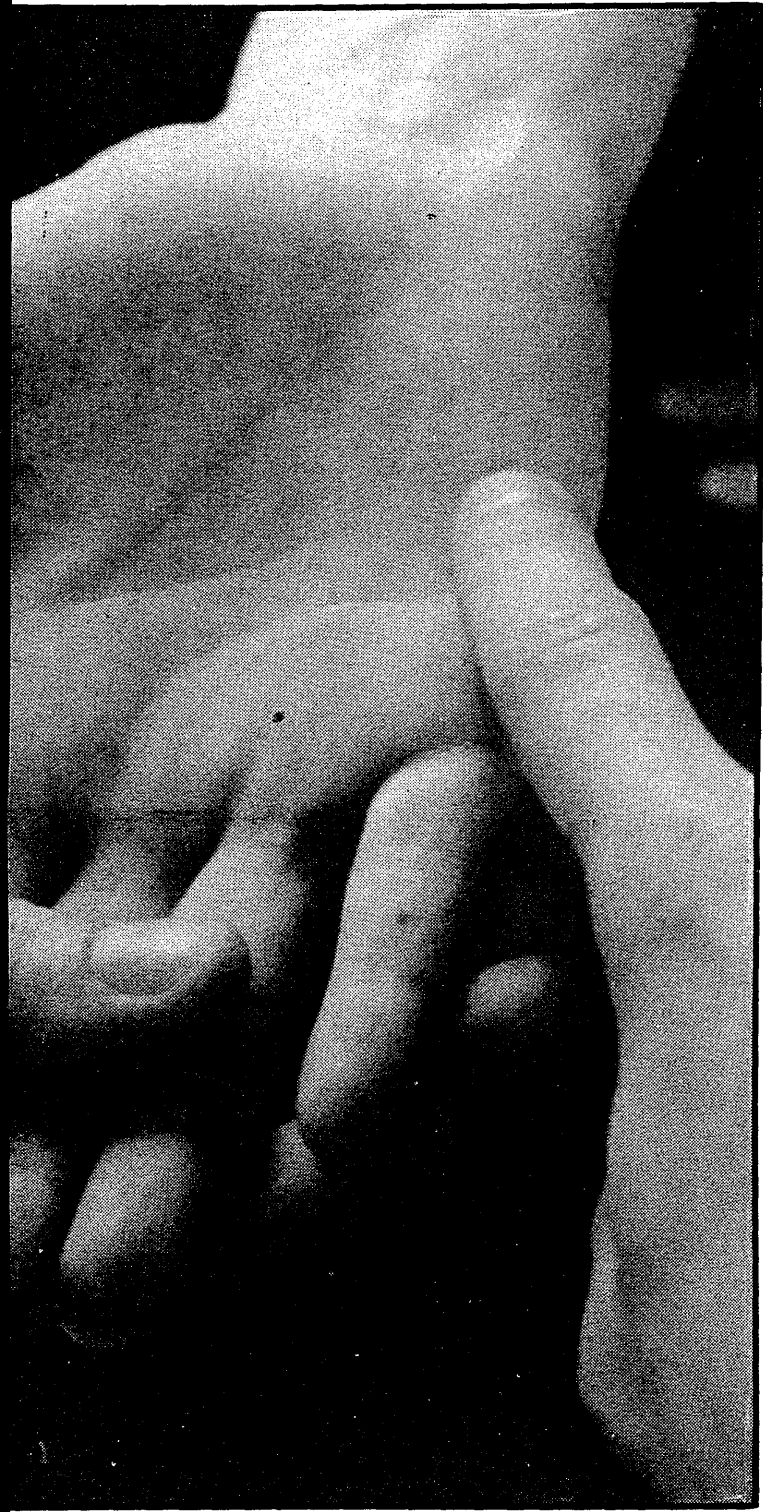


Photo illustration by Helen Buller

Believer — 'Many Lives, Many Masters'

further surprised when the "Masters" began speaking through Catherine.

The Masters told how souls move through successive lifetimes to gain increased knowledge and move to the highest plane. Catherine had lived 86 lifetimes, they said.

Souls can also choose to return to mortal life together, the Masters said. This explained why Catherine repeatedly recognized people in past lifetimes.

"Many Lives" is an incredible story that must be approached with an open mind. Although the concepts may be difficult to accept, there is much to be learned from it. The book is interesting because it deals with reincarnation from a skeptic's viewpoint, but by the conclusion Weiss has thoroughly explained why he changed his mind about the process of life.

Weiss has shaped his thoughts into a well-crafted piece. It's an easy read and definitely hard to put down. The book's message that we are all learning and growing as souls is inspiring. "Many Lives" described concepts that are similar in many religions, such as the process of life.

"Many Lives" is good reading for persons dealing with the death of a loved one — the basic message is that we all will be together again and we are all part of a bigger cycle than we can perceive.

"Many Lives" is an engaging book. The book left me with a sense of serenity and hope. It may touch many others in a similar way.

Heaven and hell

Christianity and the hereafter

By Dawn Bittner
staff reporter

God shines on it" (Revelation 21:23).

When Christians arrive in heaven, they will worship God for all eternity. Heaven is purported to be happy, pure and perfect.

—Presence of God—

"God Himself will be with them, and He will be their God. He will wipe away all the tears from their eyes. There will be no more death, no more grief or crying or pain. The old things have disappeared" (Revelation 21:3,4).

The primary difference between life on earth and heaven for Christians is while living on earth, they are still subjected to worldly things that cause sadness and pain, for which God will provide the strength to overcome. In heaven, however, there is room for nothing other than complete purity.

While as human beings, it is impossible to understand what complete perfection feels and looks like, Christians believe the beauty of heaven is incomprehensible. In heaven, everyone will be lifted from personal trials. Nothing will ever go wrong — no financial problems, no broken hearts, no unexpected trauma or grief. All the worries we have about school, getting a good job or staying healthy will not even be thoughts.

Christians, while on earth, can pray for God's help in solving and avoiding problems, and they believe he answers all prayers. In heaven nothing will go wrong, and if somebody wants to talk to God, He is available for a face-to-face meeting.

—Salvation—

One of the many great benefits of heaven, Christians say, is being re-united with Christian family and friends who have already died.

It is a common misconception that the Christian soul becomes an angel after death. In Christianity, God created angels as a separate entity. The human soul is to enter heaven in its perfect form, completely pure, not as an angel.

—A fiery alternative—

The alternative to heaven is hell, a lake of fire. Those who go there will suffer in pain for eternity. Christians believe the worst part about hell is separation from God.

God lives in heaven, Christians believe, and is also with us on earth through prayer and the Holy Spirit.

