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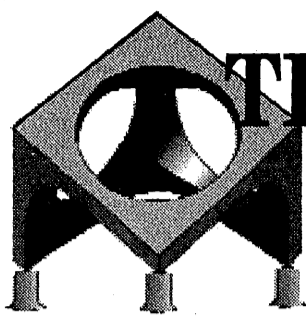


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Tuesday,
May 13, 1997
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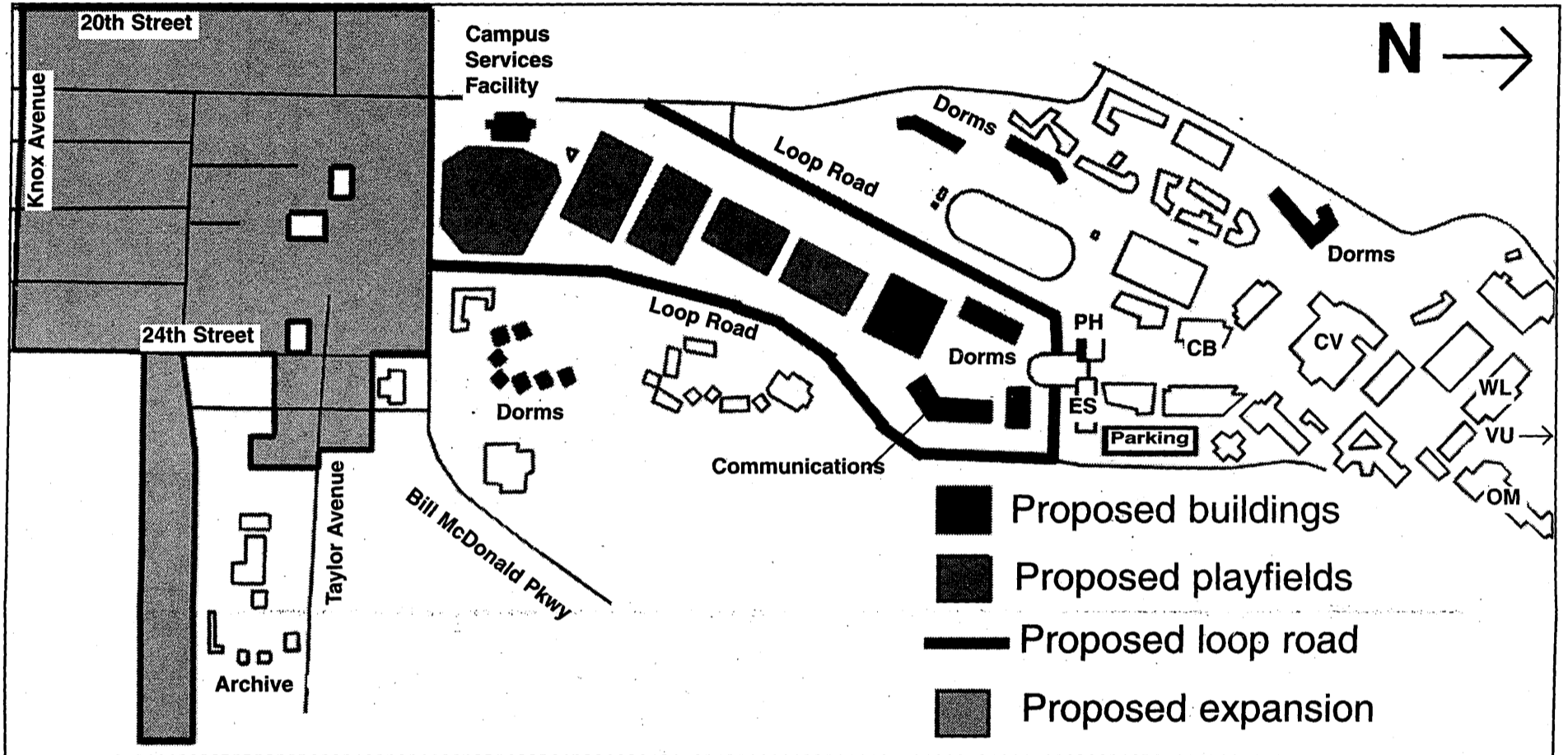


THE WESTERN FRONT

Western Washington University

Bellingham, Washington

Western plans for expansion



Front/Vincent Verhei

MASTER PLAN First in a series of four

By Arvid Hokanson
The Western Front

Fueled in part by increasing demands on Western's campus facilities and space, the administration has completed its Draft Comprehensive Master Plan, formulated to provide a long-term foundation for future capital improvements to campus.

Western faces limited classroom space coupled with aging and inadequate academic and support facilities. Faculty office space exemplifies an area that has outgrown its current physical resources.

"We're up against capacity for spaces. We have had to push grad students out of spaces they previously occupied along with the professors emeritus," University Planning Committee Chairman John Miles said.

Another major issue facing Western is the projected growth of the college-age population. "Demographic projections for

growth in the college age (17-23) population due to children of the baby-boom generation and migration to the state will put increased pressure, especially on west-side universities, to accommodate more students," said Renee Roberts, Western assistant budget director — capital, said.

The master plan was conceived in part in 1974 by Western to help meet these and other future enrollment demands.

"We use it (the master plan) as a basis for making decisions," Western President Karen Morse said. "The campus master plan will give us guidance on what needs to be done and the direction the university is going to go ... It is a long-term plan. Some of these things may not happen for 25 to 40 years."

Roberts said, "Western's strategic plan, which is currently being revised, outlines academic programs and directions, while the campus master plan develops the physical improvements required to meet those goals."

But the master plan has not been received entirely with open arms. Members of the surrounding neighborhoods and Western have raised questions about vari-

ous aspects of the plan.

Three big issues: parking, land acquisition and the proposed "loop road" stand out in both the minds of administrators and citizens.

In particular, land acquisition has caused an uproar in the Happy Valley neighborhood. Much of Happy Valley, located south of the commuter parking lots, stands within the proposed

... It is a long-term plan. Some of these things may not happen for 25 to 40 years.
— Karen Morse,
Western president

boundary. Western has designated land south to Knox Avenue and from 20th Street to just east of the Physical Plant as a future development zone.

George Pierce, Western vice president of business and financial affairs, said Western does not have specific plans for the area at this time, and until enough acquisition money from the state is allocated, can possibilities of both use and acquisition be considered.

Citizens have also complained

that Western has not been open about its intentions.

To help inform citizens, Western has been sponsoring supplemental town meetings. But South Hill resident Tom Ashton said, "Until I went to a town meeting, I had no idea what was going on (with the master plan)."

The master plan outlines projects on and off the existing campus, including the addition of academic buildings, athletic fields, dormitories and parking complexes. The plan also includes road improvements and developments for pedestrian, bicycle and transit access and safety.

The reclamation of green space, the desire to maintain a 10-minute walk between classes, parking, the shift of non-academic and support facilities away from the academic core and maximum utilization of existing space are considerations in the planning.

Specific plans for Western's campus include a new academic quad south of Haskell Plaza and Environmental Studies Building, a "loop road" that would be a re-configured south college drive from Bill McDonald Parkway circling around the proposed quad

and connecting to 21st Street and Bill McDonald Parkway where the new campus-services facility will be located.

The services facility would house University Police, Parking and Transportation Services and the Student Health Center.

The State Legislature has appropriated \$204,400 for the 1997-99 biennium to fund the pre-design process of the communications building located in the new academic quad.

Before any of the concepts of the master plan can be considered however, the City of Bellingham must approve it.

The master plan will be on the agenda of the Bellingham Planning Commission on June 5, when citizens will be allowed to give their input. The Planning Commission must approve the master plan before it goes on to final approval by the Bellingham City Council. Any other changes that are recommended to the master plan must also go before Western's Board of Trustees.

Part two will examine Western's neighbors concerns pertaining to the handling of information and the plan's intentions.

Additional reporting by Jacob Henifin.

COPIES BOX

Campus Police

Campus Police had no reports as of May 12

Bellingham Police

May 9, 2:23 p.m.: Officers responded to a call that an intoxicated man was found lying face down in the 1700 block of Ellis Street. The officers transported him to detox, and then to the hospital where he received medical attention. The man was then transported to Whatcom County Jail where he was detained until he sobered up.

May 9, 5:07 p.m.: A juvenile was detained for shoplifting in the Bon Marché at Bellis Fair Mall. He was advised by officers of criminal trespass and told not to return for a year.

May 9, 5:16 p.m.: The occupants of a house in the 2200 block of Burn Street reported their residence was burglarized sometime during the day while they were gone. The police have no suspects at this time.

