

In your midst?

News: A look at the state sexual offender law's registration requirement.

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Glamour 'girls'

Accent: Drag queens raise money for Seattle, Bellingham charities.

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The Western Front

WESTERN WASHINGTON UNIVERSITY

FRIDAY — MARCH 8, 1996

VOLUME 95, ISSUE 15

Proposal would ban skates, restrict bikes

By **Bobbie Egan**
Front reporter

Western bicyclists may be required to dismount their bikes in congested areas of central campus as soon as fall 1996.

The proposal initiated by the Central Health and Safety Committee would establish a 24-hour no-biking zone and permanently ban in-line skating and skateboarding from campus.

The committee, made up of faculty and administrators, initiated the proposal in response to growing complaints about speeding bikers and the lack of concern they seem to show toward pedestrians.

The purpose of the proposal is to eliminate the risk of injury to pedestrians and minimize the damage skateboards and skates cause to bricks and the paved walkways.

Gayle Shipley, director of Environmental Health and Safety, said the dismount zone would be enforced 24 hours a day, 365 days a year.

The committee decided a restricted "no bike zone" would be easier to enforce than the current policy of dismounting 10 minutes before each hour.

The current dismount zone is Red

Square.

The new policy would expand the zone to Old Main, the south quadrangle, the Viking Union plaza and the Performing Arts Center plaza.

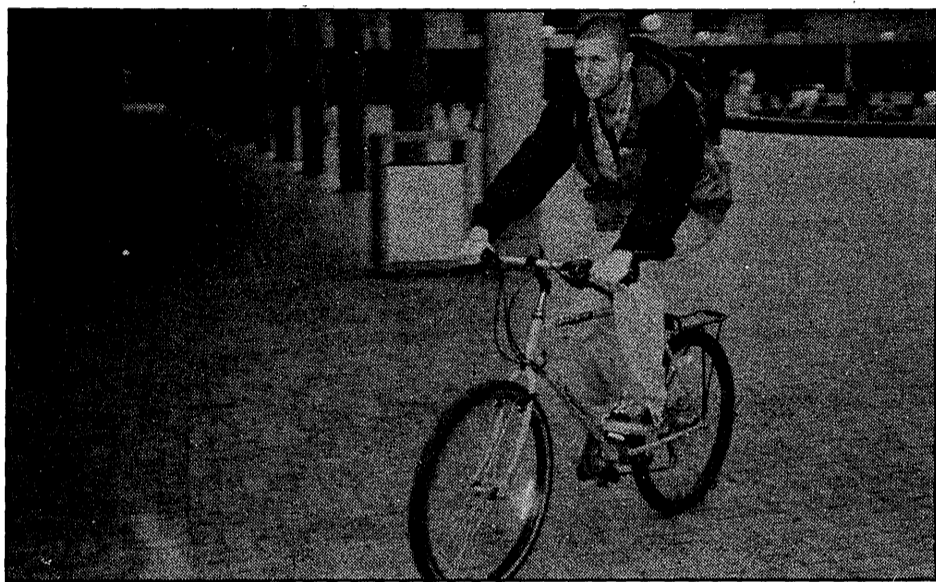
"I voted for the ordinance on the CHSC because I found that, as a resistant voice, nothing was happening. It was just bogging (the process) down. I accept the ordinance in that it does have the (restricted) bike lanes," said Mike Reed, an assistant professor in the art department.

"It's practically impossible to enforce time rules," said Jim Schuster, an administrator for student activities.

"I've had situations where I've been walking on campus and somebody is going 25 mph. If I moved one inch, the guy could have killed me or maimed me for life. Bicyclists get to be pedestrians when they want to and vehicles when they want to get somewhere fast."

Reed, however, said it is not a problem. "You will not find any accident reports involving accidents between bikers and pedestrians. There are none," he said.

Reed said the issue of skateboarding was brought up last year when a student was cited with criminal trespassing. If he was caught riding his skateboard on campus



Front/April Metcalf

Mark Rawlins rides in Red Square, which has a no-ride zone part of the day.

again, he would be suspended.

"I've been very disappointed students haven't jumped on this more. For an issue like this there should be standing-room-only crowds," Reed said.

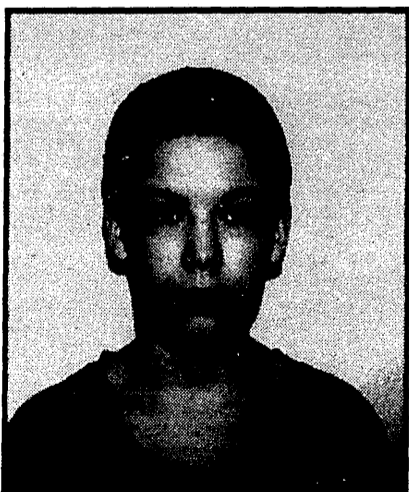
As part of the proposal process, the CHSC had a public forum Tuesday to get student input and suggestions on ways pedestrians and bikers can get along.

Most students at the forum disagreed with the proposal, arguing that a 24-hour ban is not necessary at night when few people are on campus.

"One issue that isn't getting addressed that I think is pretty important is that we have over 3,000 students who live on cam-

See **Ban**, page 4

Police say juvenile is threat to community



Aaron Johnson.

By **Jake Warnick**
Front reporter

A 13-year-old boy has been listed as a level III registered sex offender after being convicted of first-degree child molestation for the rape of a 6-year-old girl.

Aaron Johnson, of 2323 Cherry Street, admitted to raping and molesting the girl on at least one occasion

either by himself or with two other male juveniles, ages 9 and 11.

According to a court affidavit, on May 19, 1995, the Bellingham Police Department responded to a complaint by the victim's mother that her daughter had been molested. The mother became suspicious after seeing her daughter come out of the bushes with her pants partially down.

The first incident of molestation took place after the juveniles asked the victim if she wanted to join their club.

The victim's brother said the juvenile offenders told the victim they would give her marshmallows and candy if she took off her clothes. The boys then proceeded to rape her. They threatened to kick her out of the club if she told anybody.

Johnson's name was the only one released by the Bellingham Police Department.

"We only release the names of level III sex offenders, the ones who we feel are a danger to the community," Lt. Rick Sucee said.

See **Offender**, page 3

Smoking may be banned in some residence halls

By **Caren Cameron**
Front reporter

Beginning fall quarter, smoking may no longer be allowed in residence hall rooms or anywhere near residence or dining facilities if a new smoking policy is approved by the Housing and Dining Committee at its March 11 meeting.

Students wanting a smoke-free environment encouraged the Residence Hall Association to create a new policy restricting, if not banning, smoking on campus. About 50 students discussed the proposed policy at three residence hall forums.

Many of these students felt that the current policy — no smoking in public areas — was inadequate since smoke hovers outside doors and the residence ventilation systems are poor and allow smoke to pass from room to room.

Installing new vents would be too costly. University Residences Director Kay Rich said.

A variety of suggestions and concerns sprang from the forums, ranging from people who approved of the current policy to those who wanted to change specific details in the proposed policy.

Some said a no-smoking policy is common at apartments and would not be unreasonable at Western.

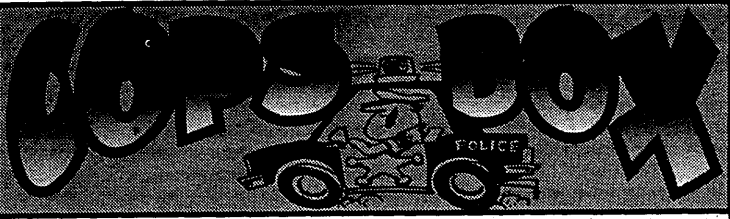
Suggestions included having designated smoking or non-smoking halls or floors; converting Nash, Maihes and Buchanan Towers to smoke-free halls since they are the tallest and the most prone to problematic smoke circulation; providing covered areas outside each hall for smoking; allowing smoking on balconies and in doorways and prohibiting smoking in select halls.

Rich said she believes the best alternative to the proposed smoking policy is to have smoke-free floors or dorms for students who cannot tolerate smoke and mixed floors for those students who don't mind smoke.

She said she realizes, however, that establishing theme buildings and assigning students to them is a complex task because many factors must be considered, including making sure they are handicapped-accessible.

Students' other concerns about the policy were that it would inconvenience some people and cause them to move off campus, and cigarette butts would litter the streets. The hall/floor designation would discriminate against both smokers and nonsmokers by forcing them to live in certain areas, and it

See **Smoking**, page 4



Campus Police

March 4, 3:50 a.m.: A student was complaining of extreme pain in the pelvic area on the 200 block of Highland Drive. An officer was dispatched to the location. When he arrived, he called 911. The student was transported to the hospital by ambulance for further examination.

