

FRIDAY

December 5, 1997



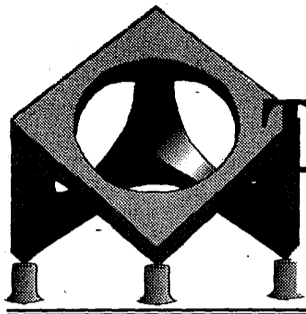
BECOMING
aware of
AIDS

NEWS/10



Art
WITHOUT SIGHT

FEATURES/12



THE WESTERN FRONT

Western Washington University

Volume 102 Issue 18

Bellingham, Washington

While the Asia-Pacific Economic Cooperation members demonstrated unity ...

Thousands protest APEC

By Nate Paulson
Special to the Front

"The people, united, can never be defeated," was one of the slogans of citizen solidarity voiced at the University of British Columbia, outside of the Asian Pacific Economic Cooperation conference on Nov 25.

The 18 participating nations were confirming their dedication to free trade and regional cooperation. More than 3,000 students and activists protested outside the Museum of Anthropology while leaders met.

The police presence included hundreds of Royal Canadian Mounted Police, who were accompanied by a riot squad of more than 50 officers, armed with pepper spray, tear gas, shields and dogs.

Police were told to keep protesters off the street while the foreign dignitaries passed. Protesters were arrested and dragged from the scene, and one individual was bitten by a police dog. Many were sprayed with pepper spray, causing the hospitalization of at least one student.

More than 100 arrests were made and more than 20 students were detained through the night.

The protest began peacefully at about 8 a.m., when demonstrators began to gather on campus in anticipation of an 11 a.m. march of solidarity.

Before this time, however, there appeared to be a concerted effort by the RCMP to arrest all

of the organizers. By the time the march began, most of the people with walkie-talkies were detained.

About 10 individuals from the East Timor Action Network were arrested and pepper sprayed when they attempted to block a road leading to the museum.

Twelve Western students and their professor, Maurice Foisy, traveled to the UBC that day with video recording equipment to attend the event for their class.

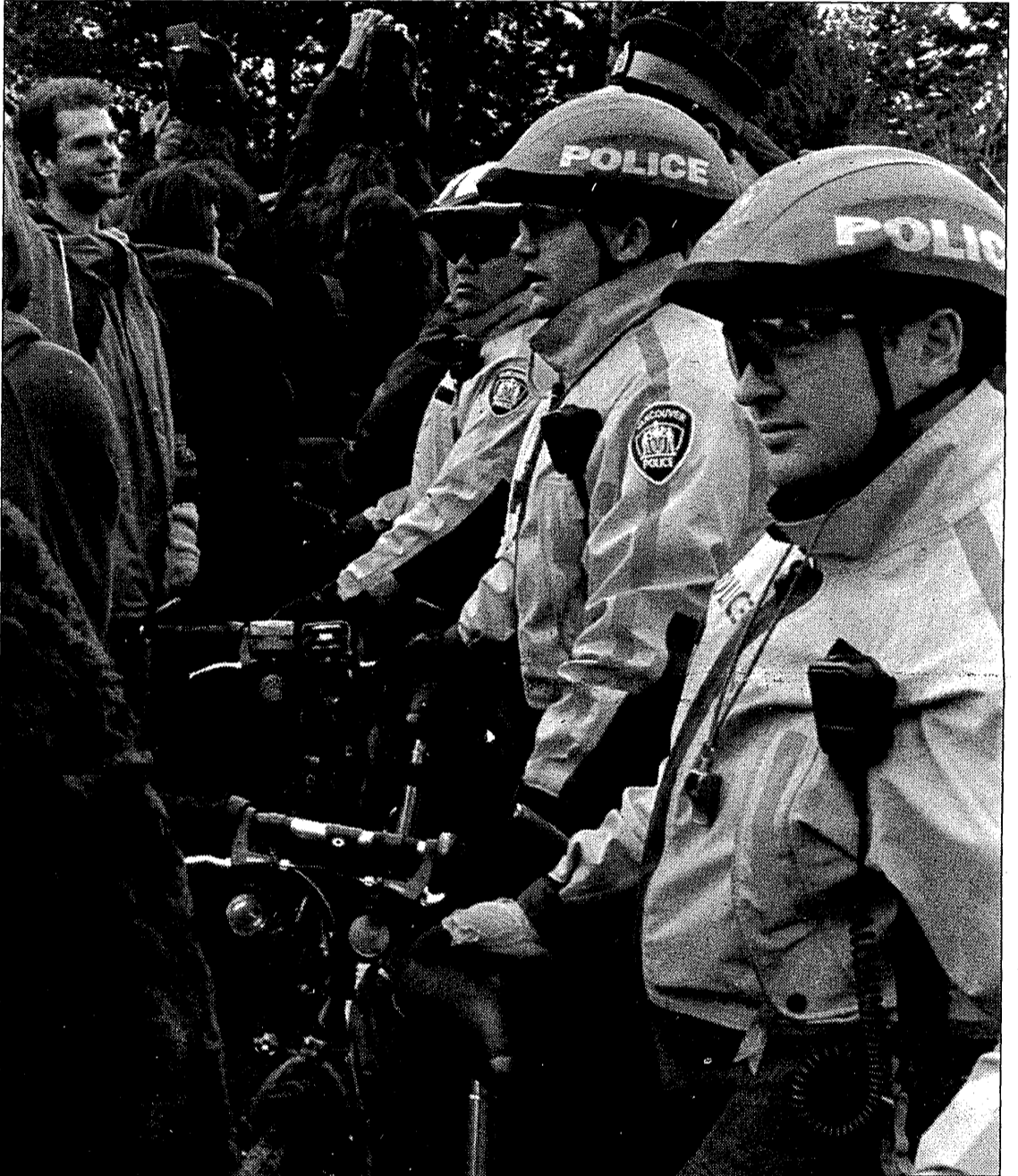
At the UBC, approximately 3,000 demonstrators marched toward the police barricades surrounding the Museum of Anthropology. A human chain of protesters was formed outside the police barricade. Police said anyone who went beyond the chain was subject to arrest.

The first wave of people who expressed their outrage at APEC by marching past the human chain toward the police were pepper sprayed and arrested.

Following this initial police action, the demonstrators negotiated with the RCMP, who said they would peacefully arrest anyone participating in civil disobedience. On the lawn surrounding the Museum of Anthropology, marchers rallied around those willing to be arrested.

At 12:30 p.m., the Western students and Foisy arrived at the rally and began to participate in it and conduct interviews.

Several vans and crews from



J.J. Hewitt and John Witsell
Royal Canadian Mounted Police separate the protesters from the many foreign dignitaries.

See Rally, page 6

Associated Students rethinking several programs

By Jenni Long
The Western Front

The Associated Students Board Review Committee is questioning the efficiency of Western's Human Resource Programs. As a result, many centers may be either closed or combined.

The committee is examining the need students have for these groups and the number of students they serve. These programs include the Drug Information Center, the Women's Center, Students Returning After Time Away, the Veterans Outreach Center, the Legal Information Center and the Lesbian Gay Bisexual Alliance.

"The process of review was very difficult and time consum-

ing," Shane O'Day, AS president and committee member said. "We went office by office, gathered data, attended programs and made a decision. We didn't grade people, we looked at the history, the need, the demand."

"All board members took different actions and different angles per office; some members went to the programs, some members went to the office and talked to the centers, some members did research with the university and some members talked to the administration," O'Day said. "Then we asked ourselves if we are duplicating the needs of

the university, and are there any services that are not needed."

"The review committee made a very objective opinion, created a proposal and it is now in the process of discussion with the

I think that they are making sweeping changes to fix problems that could be more easily fixed by concentrating on individual offices and they haven't discussed it with us fully.

John Newcom
Veteran's Outreach Center

HRP," O'Day said.

The changes being proposed are in two areas: structural and administration, according to the HRP written Review Proposal.

The structural changes would change the name of the program from Human Resource Program to Associated Students' Resource Centers and the Associated Students' Service Centers.

These two names better reflect the purpose of the program, to assist students successfully completing their time at Western and to provide them with necessary resources, according to the HRP Review

Proposal.

This proposal also suggests the possibility of new centers, according to the HRP Review Proposal. The Technology Service Center would include the Western Computer Users Group, an AS Club. The purpose of this club would be to provide computer training workshops to AS staff members and students.

The College Survival Center would combine some of the functions of current Drug Information and the Sexual Awareness Center and program around other subjects relative to college students such as money management and eating disorders, according to the HRP proposal.

See Centers, page 8

COILS BOX

Campus Police

November 26, 5 p.m.: A man reported that his parking permit was stolen from his vehicle in parking lot 27R.

November 26, 6:55 p.m.: Three to four juveniles fled after emptying a fire extinguisher in Carver Gym D. The suspects ran through the main doors toward Bond Hall. No damage was reported.

November 29, 10:45 a.m.: Two people reported that their moped was stolen from parking lot 1M.

December 2, 12:59 a.m.: Chalk markings were found on the Wrights Triangle Sculpture. The damage is estimated at \$150.

Bellingham Police

December 2, 8:45 a.m.: A woman reported the theft of her wedding ring in the 200 Block of Holly Street. She dropped the ring among a large crowd and said she thinks someone picked it up.

December 2, 10:46 a.m.: A suspect filled his vehicle with gas and left without paying at 100 N. Samish Way. A gas run-out sheet was mailed to the suspects house.

December 2, 8:46 p.m.: Police and fire officials responded to a suspicious fire in the 600 block of W. Chesnut Street. The fire is still under investigation.

December 2, 10:37 p.m.: A college-aged male wearing only a red baseball hat "streaked" through a restaurant in the 200 block of N. Samish Way. Officials responded to the "lewd conduct" call but failed to locate the unknown suspect.

December 3, 12:32 a.m.: Police responded to a report of a woman who appeared to be disoriented. The woman was looking for her car at an unknown friend's house. She was dressed for the weather and refused any aid offered to her. She said once she found her car she was going to drive home.

December 3, 1:31 a.m.: Police discovered fresh graffiti on a building in the 1300 block of Railroad Avenue. The paint was wet and appeared to have been taken from a nearby dumpster.

December 3, 2:33 a.m.: Two juveniles were arrested for taking a car without the owners consent and shoplifting in the 1200 block of E. Sunset Street.

December 3, 2:55 a.m.: An adult male was cited and released for possession of marijuana in the 300 block of Grand Street.

Compiled by Amber Rose



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Western Briefs

Welfare forum to discuss new living wage law

A welfare forum will be offered at 7 p.m. on Dec. 9 to discuss a new law that drives wages down by getting welfare recipients into living-wage jobs. Panelists at the forum will include low-wage workers, a Work First participant, labor advocate and a child-care provider.

The forum will be at 1708 I St., in the Bellingham Unitarian Fellowship Hall.

Western performs show with Whatcom symphony

Western's chamber orchestra, conducted by Walter Schwede, will perform for this holiday season at 8 p.m. on Dec. 5 in the Performing Arts Center.

The Whatcom Symphony Chamber Orchestra will also perform a holiday concert featuring Western's Concert Choir. The performance will be at 3 p.m. on Dec. 7 at the Mount Baker Theatre.

For ticket information, please contact the PAC and the Mount Baker Theatre.

Local concert rescheduled

Soprano Virginia Hunter will perform at 8 p.m. on Jan. 24 in the Performing Arts Center Concert Hall.

The Western faculty soprano was originally scheduled to appear on Nov. 15, but rescheduled her performance entitled, "The Poetess Sings — A Tribute to Emily Dickinson."

The performance will be devoted to American composers such as Vincent Persichetti, John

Duke, Gordon Binkerd, Lee Hoiby, Robert Baksa and Aaron Copland.

Hunter has been with the Western voice faculty for the last 10 years. Before moving to Bellingham she sang on the European concert stage and also sang on Stuttgart radio. Hunter won European acclaim for her interpretations of many songs in five languages.

Hunter will be accompanied by Sandra Heinke, who will perform as soloist in the 1998 Lairmont Piano Series.

IRS Taxpayers Education Office to assist students

Any students who are interested in volunteering to help with free tax assistance should contact the IRS Taxpayer Education Office at (206) 220-5803.