May 9, 7:36 p.m.: A juvenile was arrested in the corner of East Sunset Drive and James Street for possession of stolen property. He was driving a stolen car at the time.

May 10, 10:44 a.m.: A man was arrested in the 200 block of North Samish Way and booked into Whatcom County Jail for possession of a controlled substance with intent to deliver.

May 10, 5:21 p.m.: Officers responded to complaints of a loud party in the 1000 block of Potter Street. The occupants had everyone leave the party and were warned to turn down the music. They were also told if any more complaints were made, citations would be issued.

May 10, 10:50 p.m.: A woman was arrested in the corner of Frazier and James Streets and booked into Whatcom County Jail for driving with a suspended license, driving under the influence of alcohol, and hit and run of property.

May 11, 2:09 a.m.: A woman was arrested in the 800 block Harris Avenue for driving under the influence of alcohol.

May 11, 11:50 p.m.: Officers responded to a reported vehicle theft in the 3000 block of Edens Avenue. When they arrived, they found a vehicle had been broken into, and an in-dash CD-player stereo and 35mm camera were stolen.

May 11, 4:50 p.m.: Officers responded to a report of an attempted suicide in the 1300 block of Lakeway Drive.

Cops Box compiled by Kevin Rus

Western Briefs

Women's Center presents reproductive rights project

The Reproductive Rights Awareness Project will be at Western from 7-8:30 p.m. on May 14, sponsored by the Women's Center.

The goal of RRAP is to educate young adults about the evolutionary history of reproductive rights in this country. The information provided is designed to close the age gap between those who have dealt with issues surrounding illegal abortion and those who have not.

The topics addressed by RRAP include: the history of reproductive rights in the United States from the early 1800s to the present; court cases that are relevant to the issue and their impact on access to safe, legal reproductive healthcare; political movements and laws that help or hinder access to reproductive healthcare; and creating a proactive network of concerned pro-choice advocates.

Gerontology program will enroll another class

An informational meeting at 7 p.m. May 13 in the Adult Day Care Center at St. Joseph Hospital's South Campus will discuss the two-year Gerontology Certificate Program at Western designed to prepare students working with or planning to work with senior citizens. A second session of this program begins in fall 1997.

For more information contact University Extended Programs at 650-6854.

Tuition, fee waiver offered by women studies program

The women studies program is offering one tuition and fee waiver totaling \$750 for the 1997-1998 academic year. Scholarship applicants must be women studies minors, majors or concentrations who demonstrate a passion for and an advanced knowledge of women studies and are in excellent academic standing. Interested persons must submit transcripts, two letters of recommendation from women studies faculty, a writing sample, personal statement and a scholarship application.

Details and applications are available from the women studies office in Miller Hall 177. The deadline is 5 p.m. May 16.

Upcoming Presentations:

- Jobs with Justice and ASP Social Issues present the film "Union Maids" at 7 p.m. Thursday May 15 in Miller Hall 163. For more information call 647-8080 or 650-6804.

- A Happy Valley neighborhood meeting is scheduled for 7 p.m. Wednesday May 14 at the Happy Valley Elementary School cafeteria to gather comment from the community on the draft comprehensive campus master plan.

- The Center for Canadian-American Studies speaker series presents executive director of the T. Buck Suzuki Environmental Foundation in Vancouver, B.C., Mae Burrows, as she discusses "Multi-Stakeholder Processes: Activist Containment vs.

Grassroots Mobilizing" at 3 p.m. Wednesday May 14 in Environmental Science 100. For more information, call 650-3728.

- Western Gallery Director and Art Historian Sarah Clark-Langager will conduct tours of the gallery's current show, "Rediscovering the Landscape of the Americas," at noon Wednesdays May 14, 21 and 28. The tours are free and open to the public. For more information, call 650-3963.

- "The Cherry Orchard" by Anton Chekhov, translation by Michael Frayn and directed by Jim Lortz, is playing at 7:30 p.m. May 14-17 and 2 p.m. May 18 at the Performing Arts Center Mainstage. Admission costs are \$10 general, \$8 for seniors and \$6 for students.

- As part of Communication Week, the communication department will be sponsoring an oratory contest at 9 a.m. May 15 in the Library Presentation Room, open to both majors and non-majors. Presentations must be the original work of the student and written since May 15, 1996. To participate contact Tim Allen at 650-4879.

- A variety of books and recordings will be sold from 10 a.m. to 3 p.m. Thursday May 15 in the PAC lobby. Proceeds from the sale benefit Western's Friends of the Music Library. For more information, call Marian Ritter at 650-3696.

Western Briefs compiled by Norah West

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

FALL QUARTER DEGREE APPLICANTS: All students who expect to graduate at the close of fall quarter, 1997, must have a degree application on file in the Registrar's Office, OM 230, by June 6.

WINTER QUARTER DEGREE APPLICANTS: Students who expect to graduate at the close of winter quarter, 1998, must have a degree application on file in the Registrar's Office, OM 230, by August 22. It is strongly recommended that major evaluation be completed before summer quarter, as many advisers/departments will be unavailable summer quarter.

LAST DAY FOR LATE COURSE WITHDRAWAL for spring quarter is Friday, May 16, for students with late withdrawal privileges.

PHASE I REGISTRATION FOR SUMMER continues through Friday, May 16. Pick up a *Summer Bulletin* in OM 230 to get your registration time.

APPLICATIONS ARE DUE BY MAY 16 for the Washington State Legislative Internship program for winter, 1998. Information and applications are available in AH 415. Qualified undergraduate majors in all disciplines are eligible with at least junior standing and a minimum GPA of 2.75.

KEEP YOUR WESTERN CARD! The Western Card Office will validate cards for students registered for summer or fall quarters. Validation is free. Replacement fee for lost, damaged or stolen cards is \$7. Validation is required for use at Lakewood and the Carver Gym equipment cage.

STUDENT PARKING PERMIT APPLICATIONS for 1997-98 are available at the Parking and Transportation Services office on 21st Street. Students who are out of town may contact the parking office, 650-2945, to request that an application be mailed. Applications are due by July 31.

SWAP AND SHOP, Sunday, May 18, 11 a.m.-3 p.m., sponsored by Fairhaven Residence Community. All on-campus residents are invited to bring clothing, music, books and other items to the Fairhaven Courtyard to sell or to donate to a local charity. Faculty and staff are welcome to shop or to donate items.

AN OPEN HEARING ON S&A FEE SPLIT for the 1997-98 academic year will be held at 5 p.m. Monday, May 19, in VA 464. This is the last chance for the campus community to offer comment.

REGISTRATION IS NOT REQUIRED FOR THE MATH PLACEMENT TEST. A \$10 fee must be paid in exact amount at time of testing. Photo ID and No. 2 pencil required. Allow 90 minutes. Testing is in OM 120 at 9 a.m. Monday test dates are May 19, June 2 and 9. Thursday test dates are May 15, 22, 29 and June 12.

SEVERAL JOB SEARCH AND CAREER WORKSHOPS ARE SCHEDULED throughout spring quarter at the Career Services Center. Due to space limitations, signups for workshops are required. For complete information on workshop descriptions, dates and times, contact the Career Services Center, X/3240, OM 280.

On-campus recruiting

Signups for on-campus interviews are required in Old Main 280. Additional information on many positions is available in the career library and/or signup folders. For more information, contact the Career Services Center, OM 280, X/3240.

- Lake Chelan School District, Wednesday, May 14. Submit resumé when you sign up.

- Wells Fargo, Thursday, May 15. Submit resumé in OM 280 when you sign up for interview.

- Payless Shoe Source, Thursday, May 22. See employer information in career library. Submit a resumé at signup in OM 280.

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AP news from around the globe

Regional

Remains of park worker found on Mount Rainier

ASHFORD — The remains of a national park worker, who disappeared on Mount Rainier in October, have been found.

The park service says the remains of 43-year-old Sheila Ann Kearns were found Saturday by a park volunteer.

Kearns had moved to Longmire to work at the National Park Inn when she disappeared the evening of Oct 4.

The FBI is investigating, but a \$20,000 reward has been offered for information leading to an arrest in this case.

Extra hurt during filming of Kevin Costner movie

REDMOND — A Bend woman is in stable condition after she was thrown from her horse and broke her pelvis during the filming of Kevin Costner's movie, "The Postman."

Debra Ann Lane and more than 100 other extras were on horses running across a field along the crooked river. Somehow, Lane's horse was spooked and started bucking.

National

Explosion hits Indiana City

KOKOMO, Ind. — An explosion has rocked a propane gas business in Kokomo, Indiana.