March 4, 4:46 p.m.: A worker reported that a Macintosh computer mouse had been stolen from the Miller Hall computer lab sometime during the weekend. Police found no suspects.

March 5, 2:23 p.m.: A VCR was reported stolen from an unlocked classroom in the Humanities Building. The equipment was secured to a cart with a cable that had been cut. The officer at the scene thought a cable cutter had been used.

March 6, 4:43 a.m.: A building manager on the 500 block of High Street called police when he found fresh graffiti on three restroom-stall walls.

March 6, 6:49 a.m.: A woman in Edens North reported that when she returned to her dorm room after being away for a few days, she found a threatening note on her door. She said she did not know who left the note.

Bellingham Police

March 5, 5:01 a.m.: An unknown person threw two eggs at a woman's car that was parked in her driveway. The woman said this had occurred seven times in the past three months.

March 6, 1:34 a.m.: Police responded to a complaint of noise on the 900 block of 21st Street. The officers found that a couple had been arguing about relationship problems, but that things had calmed down. The couple promised to discuss their disagreements in a lower tone.

March 6, 1:17 p.m.: A man complained that his ex-girlfriend took his library books when they broke up and he was being charged late fees for them. When the woman was contacted, she claimed she'd returned the books. The library had no record of receiving them.

March 6, 1:47 p.m.: Police responded to a complaint that juveniles were smoking on the corner of Ellis and Carolina streets. The suspects had left by the time officers arrived.

March 6, 2:21 p.m.: A woman reported that a strange man had been watching her daughter while she was walking home from school. The child ran to a nearby house and called her mother to pick her up. The man left before the mother arrived.

Cops Box, which is selected from recent incident reports, was compiled by Front reporter Amy Scribner.



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Western Briefs

Multiculturalism topic of Western's career conference

A multicultural career conference will take place from 8:45 a.m. to 3 p.m. on Saturday at Fairhaven College.

Bill Reed, financial manager of worldwide operations for Microsoft, will be the keynote speaker. Other experts from the business and academic communities throughout the region will participate in panels offering information about a variety of careers including business, teaching, science and technology, social services and law.

The cost for the conference, which includes lunch, is \$3 or free with a Western Card. For more information, contact Western's Career Services Center

at 650-3240, or the Multicultural Center at 650-3843.

Summer Stock auditions to take place Saturday

Auditions for Western's 26th Summer Stock company will take place from 9 a.m. to 3 p.m. Saturday on the Performing Arts Center Mainstage. Interviews for technicians will take place from 3:20 p.m. to 5 p.m.

Actors auditioning must prepare a two-minute monologue and 32 bars of a song with movement, and they should bring sheet music. Both technicians and actors should bring a current résumé and arrive early to fill out paperwork. The audition is for company members only. Company members will be

enrolled as Western students and earn 15 upper or lower division credits. Scholarships are available to cover tuition costs and fees.

To sign up for an audition time, call the Department of Theatre Arts at 650-3876.

Chomsky's lecture to be shown on Channel 10

Noam Chomsky's lecture, which took place March 4 on the Performing Arts Center Mainstage, will be rebroadcast at 1 p.m. on March 12 and at 7:30 p.m. on March 14 on Channel 10.

Chomsky's lecture drew a standing-room-only crowd with an additional 300 or more people viewing it in the Viking Union Main Lounge.

AP news off the wire

13-year-old arrested in death of Lynden teenager; gun found

LYNDEN — A 17-year-old boy was shot and killed in a shooting near City Park in Lynden Wednesday night.

Denton H. Hendricks suffered from a gunshot wound and was brought to the Lynden Police Department. Although attempts were made to revive him, they were unsuccessful.

A 13-year-old boy was arrested by Whatcom County Sheriff's deputies in connection with the homicide. Three other teenagers were questioned and the gun believed to have been used in the shooting was recovered.

O.J. attorney can't get himself out of Florida jail

TALLAHASSEE, Fla. — Famed defense attorney F. Lee Bailey is known for keeping his clients out of jail. Bailey, however, couldn't do the same for himself as he was hauled away in handcuffs Thursday.

He will begin serving a six-month sentence for failing to turn over \$25 million in stocks he received from a drug-dealing client.

The government claims ownership of the money, but Bailey said the money is his rightful payment for his representation of the client.

Lizard fat, not pregnant; zoo officials disappointed

APPLE VALLEY, Minn. — Minnesota Zoo officials had high hopes for their Komodo dragon. However, the female lizard they thought was pregnant just turned out to be getting fatter.

The zoo's Komodo dragons arrived last June from their home in Indonesia. They can grow to be 10 feet long and can weigh as much as 300 pounds.

Briefs compiled from AP wire service by Front reporter Chris Troyke.

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

SPRING QUARTER PHASE I REGISTRATION ON RSVP runs through March 15, at the appointment time sent in mid-February. Read the RSVP instructions in the Timetable of Classes, see your adviser, plan your schedule, then call RSVP (650-7787) at or after your appointment time.

REGISTRATION PROOFS AND BILLING STATEMENTS will be mailed to local or billing addresses on March 27. Tuition is due April 19. However, April 8 is the last day to withdraw with a full release from obligation to pay tuition.

LAST DAY TO WITHDRAW FROM THE UNIVERSITY is today (Friday, March 8).

LOT RESERVATION: Lots 11G and 25G will be reserved starting at 5 p.m. today (March 8) for a Living History lecture. Lot 14G will be reserved starting at 5 p.m. March 9 for the Purim masquerade ball. Drivers who leave a vehicle in a reserved lot without the attendant's authorization will be considered illegally parked. Except for 10G and 8V Monday through Thursday, any G, V or C lot other than those listed may be used.

THE MATH PLACEMENT TEST will be given in OM 120 at 9 a.m. on Monday, March 11, and Thursday, March 14. Preregistration is not required. Students must bring picture ID and a No. 2 pencil. Allow 90 minutes. A \$10 fee is payable in the exact amount at time of testing.

PARKING PERMIT RENEWALS: Quarterly parking permits for spring quarter may be renewed between 8:30 a.m. and 3:30 p.m. weekdays through March 15 at Parking and Transportation Services. Unrenewed permits will be sold on a first-come, first-served basis starting March 18.

A MULTICULTURAL CAREER CONFERENCE is set for 8:45 a.m. to 3 p.m. Saturday, March 9, at Fairhaven College. Professionals will discuss successful career strategies and career opportunities. For more information, call Career Services, X/3240, or Multicultural Services Center, X/3843.

ASSOCIATED STUDENTS ELECTION CANDIDATE FILING PERIOD is March 11-April 5. Anyone interested in running for a position for the 1996-97 school year may stop by the AS Board office, VU 227, to pick up an election packet and registration form.

THE TEST FOR ENTRANCE INTO TEACHER EDUCATION (TETEP) will be given at 2 p.m. Tuesday, March 12, in FR 4. A fee of \$20 must be paid in the exact amount at time of preregistration in OM 120. TETEP is not administered individually. Allow 2½ hours.

ALL STUDENTS WHO EXPECT TO GRADUATE AT THE CLOSE OF SPRING QUARTER must have a senior evaluation on file in the Registrar's Office by March 15. Degree applications are available in OM 230.

ACADEMIC ADVISING CENTER IS HIRING students for new freshman advising programs. Apply by March 15 in OM 380.

SPECIAL HOURS AT WILSON LIBRARY during the week preceding finals will be 7:45 a.m. to 8 p.m. Friday, March 15, and 10 a.m. to 11 p.m. Saturday and Sunday, March 16 and 17.

HOURS AT WILSON LIBRARY DURING THE INTERSESSION from March 23 through April 1 will be 8 a.m. to 5 p.m. weekdays, closed on weekends.

CBE SCHOLARSHIPS ARE AVAILABLE to majors who will be juniors and seniors during the 1996-97 academic year. In addition to regular scholarships, five U.S. Bank Minority Scholarships are available for CBE majors. Applications, available in PH 419, must be returned by March 15.

Recruiting activities

To participate in on-campus interviews graduating seniors and alumni must be registered for career services. Registration packets are available at the front desk in OM 280. Establishing a placement file is optional for all but education candidates. There is no charge for 1995-96 graduates; alumni must pay a \$20 fee, which makes them eligible for services through September, 1996.

• The Boeing Company, Monday, March 11. Submit a CIF and résumé when you sign up in OM 280 for interview.

Felony sex offenders must register with police

Depending on severity of crime, offenders must register from 10 years to life —

By Amity Smith
Front reporter

Anyone, adult or juvenile, convicted of a felony sex offense has to register as a sex offender with the county sheriff's department, according to a Washington state law that went into effect July 1990.