The Bible does not say exactly what heaven is like or what it will feel like when a Christian gets to heaven. To Christians, the important part about heaven is being in the presence of God.

Every religion has its own perception of the afterlife, whether it is heaven or some other form of life after death. Countless descriptions of heaven exist among different faiths. As living human beings, none of us have ever experienced heaven firsthand. Some rely on scriptures to tell them what to expect.

—Salvation contingent upon acceptance—

Christians believe going to heaven is dependent on accepting Jesus Christ as one's personal savior. Those who accept him will live eternally in God's kingdom of heaven. Those who don't, will suffer eternal separation from God, in other words, hell.

Some religions believe entrance into heaven can be earned by being a good, moral person. Christianity is different in that it doesn't matter how many good deeds are done while on earth, if a person doesn't accept Christ as the savior, he or she won't go to heaven.

Although it is important for Christians to live what they consider to be a "Godly" life, the amount or success of good deeds on earth are not the primary focus for salvation because Christianity is not about what each individual person can do for God, it's about what Jesus did for his people.

According to the Bible, the Christian soul will enter Heaven at the moment of physical death. Some denominations believe the soul will rest in waiting until the second coming of Christ (Jesus returning to earth to take all Christians to heaven).

—Christian heaven—

Christians believe heaven is the throne of God. According to the Bible, "There on Heaven was a throne with someone sitting on it. His face gleamed like such precious stones as jasper and carnelian, and all around the throne there was a rainbow the color of an emerald" (Revelation 4:2,3).

Christians believe heaven is a perfect place because God's presence makes it perfect. They believe nothing impure can enter heaven, and only those whose names are written in the Lamb's Book of Life will enter. Being a Christian means accepting that Jesus Christ died on the cross for our sins in order to cleanse us of impurities so that we will spend eternity with him.

God's presence in heaven brings beauty to his Kingdom. The Bible says heaven shines like a precious stone and is as clear as a crystal. The streets are made of pure gold and "there is no need for the sun or the moon to shine on it because the glory of

The weighty matter of Islamic salvation

By Helen Buller
staff reporter

To the faithful, both men and women, God promiseth gardens 'neath which the rivers flow, in which they shall abide, and goodly mansions in the gardens of Eden. But best of all will be God's good pleasure in them. This will be the great bliss. (Sura IX of the Quran)

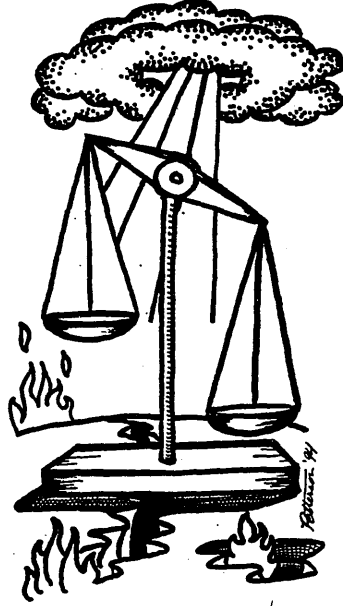
It's paradise after death, at least for the devout Muslim.

Though people may associate Muslim faith in America with the militant Black Muslim movement, Malcolm X or the Black Panthers, Western student and Muslim Rachel Rahman said that image is a misconception. She said the movement provided a stepping-stone to orthodox Islam.

"The majority of Black Muslims in the world are Sunni (followers of orthodox Islam) and don't have a thing to do with the Black Muslim movement in America," she said.

Rahman explained her vision of the Sunni afterlife. Basically, each person lives an earthly life of limited free will. From this perspective, a person has no choice about arrival or departure times, but is responsible for making certain choices while here.

When the time of judgment comes for a Sunni, deeds are weighed



on a heavenly scale. Rahman said each good deed weighs 10 times as much as a bad deed. So in this case, a heavy heart is good, and the soul goes on to heaven.

Rahman said this view of passage to paradise (Judeo-Christian heaven) affects earthly acts.

"Some (faiths) believe that once you're saved, you're safe. But with Islam, each act has weight and carries responsibility," Rahman said.

Since each action is weighed, Rahman said the Sunni strive to live a good life avidly seeking knowledge of the faith.

According to Rahman's belief, Islam does not preclude other faiths because each person is judged according to the level of their understanding.

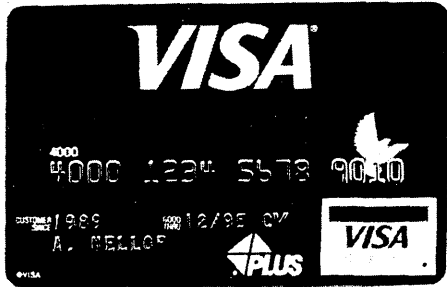
Rahman said some African-Americans adopted Islam because it included elements from African culture and didn't deify white people as being closest to God.

"When black people were given Christianity in this country, they were kept from their own cultural ways," Rahman said.

"In Islam, people in God's eyes are looked upon as individuals and are judged according to their merits and deeds, not color of skin," Rahman said.

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Coping with grief

By Eowyn LeMay
staff reporter

The sky hung over Bellingham in a leaden grey. I looked out my window as my mom's soft voice whispered from the phone receiver. She told me that my grandfather had died the night before.

The rain drops that ran down the window panes were like graceful tears. I couldn't afford to fly to Alabama for the funeral, but my dad later told me that it was raining in Huntsville, too.

It all seemed so distant, so unreal. When I wrote a letter to my grandmother, I almost addressed it to both of them. I cried when Grandpa Stan's Pendleton wool shirts came in the mail. I huddle in their warmth as the dark February continues.

—Accepting the death—

"The first task is to accept that it happened," said Dr. Michael King, clinical director of counseling for Western. He said that when someone dies, several things need to happen for the survivors to get through the difficult time following the death.

Danyeale Wilson, a junior at Western, had a best friend who died of an unexpected blood disorder several years ago. She said that it was a strange experience to see her friend's body in the hospital bed.

"I had never seen anyone dead before," Wilson said. "I kept expecting her to wake up and ask what we were all doing." Wilson said the funeral really helped her to accept the tragedy.

King said this first task of acceptance is more difficult when it is a sudden, un-

pected death. College students are more likely to experience the death of a grandparent. When a young person dies, it can be more difficult to accept because people haven't been preparing for it.

"The first time, it felt like a dream," said Sam Ivey, a biology major who graduated fall quarter. He had two friends die in the past five years. "It was a senseless accident; it seemed really stupid," he added.

The first death was when a train hit a friend. Ivey said that it was especially difficult because his friend had moved to Chicago and he was still in Alaska.

"The memorial helped," he said. "We all got together and talked about him, looked at pictures."