The blast took out a corner of the cinder block building and forced at least 100 families from nearby homes.

Search called off for four aboard downed helicopter

CAMP PENDLETON, Calif. — All hopes for finding four missing Marines off the coast of California are apparently gone.

The Marines went down in the C-H-46 Sea Knight helicopter Saturday about 10 miles south of the base. Rescuers called off the search last night as pieces of the helicopter washed ashore.

The cause of the crash remains under investigation. Saturday's crash was the second in less than a month involving a Sea Knight, one of the oldest aircraft still used

by the U.S. military.

International

AIDS concerns delay pill's approval in Japan

TOKYO — Birth control pills aren't widely used in Japan, and they may not be anytime soon.

A Japanese government panel Monday delayed a move toward approving oral contraceptives for general use. The plan ran into opposition from public health experts who warn the pill could increase the risk of spreading AIDS.

The health officials say the use of the pill would discourage use of condoms — the number one birth control in Japan. Condoms are also credited with limiting the

spread of AIDS in Japan.

The government has been considering approval of the pill since the mid-1980s.

Iranian quake victims receiving international aid

HAJIBAD, Iran — The world is responding with food, blankets and aid for Iranian earthquake victims.

The first trucks loaded with international aid began arriving in eastern Iran Monday. The quake left an estimated 50,000 people homeless.

Official government figures have 2,400 dead and 6,000 injured.

AP Wire compiled by Molly Hernandez

Students no longer need 'stress channel'

Open class lists available online

By Sara Buckwitz
The Western Front

The open class list is now available on the Web, instead of just on channel 6, as in the past. Students can access the list, which is updated every 10 minutes, by going to Western's homepage via Netscape or Lynx, Advising Coordinator Steve Gulig said.

The hope is these lists "can help students plan their schedules in advance," Gulig said.

The open class list shows the vital information for registration, such as the RSVP section number. The list will also display the new sections as they are added, but to see the changes students need to reload the list.

"We see this as a permanent fixture," Gulig said.

Students registering for summer quarter, which began Monday, will be the first

to find this list useful.

The open class list has been up since March, but that was halfway through spring quarter.

The idea of online open class lists was hatched by Gulig in January.

Steve LaBree from the Registrar's Office helped develop the theoretical aspect. Administrative Computers Services carried out the technical aspects of the site.

To access the website for Netscape, first go to Western's homepage, then enter the "Admissions and Registration" sub-heading and then click on "Current Open Sections."

Students can also access the open class list through their e-mail accounts by first logging in as you normally would until you come to the prompt. At this point, type "lynx." Then use the down arrow key until the "Admissions/ Registration" subheading is highlighted. Hit enter.

On the next page, use the down arrow key again until the "Current Open Sections" subhead is highlighted. Hit enter again. From that point choose the department you want to check for open classes.

Pop Tart man returns with Mickey pancakes

By Jon Collamer
The Western Front

Students walked by in awe Friday as they passed the famous Pop Tart man. But this time Jon Hansen has enhanced his culinary skills; he no longer just drops a sugar-coated tart into a toaster, he now makes full-fledged Mickey Mouse pancakes with syrup, butter and even orange juice.

Hansen made pancakes for hungry college students hanging out in Red Square. The man behind the griddle said he started last spring quarter with pop tarts.

"I was just walking by and I saw the outlet and said 'I have to have a Pop Tart party,'" Hansen said.

Hansen brought his toaster and some '80s music and set up shop. He said he had a great time.

"I just like doing random acts of kindness," Hansen said.

Hansen said he's come to understand he doesn't have to get something in return for doing something nice.

"Some people give the weirdest looks, but then they come over and say 'Can I

have one,'" Hansen said.

Hansen said he likes to go out of way to help people.

"It gives me this warm fuzzy feeling," Hansen said.

Hansen provides all the appliances and pays for the food out of his pocket.

"My mom let me borrow the griddle," Hansen said.

This social event brings people together and increases the odds of Hansen meeting a girl.

"It's a chick magnet. It just attracts girls. You see the girl to guy ratio here (which was six to two)," Hansen said.

Hansen said that when he dies he wants to be remembered as someone who had a profound impact on peoples lives.

He is the first person to do something of this nature. "I'm a self-proclaimed legend," Hansen said.

For those who missed Hansen and his Mickey Mouse pancakes, he will be doing it again at lunch time on Friday May 23 at the big black light post next to the fountain in Red Square, weather permitting. "I don't want to get electrocuted," Hansen said.

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WESTERN FRONT CLASSIFIEDS SELL!

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'It's the end of the world as we know it, and I feel fine'

By Scott Morris
The Western Front

People who think the end of the world is coming have a long Judeo-Christian history from which to draw their ideas, said Western professor Rob Stoops. But don't count him as one of these people.

"I'm not going to tell you when the end of the world is coming," Stoops said at a lecture last week in the Wilson Library Presentation Room. "There are other places in town where you can get answers for that," he joked.

Stoops has been studying the history of Christian apocalyptic theology for a summer research grant, which he said he hopes eventually to expand into a book.

Stoops said he is interested in apocalyptic thinking because of its prevalence and influence throughout Christian history.

One of the most basic tenets Stoops found consistently was the idea of a judgment day, "where the righteous get rewarded, and the wicked get punished."

Despite this recurrence, Stoops said not many good scholarly works exist on apocalyptic books of the Bible, such as Revelations.

"The apocalyptic stuff is always just slightly off-stage," especially in the New Testament, Stoops said.

Stoops said it was ironic that many of the contemporary denominations' theological interpretations of the "end-times" were formed in the early 1800s, "just before archaeologists unearthed all this stuff that helped us understand the Bible historically."

Stoops' found, however, that modern interpretations have roots that trace back to the earliest Christian history. Similarly, early Christians were heavily influenced by Old Testament books such as Daniel and other Hebrew scriptures that detailed apocalyptic visions.

Early Christians identified with books like Daniel, Stoops said, because they were suffering the same kind of religious and political persecution that the Jews were in the second century B.C., when most scholars believe the book of Daniel was written.

In both times, temples and churches were desecrated and destroyed by hostile empires, and religious believers were jailed. Stoops said the events of the day were challenging Judeo-Christian beliefs, because the righteous, instead of being rewarded, were suffering while the secular people were left alone.

Stoops said Christians built upon the Judaic tradition of using prophetic visions to reassure believers that righteousness would be restored in the end.

But the use of symbolism in the book of Revelations has led many believers to try to apply the mysterious imagery to specific dates, Stoop said.

Others, he said, including many contemporary fundamentalists, look for signs that fulfill apocalyptic prophecies, such as political movement toward one-world-government, a world ruler, the restoration of Israel, the rebuilding of the Jewish temple in Jerusalem and nuclear weapons. He said he found a "rap-ture index" on the internet listing signs in the news of the coming end.

Stoops had a few sarcastic comments about those who are making money on the apocalypse.

"Every time that someone sits down to calculate the dates (for the end of the world), it's always to push it back," he joked. But, he added, it's not all whimsical.

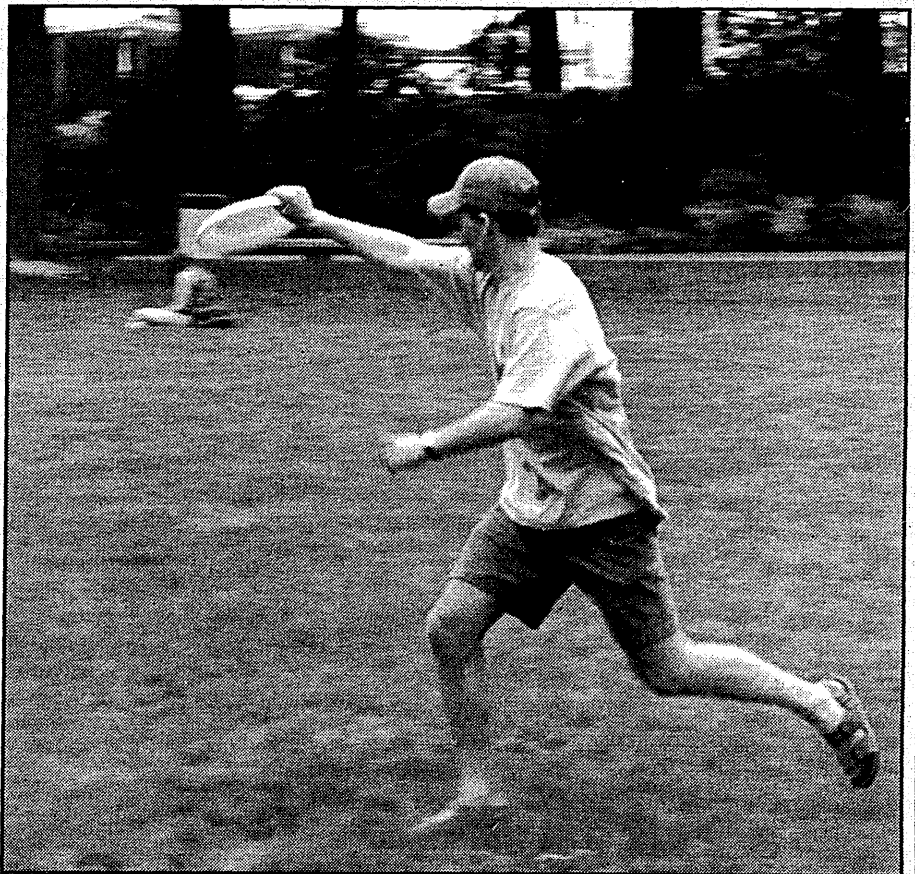
"I do think apocalyptic thinking has served interesting purposes," Stoops said.