Offenders have 24 hours to register with the sheriff's office when they get out of prison, said Sgt. John Barriball of the Whatcom County Sheriff's Department.

Barriball said offenders convicted of a felony sex offense usually spend at least six months in prison. Juveniles are usually referred to a counseling program.

Offenders moving out of state after being released from prison have 30 days to register with the sheriff's department in the county to which they move.

Barriball said the amount of time offenders must register depends on if they have been convicted of a class A, B, or C felony.

A class C felony conviction, including attempted rape or attempted child molestation, carries a 10-year registration period; a class B felony conviction has a 15-year

registration period.

A class A felony conviction, including rape, first-degree rape of a child and first-degree child molestation, means the offender must register for life.

"So, (hypothetically) you have a 14-year-old juvenile committing first-degree rape, and he'll have to register for the rest of his life,"

Barriball said.

After an offender registers with the sheriff's office, a risk assessment is done by the authorized local agency, which, in Bellingham is the police department.

Barriball said the agency looks at the offender's prior criminal background, the severity of the offender's crime, remorse (or lack thereof) shown by the offender, how many victims the offender abused, if the offender has gone through treatment and if the offender "groomed," or befriended the victim.

Barriball said a level I offender is at low risk to re-offend; victims usually were inside the offender's own family, and the offender went through sexual-deviancy counseling.

A level II offender is at moderate risk to re-offend; the offender usually had either multiple victims within the offender's family, or went into the community for victims.

A level III offender is at high risk to re-offend; level III offenders are usually clinically diagnosed as pedophiles and usually don't want to participate in counseling.

Barriball said the assessments are a tedious process. Each offender has to have a background investigation, and the agency doing the investigation has to walk a fine line between the need to notify the community of danger and not violating an offender's rights by making them appear

more dangerous than they really are to the community.

Registered offenders must give notice of an address change to the sheriff's department in the county they are moving from before they move. After moving, they have 10 days to register with the sheriff's department in the county they move to, Barriball said.

Barriball said communities may be notified of level II offenders and are always notified of level III offenders.

For both levels, notices go up in the neighborhood the offender is living in, and officials go door-to-door in the neighborhood and to the school district in the area. But for level III offenders, the police department also notifies the news media.

Barriball said that since the program began in 1990, more than 300 offenders have registered in Whatcom County. He said some of them have since moved from the area.

According to the Feb. 28 issue of the Seattle Post-Intelligencer, of the 9,387 registered sex offenders in Washington state, 541 are minors.

"So, you have a 14-year-old juvenile committing first-degree rape, and he'll have to register for the rest of his life."

— Sgt. John Barriball
Whatcom County Sheriff's Dept.

Offender, from page 1

Police normally inform neighbors within a couple of blocks of the offender's home.

"We've had some concern from neighbors. They want to get rid of him," Sucee said.

Police also notified Johnson's school district, but it is the responsibility of the district to notify schools, Sucee said.

According to a police press release, Johnson is rated a level III sex offender because he "is not considered amenable to community treatment due to his sexual history and behavior. His sexual offense was premeditated, predatory, a gang rape with coercion, threats and grooming, and he has no remorse or empathy."

Johnson has previous arrests for theft and malicious mischief. He also claims to have committed a number of burglaries and gun thefts for which he was not arrested.

"His delinquent and abusive history is extreme for someone his age. He is a risk of becoming a sexually violent criminal in the future," the Bellingham Police Crime Analysis Unit Reported.

According to a psychological evaluation, the 11-year-old boy "has the capacity to understand the act charged and to understand that it was wrong."

He explained the reason for his involvement was that "he didn't stop and think."

The psychological review stated, "Although the statistics are against him, (the juvenile's) abilities and strengths indicate that he still has a chance to turn his life around and to develop into a functioning member of society."

Police reports stated the 9-year-old juvenile said that although the victim protested, "he laid up against the victim with his private parts touching her private parts."

He denied placing his hand or fingers in the victim's vagina. When asked why he did what he did, the juvenile said he knew what he was doing was wrong, but he did it anyway because his friends wanted him to.

Johnson was ordered to pay \$310.62 in restitution and spent several months in a juvenile detention facility.

The 11-year-old offender was sentenced to 30 days confinement at the Whatcom County Juvenile Detention Facility and 24 months under community supervision.

Bellingham Police refused to comment on the sentencing of the 9-year-old.

Parents of child sex offender say justice system no help

By Jake Roberts
News editor

The parents of an 11-year-old boy who recently pleaded guilty to first degree molestation of a 6-year-old girl said their child needs effective counseling, not incarceration.

"It's a problem that should be dealt with psychologically, not through the penal system," said the boy's father, whom he recently met.

Chris' (not his real name) mother said he was molested by a family friend when he was three.

"I was just sick to my stomach thinking my babies were molested by someone I thought I could trust," his mother said. "All along this guy was molesting my son and daughter."

Chris' mother said he was a difficult child to raise and was diagnosed with Attention Deficit/Hyperactivity Disorder when he was very young. ADHD was apparent in his lack of ability to focus on tasks, destructiveness and temper outbursts. His mother said he began stealing, lying and acting out sexually with other children shortly after he was abused by the family friend, in kindergarten.

"I wish counselors would discuss with him the abuse he experienced as a younger child," his father said. "I don't see what they've solved over the past six months by playing chess with him or asking him how school is going."

Chris' mom said a couple of years after he was abused he became difficult to control and began acting out his internal anger. Soon after, he set his bed on fire. During this time he was also stealing from both her and stores.

"A counselor told me it was common for children who were sexually abused

over a period of time to begin acting out by starting fires, stealing and lying," his mother said.

His father attributes his early pattern of lying and stealing to lack of parental supervision.

Clinical Psychologist Anthony Zold completed a psychological analysis of

"What we need to do is acknowledge the problem and figure out what we're going to do to prevent it from happening again."

— Father of convicted sex offender

Chris last August. Zold wrote that Chris' mother was an alcoholic during the first seven years of his life, and perhaps he lacked the attention he needed to recover from his experience with sexual abuse.

Chris had never met his dad until three months ago. Counselors say both of these facts were contributors to his current difficulties in trusting and talking to family members and counselors.

Chris' father said he did not even know he had a son until he was notified several months ago.

"I didn't even know I had a son for 11 years," his father said. "I arrived in his life just a couple months too late. I wish he never had to go through any of this."

Chris' mother said that since his father has become a part of his life he has been much easier to control.

She said that previously he had a long history of running away from home.

Both parents think their son was routed through the justice system by the prosecutor and Chris' own public defender.

"I have a hard time believing everything the police tell me happened between the little girl and my son is true," his father said. "It is hard to believe the boys involved said some of the things the police say they said. After reading the police reports it sounds like (Chris) was led into giving them the answers they wanted to hear from him."

"I realize something happened between (Chris) and the little girl, but I think it was blown out of proportion," his father said. "What we need to do is acknowledge the problem and figure out what we're going to do to prevent it from happening again."

Chris' mother said she is angry that he was locked up for 89 days during the investigation and ensuing court appearances.

"No one in the justice system would talk to me. They wouldn't tell me when he was supposed to appear in court or how the police were investigating the case," his mother said.

Both parents acknowledged there is a problem but disagree with the way the justice system is handling it.

Chris' mother says she rides the bus with Chris once a week to report to his probation officer for a meeting that lasts less than five minutes.

She said she also takes him to see a counselor once a week but the counselors never lets her be present during meetings to help in the healing process. They interview him alone or with other boys his age.

"No one is going to solve anything by locking him up," his father said. "The bottom line is (the justice system) either needs to let me and his mom handle it or they need to do something that will help him recover and move on with a normal life."

Ban, from page 1

pus. These students live here and not only go to school here, but in their spare time they do their recreation here, and that's fine if you play tennis or shoot hoops," Reed said. "But for persons who like to ride their bikes or skateboards, there really is no place for them to go."

The proposal is seen as a damper by many students who use the campus at night for skating, sports activities or biking between buildings.

Students also questioned the hypocrisy of the committee's intentions regarding student safety.

With a "no-bike zone," students will be forced to take the road behind Arntzen Hall, which

poses a possible hazard for bicyclists when rounding the corner between the Environmental Studies Building and Fairhaven.

"If you're going to take people off campus and put them on roads, then the access places they have to go to need to be safe. If you have bicyclists mixing with cars, that is just as dangerous as mixing bicyclists with pedestrians," said Bob Langan, a student who commutes by bike.

Reed agreed that the committee needs to address issues of bike safety when students are forced to share roads with cars.

"I was driving on the road (between Arntzen and Fairhaven) earlier this winter when it was really icy, and somebody riding

their bicycle slid right in front of me. Fortunately I was watching him and was able to stop in time," he said.