—Feeling the pain—

King said the next task is to feel the pain, and to not feel that this task has to be done within a certain time frame. He said mourn-

"It will have left some hole in your life, nobody to do those things with that you used to do. You have to begin to find new ways to do things, further down the road."

—Dr. Michael King

clinical director of counseling at Western

ing can take years for some people.

"There will be lots of pain. It's better to go ahead and feel it than to just stay drunk or whatever," he said.

For Wilson, this task was partially completed by staying in contact with her friend's family.

"I felt like people didn't understand,"

Wilson said. She said that being with her friend's family allowed her to feel the pain because they felt it also. Part of feeling the pain is a sense of regret.

"I kept wondering 'Did she know how much I cared?'" Wilson said.

Ivey said that with the first death, he just mourned quietly. The death of his second friend impacted him differently, though.

"I felt angry," Ivey said. "I felt bad for his (the deceased's) parents. Everyone was crying, but I couldn't."

"How can two of your friends die at such a young age?" Ivey asked. "You start questioning the morality of the entire universe."

—Getting on with life—

King said that the final task is to get on with life.

"It will have left some hole in your life, nobody to do those things with that you used to do," King said. "You have to begin to find

new ways to do things, further down the road." This is perhaps the most difficult task of all.

"I still feel it," Wilson said. Despite the four years that have passed, she said the pain is just as real. "It's not constant anymore, but it will always be there."

Ivey was able to move on with life after

writing a song about his friends' deaths.

"It helped me through the final transition of understanding death," he said. "I think the first time someone close to you dies, it's the hardest. It almost gets easier after that."

King said that one of the most important aspects of getting through a loved one's death is being able to feel normal.

"People often ask themselves 'Am I taking too long? Am I not feeling enough?'" he said.

Talking about the experience allows the person to realize they are not alone in their fears, King explained. "There aren't any set rules."

"Each person takes their own time," Wilson said. "Find someone to talk to; don't be afraid to talk to people." Wilson said that some people don't want to discuss death, but that is what she felt she needed to do.

"If you're wondering what to feel, just feel what you feel," Ivey said. "If people don't see you crying, you feel like they don't know that you're mourning too, but everyone mourns differently." He said that it was nice when people called him, when he could share his feelings with people.

—Healing—

Not going to my grandfather's funeral has made the first task of acceptance a little more difficult. It still feels so far away, as if I could fly to Alabama next summer and be able to eat watermelon with Grandpa Stan.

As I wrestle with reality, I wrap one of his wool shirts around me a little tighter. The skies are still cold and gray with winter, but I know that the sunlight of spring will break through those clouds soon.

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Women's basketball

Vikings build momentum before playoffs, win two in a row

By Erik Tesauro
staff reporter

Call it wild, call it crazy, call it a win.

The Western women's basketball team played its season finale and escaped with a 64-62 victory against St. Martin's College, Feb. 25, in Carver Gym.

The win gave the Vikings a two-game winning streak heading into tonight's playoff game — a rematch at St. Martin's. It also enabled Western to nail down its 16th 20-win season.

Center Tracy Johnson, the lone senior on the Viking squad, grabbed a game-high 12 rebounds and blocked three shots in her final home game.

"I was thinking about this game all week. It was a real nice game for me and the team. Hopefully we're peaking at the right time," Johnson said.

The lead changed hands several times throughout both halves. However, when the game was on the line, Western stepped up its play.

Junior guard Debbie Drake's 12-foot jump shot with five seconds left in the first half capped a 14-4 run in the final four minutes. The run enabled the Vikings to turn a two-point deficit into an eight-point halftime lead. Drake finished with a team-high 16 points.

"We felt like we played smart and really concentrated on being tough," Drake said.

"All Debbie needs is confidence. Once she hits a couple

of shots, she's unstoppable," sophomore forward Shannon Anderson said.

St. Martin's fought its way back midway through the second half. The Saints took their biggest lead, 62-57, with 5:15 to play, but failed to score another point.

"We knew we had to pick up our defense. We read everything real well," Anderson said.

Freshman forward Ana Tuiaea, who was relatively quiet in the first half, reasserted her presence by leading a thunderous comeback for the Vikings. Western closed out the game with a 7-0

run. Tuiaea scored six of her eight points during that stretch.

Tuiaea started the run when she scored a basket and was fouled by Saints forward Aretha Williams. Williams was then assessed with a technical foul for slamming the ball down.

"I was frustrated, but didn't mean for the ball to bounce that high and out of control," Williams said.

Tuiaea sank the free throw and junior guard Allison Hull made one of the two free throws from the technical to complete a four-point play.

With the game tied at 62, the Vikings found Tuiaea underneath for the winning basket with a little more than a minute to play.

"We just wanted to get the ball to someone open and consistent," Anderson said.

The Vikings finished the regular season with a 20-8 overall record and 6-6 in the region.

Western, which is 7-6 on the road, controls its own destiny in tonight's single-elimination playoff game at St. Martin's, which is 19-10 overall, 7-5 in region, 12-2 at home.

"This will be good for us to play the same team back-to-back because we'll fix all the little mistakes we made and be even better," Anderson said.

"The playoffs are a whole new season. We're rising right now and can go all the way if we really pick it up," Anderson said.

ST. MARTIN'S (62)

Dunn 6-22 1-1 16, Williams 7-11 2-4 16, Dearden 6-13 4-4 17, Mitchell 0-4 1-2 1, Mahlstedt 2-9 0-1 4, Saila 0-1 0-0 0, Stier 1-1 3-4 5, Renner 1-3 1-2 3, Bergman 0-1 0-0 0, Heard, R. 0-0 0-0 0. Totals 23-65 12-18 62.

WESTERN (64)

Anderson 4-15 0-0 8, Sampson 4-7 1-2 9, Johnson, T. 2-5 0-0 4, Hull 4-7 5-7 13, Drake 6-15 2-2 16, Johnson, A. 2-2 2-2 6, Van Brocklin 0-0 0-1 0, Estep 0-2 0-0 0, Tuiaea 3-7 2-3 8. Totals 25-60 12-17 64.

Halftime - Western 37, St. Martin's 29. Fouled Out - Sampson. Rebounds - St. Martin's 34 (Dearden 8), Western 46 (Johnson, T. 12, Sampson 10). Assists - St. Martin's 12 (Mahlstedt 4), Western 15 (Hull 4). Total fouls - St. Martin's 16, Western 15.

A - 516



Photo by Holly Schmidt

Western's sophomore forward Gina Sampson (44) hands the ball to junior guard Allison Hull (10) as she works to escape from the St. Martin's wrestling-hold-of-the-week.