Tax-Aide volunteers provide free income tax preparation at sites throughout Washington from early February through April 15. The assistance is offered to low-to-middle income individuals and families, including people with disabilities, seniors citizens and those who speak little or no English.

Free training will begin in January at a variety of locations around Washington. Some will also be trained in the use of electronic filing software.

Young composers wanted

The BMI Student Composer Award competition will award \$16,000 to young composers. The prizes range from \$500 to \$3,000 and are awarded at the discretion of the judging panel.

BMI President and CEO Frances W. Preston said the BMI Student Composer Award is intended to encourage young composers in the creation of serious music, through cash prizes, to aid in continuing their musical education. There are no limitations to instrumentation, style or length of work submitted.

The 1998 competition is open to all students under 26 years of age on Dec. 31.

Official rules and entry blanks are available from Ralph N. Jackson, director, BMI Student Composer Awards, 320 West 57th Street, New York, NY 10019.

Meeting to discuss road relocation potential

The Campus Infrastructure Predesign Task Force will be meeting at 7 p.m. Jan. 6 in Fairhaven 312.

Under the current draft of the Master Plan, South College Drive may be relocated to where the Fairhaven parking lot currently exists. A public comment period will begin at approximately 8:30 p.m.

Donations needed for Mathes fire victims

A Mathes Fire Relief Fund has been created to meet the most urgent needs of students who lost belongings in the Mathes fire. Bring cash donations to the Plaza cashier or University Residences Cashier.

Compiled by Melissa Laing

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

WINTER QUARTER GROUP OFFERINGS sponsored by the Counseling Center: • **Discovering your Body Pride**, 3-4 p.m. Tuesdays beginning January 13. • **Eliminating Your Self-Defeating Behavior**, starting date TBA. • **Math Confidence Workshop**, 2-4 p.m. Mondays. There will be two workshops beginning January 26 and February 9, respectively. • **Meeting the Challenges of Attention Deficit Disorder and Learning Disabilities**, 12-2 p.m. Wednesdays beginning January 14. • **Relaxation Training Class**, 3-4 p.m. Wednesdays beginning January 14. For more information or to register, please contact the Counseling Center, OM540, X/3164.

STUDENT TEACHING INFORMATIONAL MEETING: 1 p.m. Friday, December 5 in MH 104. All students wishing to student teach during the 1998-99 academic year who have not already attended an informational meeting, please plan to attend. At that time prospective student teachers will be given information about procedures and timelines. Applications will be available.

SPRING QUARTER 1998 DEGREE APPLICANTS: All students who expect to graduate at the close of spring quarter 1998 must have a degree application on file in the Registrar's Office, Old Main 230, by **December 5**.

JUNIOR WRITING EXAM: Students should take the JWE after acquiring 60 and before acquiring 90 credits toward graduation. Students who have completed 120 credits without passing the JWE will be blocked from registering for any course. Registration is not required. The JWE can only be taken once per quarter. Students must bring picture identification, pen and #2 pencil to the test. The test takes approximately 2 hours. **Special Administration** (Only for students needing to take a writing proficiency course in winter quarter) will be held: January 6, 1998 at 3 p.m. in FR 4. **First Time Examinees Only:** 3 p.m., January 27 and 4 p.m. January 28 and 30 in FR 4. **Retests Only:** 4 p.m., January 26 and 3 p.m. January 29 in FR 4.

MATH PLACEMENT TEST: Registration is not required. Students must bring picture identification and a No. 2 pencil. A \$10 fee is payable in the exact amount at time of testing. Allow 90 minutes. Testing will be at 9 a.m. in OM 120 on December 8 and 11; January 5, 6, 7, 8, 9, 12, 22, 26 and 29, February 2, 9, 12, 19, 23, and 26, and March 2, 5, 9, 12, 16, and 19.

THE TEST FOR ENTRANCE INTO TEACHER EDUCATION (TETEP) will be in FR 3 at 3 p.m. January 7 and March 11. Registration is required in OM 120. A fee of \$25 is payable in the exact amount at time of registration. The test takes about 2½ hours. TETEP is not administered on an individual basis.

MILLER ANALOGIES TEST: Registration is required in OM 120 or by calling X/3080. A \$35 fee is payable at the time of testing. The test will be administered at 2 p.m. Dec. 15 in FR 2 and 3 p.m. January 13, February 17 and March 3 in FR 3.

INFORMATION REGARDING NATIONAL TESTING is available at the Testing Center, OM 120.

PARKING PERMIT RENEWALS Fall quarter permits may be renewed for Winter quarter through January 16 at the Parking and Transportation office between 7:30 a.m. and 5:00 p.m. Monday through Friday.

On-campus recruiting

Graduating seniors and alumni must be registered with Career Services to participate in on-campus interviews. Registration packets are available in OM 280. Placement files are optional for all but education candidates. There is no charge of 1997-98 graduates; alumni must pay a \$30 fee. Sign up for interviews in the Career Services Center, OM 280. See the Career Services library for additional information about many of the companies.

• **Battle Ground Public Schools**, Wednesday, December 10. Interviews for two special education teaching positions. Requires completion of program by end of fall quarter. Submit résumé and sign up for appointment in OM 280.

• **The Boeing Company**, Wednesday, December 10. Intern preselect deadline. Submit cover letter addressed to the Boeing Business Intern Program. Opportunities are for summer internships for juniors and non-graduating seniors with business-related majors. Desired minimum GPA is 3.3. Submit cover letter and résumé by December 10. Interviews will take place winter quarter.

Strange Days

The Western Front takes a look at the weirder side of the news

Bubbles, bubbles, names are troubles

"Bubbles" is trying to steal her laughs, and she wants her to stop.

So Amy Haroldson, "Bubbles the Clown" is suing Ellie Reed, "The Original Bubbles the Clown." Reed has been doing her act for 15 years, but let her license expire in 1990. She re-registered in August as "The Original Bubbles the Clown".

Haroldson has been using the name "Bubbles" for a year and registered the name this summer.

Although Reed thinks there is room for two Bubbles, Haroldson wants Reed to stop using the name, as well as cancel an upcoming Yellow Page ad, her clown phone number and pay at least \$10,000 for attorney costs and other losses caused by "confusion and deception."

What's your poison?

A family in Udine, Italy, said that it would not bow to pressure to remove its Fuehrer wine from the market (or any of its Guevara,

Lenin and Marx brands). Fuehrer's label has a photo of Adolf Hitler and comes in two varieties: "Zieg Heil" and "Ein Volk, Ein Reich, Ein Fuehrer" ("One People, One Empire, One Ruler").

In June, the Ontario Liquor Control Board cleared local shelves of a smuggled Chinese wine that reportedly enhances libido. Three-Penis Wine (deer, dolphin and dog) has such foul ingredients that authorities wouldn't even dump it into sewers.

Father knows best

A 17-year-old boy was assaulted after he refused to mow his father's lawn — at 6 a.m.

Michael Worthley was awakened by his father, Rickey, and was asked to begin mowing the lawn at 6 a.m. on a Saturday. Michael refused, claiming that it was too early, and attempted to go back to sleep.

The father left the room and returned with the lawn mower, turning it on and "mowing" his son's room. The teenager retaliated by throwing a fan at the mower

and calling the police. Rickey Worthley was arrested and charged with assault.

What scum!

A man, who admitted being drunk at the time his speeding truck killed two people, is now accusing the state police because "they failed to respond quickly enough" and could have prevented the accident.

Don't Mess With My Baby!

A 50-year-old woman knocked the gun out of a robber's hands, threw him to the ground and leapt on him, only to discover he was armed with a toy gun and fake plastic explosives.

The man had grabbed Rosa Cirujano's 25-year-old daughter, pointed a gun at her, and threatened to kill her unless the bank officers gave him some cash. The 40-year-old man lifted his shirt to show the explosives.

When Rosa Cirujano learned the weapons were fake, she screamed: "You idiot. After all

that, it was a plastic gun!" After Cirujano's attack on the robber, others helped to restrain him. It appears that Cirujano may have avenged herself of an attack by a masked thief who took her hostage at the same bank last year. Police are investigating whether the masked thief and robber are one and the same.

Crook runs into the mayor

A Tampa man, fleeing from the scene of a carjacking, escaped to the city mayor's house. Apparently, an officer stopped a carjacking in progress, then chased Vincent Ford over the wall of a condominium, through a swimming pool and straight to the mayor's front door. The intruder was arrested and treated for cuts from the glass.

Falling Down

An inmate fell to his death from the eighth floor of the prison when the bedsheet rope he was using during an escape attempt broke.

Rayton Jerome Bullok, 18, died after plunging 100 feet at the Allegheny County Jail. Bullok used a chair to break his cell's window and attempted to lower himself to the ground by using several bedsheets tied together. The warden of the jail immediately called for new shatterproof cell windows. Bullok was awaiting trial on murder charges.

Tough Day at Work

He fell 30 feet, became impaled by a 2-by-4, which missed all of his major arteries, organs and spine, but lost half of his small intestine. Construction worker Lee Hooks was on the roof of an elementary school building when he slipped on a safety rope and fell, landing on a piece of lumber that was on the ground. Doctors at Duke University Medical Center cut a 2-foot incision across Hooks' abdomen in order to remove the board.

Hooks is expected to make a complete recovery, but Dr. Larry Reed said, "Maybe in 6 months he could be back to his old self."

Compiled from Internet sources.

Parking tickets can delay registration

By Mark Dewar
The Western Front

In future quarters, student with unpaid parking tickets will have a more difficult time registering. Beginning winter quarter, if a student has an outstanding parking ticket that has not been paid, a block will be put on the student's registration.

Previously, if a student had not paid a parking ticket on time, it would have been billed to student accounts.

With this new process of trying to get students to pay up, Parking and Transportation Services hope this will be a more efficient way of cracking down on outstanding parking tickets.

Greg Lawrence, manager for Parking and Transportation Services, anticipates that this new change will expedite the way in which parking tickets are cleared off a student's record.

"The unpaid parking tickets may come in a little quicker to us," Lawrence said.

When a student receives a parking ticket, they are given 15 days to pay up. If the ticket is not paid within this period, a letter is sent out regarding the ticket. The student then has 10 days to two weeks to respond to the letter and pay up.

The hold on registration occurs after there is no response to this letter. However, a hold on registration could technically happen earlier, according to Lawrence.

"If a student got a ticket, say on Nov. 1 of this year, it might show up blocking their registration for winter quarter," Lawrence said.

During current winter quarter registration, 306 students had their registration

blocked because of this new policy. Among them was student Brian Goesling, a senior, whose schedule was left in total disarray when his registration was held because of an unpaid parking fee.

"It was a major inconvenience. It actually affected the classes I got next quarter and now I might not be able to graduate in the spring," Goesling said. "I hope (Parking Services) reconsider."

Another student, Brady Kellogg, was also disgruntled with the policy change. Kellogg, a junior, wondered what registration for classes had to do with unpaid parking fines.

"Where the hell does the campus get off on thinking they can hold my registration based on a parking fine?" Kellogg asked.

"It can hinder the classes students want to take for that quarter and therefore can interfere with a person's future," Kellogg said.

Asked about people who will be agitated by the new policy, Lawrence said he has dealt with people in the past who have come into his office upset, and they even have had "to step outside to clear their head before they can come back in."

The new policy is not about making people angry, but just trying to get people to pay unpaid fines without these fines being on a person's record for many months, Lawrence said.

The process for having registration held had been in the works for a while, Lawrence said. Students will be able to immediately register upon paying their unpaid fines, he added.

The switch from having the ticket put on student accounts to blocking registration happened on Nov. 17.

'Dinner' tonight in the Performing Arts Center



Front/Jesse Kinsman

"The Man Who Came to Dinner" will be performed tonight and tomorrow night at 7:30 p.m. on the Performing Arts Mainstage. Tickets are \$10 for general seating, \$8 for seniors and staff and \$6 for students.

Whatcom water quality questioned

By Wendy Giroux
and Sara Stephens
The Western Front

City, county and state officials are in agreement about one thing: no one wants to make a definitive statement about the current status of Bellingham's watershed. Lake Whatcom and its tributaries are in the middle of a tug-of-war.

While some people feel that the Nooksack Watershed is endangered, others feel that waterways in the community pose no health threats now or in the future.

No clear actions are being taken by the county or city to protect the watershed.