Transportation Management Planner Carl Root said the problem with offering alternatives lies in the lack of funds.

"I am a firm believer that this campus remain a pedestrian campus. I'll do everything I can to encourage people to ride bikes to campus, but I want to see this campus safe for pedestrians," Root said.

Director of Public Safety and Chief of University Police Doug Gill said Western plans to install surveillance cameras to monitor bicycle racks and help cut back on theft of bikes and bike parts.

"Why do people feel as though they need another form of transportation once they get to campus? Why not walk? I equate the campus to Bellis Fair Mall. The mall doesn't permit bicyclists and skates. Why should we?" Gill said.

Students caught violating the policy would be asked to stop and, in the case of in-line skaters, asked not to use that transportation on campus. If violators refused to comply, they would be subject to the school's conduct procedure.

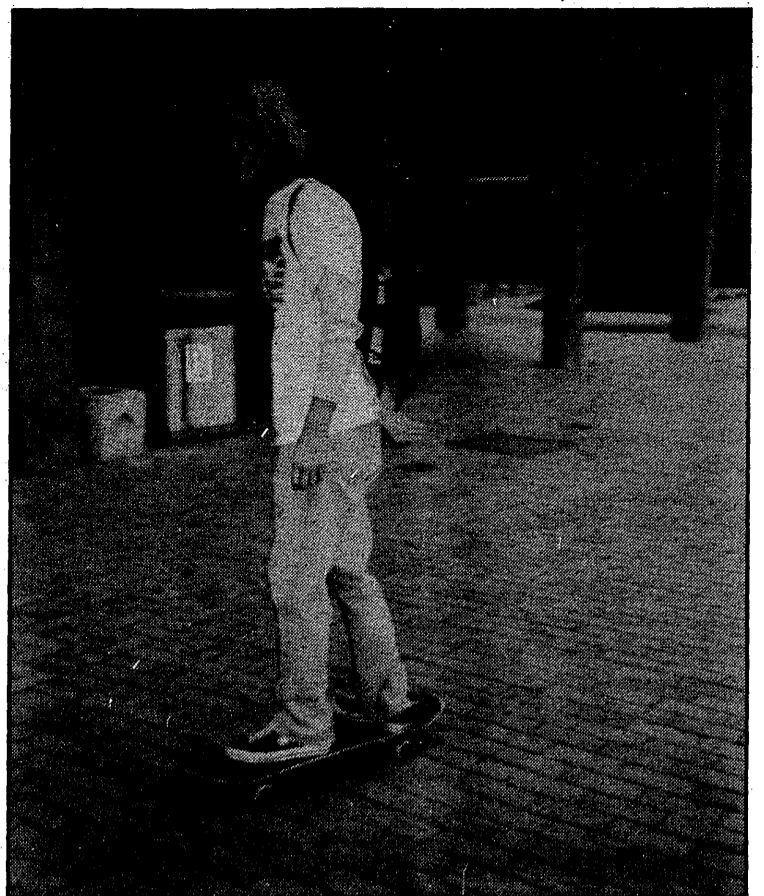
Non-university violators would be asked to stop; those who refuse could be cited for trespassing.

"I've been here for 12 years, and I'm tired of getting almost run over like many of the other people here," said Clint Burgess, instrument associate of Scientific Technology Services.

"I see some responsible bikers, but most of (them) are irresponsible and think people are trees and don't move. Well, they do," he said.

Jim Sullivan of the Whatcom Independent Mountain Pedalers spoke for student bikers and suggested the committee be more creative in its decision making.

"I have been to campuses 10 times the size of Western and



Front/April Metcalf

Holly Sweeney skateboards, an activity that may be banned.

have seen pedestrians and bikers get along.

"I believe (the committee) needs to be a lot more creative than just shutting down an area, especially since it's expecting 5,000 more students in coming years," Sullivan said.

According to the 1987 Washington Administrative Code, bicyclists must dismount in areas designated by signs or symbols.

The proposal will be revised to address issues raised at the public forum and will then go to Business/Financial Affairs Vice President George Pierce for review at the President's Council.

If the President's Council approves the proposal, it will be sent to Olympia to change the existing WAC rules. The process takes about 60 days and will include a formal public hearing.

"This is a place for learning, not playing. Maybe the Parks Department should look at build-

ing a place for (the in-line skaters). Hell, we built a swimming pool, for God's sake. Somebody needs to look at an alternative place for recreation instead of saying we're picking on students just because we're saying this (skateboarding and in-line skating) is destroying our campus," Gill said.

"I think the bicyclists are overshadowing the skateboarders here. We do have another group, and we're not addressing their issues," Reed said.

"They won't be allowed on campus at all. Cigarette butts and overpopulation are ruining the campus. There is no empirical evidence that says (the damage) is caused by skateboards," he continued.

Shipleigh said she hopes to have another informal public forum for student input.

"We are in no way fixed in our decision," she said.

Smoking, from page 1

would cause negative stereotypes of smokers, smoke stains and odors would pervade the "smoking halls" and a no-smoking policy would be difficult to enforce.

Rich explained that enforcement is currently not essential in substance-free halls because the students living in them choose not to smoke, drink or use drugs. However, students sometimes change their minds and dabble in these substances.

"In an ideal world," Rich said, "students would take responsibility for honoring those rules."

If the proposed smoking policy passes, however, enforcement will have to become an issue.

"I am very reticent to decide what people have the right to do, but the real stickler is, does the smoker have the right to expose the nonsmoker to secondhand smoke?" Rich said.

Nate Glass, a resident advisor in Beta-Gamma, expressed a different opinion.

"If you occasionally get a whiff of secondhand smoke, it's not going to be that harmful," he said. "I understand how it can be kind of annoying, though."

Glass, who has applied to be an RA again next year, dislikes the idea of a new smoking policy.

"If it passed," he said, "it would be another battle (the RAs) would have to fight that doesn't seem that significant."

The students who proposed the policy do think it's significant, however. Housing and Dining will make final changes in the policy at 4 p.m. on March 11 in the conference room on the ground floor of Edens Hall.

Students with last-minute suggestions or concerns over the proposed smoking policy can attend the meetings listed, contact their RHA representatives or address their concerns directly to the Housing and Dining Committee or Kay Rich at 650-2971.

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Dinner guests discuss who the murderer could be at the Beta-Gamma Murder Mystery night.



Residence Hall acts their first murder-mystery dinner

Story and Photos by Brad Benfield

A murderer was among 44 guests seated for dinner at the historic Lairmont Manor.

Mr. Rainwater, the wealthy businessman who owned the manor, had been killed the night before. Everybody in the room, except for a few detectives sent to work on the case, was a suspect.

Was it the bitter ex-wife? Did the butler do it? Nobody knew for sure, but everyone in the room was intent on finding the identity of the killer. Suspicion and speculation were running wild before the guests could finish their stuffed manicotti and sparkling apple cider. One thing was certain: by the end of the evening, the killer would be found.

This scene was played on March 3 by students who live in the Beta and Gamma residence halls.

The Beta-Gamma Murder Mystery Night was sponsored by the Beta-Gamma Hall Council and hosted by Chris Condit, a resident advisor for Gamma Hall. It is the first event of its kind sponsored by the council.

"It's an opportunity for students to get off campus and get out of student mode for a change," Condit said. "And it gives them a chance to eat real food for a change."

The manor, built in 1914, was designed for the Larrabee family by Carl Gould, the designer of the Washington state capitol. Lairmont's elegant interior and furnishings were a perfect background for a murder mystery.

The "guests" arrived at Lairmont and were served dinner as the evening's entertainment

began to take shape.

Each student was given a profile of a character involved in the murder mystery. As dinner was served, the students began to slip into their roles and interact with each other. Each character had a clue that could be used to help solve the mystery.

After dinner, guests were taken downstairs to view the murder scene and read the police report. At this point notepads appeared as guests began to interrogate each other.

The guests spent the rest of the evening sorting through clues, pinpointing what was relevant and what was not.

Condit, a senior psychology major, began planning the event last September. He estimates he has spent about 200 hours writing, planning and producing to create this murder mystery dinner.

Condit has been writing murder mysteries since he was in high school. This is the second murder mystery dinner he has been involved in. He said he was happy he had the opportunity to produce one for students.

Eric Crawford, a sophomore majoring in manufacturing engineering technology, was glad he came. It gave him the opportunity to meet students he otherwise wouldn't have met. He also enjoyed the mystery itself.

"I think that some people really get into their character; that makes it really interesting," Crawford said.

At the end of the evening, guests gathered in the dining room again to make their accusations. A lot of finger-pointing and speculation revealed many of the guests were close to a solution; but nobody was right. As a tape of the real solution was played, surprised looks turned into laughter and applause.