Western intramural program filled with 'fast-paced' action; students spend weekends just kicking around with friends

By Kristoffer Browne
staff reporter

The Major Indoor Soccer League may be dead, but the Western indoor soccer league is alive and kicking.

Indoor soccer is fast paced and wild. The ball moves so quickly players often get pegged if they don't pay attention.

Players can substitute in and out as fast as they need to and don't have to wait for a break in the action.

The intramural league has two levels: co-recreational and competitive. The competitive division is split into three divisions of eight teams, while the co-rec is made up of four divisions of six teams. More than 350 students participate.

Soccer supervisor Matt McCarter said he doesn't want anyone to be excluded based on talent level.

Some students, who may not know how to play, just come out for exercise, while those who do know how to play want the level of competition to be equal, he said.

"At the intramural office we want to reach a wide range of students," McCarter said.

Why do students play indoor soccer?

Kevin Samione, senior, said he plays because of the level of his talent.

"(I play) because I'm not good enough to play for the school team!" he said.

Mark Escandon, senior, plays intramural basketball, but said he also plays indoor soccer because of the physical play.

"I think soccer is more physical (than basketball)," he said. "I think you can get away with things more, hitting and bumping."

Tony Wentworth, senior, a goalie in the competitive league, said the fast-paced movement of the game demands players, and especially the goalie, to be on their toes.

"If you don't come wide awake to play, you'll find the ball in the goal," he said.

Most of the games are played on Saturdays and Sundays, which can make playing the game that much harder.

Wentworth plays soccer on Sundays, and said after a long night on the town his reflexes are not up to par.

"Everything is in slow motion except for the ball!" he said.

Some players do have their

quarrels with how the league is run, particularly the performance of the student referees.

Samione said the referees in other intramural sports, such as basketball, do a better job than the indoor refs.

"I think the refs could do a better job," he said. "Maybe they should take notes from the basketball refs."

Kate Randall, junior, has been an indoor soccer referee for two years, and said she sees nothing wrong with the way the referees call games.

"I think they do pretty good," she said. "Most of them have played soccer, so they know the rules."

Although this sport is hidden up in Carver Gym D, away from the other activities, it still brings fans out to watch.

Jami Zahnow said she watches because the competition shows a high level of intensity.

"(I watch it) because it can get very intense and exciting," she said.

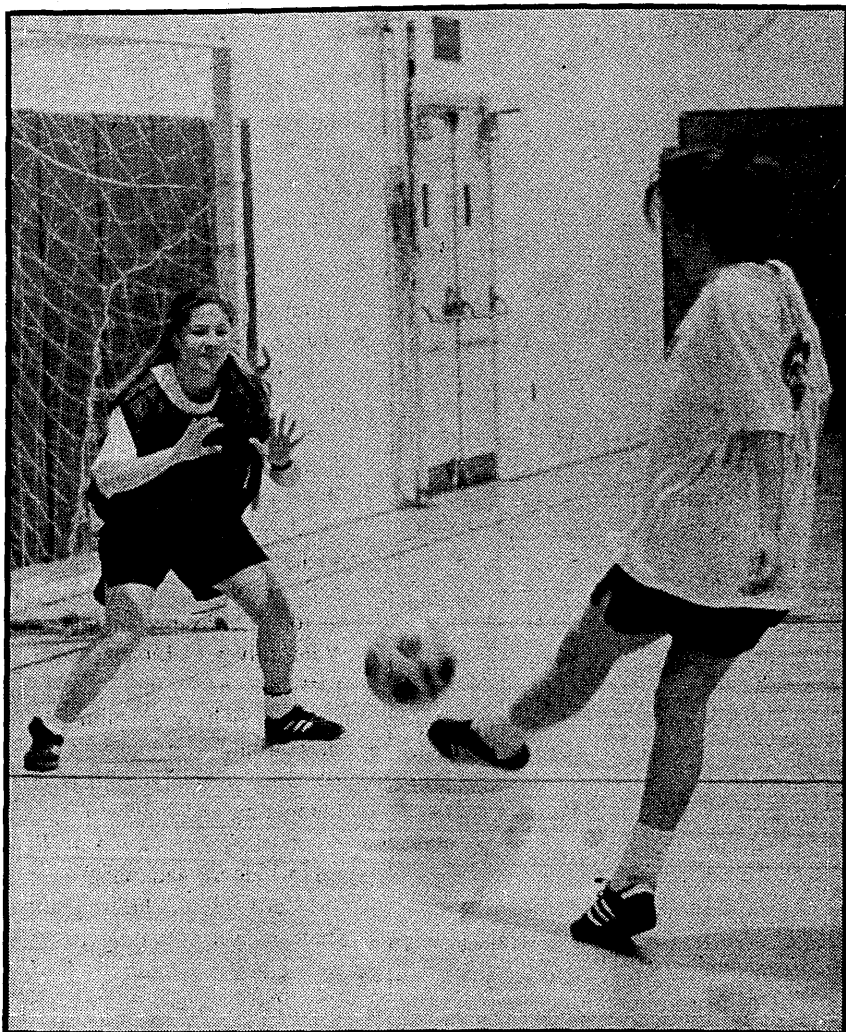


Photo by Kristoffer Browne

The fast-paced action of indoor soccer can be an easy release from the stress of classes, homework and student life.

Western sends Saints crashing to Earth

By Simon Fishler
staff reporter

A record-setting alley-oop jam and a season-ending rout of St. Martin's, 107-92, has the Western men's basketball team going into the playoffs thinking positive.

Jeff Dick became the Vikings' all-time assist leader with a spectacular lob pass that Dwayne Kirkley gathered in rim-high and slammed down. Dick, who tied with Kirkley for a team-high eight assists, now has 436 assists in his four-year career.

Riding the emotion of the play, the Vikings bolted to a 18-6 lead and never looked back.

"I wasn't counting how many (assists) I had," Dick said. "That was a play we just put in recently, and it's the first time it's worked. But it was nice to get it to Dwayne for the dunk."

"It was a called play," Western coach Brad Jackson said. "We had designed it, and he (Dick) threw the perfect pass. It was really nice. He'll remember that one."

"It was really great to see him get the record. I think he's had a tremendous career, and he's been playing very well this year. Certainly, in my mind he is an all-conference player and a real glue for our team," Jackson said.

St. Martin's, led by Clint Bailey's perimeter shooting, clawed to within one point, 26-25, with seven minutes to go in the first half. But the Vikings, utilizing a full-court trapping defense, extended the lead to 55-41, and had the Saints praying for mercy by halftime.