He said this particular mind-set was very comforting and unifying for believers, both in terms of the political and religious revolutions they were being persecuted for pursuing.

Every time that someone sits down to calculate the dates (for the end of the world), it's always to push it back.

— Rob Stoops
Western professor

Discs are flying



Front/Aaron Dahl
Business major Jeremy Fichter plays frisbee in front of Old Main Monday.

Residents will fast on May 15 for homelessness awareness

By Brian Kingsberry
The Western Front

On May 15, Whatcom County citizens will be participating in an all-day fast to raise public awareness and interest in local homeless issues. The fast is sponsored by the Whatcom County Homeless Coalition, the American Homeless Society and Western's Center for Social Change. The goal is to encourage individual and community participation in helping find solutions to the problems of homelessness.

Whatcom County will not be alone in paying attention to homeless issues. Throughout Washington similar activities and education will take place. The American Homeless Society is sponsoring

the nationwide fast, with each state focusing its efforts on one particular day.

Every year in Whatcom County, more than 4,000 individuals experience homelessness. Almost one-third are children, one-quarter are victims of domestic violence and one-quarter are families.

"Just because they have no homes does not mean the homeless are not our neighbors, and that we should not love, care for or help them," said Founder of the American Homeless Society Ruben Botello.

For more information on homeless issues in Whatcom County or to find out about volunteer opportunities, call Karen Matson from the Whatcom County Homeless Coalition at 743-5121.

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Hula dances, Hawaiian cuisine

By Tiffany White
The Western Front

Outside, the spring sun glistened on the calm waters of Bellingham Bay. The window of the Viking Union opened to the warm dusk breeze and for three hours with the strumming of the ukulele and exotic hula dances, Hui 'O Hawai'i brought Hawaiian culture to Western in the 1997 Spring Lu'au on Saturday May 10.

Guests filed into the VU, welcomed by leis, live Hawaiian music by Ho'o Mau, a University of Washington band and the delicious smells of a true lu'au meal, complete with delicacies shipped directly from Hawaii. The students and community members came together under the theme, "E 'koakoa likemai i ka maui o ka maui o ka le 'ale 'a, Gathering in the spirit of joy."

Transforming the VU with flowers and green plants, Hui 'O Hawai'i diligently works all year along with the Northwest Hawai'i Ohana to put together an authentic lu'au to entertain the community of Bellingham. "We want to share our Hawaiian food, show people a good time and share a little aloha spirit," club president and co-coordinator Kellie Young said.

Young and fellow club member, Jana Takasaki, led the welcoming ceremony with a speech prepared in the Hawaiian language.

Originally from Honolulu, Takasaki joined the club when she came to Western this year as a way to keep in touch with other students from home. Participating in her

first lu'au at Western, she said she thought, "It was really nice that so many Hawaiians and other people from the community got together ... to enjoy something different."

Before dinner, the Hawaii state anthem, "Hawai'i Pono'i," was performed by Harry Kawai and the Hawaiian Pule, the Lord's prayer, was led by Keikilani Lipke. Dinner was rich in authentic foods

indigenous a Hawaiian lu'au. Main courses included Kalua Pig, a meat dish cooked in an imu, an underground oven, where the pig was heated in hot stones; Chicken Long Rice, bean noodles and chicken seasoned with ginger and green onions; and Lomi Lomi Salmon, fresh salmon cooked with Hawaiian salt and mixed with onion and tomato. Poi, a kalo plant root steamed for several hours and smashed into a paste with water, was also served.

"I liked the pork the best," Japanese exchange student Hiroko Ogiri said. "The red stuff (Lomi Lomi Salmon) tasted like Japanese food, except it is not as salty in Japan."

After dinner, the hula dances commenced. The opening dance, the Maika'i Ka 'Oiwī O Ka'ala began with the eerie cries of a conch shell as student Ryan Canon adorned in a grass skirt and necklaces ran through the audience with the shells and lept onto the stage to join his female and male dancers in an intricate hula dance.

The evening swam by in the arms of the hula dancers, friends of Western's Hui 'O Hawai'i. Another dance, the Kauanoeanuhea, consisted of women dancing to the tale that true love is untouchable as the mist, and no matter how hard one tries, no one can ever reach it. The story is told in the movements of the hands and eyes. Their fingers trembled



Front/Tiffany White
Mahina Tadaki and Marcie Matsuo served authentic Hawaiian lu'au cuisine along with other members of Hui 'O Hawai'i.

in the air to signify the unattainable misty love as they swayed to the rhythms of the guitar.

Enjoying the Tahitian dance, in which the dancers beat out the rhythms of the music with colorful tassels in their hands, student Cheryl Manley thought, "It was great and I definitely want to come back next year."

Throughout the series of dances, prizes ranging from pineapples to beautiful bouquets of tropical Hawaiian flowers and palm leaves were raffled off. After the dances, the evening closed in the true native spirit of joy as guests were asked to join hands for the "Hawai'i Aloha," singing the lines, "Rejoice! Rejoice! Gentle breezes blow, love always for Hawaii."

Hui 'O Hawai'i is an organization at Western created in 1994 that is composed mainly of students of Hawaiian background. Harmony Corsi-Clark moved to Bellingham from Oahu and entered Western hardly knowing anyone. When she and other Hawaiian students came to Western and found each other through Hui 'O Hawai'i, they "instantly bonded. We have the same culture. I made my first friends from the club, which joins ties to home," she said.

Hui 'O Hawai'i plans to make the Spring Lu'au an annual event. This is the second year of the lu'au and co-coordinator Hoku Davis hopes that "whoever came will enjoy it and in the future years will attend and make it a tradition."



Front/Tiffany White

Friends of Hui 'O Hawai'i dancers opened with the Maika'i Ka 'Oiwī O , a traditional hula dance.



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Campus connections to volunteering

By Jennifer Dye
The Western Front

So, you are interested in volunteering, but you aren't sure where to get started? You want to do something for the community, but you want to have fun too? Join a club!

"I think students being involved in clubs will serve a couple of needs," said Lisa Rosenberg, Viking Union Activities Center coordinator. "It's a good way for people to get connected with other people at the school, to find their niche and either get connected with people who have similar interests or a chance for them to explore something new that they've never had an opportunity to learn about or be involved in."

"Employers are looking for people who've been involved in activities, who've had a chance to learn skills and put those skills to work in some real tangible ways," Rosenberg said.

Many clubs on Western's campus do volunteer work, but five clubs call themselves "service clubs."

Campus Girl Scouts is an organization that is open to both adult men and women, allowing college students to maintain their

Girl Scout membership throughout their college careers, or to join for the first time. Girl Scouts is an internationally recognized organization, and is, "The largest organization for women and girls in the world," said Carole Osier, student adviser of Western's Campus Girl Scouts.

Recently, the club hosted an on-campus Girl Scout day, where 230 girls visited the campus, toured the theater department, the wave room in the science department and the Wilson Library's Holocaust exhibit, Osier said.

"The younger girls could see women who are now students at Western as role models who are not so much older that they can't relate," Osier said.

Circle K is another national organization with a campus branch that strives to provide service, leadership and friendship for the members and the community.

On May 31, the members plan to participate in the "Human Race," a walk-a-thon sponsored by the Whatcom Volunteer Center.

Western Connection is a club that offers students a chance to do specific volunteer projects when they have time, without feeling they need to attend regular meetings.

"Western Connection is good because

there is no pressure and people feel free about finding out about volunteer opportunities," Heather Askren, Western Connection co-founder said.