The gardener did it.



Carla Hass and Jerry Weatherhogg discuss possible suspects.

Night Train

... ..

Taking to Air by the Gallery p.m. at the Theatre Guild. Also Saturday same time and place.

Bill Bob and Friends, 9 p.m. at the Beech House Pub.

The Paperboys with Treehouse, 9 p.m. at the Royal.

Hemp Revolution, an AS production film, 7 p.m. and 9 p.m. in AH 100. Also Sunday, same time and place, added showing at 4 p.m.

Comedy hypnosis with Master Hypnotist Robert Mac, 9 p.m. at The Elephant & Castle. Also Saturday, same time and place.

Saturday, March 9

Purim Masquerade Ball, 7:30 p.m. at the Shalom Center, sponsored by Hilel of WWU.

Sunday, March 10

Comedy night with Laurie Kilmartin, John Ferluga and Sherry O'Brian, 9 p.m. at the Elephant & Castle.

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Front/Jesse Nolte

Myria Le Noir, "hostess" of LGBA's charity drag queen show, poses for the camera.

What a DRAG

By Quincy Hanson and Kristin Connolly
Front reporters

It cost the residents of Buchanan Towers over \$600 to see one of their resident advisors in a dress, but it was worth every penny to Chuck Crider.

Crider's residents approached him with the idea, remembering a drag show last spring where another RA from BT dressed up. He said he would bring back the show and dress in drag if the residents raised \$350. They nearly doubled this goal.

Hundreds of people packed the Viking Union Main Lounge Tuesday evening to watch Western's charity drag show, sponsored by the Lesbian, Gay and Bisexual Alliance.

The show featured Crider and four drag queens from Vancouver, B.C. who perform Wednesday nights at Celebrities night club.

Myria Le Noir, "hostess" of the event, has been a drag queen for 15 years. Three other queens, Poly Ester, Pearl and Rachelle, joined "her."

The drag queens donated their time and accepted only half of the tip money generated at the show. The remaining tips, donations and money raised from ticket sales were donated to three charities in Bellingham and Seattle.

The Sean Humphrey House, a Bellingham adult family home for people with AIDS, received a portion of the total money raised, as did Shanti, a support service for family members of people with AIDS. Camp Rise and Shine, a Seattle

camp for children who have AIDS or have been affected by it, received a portion of the total proceeds, and of the Buchanan Towers donations.

"When kids lose someone they love, they lose a piece of themselves," Crider said.

Crider was excited to be contributing to Camp Rise and Shine. He said Rise and Shine is one of the best AIDS charities around.

The charity drag show ran according to "gay standard time" — starting 20 minutes late — a sponsor jokingly announced.

The queens put on an hour-and-a-half-long show of lip-synching and laughter, using humor to help out the cause.

The main event was when Crider appeared on-stage in a dishwater blond wig and a black and white satin dress.

Crider's look was not easy to achieve. Fortunately, four experienced queens were there to help out.

Crider said he spent more than three hours primping for the show. Not only did he shave his chest and underarms, but he also waxed his eyebrows and applied faux nails. The make-up alone took about an hour-and-a-half to apply.

"It was totally caked on, if you couldn't tell," Crider said.

Crider said he was pleased with the way the event turned out, and hopes LGBA will make this an annual event at Western.

Crider said he enjoyed his drag debut.

"It scares me that I would do it again, but I would do it again in a heartbeat."

Could it just be bad KARMA?

By Craig Scott
Front reporter

A lavishly descriptive voice sets "KARMA" apart from the exploding market of thriller novels.

Written by Bellingham author Mitchell Smith, "KARMA" is the story of Evan Scott, a wealthy New York architect who is drawn into an international conspiracy.

Scott and his wife, Catherine, are in a dying marriage. They stay together for the benefit of their daughter Beth.

Scott is in the midst of an affair with a young office worker, Sanchia. He realizes he goes to his wife for sex and to his girlfriend for love.

Scott is the sole witness to a woman's deadly fall from a 30-story building. He is convinced the fall wasn't accidental, but can find no evidence to support his theory.

Sanchia and Scott look into the files of the building's Hindu owners. The owners grow nervous that some undesirable secrets may be

unearthed, and Sanchia is brutally murdered.

Scott is joined in his struggle by Ram Dass Lal, a newsstand owner

he must bring down the Hindu mob without getting himself killed in the process and he must regain the love of a wife he betrayed.

"KARMA" contains the obligatory disbelieving police officers, who think Scott is a kook who killed his girlfriend. The protagonist is isolated in a manner similar to the hero of "The Firm."

Smith's rich descriptive style ensnares the reader. He builds even bit characters with his array of adjectives.

He describes an unnamed man:

He had a mustache, which looked odd on his face. It seemed to Dass almost a dog's face, as if the man had half changed into a pi dog ... But it was his eyes that most made him resemble a dog. His eyes were small, golden brown as a dog's that understood people as all dogs do. But this was a savage dog, and had eaten

corpses in the streets. While it is an entertaining read, "KARMA" never develops what its title suggests — the idea of reincarnation. Smith creates a Hindu mob, yet overlooks everything that

sets Hinduism apart from other religions.

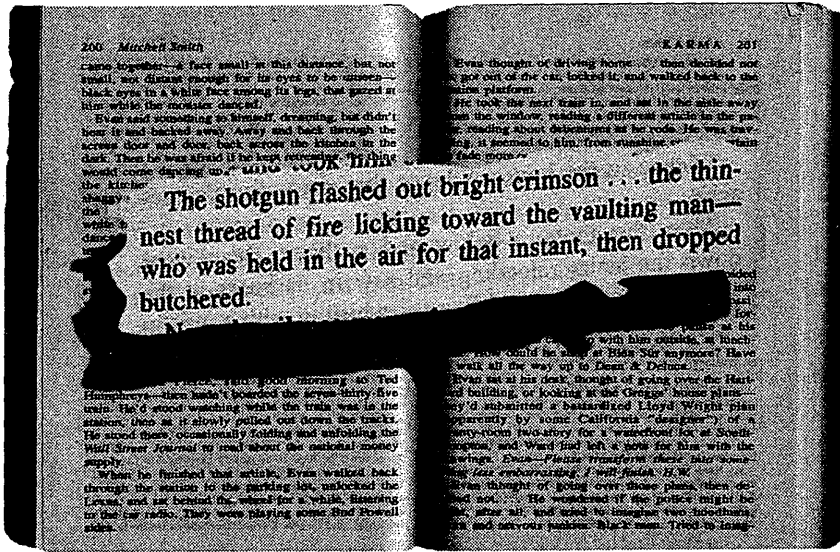
Instead, Smith develops an entertaining, though less interesting, hierarchical bond between Scott and Lal.

Both had served in the military and this convenience allows Smith to send his characters on some far fetched missions of vengeance against the Hindu mob.

Scott later compares war to a dance:

It moves back and forth; there's a rhythm to it, changes in gunfire movement. Everyone's frightened and everyone's angry, and they want to move together. You'll sense it, you'll sense it — and the secret is to feel those changes coming and move just a little early. To lead the dance.

Smith's novel is like a dance; his descriptive talent is quite sexy, but the plot has two left feet. Overall, "KARMA" is an entertaining read. Smith has also written three other novels; "Daydreams," "Stone City" and "Due North."



from India. Lal is the only person in New York who believes Scott's story.

Things begin to pile up on Scott: he must protect his family from enemies only he and Lal believe in,

The Hindu mob is quite clever; each murder is carefully concealed to appear as an accident. Even when the mob narrowly misses killing Beth, she doesn't recognize the peril her family is in.

Crawling into Sweet Water's boxers

Stories by Danny Hiestand, photos courtesy of Tom Degán

Before he came in from the cold Bellingham night, he had to take one last drag off his stubby cigarette, burnt nearly to the filter. Opening the sliding-glass door, steam rose from his sweat-soaked soccer shirt as the frigid air crept in.

He surveyed the conversation-filled room, walked over to a table and grabbed a water bottle.

"Oh my God, I'm sorry," he said. "You wanted to talk to me didn't you?" he asked, sitting down by the fireplace in the Viking Union Main Lounge

For lead singer Adam Czeisler and his band Sweet Water, the day has been one game after another — including a trip to the new casino outside of Burlington before their Western show. All of this doesn't seem to bother the man who enjoys a good game of pinball.

"I like pinball a lot. We do play a lot of video games on tour because there is nothing to do when we are driving," said Czeisler as a can of beer was cracked open in the background.

"Anything with competition we like," Czeisler said.