With eight minutes to go in the contest, St. Martin's lost what little chance they

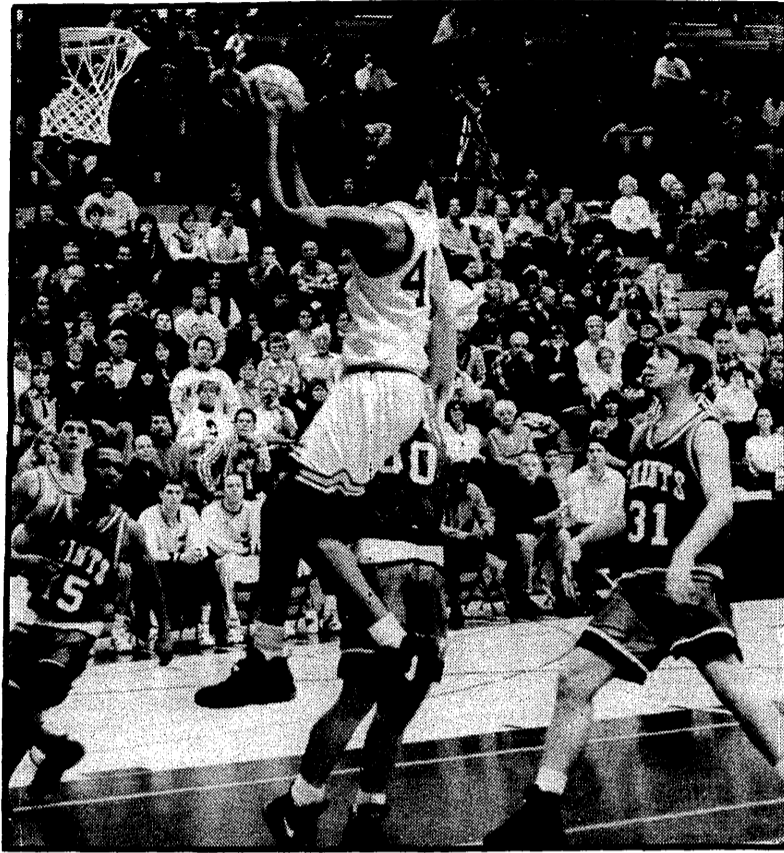


Photo by Steve Dunkelberger
The Vikings' Harold Doyal earns the nickname 'Skywalker' as he flies by, and over, two Saints to penetrate to the hoop. Doyal, who scored 19 points, was named to NAIA Pacific Northwest all-region team Feb. 28 (see story below).

may have had to win the game when Bailey, the conference's leading scorer, picked up his fourth foul, and a seat on the pine.

The Vikings sailed the rest of the way to victory. The squad shot a torrid 58.5 percent from the field and 77.8 percent from

the line for the game.

Brett Lundeen, doing everything but selling popcorn and peanuts, finished with 20 points, 10 rebounds, four steals and two blocks. Kirkley led the Vikings in scoring, matching his season average of 21 points and Harold Doyal tossed in 19.

The Vikings are looking forward to the playoffs, which begin for them on March 5.

"We're a great team all around," Lundeen said. "We still have some things we can improve on, but I think we have a real good shot in the playoffs."

Dick said he likes the way the team is gelling going into the playoffs.

"This is a good performance for us tonight, especially in the second half," Dick said. "We turned up the defense a little bit, scored a lot of points and executed a lot better. I'm happy. Everyone is going to get a little more pumped up as we get into the playoffs now."

Jackson said he thinks his team is prepared to go to the next level.

"I feel like our team play has been good and I think we're really looking for each other," Jackson said. "We're aware of what we are trying to accomplish offensively. Defensively, I think we've done a good job all year long and especially given the fact that we've been in first place pretty much all season. Night in and night out, everybody is going to be playing their best against us. Being in that position is tough because you really can't have a bad night."

"I feel like our confidence level and our intensity level is good. So, we're excited to actually get the playoffs going," Jackson said.

Jackson said he realizes the importance of the home-court advantage the Vikings possess throughout the playoffs.

"A big factor for us, as we get into the playoffs, is going to be the crowd support," Jackson said. "We had that tonight. I think one of the key things we fought for all year long is home-court advantage. We want to pack this place out and make it rowdy and wild and make it really tough. We love to see people come in here crazy because that makes a huge difference for our team."

"We're playing real solid right now," Kirkley said. "Hopefully, we can keep it together through the playoffs and take it to the nationals."

Western scores big in all-region selections

Senior guard Dwayne Kirkley was selected as the NAIA Pacific Northwest Region Player of the Year and Brad Jackson was named its Coach of the Year Feb. 28.

Western also had three players selected to the women's all-region team.

Sophomore forward Shannon Anderson and freshman forward Ana Tuiaea were named to the first team, while sophomore forward Gina Sampson received honorable mention honors.

Kirkley was the unanimous choice of the men's coaches. He ranked second in the region in scoring (21.0) and assists (6.2) and led the region in steals (2.9).

Kirkley received Player-of-the-Week honors four times during the season.

Jackson also was voted Coach of the Year in 1988, 1989 and 1990.

In his ninth year, he is the second-winningest coach in Western history with a record of 183-101. His winning percentage of 64.2 is the best of any Viking basketball coach since 1925.

Jackson has coached the Vikings to five 20-win seasons (1986-90, 1993-94), and is looking to become the first Western men's coach to make two trips to nationals.

Senior guard Jeff Dick and junior forward Harold Doyal also were named to the all-region team.

Dick ranks first in all-time assists (436), second in all-time steals (270), and third in all-time points (1,425).

Doyal, who recently became the 11th Viking player to score more than 1,000 career points, is averaging 14.2 points and 5.7 rebounds.

Sailing team raising money for trip back East

By Simon Fishler
staff reporter

The Western women's sailing team may be traveling to the Atlantic coast to display its nautical talent.

The club has qualified for the Brown regatta by winning the Brown's eliminations at the University of Washington, but faces the challenge of financing the trip.

"We're fund-raising right now," said Laura Cardinal, commodore of the Western team.

"We have a month to come up with the money, and we need to come up with about \$2,000, about \$500 apiece for the four of us," Cardinal said.

Also on the horizon for the seafarers is a national elimination, held at Western. The victor qualifies to compete at Yale University for a national ranking.

"We'll have to elim for it," Cardinal said. "There will be Oregon and Washington competing and maybe a few other schools. If we win we'll go to Yale for nationals."

Cardinal said she has seen the popularity of sailing rise at Western.

"Fall quarter, we had 35 people out, which is just an amazing number," Cardinal said.

"Right now, we have about 10 because in the winter it's so cold."

Sailing, especially staying warm and dry, is a real challenge.

"We've capsized quite a few times this winter because it's really windy," Cardinal said. "When it's really windy it is a lot harder to keep the boat flat."