The club has stayed overnight at Tube Time with kids, and has trick-or-treating for canned goods on Halloween. "We had a whole trunk full of cans. There was a lot of tuna fish," Askren laughed.

The Center For Social Change is a campus club that strives for effective system change while providing direct services to the community, and offering support, teamwork and networking for its members, Sandra Schmeil said.

Schmeil says the club is trying to get Mayor Mark Asmundson's support in declaring May 15 Homeless Awareness Day countywide.

Students in Free Enterprise is an international organization that strives to "interact with the community and teach them about a free economy," said Connie Ozmer, vice president of information technology for SIFE.

The club does service projects that use economics as their focal point, Ozmer said. They have developed lesson plans and taught elementary, middle and high school students about our economy.

The club participates in competitions with other SIFE clubs.

"The competition is also a job fair," Ozmer said. "SIFE has created a job bank for SIFE members, and it is a good job contact, especially the national competition. These are major C.E.O's that go."

For more information on any of the campus clubs, or to start your own club, visit VU 105.

He H

Donating time, energy

By Amy King
The Western Front

Classes. Tests. Papers. Work. Relationships. Though the demands placed upon college students may seem overwhelming at times, many Western students find time to squeeze in one other essential activity: volunteering.

"Volunteering gives students hands-on experience while providing a service to the community," said Suzanne Baker of the Center for Student Work Experience and Service Learning.

In fact, more than 45 percent of Western students volunteered their time during the 1995-96 school year, according to a recent study by the Center for Student Work Experience and Service Learning.

Last year, 4,974 Western students volunteered 694,444 hours of service to the campus and community. On average, volunteers donated 140 hours of their time during the school year.

Student volunteers participated in a wide variety of service activities, including off-campus agencies, within academic departments, with the Associated Students and other campus-based programs in Residence Halls. They participated in the community service learning program and worked with the adult literacy program and also the Bellingham School District.

Sixty percent of students volunteered within academic departments, 31 percent worked with off-campus agencies and 9 percent volunteered through the remaining programs.

During the 1990-91 school year, only 2,502 students participated in community service, about half of the number that volunteered in 1995-96. Also, the average number of hours students volunteer per year has increased from 31 hours to 140 hours.

"I'm hoping it's a real trend for everyone to get involved," Baker said.

Local opportunities to help

By Amy King
The Western Front

Numerous opportunities exist for Western students to volunteer in Whatcom County, but for the prospective volunteer, the question often is where to start?

Stop going through the lengthy process of thumbing through a long list of non-profit organizations, narrowing down those selections, then calling those choices to see what opportunities exist.

Instead, make use of some of the handy resources Whatcom County has to offer.

One simple way to begin a volunteer search would be to contact the Whatcom Volunteer Center.

WVC, located at 411 York St., is a non-profit organization specializing in matching up volunteers with organizations seeking volunteers.

WVC aims to meet the expectations of the volunteer as well as the organization by finding a suitable match.

"Everybody gives and everybody gains," Project Director Kristi Warren said.

WVC works with more than 260 organizations in Whatcom County including schools, government departments and non-profit organizations, Warren said.

Currently, WVC has 1,300 registered members who served an average 106 hours in 1996.

Although a majority of the volunteers are senior citizens, the center still has an active population of students who volunteer, Warren said.

Because the center offers many opportunities for service, volunteering through the center is an ideal way for a student to serve in the community, Warren said.

WVC also provides an excellent opportunity for students to volunteer in potential job fields and find out if the field is suitable, Warren said.

"Students come with the need to get experience," Warren said, but they

often come away with more.

Students get to know the community, develop friendships and learn volunteering is a necessary and vital part of the community.

The center also aims at creating advocacy and education about volunteerism in the community, while creating forms of community outreach.

Outreach activities include Make a Difference Day every October and the Human Race, a four-mile pledge walk on May 31.

An interested volunteer must first register with the center, which will then help the volunteer match up with an organization fitting the individual's interest.

As part of the free membership, the volunteer must record the time spent in service on WVC time charts. These help the center keep track of the active volunteer population.

Interested students can contact WVC at 734-3055 for more information.

The Center for Student Work Experience, located in Old Main 110, also provides excellent resources for finding service opportunities.

The center posts service opportunities according to fields of interest on a job board that is frequently updated.

The center also hosts an annual volunteer community service information fair, said Suzanne Baker, who coordinated this year's fair.

The fair gives students the opportunity to interact with different service organizations, headquartered both on and off campus, and get a feel for what fields are of interest.

Service organizations located on Western's campus include the LINK Project and the Learning, Environment, Action and Discovery Project. LEAD is a student-run organization that seeks to provide environmental education through service learning.

Campus-based service learning is an ideal way to gain necessary skills for the job market, LEAD director Brad Reynolds said.

"We give students real-life experience they can use on their resumes and get a job with," Reynolds said. "You can't get a job with a diploma."

Another easy-to-use resource is to dial into the Bellingham Public Library's online information index.

By searching volunteer opportunities, the database lists numerous service opportunities in Whatcom County.

The database lists detailed descriptions of each opportunity including the organization's description, upcoming events, the newsletter title, services provided, daily hours, address and phone number.

This search provides exposure to some of the various existing opportunities and combines the information in a time-saving fashion because the research is available at the punch of a button.



Front/Jennifer Dye
Public relations major Annie Pierce interns at the Whatcom Volunteer Center.

Caring for the world one cause at a time

By Meredith Lofberg
The Western Front

While many students are scrambling to finish papers and study for exams, others are trying to find time in their busy schedules to organize boycotts and march at rallies.

A growing number of Western students are becoming

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ands

politically active, working with numerous clubs and organizations in

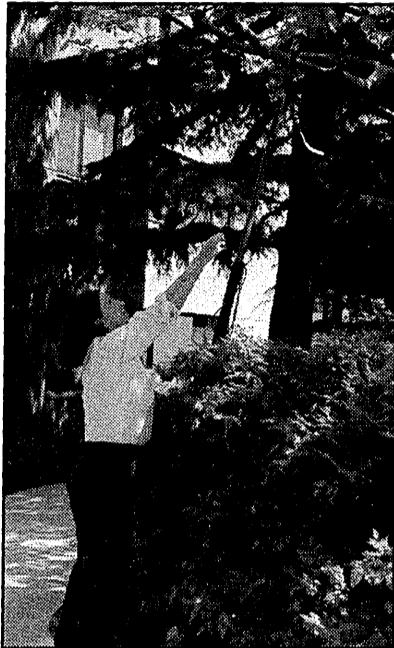
the community and nationwide on a wide variety of issues.

Some work to get the world's laborers the right to unionize, while others stage protests in front of local stores that sell products harmful to the environment.

Tara Herivel, 26, is currently the coordinator of the Associated Students Social Issues Office. Her duties include bringing activists to campus to speak about relevant social issues.

"I've been focusing on bringing activists from various backgrounds and with various issues to campus so that the campus community can hear their stories and be inspired," Herivel said.

The Native American poet Chrystos will be speaking at 7 p.m. May 20 in the Wilson Library Presentation Room. Discussion will revolve around the poet's work as an advocate for the rights of female prison



Front/Jennifer Dye
Lora Eckert, coordinator of the Volunteer Chore Program at Whatcom Volunteer Center prunes trees at a housing development by the center.

inmates. In January, Herivel helped organize a symposium about hate crimes. The four-and-a-half hour forum included music and spoken word from a variety of perspectives including issues of race, gender and sexual orientation.

Herivel said she believes her political background will continue to be useful as she pursues a career in law. She said she is particularly interested in representing those who are discriminated against because of their sexual orientation. "I see gays and lesbians as the accepted oppressed right now, as the African Americans were before the civil rights movement. I think this is a really important time for consciousness changing in mainstream America," Herivel said.

Although Herivel didn't become extremely politically active until she came to Western, she has a deep background in social issues. As a child, she marched in anti-nuclear protests with her mother, who was a college student during

the Vietnam War. "It was a politically aware climate in the late '60s and early '70s when I was raised," Herivel said.

Coming to Western was also the catalyst that helped Anita Rayburn realize her niche was in the social issues arena. As the coordinator of the Cesar E. Chavez Organization of Labor Solidarity (CESAR), she organizes everything from anti-corporate welfare rallies, to campaigns urging companies to rethink, which distributors to buy strawberries from.

Recently, Rayburn and the other members of CESAR went through peacekeeping training in order to work at the 9th Annual Farm Worker Solidarity March. The group's job description included walking between the marchers and traffic and keeping the participants bunched together. Rayburn said the best part of the march was keeping the crowd energized and leading chants.