Such thirst for competition has made Sweet Water an up-and-coming force in the Seattle music industry. With two albums released since the band got together in 1991, the Seattle quartet hopes to make some louder noise on the music scene soon.

Q: Do you like playing in Bellingham?

Czeisler: I do. One time we played a show, I think at the Up and Up Tavern. That was fun. Actually, that was kind of insane because mid-set, somebody threw a beer at my face right in the middle of the song so I was getting really pissed. So Cole (Peterson) threw down his bass and fucking jumped in the crowd. He's like a lover, not a fighter, but he was ready to throw down instantly.

Q: What kind of a message do you try to send with your music?

Czeisler: In general, I just get up there and rock, especially when it's live. It's pretty much just all about having fun and just going crazy. In general, I try to write songs about things that are personal. More of, like, an emotion than a particular message.

Like, I'll write about feelings with relationships. Really personal stuff. I feel like that's the only thing that's risky for me. It's easy to say "hey, the fucking government is doing this," but that's totally not risky. The best songs are the ones where I take a risk about what I'm really feeling.

Q: What song does the audience seem to like the best?

Czeisler: They definitely like "Superstar". The audience likes songs that they've heard a lot, you know in general. Which is true with me too (when hearing other bands). I'm like "play your fucking hits, c'mon." So they like "Superstar."

Q: What songs do you like to play?

Czeisler: I definitely love "Superstar." I love playing "Crawl." We keep trying to ax that song, but it's just so fun to play. We kind of fuck it up, but by the end we'll just change it around. Like we'll just jam at the end and just do whatever happens.

Those are the funnest songs for me — the songs where it's like I don't know what's gonna happen next.

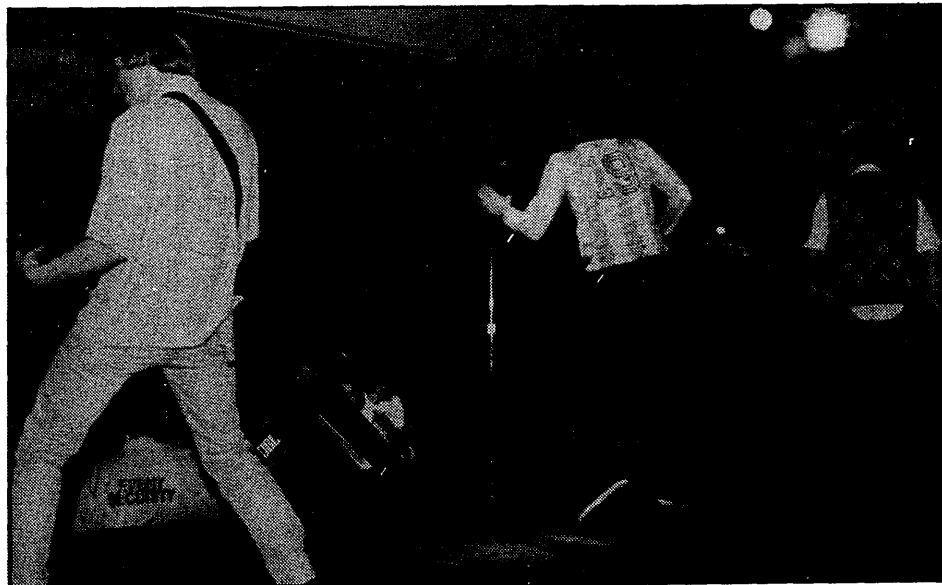
(Enter Cole Peterson, Sweet Water bass player.)

Q: Boxers or briefs?

Czeisler: I wear boxers. In ninth grade, this girl told me that all the cute guys wear boxers so you better not wear briefs.

Cole: I wear a jock strap all the time. I wake up in the morning, I put a condom on and I wear a jock strap so I'm always ready to go? Is that wrong? Did you or did you not have sex on your desk with the cleaning lady. Is that wrong? I gotta plead innocent if it's wrong because I worked at a lot of offices and that's the norm.

(Awkward silence)



Rich Credo, Adam Czeisler and Paul Uhler perform for almost 700 fans.

Czeisler: We love our fans.

Q: What do you want to accomplish with the band?

Czeisler: Besides ruling the world with a kind fist, I don't know. I love playing music. I love being on-stage. So if we could continue to do that for a long time, it would be great. If we could go around the country on tour and play in front of 2,000 people a night that would kick ass.

Q: What bands do you like to listen to?

Czeisler: Oh yeah. I'm really into, like, Blur and Elastica. I love the Screaming Trees. And I love the Dead Boys.

Q: Did you guys get along with all the bands you toured with?

Czeisler: Well not everyone. Alice in Chains: we know them and they are sort of friends, but they're not really easy to get along with. In general, yeah (we get along with other bands).

Before we toured much I always thought that, when you toured with a band, that "hey, we're gonna be friends with them and hang out." Often that doesn't happen when you are the opening band.

Q: What's the biggest perk of being in Sweet Water?

Czeisler: Honestly, I love playing on the stage in front of a lot of people. That's the

biggest perk. Sometimes I can get into shows for free, which is always nice.

Cole: Getting into any show you want for free. Not having to work is good. And living out a childhood fantasy of rocking, even though we have been at the same stage of rocking for too long. I want to get to the next level.

Q: Do you find that fan support is bigger in certain places?

Czeisler: Pretty much the Northwest is our stronghold, I'd say. It would be nice to spread that around the county.

Q: What's your favorite pinball game?

Czeisler: I like World Cup Soccer. It kicks ass.

Cole: In fact, Adam, we're in Bellingham. (Prodding Czeisler along) "Star Wars."

Czeisler: Oh that's true. This is the home of my "Star Wars" (pinball) record. I got like 500 million. It was really a crowning moment. I couldn't get off that game.

And so when Czeisler shook my hand after the interview, the grin on my face grew larger as I realized the enormity of what I had just done.

I just shook the hand of Adam Czeisler, a man who scored 500 million on a "Star Wars" pinball machine.

How sweet it is

Cake and Strychnine never tasted so good.

From the band's opening number, "Cake and Strychnine," until the end of the show, Sweet Water, a Seattle-based group, made the already-muggy Viking Union hotter.

A sea of nearly 700 anxious faces greeted the band as it took the stage Saturday night with the city lights of Bellingham shining through the windows in the background.

Lead singer Adam Czeisler held the audience in his hand throughout the show, using his own energy to generate crowd response.

And respond they did.

Several spectators were escorted out the door by security after shunning rules against crowd-surfing and being too rowdy. But that didn't stop the rest of the crowd from having a good time.

"I thought they were great," said Celia Palmer, a Western student who attended the concert. "I think they've grown a lot musically since they first started out. Adam (Czeisler) had the best stage presence, but I think the most important thing was that they were having fun, which helped us (the audience) to."

The band's best-known hits, "Feed Yourself" and "Superstar," got the biggest reaction from the crowd.

During "Superstar," the crowd was, metaphorically speaking, given the microphone during several verses. All the while, Czeisler seemed to gorge

himself on the plate of energy the crowd was serving up.

Later in the show, through the democratic decision of the crowd, a hearty cover of Pat Benatar's "Hit Me With Your Best Shot" cut through the effervescent atmosphere like a hot knife through generic margarine.

Western's own musical talents were represented earlier in the night.

Wearing a T-shirt that said "Hello My Name is Smartypants," drummer Ben Gibbard and Bellingham group Shed were first on the night's musical menu.

Lead vocalist Armin Bohn held his own behind the microphone, and kept the show light-hearted enough to take the time to say "hello" to fellow Western classmates from on-stage.

Bass-player Nick Harmer helped Shed produce a full, aggressive sound that at least kept the crowd paying close attention.

All three members of the band are Western students.

"We're not a punk rock band. We're not a grunge band. We are just a band that likes to play rock and roll," said Harmer.

Portland group Nero's Rome, another guitar-centered band, also played a half-hour set before Sweet Water took the stage.

Lead singer James Angell swooned the crowd with his dynamic voice and powerful, raw sound.



Bassist Cole Peterson plays for an avid crowd.

Vikings dethrone six-time champions

PNWAC player of year Sampson, Saunders each score 17 in victory; NAIA tournament next

By Bryan Woodward

Front reporter

Western women's basketball team's storybook season continued with a 67-55 Pacific Northwest Athletic Conference championship triumph over six-time defending champion Simon Fraser at Carver Gym Wednesday night.

Senior center Gina Sampson was named the 1995-96 PNWAC Player of the Year. Head Coach Carmen Dolfo won the 1995-1996 PNWAC Coach of the Year award for the second consecutive season.

Sampson and senior forward Addy Johnson earned a spot on the all-PNWAC first team. Western won nine straight contests and climbed to No. 7 in the NAIA Division I National Poll, and now head to the NAIA National Tournament for the first time since 1989.