Capsizing has become second nature to the Western sailers.

"When we capsize, it's not a big deal, no big trauma or anything," Cardinal said. "We're usually in the water for a while after it happens, but in the winter we wear wet suits, so we're OK. I've been under the boat before, but all you have to do is swim out. The first three times you capsize is pretty scary, but now that I've capsized so many times I just know what to do and how to get the boat back up."

Cardinal's eyes light up when she describes the excitement she feels when she is sailing.

"When it's windy and you're moving so fast it's just amazing," Cardinal said.

"You're moving as fast as a car; you're so close to the water and just cruising," Cardinal said.

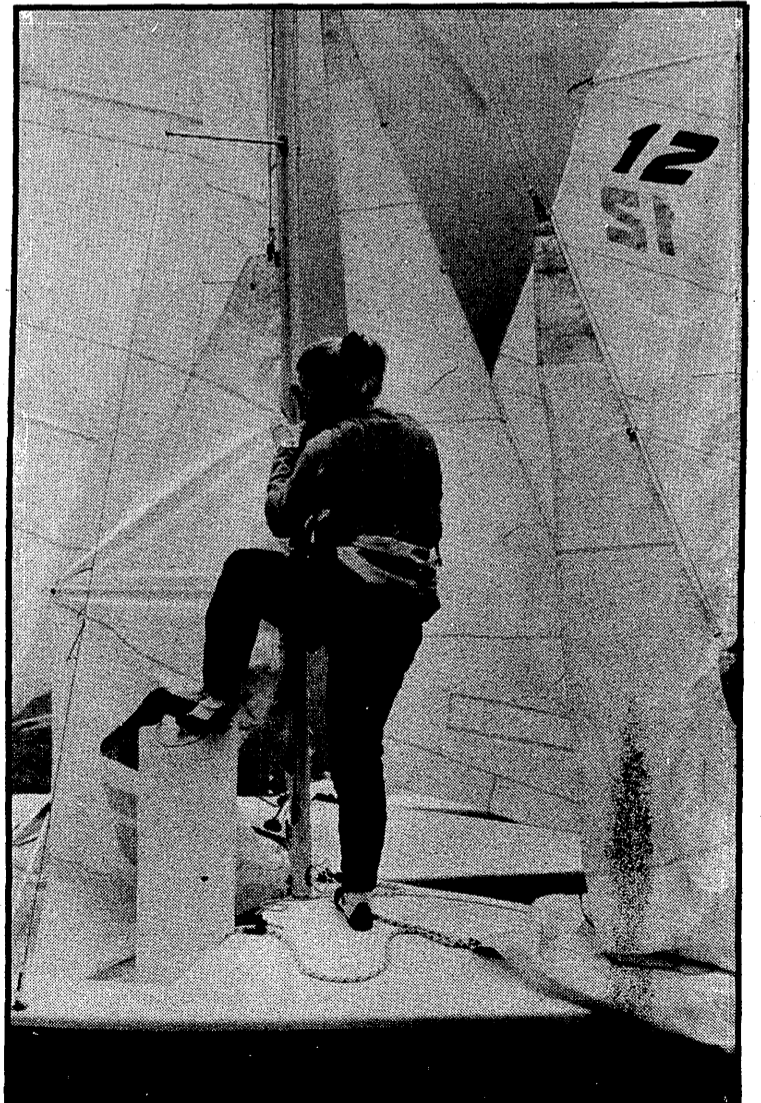


Photo by Adam Leask

Western senior Becky Sears 'puts down the dagger board,' which helps to stabilize the boat and prevent it from capsizing.

Issue: Religion

Christianity kills personal ideology



By Wendy Gross
staff reporter

Modern Christianity involves more than simply "accepting Christ as your personal savior." Converts get the whole package — new political beliefs, new friends, new standards of behavior and social rules.

Individuality is a small sacrifice compared to eternal life, right?

Christian people aren't all evil and manipulative, nor are their beliefs fanatical and ridiculous. The social structure surrounding born-again Christians is the problem. Christian life is ridden with pressure to conform.

Fellowship is an important facet of Christian life; Christians are encouraged to keep friends accountable. Check up on them. Tell them when they're being sinful. If someone is caught drinking, they must be on the verge of losing faith. Smoking? Goodness, they must not be praying enough.

The church makes judgments about its members' spiritual status by their outward actions. If one is devoted to the Lord, pastors say, they will resist temptation. Christianity supposedly emphasizes a "personal relationship" with Christ. Why, then, do believers make it their business when church members drink, smoke, swear, watch R-rated movies or have premarital sex? They automatically assume that these behaviors indicate a poor relationship with Christ.

For four years I lived by the Holy Bible. I remem-

ber proclaiming my support for the pro-life movement, though I knew it stole women's power. I remember being chided by my Christian peers because I voted for Bill Clinton. Most of all, I remember my rage when, in church on the Sunday following the 1992 election, the pastor said, "I'm sure all of you had sick stomachs when the election results revealed our new president."

No religion should dictate a person's political action. What happened to separation of church and state? Advocates of that policy are a small minority in the Christian community. God should pervade all aspects of believers' lives, they say. It's that attitude that promotes exclusivity.

Our country thrives on exclusion. We create categories according to ethnicity, gender, sexual orientation, social class and religion. The Christian community is a club with high admission standards, no matter how simple members make it seem. Oh, they will accept anyone, but not without the goal of converting them.

Go ahead, join a Bible-study group. Tell them that you're a God-fearing believer and you love Christ. Then tell them you're on birth-control pills, you don't believe in marriage, you smoke marijuana or you can pound four straight shots of tequila in one minute. See how seriously you're taken after that.

Christians need to follow their own ideology. Find a true personal relationship with God; don't follow the standards set by a translated bible or a bunch of imperfect humans. Many may claim to know God's law, but who can tell the truth from a con? Seeking your own truth is more rewarding, and you don't have to lose your individuality in the process.

Is there hell?



By Kristoffer Browne
staff reporter

"You snakes! You brood of vipers! How will you escape being condemned to hell?" (Matthew 23:33, NIV)

Is there hell? Is there such a place where the sinful go and burn for eternity?

Christians view hell as a place presided over by Satan and his demons, where the evil are destined to exist for eternity.

This is a fine view, but it was most likely started to make sure people would not develop second thoughts about their religion.

Others believe your soul is reincarnated. And still others believe once you die, that's it. The latter is a bit tough to chew.

To believe we live out our minuscule lives here on earth and then just cease to exist is too depressing to even think about.