Sherilyn Wells, founder of the Watershed Defense Fund and editor of the Whatcom Watch, divided her group's concerns into several main points. The first consideration is that of water rights and whether Bellingham will continue to be able to pipe water from the Nooksack River to replenish Lake Whatcom.

"There are two driving forces working at taking away our pipeline: tribal rights and negotiations and the endangered species listings," Wells said.

The Spring Chinook and a species of Coho salmon are the fish currently being affected by substandard water levels and temperature changes in the Nooksack, Wells said.

The pipeline is vital to maintaining the current water quality in Lake Whatcom. The flushing action caused by the new water pumped in helps keep basin three clean, said Mike Hilles, research scientist with the Institute for Watershed Studies.

The second concern of the Watershed Defense Fund is the continued development surrounding the lake.

"In our watershed we either don't have storm drain planning at all or it has turned out to be vastly inadequate," Wells said.

Hilles said, "The problem with Lake Whatcom is that all the runoff goes into the lake; there isn't anywhere else for it to go."

Joan Pelley, public information officer with the Department of Ecology said a law was passed a few years ago requiring all municipalities to adopt comprehensive storm water plans.

"Bellingham and Lynden have adopted good ordinances," Pelley said, "but if the officials can't or don't enforce them, then (the ordinances) can't have any lasting positive effect."

The IWS at Huxley has been monitoring the lake's water supply since the '60s, when the water filtration system was established. The institute is contracted by the city to sample the water, collect data and publish results for \$70,000 to \$80,000 per year. The reports can be accessed through Western's homepage or at either Wilson Library or the Bellingham Public Library.

"The water's fine in

Bellingham — good grief!" Hilles said.

He said he believes the urbanized areas of the watershed pose problems for the future. However, he said that Lake Whatcom has low levels of nitrogen and phosphorus, the two factors that most affect growth of algae in bodies of fresh water. Subsequently, Lake Whatcom has relatively low algal growth.

Wells said the water filtration plant doesn't remove organic chemicals, such as the byproducts produced by blue-green algae. These toxins can be very detrimental to the brain and liver.

Whatcom county has twice the national average for cancer, Wells said. There is no current documentation to prove these cancer cases are related to local pollution, but it is one of the possible causes under consideration.

Wells also said that of a specific strain of children's leukemia, seven of the 3,000 total cases in the United States occur in a small area between Custer and Lynden.

The Nooksack Watershed includes Lake Whatcom and its contributing waterways. Three designated basins make up Lake Whatcom. The area surrounding basin one is the most densely populated; the shores and outlying regions of basin two have moderate development. Basin three is currently the least developed area.

All the water used by Bellingham is pumped out of basin two at the north end of the lake. Water district 10 (the Sudden Valley area) is a region located in Whatcom County, outside the city jurisdiction, which shares the city's water supply.

Water is pumped back into the lake from the middle fork of the Nooksack River in order to keep the lake between minimum and maximum water levels. Twenty-five percent of the total water used in Bellingham comes from the Nooksack system.

From the intake pipe 30 feet under the surface of basin two, water is pumped through two traveling screens which remove fish and large debris.

Pelley said the public works department is currently discussing a proposal to move the intake pipe to the less polluted basin three. It was moved to basin two in 1940 because the basin one pipe was of an inadequate size and was also located too close to a sawmill.

Water flows from the screening house to the water filtration plant near Whatcom Falls, where it undergoes cleaning and chlorination.

Dan Starcher has been a plants operator with the Bellingham filtration plant for 21 years.

"I won't buy bottled water. I drink city water because there is much less chance for the addition of contaminants," Starcher said.

Wells disagreed with Starcher. "I use a reverse-osmosis/carbon filtration system to filter my tap

water at home because anything coming out of such a polluted basin can't be healthy," she said.

Robin Matthews, director of the IWS, said that although the overall levels of phosphorus in the lake are low, specific points have high concentrations.

Internal loading of phosphorus is the natural amount which occurs in the lake. External loading comes from nonpoint runoff of soil, decomposed plant matter, animal waste and fertilizers, among other sources.

At some point in the future Bellingham is probably going to lose at least some part of its Nooksack water rights, Wells said. "When the amount of water diverted is cut back, the other major tributaries like Austin Creek and Smith Creek will have a much larger impact on the quality of the lake as a whole."

Austin Creek, the largest creek supplying water to the lake, flows through the Sudden Valley community of 12,000 citizens. Wells said the sewage system of Sudden Valley is of poor quality and the conditions caused by the development and urbanization make Austin Creek a health hazard.

"The fecal coliform count (of Austin Creek) is so high that it is dangerous in itself as well as



Front/Ryan Hooser

Many question whether Lake Whatcom's water is safe.

being an indicator of other pathogens," Wells said.

Tom Fitzsimmons, director of the Washington State Department of Ecology, said, "The three key (problem) areas are water supply, integrated watershed management and nonpoint source pollution."

The Department of Ecology defines nonpoint source pollution specifically as pollution from dairy waste, pesticide and nutrient runoff into streams.

In Confluence, their newsletter,

the Department of Ecology stated it plans to "provide better assistance and education to farmers both directly by Ecology staff and through local conservation districts."

The Department of Ecology is required by the federal Clean Water Act to prepare a "303(d) List" every other year of water segments which are either not meeting water quality standards or are not expected to meet them

See Water, page 5

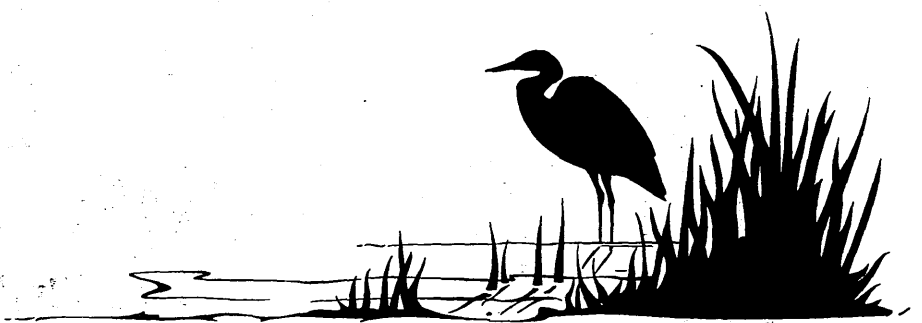
SPEND \$50
On a Pair of NEW Shoes at the FootZone, Turn in an OLD Pair of Shoes & **SAVE \$10**



FOOTZONE

Fairhaven 733-0225 Bellis Fair 671-5244

Environmental Studies 305 Environmental History and Ethics



A video course taught by Dr. John Miles is now available from Independent Learning. This course reviews how various human activities have historically depended upon and interacted with the natural world. For additional information and to preview the course outline, contact the Independent Learning office.

**Independent Learning
Old Main 400**

650-3650 ♦ ilearn@cc.wvu.edu

**WESTERN FRONT
CLASSIFIEDS SELL!
650-3160**

Water, from page 4

in the following two years. Water quality standards are intended to ensure that water is suitable for drinking, fishing, swimming, boating, agriculture and as fish habitats.

The national goal set by the CWA was to "restore and maintain the chemical, physical and biological integrity of the nation's waters" and to "eliminate the discharge of pollutants" into navigable waters by 1985.

When a water segment is placed on the list, the CWA requires the Department of Ecology to establish a Total Maximum Daily Load, an analysis which shows how much pollution a lake, river or marine water can take and still remain healthy for its intended uses. The TMDL also describes steps to control or prevent pollution.

Pelley said the Department of Ecology is currently conducting a TMDL on the middle fork of the Nooksack at 25 sites twice a month for fecal coliform, temperature and sediment levels. It is included in the 1998 "303(d) List" for not meeting standards in those three areas.

Although the Department of Ecology is required by federal law to establish TMDLs on each listed water segment, Pelley said, "We don't have the (financial)

resources to monitor as much as is required, so the Nooksack and other local TMDL monitoring are designated as priorities."

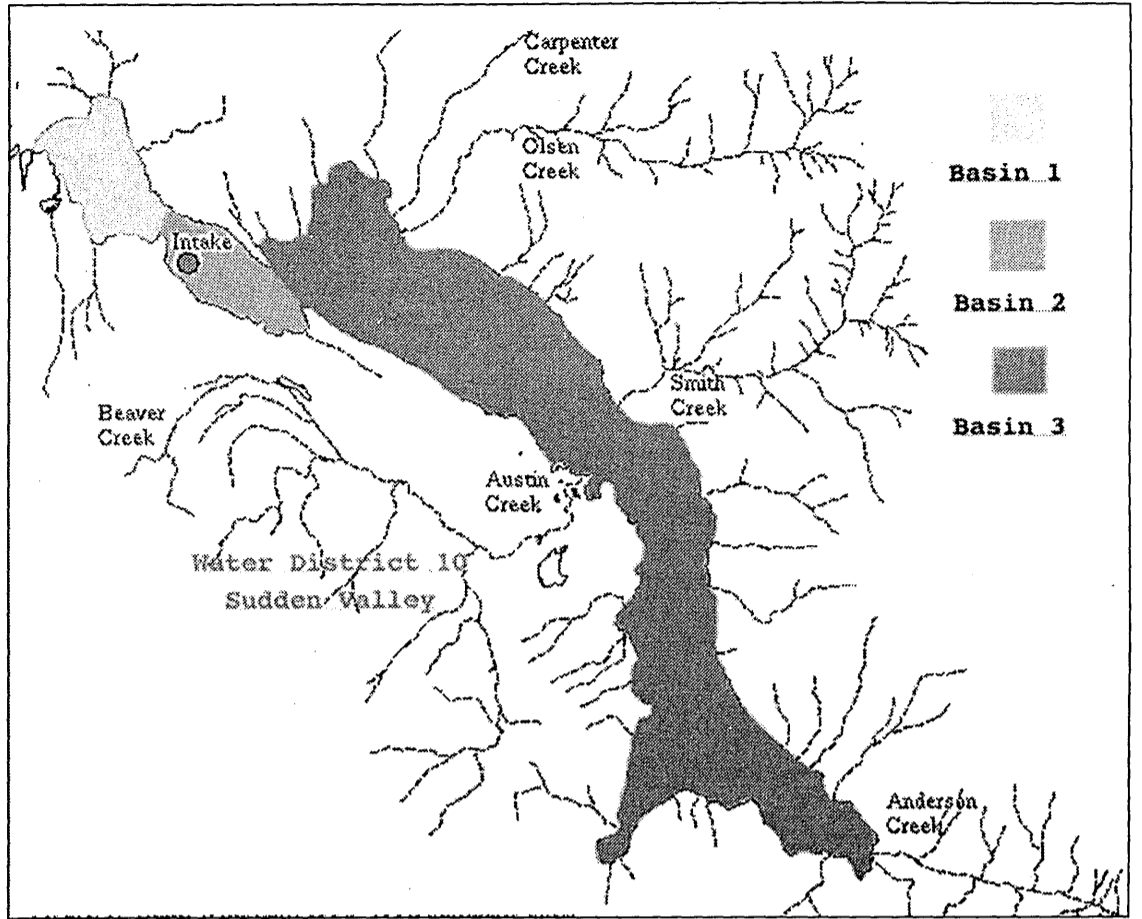
Lake Whatcom has been listed as a threatened and impaired body of water in past years. Steve Butkus, an environmental specialist with the Department of Ecology said Lake Whatcom is excluded from the proposed 1998 list because of an active phase II State Clean Lakes Restoration Project.

The list states, "Control measures (are) underway based on the phase I study."

The Department of Ecology accepts data from outside sources to help determine which bodies of water should be listed. They require data to be developed that adheres to the quality assurance and control plan. Two groups who submit samples of waterways in the Nooksack Watershed are the Lummi and Nooksack Tribes and the IWS at Huxley.

"I personally would like to see motor vehicles banned from the lake," Pelley said, "as well as the investigation of two concerns: zoning and land use and storm water treatment in general."

Hilles said it all comes down to political will and how much the government wants to spend on protecting the water supply. For



Courtesy of the Internet

Shown is a map of Lake Whatcom, with the different basins marked.

this to happen, the city and county councils will need to hear the Bellingham community demanding the watershed be protected.

"In my opinion, the city of Bellingham, public works and the

county have done nothing substantive to protect the watershed," Wells said. "We need an immediate moratorium on development."