Rayburn is also a delegate to Jobs for Justice, a local chapter of a national organization that she says "organizes communities through unions, church groups and organizes actions to help struggling people."

"It's exciting to be a part of national movements and struggles for a better life, to not just talk about more justice, but create it," Rayburn said.

Rayburn says she is politically active "because I have to be. It is my responsibility to my vision of a more perfect world. We have to take care of each other."

Providing the 'Life-blood' of an agency

The survival of many organizations depends on the help of volunteers

By Ryan Hawkes
The Western Front

Imagine needing a place to turn to for help, either financially or emotionally. Then imagine that the person giving the support was a volunteer. They aren't there because they are getting paid, but they are there because they want to help.

"Volunteers help round out our sense of community," said Rebecca Citron of the Whatcom Volunteer Center. "They bridge the gap between young and old, business and non-profit organizations ... Volunteers affect the quality of living in a community. It is what makes the community a whole. What makes us human is that we can work tirelessly for no money," Citron said. Volunteers fill the void between an organizations money and their needs.

For the Evergreen AIDS Foundation, volunteers are a necessity.

"Without volunteers we don't exist or provide services," said Program Manager Barbara Speight. "Some people would not be able to remain in their homes." The foundation provides case managers and client services to those impaired or affected by HIV/AIDS. Services include insurance, housing, medicine and medical treatment, transportation and food prep and delivery.

With 120 active volunteers who are the "life-blood of the agency," jobs range from office work to "Care Teams" or groups caring for the critically ill. Volunteers provide emotional support and help clients in achieving "Little Victories, Small Steps." Volunteers take clients on errands or lend a helping hand. Within the office, an entire salary is saved by volunteers. Providing service throughout four counties — Skagit, Island, San Juan and Whatcom — the agency averages a minimum of 70 hours per week in volunteer hours.

"Individuals set their own goals, and we do all we can to meet their needs," Speight said. With clients from high-school age all the way up to those in their 70s, volunteers from all age groups are needed because most clients feel more comfortable with someone from their own peer group.

Womencare Shelter for Women was started in 1979 by volunteers seeking to provide shelter and support for women affected by domestic violence.

Volunteers run the shelter, the 24-hour help line and provide education to schools, churches and community organizations on changing violent patterns.

"There are volunteers at the shelter day and night, holding the house together, doing basic house management," said Caryl Dunavan, volunteer program coordinator for Womencare. "We are not here to provide charity. We are really an organization about women helping women. We have all felt impacts of violence against women, and we stand together to find the support and safety we need."

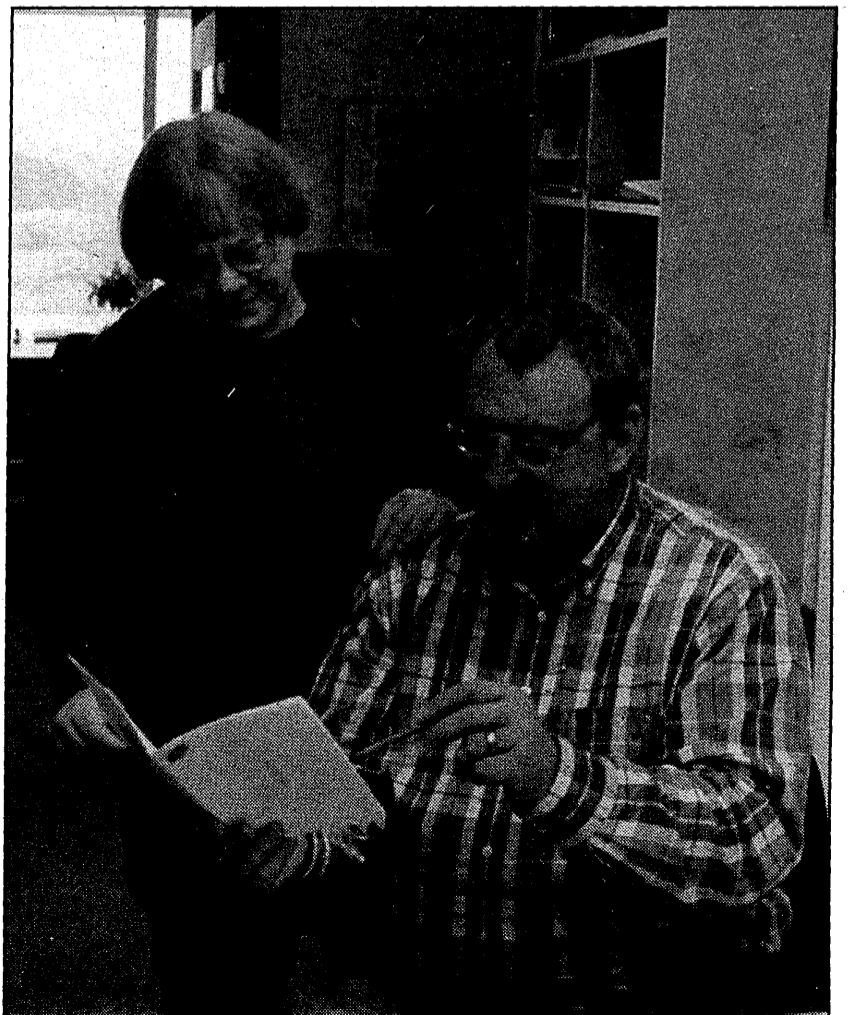
It's goal is immediate safety for any woman that needs it. A woman is not put on a list and made to wait, instead is given the help she needs right away, even at 3 a.m. Volunteers are on call 24 hours per day, seven days a week for any woman seeking shelter, counseling or in need of anything.

Shelter volunteers participate in 30 to 40 hours of training to prepare them for the work of a shelter, from legal issues to basic shelter procedure, Dunavan said. Volunteers in the office do tasks, which give the full-time staff more time for larger projects, such as fundraising. Womencare's majority of funding. Womencare has 80 to 100 active volunteers who provide anywhere from 800 to 1,000 hours of time a month.

Many of the volunteers are women who have used the services and have come to be a member of the collec-

tive of Womencare who return to help in the fight against domestic violence, Dunavan said.

Womencare office assistant Jennifer Ziebell said, "People have it embedded in their heads that this is something they need to help fix."



Front/Ryan Hawkes
Program manager Barbara Speight and volunteer Robin Hunt work together at the Evergreen AIDS Foundation office.

Five places to rock in Washington

By Riley Morton
The Western Front

With Bellingham's recent discovery of that source of energy known as the sun, most Western students have found much more of a need to get outside. Whether or not spending time recreating outside is good for your studies is beside the point. The purpose of these words is to head students in a few positive directions to explore all the recently-dried-out rock near Bellingham just waiting to be climbed.

Sehome Hill: Tim Toula's classic American Rock Climbing book, "Rock

'N' Road," is so detailed that it even includes a section about Sehome Hill. A mere 10-minute walk from Miller Hall can place one at the base of a small top-ropeable wall with a couple fun moves to make.

Many Western students relieve stress between classes by strolling up to the southern end of the Sehome Hill Arboretum and perform a few moves on the small outcropping.

Students are lucky to have natural rock so close to campus. The rock is accessed by heading up the road to the lookout tower about 2,000 feet past the entrance gate and heading down the overgrown road to the left.

Larrabee State Park: Sandstone doesn't hold up so long against lapping waves. As a consequence, the coastline housed by Larrabee State Park affords many interesting problems for the aspiring boulderer. With little more than a pair of rock shoes, sport climbers can find many hours worth of short routes to mess around on.

For the climbers with a little more time and equipment, many longer routes are also available.

Routes on the Boat Launch Wall are the longest in the neighborhood, but also rather low angle. Other short walls in the south end of the park along the railroad tracks can also present some fun challenges.

Larrabee State Park will be officially opened shortly after its six-month renovation project this winter. Larrabee is just a few miles bike ride south of town on highway 11.

Mount Erie: A 45-minute drive south past Larrabee, Anacortes and just beyond, brings many excited rock climbers to Mount Erie.

A great jumping off point for beginning sport climbers, Mount Erie offers about 100 different routes on 15 different walls



Photo courtesy of Vu Chu

Zack West searches for a handhold while carefully scaling the rock face at Index Town Wall. Index is one of the many prime climbing spots in Washington state.

and buttresses. "Mount Erie Rock Climbing," published by Skagit Search and Rescue, details all the routes ranging in grade from 5.0 to 5.12 along with specific directions on how to reach each wall.