Life is more than just living 80 or 90 years, working toward earthly goals. What about those whose lives are cut short? This is not just a one-

stop ride. Who or whatever created this world is not without reason and judgment. Individuals who are evil and not deserving will not go ahead with the rest of us.

Murderers, molesters and rapists are some individuals who are not deserving. They will not "burn" in hell for eternity, but they also won't just get a slap on the back of the hand and be sent on their way. They will be punished in some way — a jail of the soul, perhaps.

A perfect example of a plausible next step after life would be the movie "Defending Your Life." In this movie the recently deceased were judged on the success of their lives.

Those who were successful moved on to a higher existence. The souls of those who were not were sent back to earth to try again.

Yes, there is hell — but you won't find flames and demons flying overhead. You may just be forced to continue this bodily existence until you get it right. No one will spend eternity in hell, let alone burn.

Then again, with the way the world is going, it's not too far-fetched to say we are already in hell.

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Money shouldn't take priority in church services



By Nick Davis
staff reporter

Two years ago, my aunt asked me to be a godfather for her newly born son. I was honored to even be considered and with a feeling of great pride, I accepted.

It was, and still is, one of the greatest moments of my life.

The day of the ceremony came, and no one in the packed Catholic Church was more excited than I.

At that moment, I couldn't help feel-

ing a sense of respect for the Catholic Church for having such a beautiful ceremony to welcome someone into their religion.

But my sense of respect for organized religion was shattered on that same day.

During the 45-minute welcoming ritual, the priest spent 20 sacred minutes asking those assembled for money for the church.

"We will be having our spaghetti feed fundraising dinner next Saturday night," he preached. When translated, this means: "Give us money!"

Money was more important than baptizing my precious nephew. What kind of message is that teaching to new Catholics, or anyone else present that day?

Organized religion is too money-hungry these days and its desire for funding is getting in the way of the real message. Or is this the real message? People go to church to be closer to God, not to be closer to their wallets.

It is true that churches need money to help pay for operating costs, but money shouldn't be the primary focus of church ceremonies. More appropriate ways to raise funds for churches can be used. Asking for money during a baptism is not the right way.

Church fund-raising could, and should, be done outside of normal church proceedings. Priests shouldn't be wasting time devoted to faith, by asking and begging for

money. The money will come; just don't talk about it during the services.

At the time of the ceremony, I was considering becoming a member of the Catholic Church. Now, I wouldn't become a member of any form of organized religion. Something is fundamentally wrong when money becomes more important than faith, or when faith is judged by how much money you donate.

I will never forget that bright, sunny spring day. I felt important standing up there through the ceremony, but I also felt cheated when money took priority over my nephew. I didn't lose faith that day, I lost faith in organized religion.

Church does not necessarily equal religion



By Jennifer France
staff reporter

"Are you Lindsay or Jennifer?" he asked as he stumbled into the kitchen with what we thought was one of his many migraines, to fetch a glass of water.

My mouth dropped, and with a pained expression, I replied to my dad, "Jennifer." (Lindsay is eight years younger than I am. The distinction between us is normally apparent.)

His confusion between my sister and me was the first painful memory of my dad's illness.

That evening, my father was admitted to the intensive care unit at Central Washington Hospital in Wenatchee. He had suffered a brain hemorrhage.

The hemorrhage occurred the day after Thanksgiving of my freshman year in high school. After a week in the

local hospital, he was flown to Harborview Medical Center in Seattle where he underwent a series of operations for three weeks. Miraculously, he returned home the day after Christmas.

Many people turn to God and religion when a tragedy has occurred in their life.

Recently, I was asked if I'm religious. "No," was my reply. I don't attend church or The Inn. I felt greatly annoyed when a complete stranger on campus asked me about my connection with Christ and God.

Religion is a personal strength, varying with each individual. I believe in God. In my way I believe in religion. Every night, I pray in thanks for my father and my family. But I still don't belong to any sect or group. It is my own religion that I believe formed from my own experiences and encompasses my own strengths.

It is not right for any groups or individuals to force their beliefs on someone by labeling their religion as better.

My dad said, "God was in the room. Some sort of

thought or telepathic communication happened between us. All I kept saying was that I wanted more time with my family. And God said whether I was to live or die, it would be OK and to just calm down and I did."

My dad believes in attending church. But he is also religious in his own way. He felt a very close connection with God. However, he still believes that the churches he has been involved in are somehow missing the boat.

People must find religion for themselves — through their everyday experiences, desires, happiness and tragedies.

Technically, to some people, I'm probably not religious because I do not attend church. But spiritually, in my heart and mind, I am. I've defined my own way of understanding religion and my own way of going about it. I have many friends who are atheist and I have relatives who are Mormon. I'm somewhere in-between. And all of us are good people.

I believe in religion for my own sake, for my own fulfillment and to be thankful for my life and those around me.

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Frontline

Don't force faith

This issue of the Front approaches several different aspects of life that have been affected by religion.

Religion is a touchy subject — it is something that makes people feel enlightened, secure, defensive or angry. Sometimes, it makes people feel all of the above at the same time.

Some of the stories in this issue suggest faith as a way to satisfy one's uncertainties about life, or afterlife. Others remind us that conflicts over different religions have been negative and have sometimes resulted in bloodshed and chaos.

Establishing a strong link with one's faith is rewarding — it can empower people to push away their fears and gain confidence. To believe in an omniscient being that watches over us and keeps us from harm is comforting. Some may believe their faith guides them to make the "right" choices, do what is perceived best for society and to share the joy of this fulfillment with others.

This type of faith is healthy. Having a close, personal relationship with "god" and maintaining strong communication lines with that divine being(s) is indeed a powerful personal achievement. Many people study various religions carefully before they make their choice as to what is right for them, and several find faith within themselves.

Some people feel they need more direction and look for a structure that is easy to follow and practice. Some do this simply by accepting the faith they were born into.

A great factor that contributes to a strong faith is pride. Unfortunately, that pride can overshadow the message of peace and harmony that many religions teach.

When certain dogma does not comply with other religions, it can create passionate conflict. It is painful to hear of someone else's strong convictions to their faith if it is different from yours — especially if it may be convincing. People are so afraid to doubt their faith when others proclaimed better, that some would be willing to "snuff" any opposing ideas.

Holy wars have been prominent throughout history and continue to this day. Last week's massacre at the West Bank mosque and bombing of a Lebanese Catholic church are the most recent examples of violent religious conflict. Though the perpetrators have not yet been determined (many fingers have pointed to the Israelis), the fact that each of these incidents occurred in sacred religious environments shows the extent people are willing to take to protect their beliefs.

So many sects of religion exist in today's world. People should be entitled to their own choices and, if they wish, congregate with others who feel the same way. But people shouldn't shun other faiths and religion should never be the reason for violence.