Each of the officials agreed that any proposed solution will be

expensive. They posed the question of whether the community can afford to continue putting the well being of its own citizens and its environment at risk to such permanent damage.

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Students examine, participate in protest

By Nate Paulson
Special to the Front

Faced with the choice between another Political Science 343 class discussion of political communication theory and active participation in and observation of the Asian Pacific Economic Cooperation conference and related protests at the University of British Columbia, Maurice Foisy and 12 students from Political Science 343 and 346 piled into a 15-passenger van, Vancouver bound.

Foisy said he organized the trip because "(APEC) is a topical issue to a political communications class interested in the nature of public participation and how the media covers events.

"It was a perfect chance to talk with people on the scene of a world-class event, including the media representatives and the demonstrators," he said.

Foisy said the students received an education which would be impossible to reproduce in a traditional academic setting.

"The chance to feel the power of a large group of citizens outraged by current policy and dedicated to social change could never be found in a classroom," Joe Ackerson, a student who attended, said.

"A student can read about the college activism in the '60s and '70s or watch a video about it, but his or her perception of the event is only superficial," he added.

The students who went on the trip said as they began to interview the demonstrators and were immersed in a crowd that included an amazingly diverse cross-section of society, the power and nature of public democratic opposition really was understood.

Experiencing an event firsthand also gave the students the chance to analyze the media coverage.

"Media bias came out the clearest," Ann Bailey, political science student, said. "It showed me that despite the myth of unbiased press coverage, the media show a distorted view of actual events."

As a group, Foisy and the others listened to the Canadian coverage on the radio, watched the Canadian television reports and viewed the American accounts of the demonstration.

The Canadian accounts were closest to the truth, they said, but were still distorted. They focused on the conflict between students and the police much more than on an explanation of why the protesters were there.

A local traffic report warned city residents of the commotion caused by the march. "Avoid downtown Vancouver tonight because many streets are blocked by an anti-APEC march."

The KOMO account of the event focused on the disruption the demonstration created.

"Things got ugly," the newscaster said, showing images of people holding banners and being arrested.

Pictures of the police pepper-spraying the students followed as a response to the "chaos." The report ended with a shot of all 18 leaders with arms linked, wearing identical leather jackets to show unity.

"The KOMO account," student Jon Witsell said, "legitimized the brutal actions by the police and failed to address the reasons that the students were willing to be arrested."

"This marginalized the opinions of the dissenters and confirmed my belief that a small elite, who run the capitalist world, are protected by a huge security force which includes the mainstream media," he said.

Witsell interviewed a Royal Canadian Mounted Police officer who discussed the dual role of the



Students and activists protest the Asia Pacific Economic Cooperation meeting in Vancouver. RCMP in the affair.

The officer said the Indonesian delegates were not impressed with the protesters and two tried to infiltrate the demonstration, but the police apprehended and arrested them. A main duty of the RCMP was to protect the leaders. "Police were told that Indonesian President Suharto was not to see the protests," said the RCMP officer.

"In Indonesia," Witsell said, "there are few public demonstrations and those there are ended rather quickly when the security forces kill the participants. With this knowledge, the RCMP was constantly protecting both sides of the political argument."

The students said they felt the cross-border nature of the experience furthered the educational value of the trip.

"The benefits," Ackerson said, "were found in the analysis of another country and of the multiple cultures represented at both the march downtown and at the UBC protests."

"The diversity of the people impressed me the most," Witsell said. "I was surrounded completely by individuals from different countries and cultures."

"You just don't see that in Bellingham," he said.

"The trip enabled us to discover what political activism means to Canadian students and to people from around the world, which is an invaluable tool in analyzing our own political institutions," Witsell said.

Bailey said, "The Canadian people seem much better informed than Americans. The nature of their political participa-

J.J. Hewitt and John Witsell tion appears much more involved than here."

The diversity of the activists also allowed the class to see that political outcry is not limited by imaginary boundaries on a map.

All 18 APEC countries are affected by the conference and a good number of them were represented at the anti-APEC rally.

This international solidarity was "exciting," Robert Blake, a Western student and labor activist, said.

"When you're involved with so many different people, it makes you see that the whole world is involved," he said.

"The trip confirmed my view that field trips are good," Foisy said. "Everybody that goes feels good, learns a lot and grows closer to each other because of a shared experience."

Rally, from page 1

television stations were covering the protest, along with print and radio journalists. Western students, including Ann Bailey and Joe Ackerson, interviewed the media in hopes of discovering what they were looking for in their coverage. The overwhelming response that they got from the reporters was drama and conflict.

"The atmosphere at the UBC, amidst thousands of demonstrators, was electric," Ackerson said. "The opposition to APEC and the corporate agenda represented by it was a unifying force that I have never before seen."

The diversity of movements ranged from environmentalists, gay and lesbian rights activists and labor organizations to The Workers' Communist Party of Iran and the East Timorese Action Network.

"It was exciting to see so many different people with varied beliefs unified in opposition to a common enemy: free trade and

the values it reinforces," Ackerson said.

After finding out about the violent treatment of the demonstrators earlier, Bailey said she felt "really angry because the police did not handle the situation well by unnecessarily pepper spraying students. They had no regard for the students' safety or their right to free speech."

Ackerson said he was "appalled at the police brutality toward their own citizens and the huge presence they held on campus."

A few demonstrators had megaphones and people from the crowd were getting up and making short speeches in opposition to APEC and the corporate agenda of growth and development.

Most protesters were sitting on the grass voicing their support of the people up front who were being arrested.

When Foisy and the students arrived, an organizer was asking that the crowd remain calm and supportive of those engaged in

civil disobedience.

Singing and chanting broke out in opposition to APEC and in support of democratic solidarity.

One woman from the community labeled the protesters as "vandals," but said she couldn't offer a better way to voice opposition. Several police officers were sympathetic to the student protest, but were professionally obligated to protect the dignitaries. They refused comment when asked about unnecessary violence involving the arrests of students.

At approximately 2 p.m., the RCMP notified the crowd that they would no longer be making peaceful arrests and a stalemate developed. As students shuffled forward, the police held their line, not allowing the students to reach the barricade surrounding the Museum of Anthropology.

At 3 p.m., the demonstration split into three groups and reassembled at the three different roads leading away from the

museum. The police violently arrested more individuals as they sat in the street.

As a motorcade carrying some of the leaders turned the corner heading toward the demonstrators, the RCMP pepper sprayed the group and dragged them off of the street, in order for the dignitaries to pass.

Following the departure of the dignitaries from the UBC, the protesters left the university and assembled in Oppenheimer Park to prepare for a march and rally in downtown Vancouver. Western students drove downtown and caught up with the march at 4:30 p.m.

The demonstrators were singing and chanting, accompanied by a small band including drums, trumpets, trombones and saxophones.

The march wound its way through the five-lane streets of downtown, filling them for three blocks with over 3,500 other demonstrators.

The march lasted about 45 minutes and culminated at the base of the Art Gallery.

The demonstrators flooded the front stairs of the building and continued to wave banners and signs.

At 5:30 p.m., speeches began from the bed of a pickup truck equipped with speakers and a microphone. Six speakers each explained a different reason APEC — and the framework it legitimizes — should be challenged. The speeches often prompted thunderous responses from the crowd.

"The speeches at the rally were right on," said Robert Blake, a Western student. "The strength of the speeches was empowering and pumped up the crowd."

The rally ended at 9 p.m. The crowd dispersed, and the Western students carried their video and photo equipment back to the van as shouts of "The people, united, will never be defeated!" faded into the Vancouver night.

Economic agreement center of debate

By Nate Paulson
Special to the Front

Dignitaries from 18 countries gathered on Nov. 25 at the University of British Columbia in Vancouver to reaffirm their commitment to Asian Pacific Economic Cooperation. The leaders discussed the ailing Asian financial markets and expansion of APEC to three new countries, in addition to advancing economic policies supported by the group.

Created in 1989, APEC is a coalition of nations dedicated to capitalism, free trade and a global economy. APEC nations control nearly 50 percent of the world's gross national product and are involved in 46 percent of world trade.

At the conference, APEC status

was extended to Vietnam, Russia and Peru, effective in 1998. The addition of these three nations will increase the power of APEC and create a world-trade arena where over half of the trade is controlled by member countries.

"APEC is a reflection of the ideology responsible for the North American Free Trade Agreement; General Agreement on Tariffs and Trade, the World Bank, the International Monetary Fund and the World Trade Organization," said Ann Bailey, a Western political science student.

The mandates of these agreements are to liberalize free trade and investment, facilitate the development and prosperity of business and promote economic consumption.

"The policies enacted to achieve these ends find their

foundations in the notion that profit, consumption and growth are important to the health of a nation and to the prosperity of the world," Bailey said.

APEC was conceived with the intent to increase growth and development in the region and to strengthen the role of Asia-Pacific nations in global affairs.

During the APEC conference, Canadian Prime Minister, Jean Chretien said, "(APEC nations) believe that, if the recent developments have taught us anything, it is the need to expand our economic cooperation even further."

APEC opponents argue this perpetual need for more profit, power and money is the sole driving force behind APEC and the policies it creates.

APEC supporters claim it promotes economic cooperation,

which is important to sustaining growth. Perpetual growth, they say, is important to the common good of the people of the world and necessary to develop the world economy.

They also support APEC because it encourages the flow of goods, services and technologies between member nations. Supporters argue that freer trade will increase the profits of the private sector, helping the people of the nations to enjoy a better quality of life.

Supporters also see APEC as an avenue to increase the involvement of business in world affairs. They want to increase the role of the private sector in world affairs in order to strengthen global cooperation beyond political diplomacy.

Those who are opposed to

APEC base their arguments on a larger critique of the current system of power and economic relations. Labor conditions are at the forefront of objections to the free market system of the status quo.

APEC opponents say the workers in many APEC countries must endure long hours in horrible working conditions and are paid only a fraction of their production worth. The nature of a system that places power and profit over human quality of life is destined to create such environments, opponents argue.

APEC also is indicted for its failure to address human rights abuses within member states. The lack of focus on what the nations' leaders really represent is replaced by an intense concentra-

See Debate, page 9

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Centers, from page 1

The proposal suggests consolidating STRATA and the Veterans Outreach Center. In the proposal, the committee said it feels by consolidating these programs, it will increase the number of staff members available to service the needs of the older or veteran students, many of whom fall into both categories, according to the HRP proposal.

The committee researched and discussed whether the centers should use a co-coordinator structure or a coordinator assistant structure. The committee decided the coordinator/assistant relationship is more consistent with the AS structure and real life, according to the HRP proposal.

To set and maintain realistic standards in each program, the current staff will be asked to revise the job descriptions so programming expectations will be more clearly defined.

"The committee's main objective was to create a plan, bring it to the HRP, ask the HRP to critique the plan, because we encourage their participation," O'Day said. "With their participation it becomes more of a team effort."

"We are not critiquing the people in the centers personally or the job they do, we are looking at a history of the office and the need that was there at the time it was created," O'Day said. "This is where the professionalism and objectivity are of the utmost importance."

The HRP will critique the proposal, then it will go the community at large and then

to the board of directors. The AS board has to approve the proposal before it is passed.

"Whenever there is change there is opposition," O'Day said.

"It's not as though we don't like what the different centers are doing, it's that we are looking at the greater need of the community," O'Day said.

"It's up to us to be as objective as possible. It's not us against them."

"We are looking at the history and trying to troubleshoot for the future," O'Day said. "We want to meet the needs of the students."

"We are not trying to cut programs to save money; that is not our objective," O'Day said. "We are not doing anything drastic."

John Newcom of the Veterans Outreach Center said, "I think that they are making sweeping changes to fix problems that could be more easily fixed by concentrating on individual offices and they haven't discussed it with us fully."

Jerry Middleton of the Veterans Outreach Center said "They have given us some cosmetic reason why they want to

combine two offices without actually giving us the underlined reason."

"They've given us problems and proposed solutions, but they haven't discussed what we think the solutions should be," Newcom said. "We have other answers to their questions, but we haven't been asked.

This could be the first step toward fading out our office which would severely affect the needs of veterans," he said.

"This is not only a social atmosphere, but it is also a peer kind of helping atmosphere," Middleton said.