Junior Marc Beaudreau likes Mount Erie for the surrounding scenery. "It's very pretty to be there; you look out over Fidalgo Bay. I like that."

Index Town Wall: On highway 2, a half hour before the summit of Steven's Pass, lies the small town of Index. On sunny, summer weekends the population of the town doubles with climbers from the I-5 corridor, and for good reason.

Asked what his favorite local crag is, senior Zachary West answered, "I'd probably have to go with Index Town Wall. It's so big and clean."

Squamish, B.C.: If you've ever driven the Sea to Sky highway to Whistler, then you have definitely noticed the huge

1,500-foot wall known as "The Chief" rising almost directly out of the town of Squamish.

World-class big-wall climber, Warren Hollinger said recently that if you took this area's bad weather out of the equation, "Squamish would be a nine on a scale of one to 10. With the weather, though, it's a four."

It is difficult to consistently avoid the rain in Western Washington and British Columbia.

As such, many rock climbers head east of the mountains for a weekend of sun-drenched climbing.

The towns of Vantage and Leavenworth on the other sides of Snoqualmie and Steven's Pass promise dry rock even when this part of the world is under huge storms. But the bad weather is all in our past. All we have to look forward to for the next four months is sun, right?

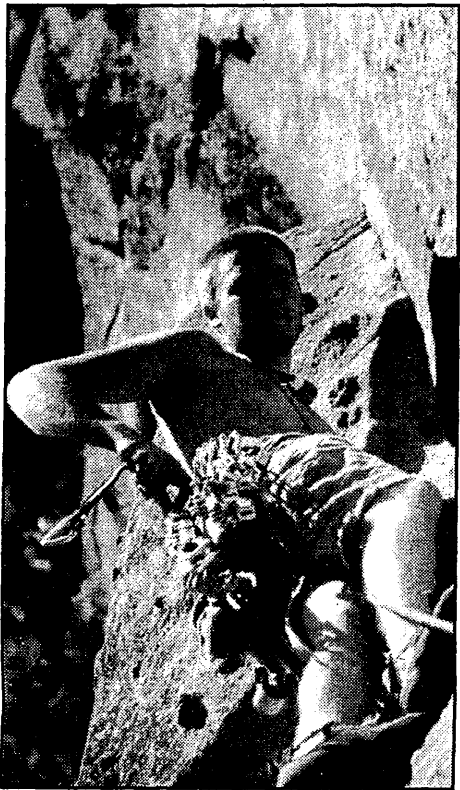


Photo courtesy of Vu Chu

Zack West enjoys the "big, clean" face of the Index Town Wall, located on highway 2.

Spring 97

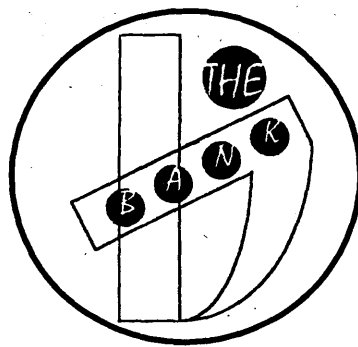
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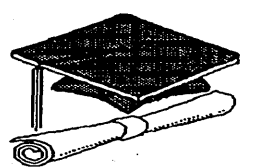
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Track sends 17 athletes to nationals

□ Amy Cameron and Coby Dilling shine at regional meet as the Vikings take their record-breaking show to a national stage

By Chris Blake
The Western Front

Western's Track and Field team left the competition in its dust Saturday at the NAIA Pacific Northwest Regional Track and Field Championships in Tacoma, Wash. and plan to keep running all the way to nationals May 21-23 in Marietta, Ga.

At regionals, the Vikings won eight events, set two school records and qualified another athlete for nationals.

Senior Amy Cameron continued her dominance in the women's 100-meter hurdles, winning the event for the second straight year with a time of 14.82 seconds. Cameron leads the NAIA in the event with a season-best time of 14.37 seconds.

Head Coach Pee Wee Halsell attributes Cameron's success to hard work in practice and a never-ending desire to win.

"She's heads and shoulders above people now," Halsell said.

Cameron is also a member of the women's 4 x 100 relay team that finished in second place by .01 seconds, setting a school record in the event with a time of 48.05 seconds. Teammates Teri Graves, Sydney Green and Alicia Jones joined Cameron on the relay team.

Green was a winner in the women's 400-meters with a mark of 57.39 seconds.

Also winning events for the Viking women were Sarah Hiss in the long jump and Jane Wallace in the triple jump.

While the team's regional marks were high, Wallace points out that the best is yet to come.

"A lot of our national qualifiers are continuing to improve," Wallace said. "That shows they should be with the best at nationals."

The meet standout for the men was Coby Dilling. Dilling won both the men's 100-meters and 200-meters.

Dilling receives nothing but praise from

athlete to qualify for nationals with a second place finish in the men's 800-meters.

This brings the number of national qualifiers to 17, the most in school history.

"This team has got a lot of depth," Kurt Grichel, a national qualifier in the men's 800-meters said. "I think maybe this year people have been working together and helping each other out, and everyone has benefited from it."

The Vikings are now preparing for nationals and are setting their goals for the next level.

"I want to qualify all the way through the finals of nationals and rip it up in the final," Grichel said.

The men's 4 x 100 team plans on proving all of their doubters wrong.

"We're the underdogs and it's fun to be in that position," Dilling said. "We're small, we don't have muscles ripping all over the place, but when we get out there we're a team."

Lewis agrees the underdog role is fun part to play.

"It's a benefit in that we have nothing to prove, so the pressures off," Lewis said.

"But we still have our own expectations and that's what matters."

At this point the Vikings are competing at a level far surpassing their preseason expectations.

"This is a really young team. I don't think anyone expected this," Susee said. "Everyone is an overachiever. It's kind of amazing."

While the expectations weren't as high in the preseason, no one is discounting the Vikings' success.

"They practiced hard and deserve every bit of it," Susee said.

"This is a good team," Halsell said. "Having the most qualifiers in school history says a lot. We're going to have a good showing at nationals."

This is a really young team. I don't think anyone expected this. Everyone is an over-achiever.

— Chris Susee
Western Track member

his coach.

"He's a good quality kid," Halsell said. "He's not just here for himself."

This is nowhere more apparent than in Dilling's cooperation with teammates Dan Lewis, Mike Lynch and Chris Susee on the men's 4 x 100 relay.

The team set a school record in the event with a winning time of 41.72 seconds and edged second place Western Oregon University by .08 seconds.

"It was the biggest rush to beat Western Oregon," Dilling said.

Kevin Moss helped the Vikings' with a first place finish in the men's 110-meter hurdles with a time of 15.39 seconds.

Susee followed with a second place finish. Devin Kemper was the final Western

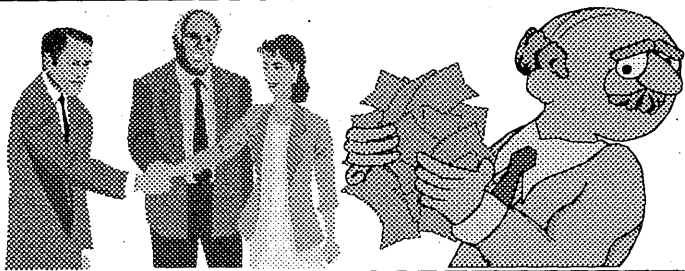
National Qualifiers

Men

Coby Dilling
Kurt Grichel
Devin Kemper
Dan Lewis
Mike Lynch
Erik Meyer
Chris Susee
Jeff Yoder
Clay Wing

Women

Shannon Anderson
Louise Bomars
Amy Cameron
Teri Graves
Sydney Green
Tammy Johnson
Alicia Jones
Jane Wallace



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Frontline

Cigarette companies must be fought locally

Congratulations to King County for taking on the tobacco industry.

The first vote on a series of restrictions aimed at tobacco advertising and cigarette smoking will come later this month.

The County's Board of Health is expected to ban tobacco billboards within 1,000 feet of any school or playground in an effort to protect children attracted by Joe Camel or the Marlboro Man.

Subsequent restrictions limiting advertisements in stores and banning smoking in all restaurants are expected to be voted on later this year.

In a May 12 Seattle Post-Intelligencer article, Kevin Goebel, who tracks tobacco regulations for Americans for Nonsmokers' Rights in Berkeley, Calif., said banning tobacco billboards within 500 feet of schools or restricting advertisement content generally invites a lawsuit.

Many communities can't afford such a legal battle and back down. So far, the courts have not sent a clear signal on this issue. Last month, the U.S. Supreme Court refused to overturn Baltimore's ban on billboards that advertise cigarettes or liquor in residential neighborhoods. A federal judge in North Carolina also has ruled that the FDA could regulate tobacco as a drug but did not have the authority to restrict cigarette advertising.