"It's a great win for us," said Sampson, who scored a team-high 17 points along with sophomore forward April Saunders. "We're excited to get the PNWAC banner, but now we must focus on the trip to nationals; then, when it's all over, we'll be able to look back and enjoy it."

"It's not over," Johnson said. "We are excited and we feel good, but we didn't expect anything less."

With the automatic trip to the NAIA National Tournament March 13-19 in Jackson, Tenn., the Vikings look to add another successful chapter to this year's PNWAC championship season.

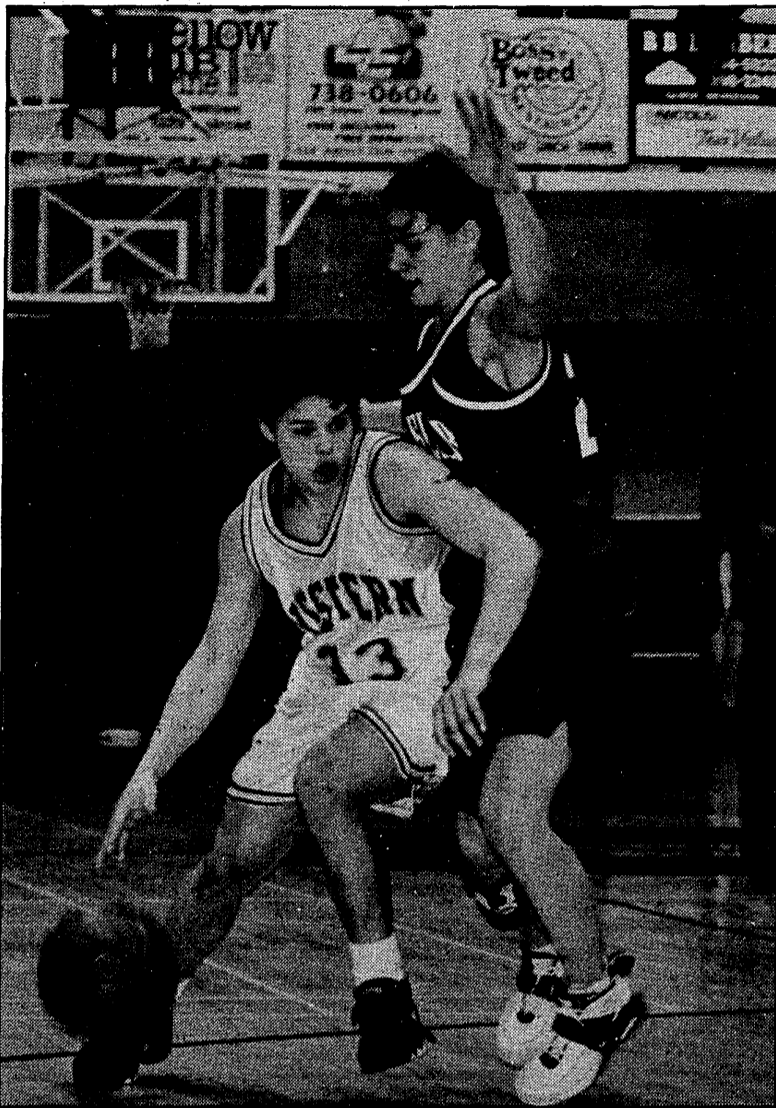
Western, the No. 6 seed, will face Northwestern Oklahoma State University Thursday at 7:45 p.m. PST in the single-elimination tournament. The Rangers received an at-large berth despite not being a top 25 team. The Rangers placed fourth in the Oklahoma Intercollegiate Athletic Conference standings at 8-6.

This will be Western's third NAIA national appearance. Dolfo has been on all three trips, as a player in 1986 and as an assistant coach in 1989.

"We want to go to nationals and actually accomplish something," Sampson said. "I think we have the potential to do that."

Western (24-6) defeated Simon Fraser in both league encounters — 68-48 on Jan. 11 and 68-61 on Feb. 15, but the Vikings knew the Clan was looking for revenge.

"We knew we beat them twice, but it did not matter,"



Front/Craig Stephens

Guard Kristy Eggen drives past a defender during Wednesday's win.

Johnson said. "We knew they were going to be up and ready for us."

No. 9 Simon Fraser (29-5), which received an at-large berth in the tournament, rattled the Vikings early in the contest. Junior center Eva Aiken scored six straight Clan points to help build a 19-16 advantage with 10:30 left in the first half.

"Aiken is an excellent player," said Sampson of the first-team PNWAC all-star, who scored a game-high 19 points.

"She's probably the best post player in the league."

The Vikings' deficit hovered around three points until April Saunders stepped it up. The Western forward scored five straight points, keyed by a 3-point play that tied the game at 21-21 with 7:55 remaining in the first half.

After Clan guard Kim McLeod converted one-of-two from the charity stripe, Sampson added two free throws at the other end to give the Vikings a 23-22 advantage, a lead they would never relinquish.

The Vikings led 35-28 at halftime, but a change in strategy helped Western expand the lead early in the second half.

"We knew April and Gina scored a lot in the first half," said Dolfo of Western's leading scorers who combined for 29 first-half points, along with six points from sophomore center Kari Gruendell. "We wanted to kick it outside in the second half."

After Simon Fraser center Joby McKenzie connected for two of her 13 points on a four-foot jumper to close the gap to 35-30, Western's sharpshooters took the game over.

Sophomore guard Kristi Eggen scored the first five second-half points for the Vikings, including a 3-point bomb that gave Western its first double-digit lead at 40-30 with 16:10 remaining.

Junior guard Heidi Van Brocklin, not to be outdone, scored the Vikings next five points, including another 3-pointer.

"I think we looked more toward the outside in the second half," said Van Brocklin, whose team went 0-4 from 3-point range in the first half, 3-4 in the second half.

The Clan closed the deficit to seven at 49-42 after Megan Scott drained a 6-foot jumper.

But Vikings guard K. C. Mattingly's 3-pointer built the lead to 52-42 and helped seal the victory.

"Our perimeter shooters stepped it up," Mattingly said. "It was simply a pure team effort."

Western converted 8-of-9 free throws in the last 1:31 to maintain the double-digit margin, including 6-of-7 from Van Brocklin who scored 11 points, all in the second half.

"That's a quality of a championship team," Dolfo said of her team, which had only three players score in first half, compared to seven in the second.

"We can take whatever a team takes away from us, and we always have someone else who rises up."

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Orcas to kick off soccer season

By D. Eric Jones
Front reporter

The kickoff slated for 7 p.m. on April 27 at Civic Stadium will be the official start of minor-league soccer in Bellingham. The Bellingham Orcas will begin their soccer season against the Puget Sound Hammers after only two exhibition contests.

The season of mostly Friday and Saturday evening games will run through the end of July.

A deal was completed on Feb. 23 to bring the Vancouver 86ers to town for an April 19 preseason game.

"Everyone is really pleased with the addition of Orcas to Bellingham," said Chuck Dehnert, head of the Soccer Commission. "The whole soccer community is just pumped."

The commission is permitting the Orcas to hold tryouts at Northwest Soccer Park at the intersection of Smith Road and Northwest Avenue, just south of Ferndale.

The idea for the team began more than a year ago. Orcas President Martin Spencer examined the prospects of cre-

ating a team in conjunction with the United States Interregional Soccer League. Two games featuring the Everett BigFoot were played at Civic Field last year to test the local market. Approximately 760 people showed up for the first contest and about 490 attended the second. After these successes, Spencer's group decided to pursue a team for Bellingham.

"Getting 1,000 people to Civic (for home games) is our goal," Spencer said.

The main purpose of the club is to provide great family entertainment with top soccer and to provide a developmental path for players.

The Orcas also hope to be a local instrument through which regional soccer players can advance to the Major Soccer League.

Tickets will be available on an individual-game basis or in the form of season passes. All seats will be general admission. Game tickets are \$8 premium (which includes a game program), \$6 adult, \$4 youth or senior and \$20 family. Season passes are \$66 adult, \$44 youth or senior and \$220 family.

Head Coach Kevin Quinn coached

Western's men's soccer squad for eight years until he resigned in April. Quinn was called upon after Paul Meehan, Bellevue Community College's men's soccer coach, stepped down in February. Quinn's record was 79-81-9 at Western.

Assistant coaches for the Orcas are current (Evergreen State College) men's soccer coach Sean Bushey and current Western women's soccer coach Derrek Falor.

The Orcas will compete in the West Premier Division of the USISL and be affiliated with Colorado Rapids of the MSL. Other teams in the division are the Montclair Falcons, Puget Sound Hammers, San Diego Top Guns, San Francisco Seals, San Luis Obispo Road Runners, Spokane Shadow, Southern California Gunners, Tucson Amigos and Willamette Valley Firebirds.