"Any time there is change it is a huge conflict and is a big deal and especially since the proposal is thinking of combing our center with something,"

Kerri Sanchez of the Sexual Awareness Center said.

"I think there are some really positive changes that could come out of (the proposal). We are still in the beginning stage of the proposal. There is a lot of potential, but it is going to have to be a cooperative effort on everyone's part — student

involvement as well," Sanchez said.

"We are not totally opposed to this combination (the Sexual Awareness Center and the Drug Information Center) but we do see a lot of problems with it," said Ellen Chesley of the Sexual Awareness Center.

Even though the Sexual Awareness Center and the Drug Information Center do duplicate some of the same services, their setting and their approaches are very different, Sanchez said.

"It has been kind of hard for us not to take these proposed changes personally because we put so much time into these offices, but I think we are dealing with it really well," Chesley said.

"Even though (the Review Committee) did try really hard, we weren't involved through a lot of the process, we were never called (and) they took our old records," Sanchez said.

While the members of the committee are not sure exactly what the proposal will be, they would like the proposal to be passed by the end of winter quarter.

"It is still up in the air if any of the centers will be combined or closed," O'Day said.

"We are just trying to find a better way to use the funding that we are allotted to provide support services to as many students as possible," Amy Clancy, AS personnel director and co-chair for the HRP Review Committee, said.

"We are not cutting anything," Clancy said. "We are just restructuring."

We went office by office, gathered data, attended programs and made a decision. We didn't grade people, we looked at history, the need, the demand.

— Shane O'Day
Associated Students
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Gathering food, selling glass for charity benefit

By JJ Jensen
The Western Front

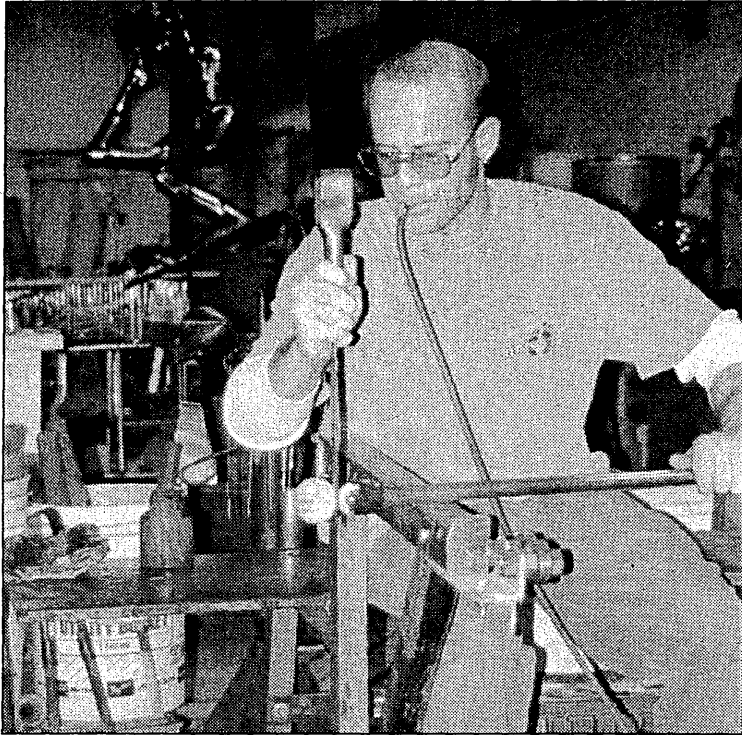
In the spirit of the holiday season, Hot Stuff Glass Studio and local blues and folk band Mulligan Stew will host the first ever "Pull-Together Food and Clothing Drive."

The event will be from 10 a.m. to 5 p.m. Saturday at the Hot Stuff Glass Studio in downtown Bellingham at Buzzard Ironworks, 104 E. Maple St.

In addition to Hot Stuff owner Bill Sargent's glasswork being on display and for sale, live music from local bands Sad Cafe, John Michael, Rohan and Mulligan Stew can be heard throughout the day. Demonstrations of glass blowing techniques and exhibits of glass sculpture and artwork will accompany the music.

In preparation for the fast-approaching, harsh Bellingham winter, non-perishable food and warm clothing are needed and can be donated at the event.

All donations and 15 percent of all proceeds from the glassware sales will go to the Bellingham Food Bank and Old Town Christian Ministries.



Front/Aaron Dahl
Carlos Reneer blows glass Christmas ornaments; part of the proceeds from their sale will benefit two local charities.

"The idea for the event was front man (of Mulligan Stew), Kevin Drew's. The purpose is to provide some food and clothes for local needy people," said Darrell Grimes, percussionist.

"Hopefully, way over 100 peo-

ple will show up," Grimes said, "but of course we'd like even more than that."

For more information, call a representative from Mulligan Stew at 650-0693 or Hot Stuff Glass Studio at 733-0539.

Debate, from page 7

tion on monetary policy and the strengthening of power position and profit around the Pacific Rim.

The two most notable examples of this phenomenon are China and Indonesia.

Representatives of the East Timor Action Network said Indonesian President Suharto and his regime are responsible for the 22-year systematic oppression of East Timor and the genocidal actions to achieve these ends.

Within the past two weeks in Indonesia, two students who were opposed to government policy were executed by security forces, and the atrocities continue.

Protesters also said China is responsible for the occupation of Tibet and the abuse of its people. The Chinese government has replaced a peaceful, community with rigid military rule. Protesters claim organizations remaining silent about human rights abuses while discussing GNP and development are endorsing genocidal actions.

Opponents also point to the environmental impacts of limitless growth and development. APEC and the free-market ide-

ology assume that resources are infinite and that they are only valuable in their "refined" state.

Additionally, opponents say, the profit motive causes the leaders' eyes to be averted from both the waste created and the natural resources destroyed.

According to the opposition, the free-market ideology responsible for APEC is also responsible for reinforcing social injustice. For this reason, many women's organizations, gay and lesbian rights activists and minority organizations are vehemently opposed to APEC.

They interpret APEC as one more tool used by those who wield economic and political power to achieve the ends of sustaining that power and suppressing any dissenting voices.

The inequality in policies such as APEC cause democracy to be subverted because it strips the citizen of her or his power to create social change, according to protesters.

APEC includes Australia, Brunei, Canada, Chile, China, Indonesia, Japan, South Korea, Malaysia, Mexico, New Zealand, Papua New Guinea, Philippines, Singapore, Taiwan, Thailand, the United States and Hong Kong.

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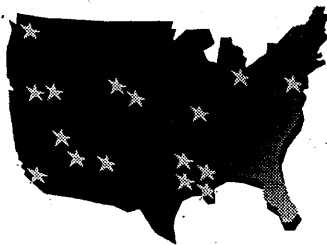
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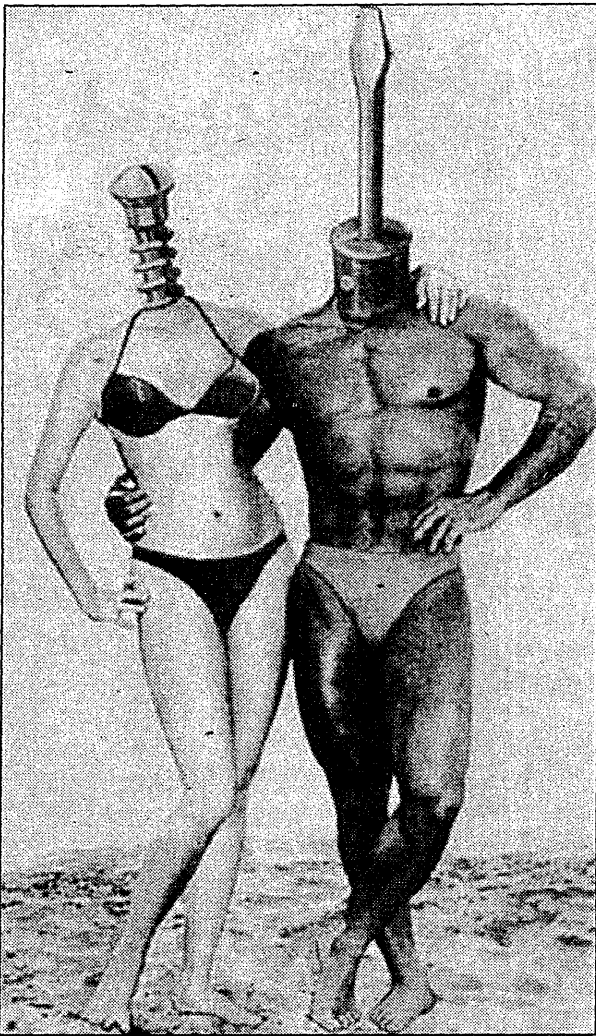
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Vigil honors AIDS Awareness Day



Courtesy of the Internet
The poster shown above, "Keep screwing, but stop AIDS," is used to increase AIDS awareness.

By Becky Sakala
The Western Front

The nation celebrated National AIDS Awareness Day on Monday to pray for and remember those who have died or are suffering from the disease. The ninth annual AIDS Day was celebrated locally with a walk from City Hall to the Bellingham Unitarian Fellowship Church, where a candle-light vigil was held.

President Clinton also observed the day and, in a videotaped message to participants in a ceremony organized by the Elizabeth Glaser Pediatric AIDS foundation, asked America's young people to not allow HIV to keep them from reaching their dreams.

Craig Wunder, of the Bellingham Evergreen AIDS Foundation, said it was a chance for everyone affected by the disease to get together and celebrate lives, to remember, to grieve.

"We tend to look at this locally, but we need to be thinking globally," Wunder said.

Currently an estimated 21.8 million adults and 830,000 children worldwide are living with HIV/AIDS, according to the World Health Organization's weekly epidemiological record.

In the October 1997 AIDS surveillance report compiled by the Washington State Department of

Health, 8,076 cases of HIV infection were reported in our State, with 108 reported in Bellingham.

EAF, which is located in Bellingham, serves the five counties in our region and has recently teamed up with the Sean Humphrey House, a place where AIDS patients go to live out their lives, and to recruit, screen and train volunteers who would like to work with the clients of EAF and SHH. This will reduce duplication and improve the quality of the volunteer experience at both agencies, according to the Autumn edition of EAF's newsletter, Aware.

The volunteers provide emotional support, care and chore services, such as rides to doctors appointments and meal preparation. They also offer support groups for people living with AIDS and friends and family of the patients.

Wunder is the regional director for the Friend to Friend Project at EAF. This is a statewide project for gay/bisexual people to learn how to live and to prevent contraction of the disease.

"It is education and prevention for people who are not living with the disease to never have to be in the position to be a client here," Wunder said.

EAF also sponsors community events such as the Sept. 28 Seattle AIDS walk and the Oct. 25. Artists

United Against AIDS benefit art auction, which was in the basement of their office on Cornwall Avenue.

Wunder is trying to organize a needle exchange for Whatcom county. This is in response to the increase of people in treatment for intravenous drug use in Whatcom county. Information regarding treatment of drug addiction would also be provided.

Wunder also said needle exchanges have nothing to do with condoning drug use. It would also mean that people would no longer have to drive to the needle exchange in Skagit county for a clean needle.

"If they're going to engage in this activity they need to realize there's a way they can, for the sake of the disease, be able to get clean needles," Wunder said.

Wunder is focusing his Friend to Friend program on providing enough information for non-infected men so that their risk for HIV is reduced. He accomplishes this by teaching them to communicate with each other.

Wunder recommends stopping for a moment to realize that open and honest, heart-felt communication has a great effect on how we interact with other people, which can be important and needed in a world where an estimated 29.4 million people have been infected by the disease.

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Production after filming ends

By Karl Horeis
The Western Front

Did you ever wonder about those catchy film clips played before movies? Or did you wonder who was behind music videos or television commercials?

A lot of the final touches for these extravaganzas are done in post-production houses. Post production generates millions of dollars in revenue yearly.

Although the industry is largely based in Hollywood, Seattle is becoming a center for video in its own right.

The largest house is Pinnacle Productions, which calls itself "the premiere agency in the Northwest."

The general manager of Pinnacle, Warren Franklin, previously worked for George Lucas's Industrial Light and Magic, helping with effects on "The Empire Strikes Back."