That religion fulfills a vital part in a person's life is wonderful. That it would bring someone to hate others who happen to believe differently is not.

— R. Nina Ruchirat, Editor-in-Chief

The Western Front

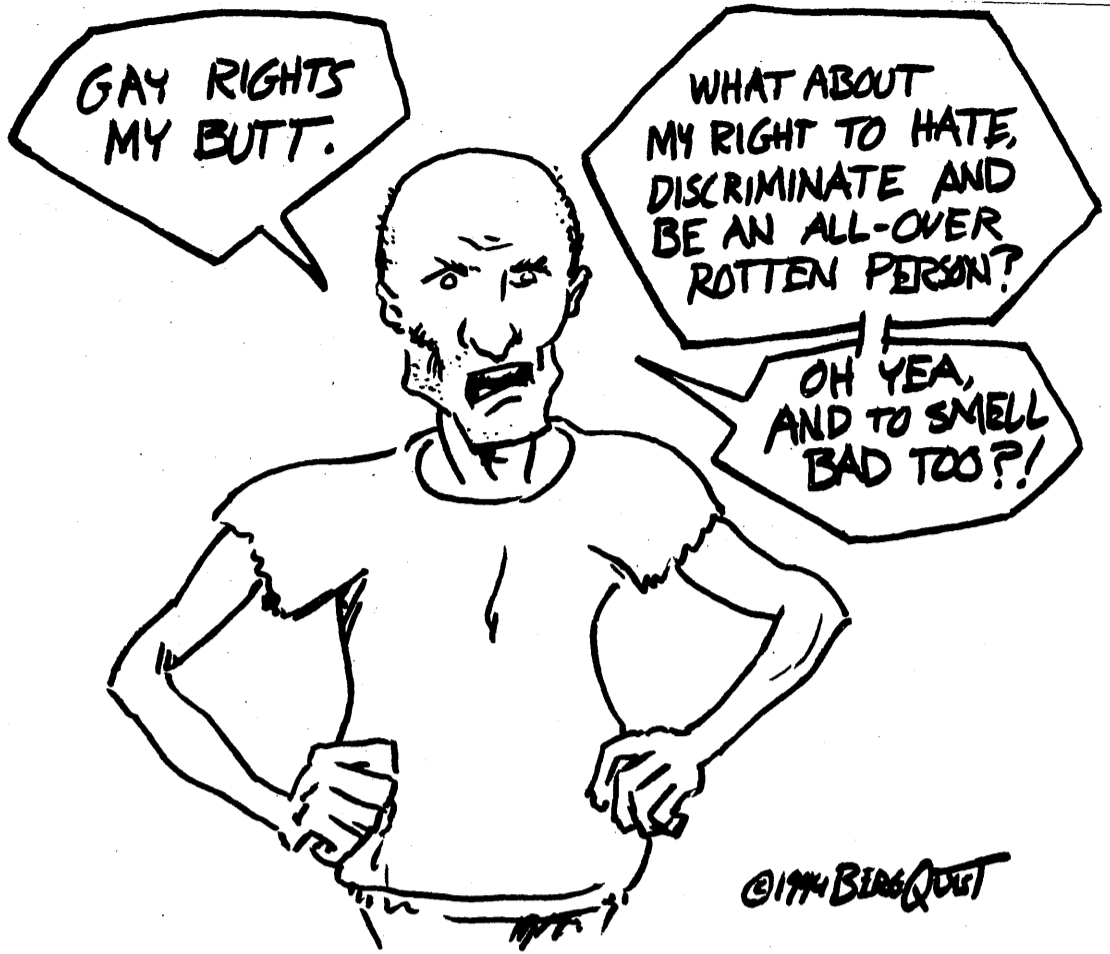
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Religion provides security, unity



By Beth Demetrescu
staff reporter

mystery of the unknown.

Religion is comforting. It is comforting to believe a superior force is watching over you. Having boundaries defined and set, and having to be responsible to some powerful being is, in its own way, reassuring.

Not much is unconditionally good. Anyone can find some sort of fault with most everything. Despite that, in general, religion is good.

Religion, over the years, has served as an explanation for the occurrences of nature. When the seas were rough, a god was angry. When the thunder rolled, a god was playing. People accepted these and other various explanations, thus dispersing the

Security is also a result of religion. Knowing that you are never alone, knowing that you will never be deserted makes the trials of life much easier to bear. Religion says that a god knows having some less-than-pure actions and thoughts does not negate the desire, that is in your soul, to be good. That understanding is something to fall back on.

Religion has been quite influential in the expansion of education. Knowledge and literacy were considered privileges for the upper class.

Religion changed that. It set the precedent for literacy among the masses. The main reason why the lower classes — and later women and African-Americans — were educated was so that they could read the scriptures.

Above all, religion helps to keep people united. Anytime a number of people share a set of beliefs, ideals or morals, there exists a common thread, a sense of community. This unity is a large part of what draws people to religion, and keeps them there.

Religious extremes detrimental



By David Kihara
staff reporter

Religion is not included in the above list.

From Christianity to Hinduism, religion and religious zealots have oppressed and persecuted individuals for not believing in their religion or for threatening to disprove their beloved dogmas.

Although many people believe religion unifies individuals in a community and strengthens bonds between all citizens, the past has proven that it does the opposite.

The brutal and violent

Crusades, from the 11th to the 14th centuries, destroyed thousands of lives in the name of God and Christianity.

Led by the fierce war cry "Deus vult! (God wills it!)" entire armies clashed with Muslims with little regard for human life and one mission in mind: take back a fabled Holy Land.

Likewise, during the Inquisition, one of the darkest and most shameful times in the history of religion, anyone suspected of being a heretic and skeptic of the Roman Catholic orthodoxy would be tortured into giving a confession. Such

The detrimental effects of religious convictions continue to plague the world like a vicious epidemic.

methods included stretching limbs on a wooden rack and burning bodies with live coals.

The philosopher Giordano Bruno and Galileo were among

the victims of the Inquisition.


While these incidents took place centuries ago and could be thought of as ancient history, they nonetheless set a trend of tyranny and injustice for religion.

The detrimental effects of religious convictions continue to plague the world like a vicious epidemic.

In Bosnia-Herzegovina, Serbs have beaten, starved, raped and tortured both Croats and Muslims and forced tens of thousands of Muslims from their homes and herded them into concentration camps — all because of a difference in religion. In this case, religion did not bring citizens together in a global community but separated them.

While religion is not the cause of all the world's problems, in many cases it does not promote a world free from oppression and violence.

Like any other mind-altering drug, religion — the "opiate of the masses" — should only be used in moderation.




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