All of the Orcas' players will be uncompensated, but Spencer emphasizes "they will compete against some really competitive paid teams."

"I've watched some of these players develop over the years. It's great that now they have an outlet besides the men's open division," Dehnert said.

Men's Golf
March 8, 12:30 p.m. vs. Simon Fraser University at Morgan Creek Golf and Country Club

Fastpitch Softball
March 8-10, Central Washington University Invitational Tournament in Yakima

Track and Field
March 9, 10 a.m. Salzman Invitational at Pacific Lutheran University

Rugby
March 9, 1 p.m. vs. Japan at 15th Street Field in Mount Vernon

Hlebechuk leads Vikings fastpitch softball to 4-0 record

By Jason Stoner and Reiko Huckle
Front reporters

The Concordia (Ore.) Cavaliers women's fastpitch softball team came to Western Thursday for a double-header.

During the first game, they were severely stung when the Vikings defeated them 15-0.

The next game was a far less humiliating 6-2 loss for the Cavaliers.

Western is 4-0 this season. Concordia now has a 1-3 record.

"They (Vikings) played two very good games tonight," Vikings' Head Coach Art

Phinney said. "We look the way we thought we'd look like at the beginning of the year. We're even better offensively."

Freshman Kati Clayborn performed well in the first game, going 3-for-3 with two runs scored and two RBI.

Western scored quickly by pushing across a run in the first inning. During the second, third and fourth innings, Western was able to score 14 runs.

Sophomore Kerri Hook also helped, going 2-for-4 with a triple, a stolen base and an RBI. Freshman Jamie Hlebechuk led the game with four runs.

In the second game, each team scored in the first inning. Western got three runs in

the second.

Concordia tried to come back, scoring once in the fourth. In the seventh, the Vikings slammed the door on the Cavaliers with two more runs. During the second game none of the Vikings scored more than one run each.

Hlebechek contributed a 2-for-4 performance, including an RBI, a run scored and a stolen base.

Brenda Blancas, the team's only senior, went 2-for-4 with two doubles.

"We need to execute our plays better. About the the only thing we need is experience," Phinney said.

Of the two games, the only home run for

Western was by Blancas in the first game.

On Tuesday, the Vikings swept Highline Community College in a game not reflected in the standings.

Western won the first game 6-4. The second game ended in an 11-11 tie when the lights shut off.

Because Highline is only a two-year college, Phinney said, "We knew they would play hard, but we felt we should win."

Freshmen Cathy Johnson and Tawnya Miller each had two RBI. Hook and Jen Brandolini each had a double.

"I think we are playing well as a team," Johnson said. "We get along well. I'm looking forward to a good season."

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Frontline

Children must have love, understanding from parents

When he was just 13 years old, Eric Smith lured a 5-year-old boy into a wooded area in New York, where he sodomized and beat the child to death.

This past December, two 12-year-old boys dropped a 5-year-old boy from the window of a high-rise building in the Chicago projects because he refused to get them candy.

Three boys, aged 9, 11 and 12 sexually molested and raped a 6-year-old girl in Bellingham this past May. Crimes among children seem to be growing at a staggering rate.

It's a tragic epidemic that will continue to plague our society if we don't open our eyes and respond to the needs of our children.

A child is a fragile, vulnerable, impressionable human being who requires large amounts of love, nurturing and understanding. Parents are responsible for providing these necessities.

Our society doesn't seem to get it, though. Why do people with significant problems in their lives continue to bear children?

Alcoholics, drug addicts, abusers and perverts bring children into this world, apparently without a thought of how their lifestyles and problems will affect their children.

Events that take place early in children's lives shape them immediately and may pave the path they follow for the duration of their childhoods. Four young lives have been horribly affected by the rape and sexual molestation of the 6-year-old Bellingham girl.

The 11-year-old boy experienced a childhood of abuse and neglect. The 13-year-old is now a registered level III sex offender because he showed no remorse for his crime. His name and picture are published. His life is changed forever. He has been in and out of foster homes throughout his childhood.

Of course, some children are born with psychological disorders that have nothing to do with their upbringings, but parents need to watch and listen to their children closely. When they detect their children are having problems, they need to respond, help and communicate with their children.

The way children perceive life and the way they treat others depends a great deal on the parental figures and caregivers in their lives.

If these young boys' caregivers and parents would have invested all their time, energy, love and understanding into their children, a 6-year-old girl wouldn't have been exposed to an evil no child should have knowledge of, let alone have experienced.

—Renée Pedranti, Assistant News editor

The Western Front

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NEWS ITEM: COURTS APPROVE ASSISTED SUICIDE

DEAD WEEK TAKES ON A WHOLE NEW MEANING...



Biked and skated out of Western; Students need to cope without their wheels

Bicyclists and in-line skaters are about to get the boot, and it's about time!

The proposed policy would expand the bicycle-dismount area beyond Red Square to almost all student fairways and prohibit in-line skating.

Similar efforts banned skateboards and parachute pants in the late 1980s.

Barring in-line skaters from Western's campus wouldn't be a loss, because skaters aren't actually students.

Skaters are in a trade union with other curious folk around campus, namely hacky-sackers and Frisbee-tossers.

These people show up at 8 a.m. and begin an intensive day of showing off and drinking lattes.

Around noon, they break for lunch. Students may make fun of their baggy pants, but no one wonders where they store their lunchboxes.

This whole union of tricksters is but a small branch of Western's Commission Responsible for Useless Stuff.

CRUST is the group who paid oodles of bucks for someone to erect three orange steel girders in front of the Performing Arts Center and deem it "art."

This funding from CRUST could be easily redistributed to more useful purposes, like stopping the Henson system from crashing every third day.

Without employment, the skaters and their friends would migrate *en masse* back to



California.

So getting rid of the skaters won't be hard. But the tradition of cheap transportation and college campuses go back to the times of the founding fathers.

Early American college students, unable to afford wagons, were forced to borrow their parents' cows and ride the beasts to school.

Wealthier students could afford horses and were able to sleep in, not having to milk their rides before leaving for school.

Students secured their rides with the wooden predecessors of The Club.

However, these were no match for the clever pranksters who teased the students by hiding their cows in Wisconsin.

Unfortunately, the cows were never recovered, so the founding fathers imported cheaper cows from Japan.

Bicycles have replaced cows as cheap college transportation.

But bikes are a completely different matter. Besides not covering the walkways with weewee and other foreign objects, the use of bicycles inevitably turns normal people into freaks.

Has anyone ever watched bicycle racers on television?

Those guys have quadriceps the size of Massachusetts, which isn't anything to be ashamed of, except that the men shave their legs

While this may not shock anyone living in Fairhaven, these hairless guys then dress themselves in shorts tight enough to show off muscles that humans weren't intended to have.

Young generations tend to emulate sports heroes; thus without immediate action, college students everywhere may start dressing in tights and shaving their bodies.

Such clear affronts to American family values require a more drastic response: bikes should be outlawed, on campus, if nowhere else.

But if bicycles are outlawed, then only outlaws will have bicycles.

Unlike with the NRA, this problem could be solved by increasing police jurisdiction. Western could utilize its resident advisors to enforce the ban.

Rounds for the RAs would obviously be busier ("I'm going to have to ask you to pour out that beer, and ... is that a bike?"), but everyone knows that RAs do nothing but sit in their rooms and check their voice mail.

Finally, once bicyclists and in-line skaters are outlawed, Western can set about replacing the bike parking with more car parking, so students could have front-door service to their Environmental Studies classes.

Letters Policy

The Western Front accepts articles and opinions of up to 350 words on any topic. We reserve the right to edit articles and letters to the editor for style, grammar, punctuation, spelling, length and libel. Letters must be typed and signed with a phone number for verification purposes. Please send all materials to The Western Front, College Hall 09, Bellingham, Wash., 98225 or e-mail to wfront@cc.wvu.edu.

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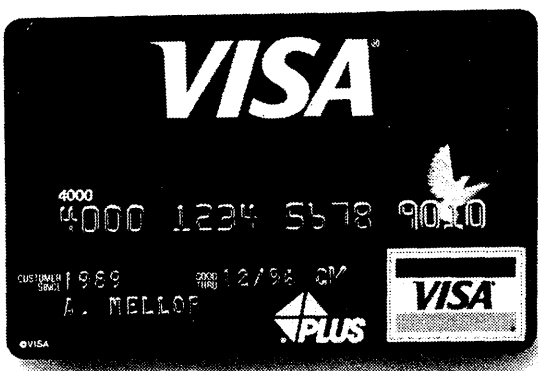
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