"Post-production houses basically do three things," said Greg Pecknolled, manager of Flying Spot Pictures in Seattle. "One is the transfer of images from 35mm film to digital video. Then there is the editing of the video. Third, we add graphics with a myriad of different software tools."

After Pinnacle, Flying Spot is the second-largest grossing house in the Northwest.

Flying Spot recently won an Emmy Award for a project with National Geographic. Flying Spot has also worked with sports teams doing stadium graphics and commercials. These teams include the Mariners, Sonics and the Chicago White Sox.

Flying Spot has also worked on videos for Counting Crows, Stone Temple Pilots and Slayer.

Post-production houses are also often responsible for doing effects, trailers and credits for movies. Creating the theatrical preview for director Ang Lee's new film, "The Ice Storm," was Seattle's third-ranking

post-production house, Rocket Pictures.

"Being at the helm of this project was a real coup for us," Rocket's Daniel House said. "We were in direct competition with some major companies."

Rocket Pictures has only 10 employees, half as many as Flying Spot and one-tenth as many as Pinnacle Systems.

"Here you get a much more human experience," House said. "We are a small, very focused group, and we pride ourselves on creating the exact environment a client needs."

House spoke positively about his main competitors Pinnacle and Flying Spot. "It is important that we are all here to have a healthy community because sometimes a client will have enough work for two of us at once," he said. "It is important that we all get a piece of the pie."

The high cost of upkeep and use of traditional editing suites have been seen as a drawback by some and the development of integrated desktop video products for home use are seen as a solution.

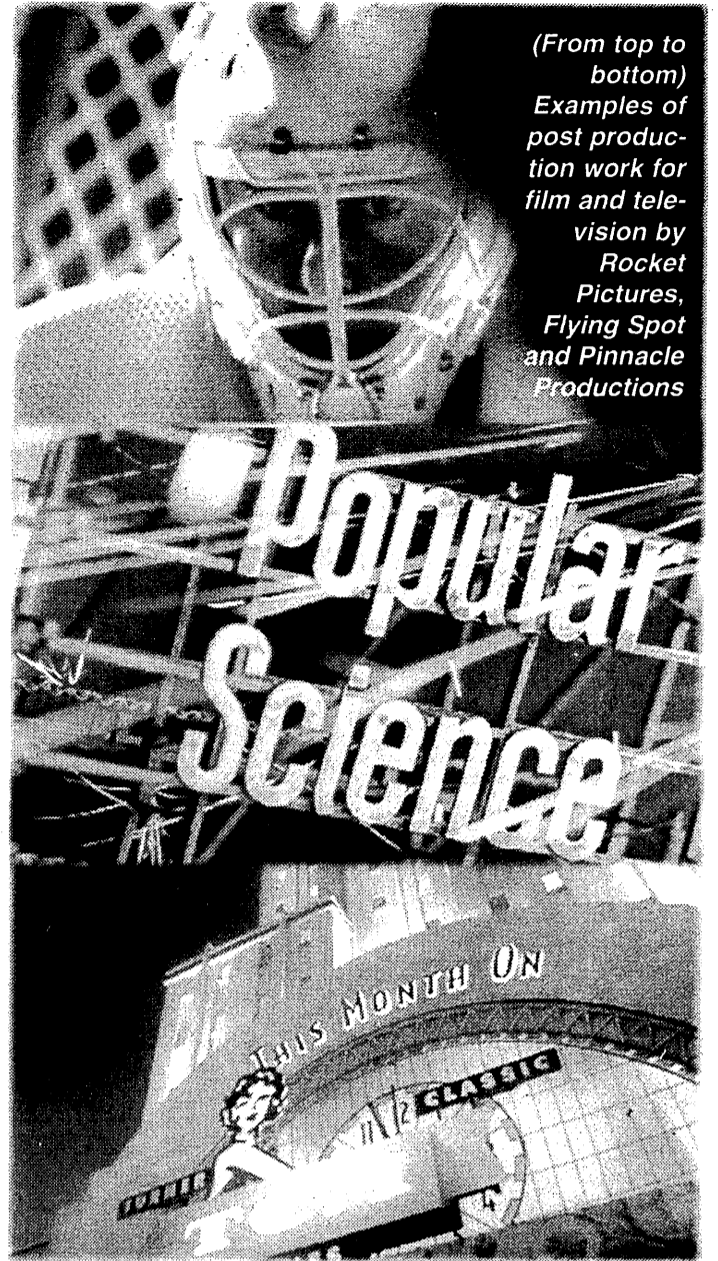
Bill Howard said in the March 25 issue of PC Magazine that Pinnacle Systems' new Video Director Studio 2000 "makes home and business video editing one of the hottest secondary uses for a PC this year."

The May 1997 issue of Window Sources said it "turns your hours of boring video tape into something worthy of Hollywood."

Pinnacle's competitors said they don't see this new technology as a bonus.

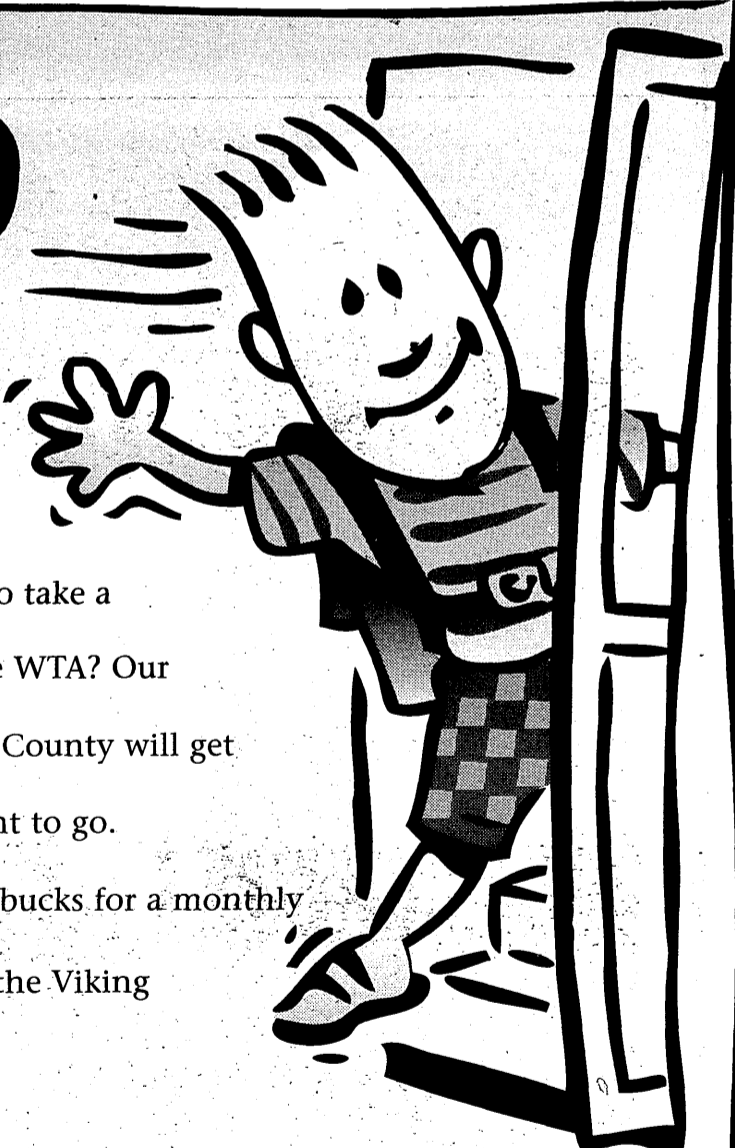
Although direct satellite broadcasts and video servers have increased demand for video content, this new technology takes a chunk out of the post-production market, enabling people to work at home.

"There is more work, but a lot of it might be done in people's basements," House said. "We are now dealing more exclusively with higher budgets."



(From top to bottom)
Examples of post production work for film and television by Rocket Pictures, Flying Spot and Pinnacle Productions

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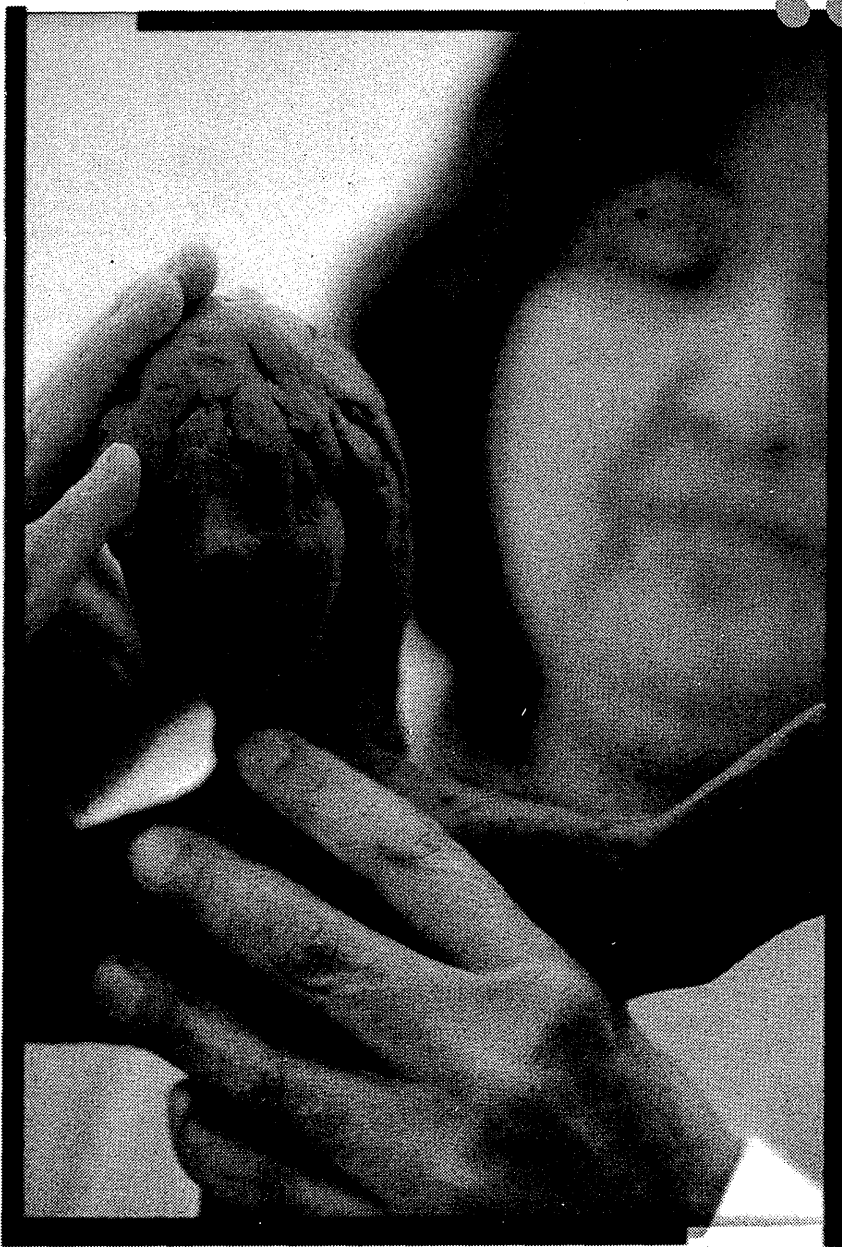
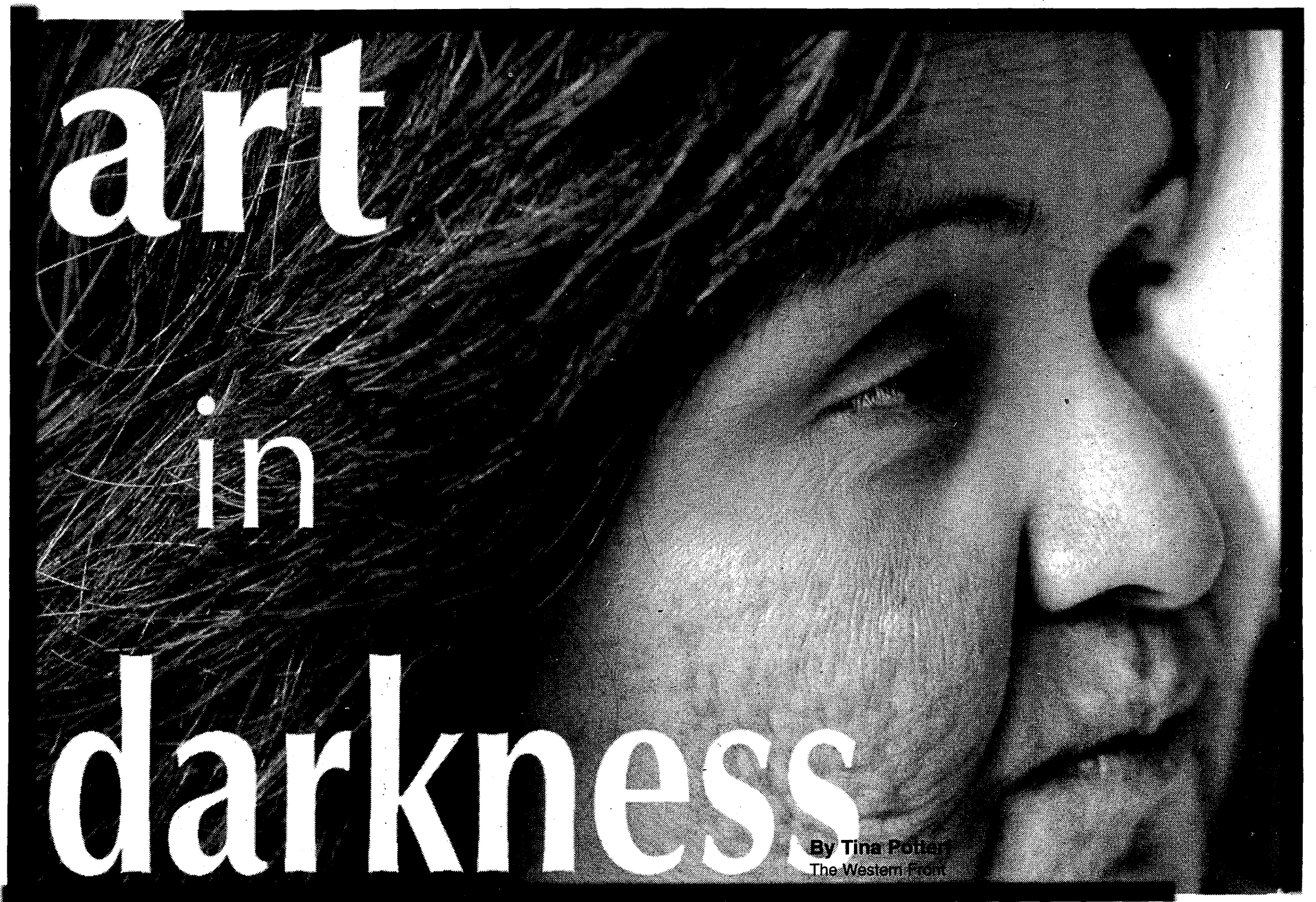