Whether or not King County can afford the legal battles, they can't afford to back down from this issue. Action on the federal level seems almost non-existent because our federal legislators seem to be too closely aligned with the corporate interests of tobacco companies.

Therefore, every little step local governments can take to combat the tobacco companies and their shameless pursuits to entrap children into a lifetime of addiction is a step in the right direction.

Besides, tobacco companies don't need to prey on children — millions of Americans are already addicted to cigarettes. And millions of others, obviously suffering from a lack of common sense in light of the proven ramifications, continue to start smoking.

King County is on the right track. I would encourage Whatcom County to hop on board and make every possible effort to protect children.

I know that limiting tobacco advertisements won't completely solve the problem, but again, every little step is a step in the right direction.

— Jen Nikolaisen, Features editor

The Western Front

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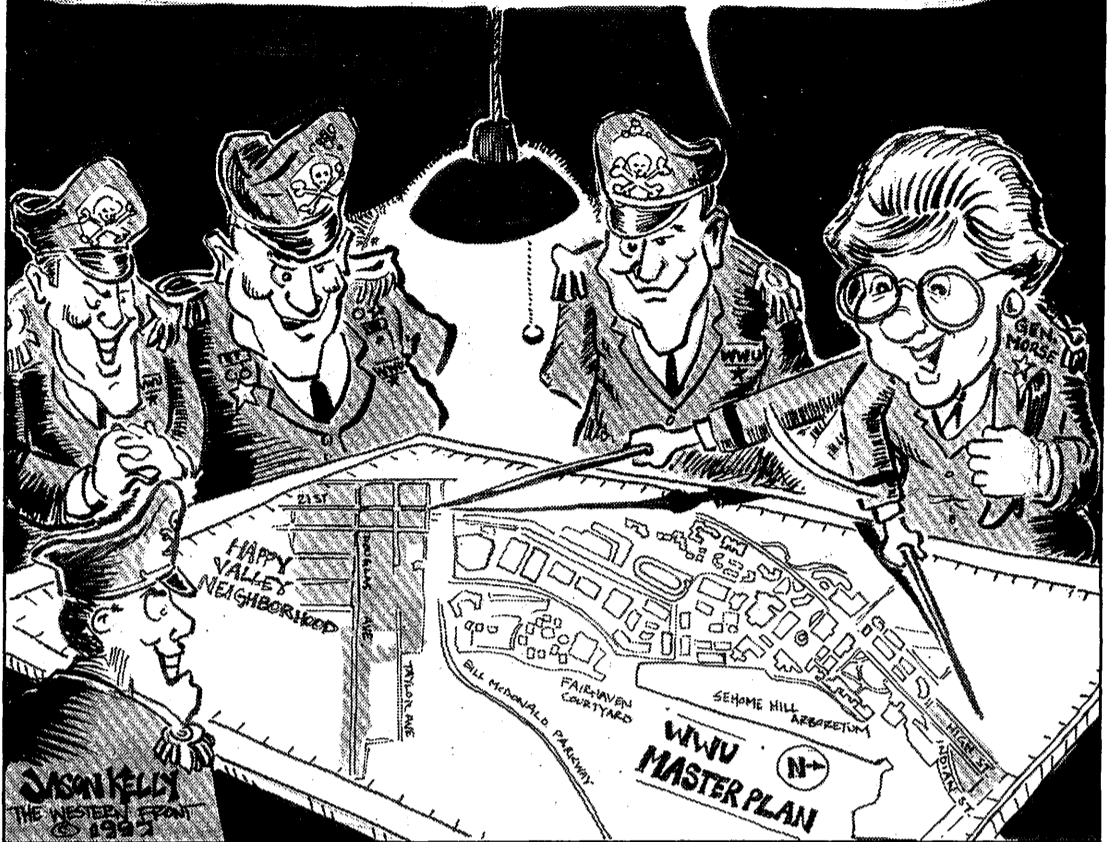
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Handgun safety initiative targets rights, not criminals

COMMENTARY



Chris Brooks

People in our state are once again trying to pass a law because you can't be trusted.

If Washington Ceasefire has its way, every person who owns or possesses a handgun will have to register with the state and obtain a handgun safety license.

Well, at least almost everyone. Convicted felons, who aren't supposed to possess a firearm in the first place, would be exempt from registration because it would violate their Fifth Amendment right against self-incrimination.

Oh, and non-residents won't have to follow these rules either — only the law-abiding state resident will have to.

Another effect of I-676 is that a resident who possesses a handgun without obtaining a safety license will become a felon. This could result in the creation of many new criminals who are guilty of nothing more than exercising their constitutional rights.

More than 500,000 people (and also an undisclosed number of criminals) own handguns in Washington state.

Should you be licensed to have the right to possess a handgun?

No more than you should be licensed to have freedom of speech or privacy.

Owning a handgun is not like driving a car. Driving a car on public roads is a privilege and can be regulated. Privately possessing firearms is a constitutional right, as important to individual freedom as the freedom of speech and freedom from unlawful search and seizure.

I-676 states that handguns are a leading cause of death.

That's true — if you forget all the other leading causes. According to nationwide statistics from the National Safety Council in 1995, the number of deaths from firearms (not just handguns) is eclipsed by those from automobiles (43,900), falls (12,600), drownings (4,500), fires (4,100), and choking on ingested objects (2,800).

Accidental firearm deaths for 1995 were only 1,400. This figure is half that of 60 years ago, even though population has doubled and firearm ownership has quadrupled.

Who benefits from I-676? Well, lets start with the state.

The price a gun owner will have to pay to the state for the privilege of exercising a constitutional right will include a licensing fee and most likely a fee for the eight-hour class required to get the license.

Another beneficiary is every company that makes gun locks. I-

676 would require every handgun bought and sold to include a gun safety lock (a semi-useless item that will no doubt carry a hefty state tax). Enforcing this requirement cannot be legally guaranteed because that violates our Fourth Amendment protection against unreasonable search and seizure — at least for now.

Add to that the extra political bureaucracy required to implement I-676, and the results are simple to see. More money is garnered for the state in an area in which it could not legally impose a tax.

This adds to a gradual erosion of our rights. An attack such as this would not be tolerated on our most cherished rights of freedom of speech and freedom from unlawful search and seizure.

But for a right that not everyone chooses to exercise, people seem to be willing to turn their heads and let someone else tell them they can't be trusted.

In essence, I-676 supporters are saying that law-abiding citizens must be protected from themselves.

Disarming the people is the best way to enslave them. It's time for you to tell Washington Ceasefire what they can do with this attack on our freedom.

Let's make laws that punish people who commit crimes, not ones that make criminals out of law-abiding citizens.

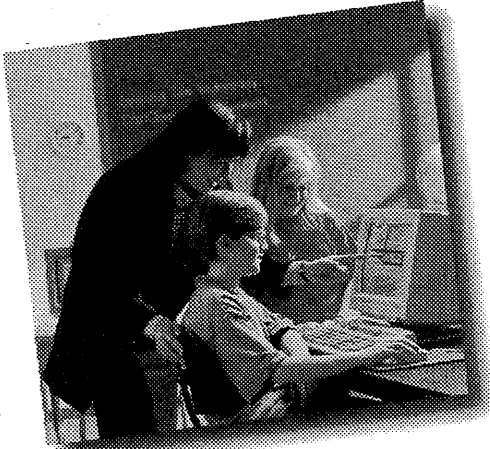
Say "NO" to Initiative 676.

Letters Policy

The Western Front accepts submissions up to 250 words on any topic. We reserve the right to edit for style, grammar, punctuation, spelling and libelous content. Letters must be typed and signed and include a phone number for verification purposes.

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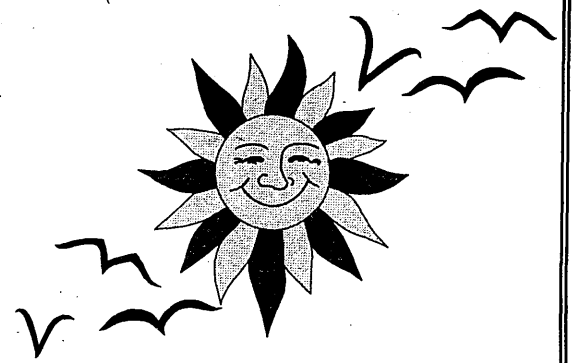


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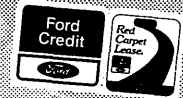
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