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(Top) Yvonne Thomas creates art, despite losing most of her eyesight.. (Bottom) In class, Thomas builds a Coast Salish Dancer called a "hair bonnet" dancer. She attends classes twice a week at the Northwest Indian College. (Photos by Tim Klein)

"I have a natural love for the visual arts and since I was 7-years-old and my father taught me how to use color and shading, I have been a visual artist. To think about losing the creative part of the mind, the visual part that brings me enjoyment, is unbearable," Lummi artist Yvonne Thomas said.

"The reality of letting go of this means letting go of my art," she said. "The thought of letting go of my art was just too hard to take and I just started shutting down. Walls were coming up around me. This was the beginning of my 'dark period,'" she said.

In the early morning hours of Feb. 4, 1984, Bellingham artist Yvonne Thomas' visual world went black. A student at Evergreen State College in Olympia at the time, Feb. 4 marks the day that would trigger a series of inconceivable events that forever altered Thomas' life. In the days that would follow, a medical diagnosis would markedly change the life of a promising art student and thriving two-dimensional artist, whose life descended into the initial stages of this abysmal "dark period."

the early years

"I woke up early in the morning, Feb. 4, 1984, and my eyes were totally red and I couldn't stand to open them to any light," Thomas, 41, said. "I had to be secluded in a totally dark room. It was too painful to open my eyes."

Initially, Thomas was bewildered but cognizant that something was seriously wrong; her eyes became increasingly strained and her vision blurred. After three days of relentless pain, she was examined by an optometrist who rendered the root of this sudden onset of pain as "eye strain," a diagnosis Thomas didn't believe. Not convinced that the optometrist had nailed her ailment, Thomas came to Bellingham to see her mother. Days later, Thomas was at the University of Washington Medical Center being administered tests by a band of doctors, but a clear diagnosis eluded these doctors.

"I thought no one was ever going to find out what was wrong with me," she said. "After four doctors looked at my eyes, a fifth doctor examined me and then met with the other doctors. This doctor knew what it was and he diagnosed me. It was very painful."

Diagnosis: Vogt-Koyanagi-Harada Syndrome, an extremely rare eye disease that attacks the eye's defense capacity and causes nerve atrophy and lesions that can lead to blindness. Today, almost 14 years after that initial diagnosis, the damage caused by the onset of Vogt-Koyanagi-Harada is irreversible. Thomas is legally blind. The loss of sight was gradual after the initial diagnosis, however, her condition was compounded incrementally by a proliferation of scar tissue accumulating behind her eyes, resulting in extensive nerve damage and almost total loss of vision.

A rigorous treatment program of cortisone shots and pragnazone, a steroid with a slew of side effects including sun sensitivity, water retention and weight gain, all of which Thomas experienced, were prescribed to combat Vogt-Koyanagi-Harada. Weekly eye examinations greeted Thomas in the first few years after the diagnosis. In recent years Thomas has utilized an organic medicinal regimen of anti-oxidants and natural remedies to stave off the disease. But Thomas, a single mother of a toddler, lives with the reality of the disease — she will never regain her sight.

The dour prospects of a diminished quality of life coupled with the increasing likelihood of never being able to produce art proved physically and emotionally unbearable for Thomas. The reality of the bane of an illness that rendered Thomas blind precipitated her "dark period."

"One day in January 1985, I stepped out of my house to take a walk and the next thing I know I was in the hospital, looking up at my mother's figure standing by my bed," Thomas said. "(My mother) told me I was missing for 72 hours and I was found in a snowy field on the (Lummi) reservation. I had no idea how I got there or how long I was gone. They thought I was suicidal and so I was committed to a mental hospital for observation for two weeks. I was so depressed ... and I guess in a way I was suicidal."

"When I was at the mental ward I started to see a counselor who helped me to understand my emotional state. I began to pull myself out of the depression but there was still something missing," she said.



One of Thomas' challenges is taking care of Peggy, her 2-year-old daughter.

Szymanski's burgeoning friendship parlayed into Thomas' enrollment in a string of Szymanski's art classes including sculpture, bronze casting and screen printing.

"I'd consider Yvonne a contemporary Native American artist" who produces traditional art in new ways, Szymanski said.

Thomas has been a student at NWIC on and off since 1987, and it is here where Thomas rediscovered her art and the vitality produced through translating thought into artistic expression. The courses at NWIC have reintroduced some of the skills weakened through her disease. However, the rudiments of art and the aspects of her culture infused in her artwork didn't lessen even as Thomas' sight diminished. Admittedly, returning to academia was unnerving.

"I was nervous about going back to school," she said. "All my life I have done two-dimensional art and now I found myself in a class working with the three-dimensional (medium)."

"Yvonne is a well-accomplished artist who sees with her hands and create amazing art," Szymanski said. "Her fortitude is remarkable. Yvonne is her own artist; her work is beyond the level of most students."

new beginnings

In 1987, Thomas executed an acrylic piece that she believed was to be her last work of art. As her vision diminished, Thomas began doubting her capacity to create art if she couldn't trace the lines, count the folds of fabric gathering around a thigh or mix prismatic colors that she could not see.

"The goal with my art is to bring to life what's in my mind, what I see; but I'm limited to what I can do artistically," Thomas said. "As my vision got worse I didn't think I'd be able to do art again. Footprints was that last piece. When I had sight, my favorite place to go was the beach. I'd walk along the beach and do my thumbnail sketches. The footprints represent me walking and the Lord walking with me."

Footprints marked the end of one dimension of Thomas' art and the broachment of a new domain that commenced with her classes at NWIC.

It's been almost a decade since Thomas contemplated forsaking a life of art but with personal, spiritual and professional guidance, Thomas' environment is rife with art, as she continues to render myriad artistic creations at a dizzying pace. Refusing to thwart her artistic capacity, Thomas works in mixed media, although primarily with acrylics, ink and casting methods. Bold streams of color dominate Native American imagery and spiritual symbolism rises to the fore in Thomas' work.

Although she doesn't rely heavily on the criticism of others to validate her art, Thomas finds a degree of expediency in putting her art out with an audience in mind and thus has exhibited her work in Bellingham and Seattle gallery's so that people can revel in art that represents her Native

American heritage and distinctive style. Thomas' work frequently adorns the walls at Bellingham's Allied Arts Gallery. The "Very Special Arts Gallery" in Washington, D.C. selected two of Thomas' works, including a four-color silk screen done in Thomas' trademark Coast Salish style — a Native American art form that employs stark, solid lines and realism — to be housed in the gallery starting in January.

Through bouts with self-deprecation, depression, hopelessness and uncertainty, Thomas remains standing, triumphant and prolific as her art flourishes and her creative motivation intensifies. In the end, it all comes back to creating art to share with others — but always on her terms.

"I don't want to do art just to live up to the expectations of others ... but I do want my art to stimulate others. The biggest enjoyment I get from my work is when someone comes up to me and expresses satisfaction from seeing my art," Thomas concluded. "The creative process of producing art is stimulating, and if my art stimulates, the art has done its job."



Thomas displays "Cool Change," a work she produced in 1989.

rediscovering art

Thomas discovered that it was art that was missing, a conclusion that wasn't immediate as she began to contemplate a life bereft of art — a world void of the bold colors, stark lines and textured acrylics that brought to life Thomas' visual art proxies inspired by Native American folklore. Thomas wasn't willing to concede and let her disability extract the lifeblood — her art — from her veins. Art and life were tantamount for Thomas. In the early 1980s, Thomas worked locally as a graphic artist and had made a living producing art. With a bachelors degree in art and an associates degree from Santa Fe University, Thomas couldn't fathom existence without art.

With the guidance of her counselor and a desire to "work my fingers again," Thomas was introduced to Susan Szymanski, an art department head and instructor at the Northwest Indian College, a decade ago when Thomas' parents brought her to the college to get her resocialized into art. Thomas and

Modest Mouse

By Tina Potterf
The Western Front

"I've got a rock 'n' roll heart, you've got a rock 'n' roll heart, we've got a rock 'n' roll heart," Ken Stringfellow crooned, beckoning the pulsating crowd to join in, as his Minus 5 cohorts answered his pure rock pleas, the band unabashedly wearing its adulation of rock on its sleeves.

The "supergroup" The Minus 5, comprised of the Posies' Stringfellow, drummer Jason Finn, formerly of the Presidents of the United States of America and Scott McCaughey of the Young Fresh Fellows (and part-time REM member) kicked out the jams at last night's chunky, goofy rockfest sponsored by Associated Students Popular Music, featuring openers The Minus 5, 746-HERO and headliner Modest Mouse.

The Minus 5 started off the night with a moody guitar-oriented number that married McCaughey's seasoned, smoky vocals with Stringfellow's poppy riffage and Finn's tight percussions in an aural cacophony that was pure bliss. McCaughey was in fine form spitting out giddy pop-rock ditties, shakin' his groove thang like a spring chicken. The Minus 5's overall sound is a culmination of its individual members' stints in notable ensembles and, as these bands swap members, the sounds coalesce.

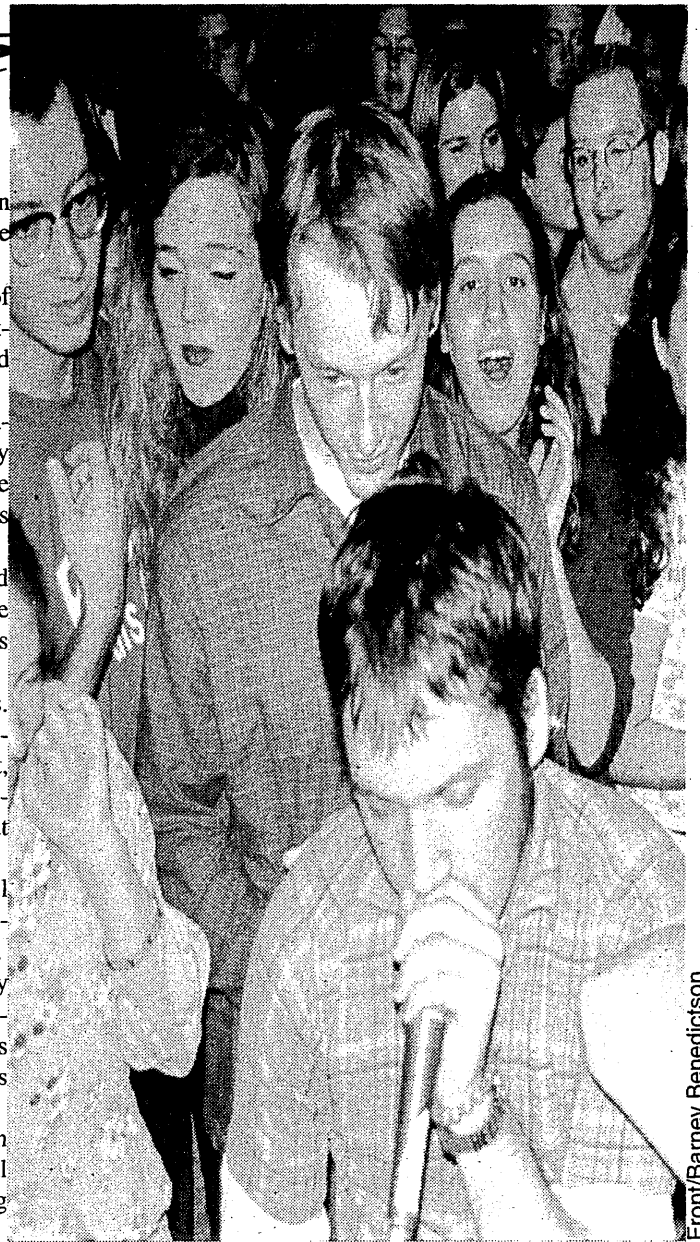
Brew, popsicles, forlorn love and less profound topics are skirted in The Minus 5's set list as the band keeps the mood light, the music fresh and the vibe, straight-up rock. Undoubtedly, The Minus 5 rocked the Viking Union with aplomb and with the finesse of a band of oldie-but-goodie rockers that endure as trends wax and the desire for ingenious, refreshing music wanes.

764-HERO stood ably on its "two" feet, hammering out ditties that kept the rock 'n' roll theme infections. Sounding at times like a bass-less Afghan Whigs dancing the tango with Matthew Sweet, Seattle's 764-HERO didn't recoil from the noise-guitar genre as it deftly pummelled intelligent lyrics with overwrought, angry riffs and intense percussions. Maniacal vocals whipped the crowd into a controllable frenzy as 764-HERO provided an intimate, lucid atmosphere that would be turned awry by the scruffy, fuzzy lads that swaggered onto the stage to join 764-HERO for a bonafide jamboree.

Slipping on the stage, the Modest Mouse fellas infused sparks of individuality into 764-HERO's doleful rock as the two bands jammed for a hefty 10 minutes, splicing the rudiments of honest rock with the psychedelic renderings coming out of the mighty mouseketeers' amps, amid the drone and walls of feedback.

Modest Mouse has earned a reputation as a lively studio band but a mediocre live act that painfully dredges through a set list often beleaguered by incoherency and technical difficulties. However, the fashionably disheveled lads didn't disappoint their fans on this occasion. The band rolled through current works and the good ol' favorites, the throng pleasantly lapping up every off-kilter note and unintelligible vocals strewn together and deciphered through the cascade of drone rendered marvelously by Modest Mouse.

The lads were actually bearable and enthralling, throwing out engaging punk, lounge-ish, rock cuts in nice form and with creative spontaneity in check. Never to be pigeonholed as radio-friendly, commercial "rock stars," Modest Mouse are gutsy, visibly bemused, skilled musicians who don't seem to mind keeping the crowd waiting 15 minutes between each song as they apparently are beyond the use of set lists.



Front/Bamey Benedictson
Modest Mouse lead singer Isaac Brock takes his act into the crowd last night at the Viking Union. Seattle bands 764-HERO and The Minus 5 also performed.



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By Addy Bittner
The Western Front

ALIEN RESURRECTION

By Wendy Giroux
The Western Front

There's nothing like a grisly splattering of yellow alien innards, combined with the eclectic teaming of an invalid, an android, a clone and some scientists to successfully enliven "Alien Resurrection," the latest installment in the lucrative "Alien" series.

This time around Jean-Pierre Jeunet directs, making "Alien Resurrection" probably the best of the four films. Although not as fantastic as his and cinematographer Marc Caro's last two films, "The City of Lost Children" and "Delicatessen," "Alien Resurrection" exhibits many of the same darkly vivid qualities that made those two movies so surreal.

The film's plot has a strange twist as well. Sigourney Weaver's character, Ellen Ripley, is back from the dead. This time she is the product of an eighth attempt at a clone of her old self. The best part is, we get to see the outcome of the first seven attempts when Ripley accidentally finds the pasty, half-alien/half-human bodies of the other clones preserved in cylindrical tanks. These experiments, a disgusting display of science gone wrong, are blown to bits by Ripley after a heartfelt moment of reckoning with her own bodily situation. She is part alien and can feel the creature's presence behind her eyes and smell them inside herself. If that's not enough, she is also the mother of the queen alien, who won't stop breeding.

All this takes place on one spacecraft, making for some real moments of tension. It's the same old question: Who's going to live and who's going to be ripped to shreds by a drooling pair of monstrous alien jaws? However, the sequences illustrating the motherly connection between Ripley and her beastly offspring create some intriguing scenes.

With interesting deviations from the typical "Alien" plot-line and the marvelous directing of Jean-Pierre Jeunet, "Alien Resurrection" is a real pleasure.



Photo courtesy of 20th Century Fox

Director Jean-Pierre Jeunet's special effects in "Alien Resurrection" can't resurrect the terror instilled in audiences by the other movies in the "Alien" series.

The flawed script for the new addition to the series makes for choppy scenes and a fairly tame ride.

The screenplay was written by Joss Whedon, whose poorly composed dialogue is also evident in "Waterworld" and "Speed," two of his past works. Throughout the script, cheesy lines are thrown in that seem to have been written expressly for the purpose of breaking audience concentration.

Weaver said in an interview that she greatly appreciated Jeunet's tongue-in-cheek sort of humor. However, the jokes seem out of place in several of the scenes, busting through the tense, chaotic mood like an alien in a china shop.

Another weak spot in the script is the development of the characters. Whedon molded characters with many intriguing complexities, but the audience isn't given enough development at the beginning of the film to understand characters' reactions and comments.

The special effects are the best component of the film, but they illustrate some moronic concepts. Near the end of the film, a ship goes through Earth's atmosphere with a hole in the hull. Not only did the ship survive, but apparently the ship's occupants developed the miraculous ability to breathe in a vacuum. Even science fiction movies should observe the laws of physics.

Along with technical improvements and higher-quality special effects, one would expect scarier aliens. Although the aliens have evolved and have new characteristics, they seem suspiciously like those of the "Jurassic Park" dinosaurs.

"Alien Resurrection" kept up with today's demand for blood and gore, but it simply did not possess the same entrancing suspense of the previous Alien movies. In fact, the trite dialogue and misplaced humor lend the film a comic-book flavor, rather than that of a good thriller.

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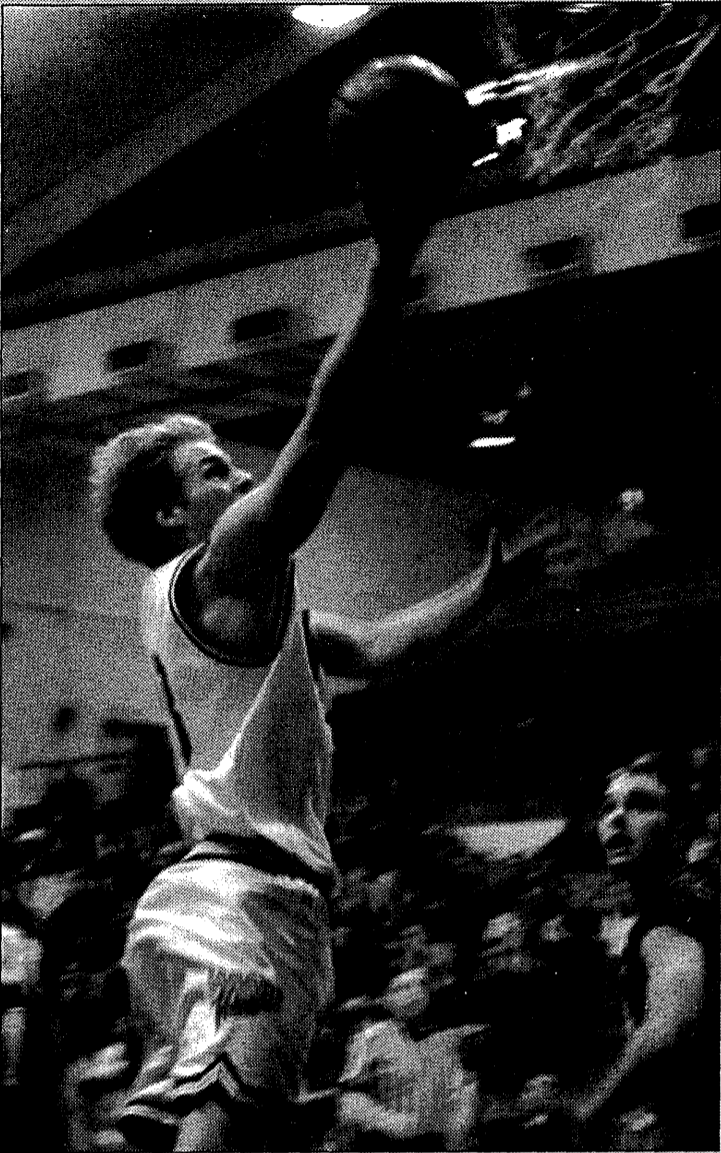
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Men's basketball team lassoes Broncos 96-79



Front/Barney Benedictson
Freshman guard Ryan Kettman drives the lane for a score against California Polytechnic-Pomona. The Vikings defeated the Broncos 96-79 last night in Carver Gym. The victory improved Western's record to 3-2 as the team takes a break for final exams. After the break, the Vikings will play in the Cal Poly Pomona Invitational Tournament, Dec. 18-20, in Pomona, Calif. Western will compete in the tournament against the host team, the Broncos, and Pacific Northwest Athletic Conference rival St. Martin's University. The tournament will also feature five California schools: Albertson College, Azusa Pacific University, Bellevue University, Christian Heritage College and Humboldt State University. The Vikings' next home game is against Seattle Pacific University at 7 p.m. on Dec. 30.

Engblom-Stryker: hard to say, but even harder to keep down

By Becky Sakala
The Western Front

When Todd Engblom-Stryker walks through a door or into a room, people take notice. Engblom-Stryker is a 6'7" forward for Western's men's basketball team.

Engblom-Stryker was born in Astoria, Ore., and grew up in Camas, Wash. He played basketball for Camas High School, but said his school had a poor athletic program.

This led him to Western, even though he could have played at a community college in Camas. However, he was afraid it would be difficult to get recruited to a big school if he had gone to a community college.

"If you set high goals you end up higher than you really thought you could," Engblom-Stryker said. "I thought I would just go to a community college, but I ended up here."

He also said it was the influence of basketball coach Brad Jackson, who actively recruited him to come play for Western and also because of the reputable academic programs.

Engblom-Stryker is returning to the team to play after two injuries kept him off the court last year. Two weeks before finals week in fall quarter 1996, Engblom-Stryker tore a ligament in his left thumb and then three months later, tore the cartilage in his right shoulder. He had surgery on his shoulder and said he is finally feeling healthy and strong again after nearly a year of recuperation and conditioning.

"I'm kind of athletic and I have to practice a lot," Engblom-Stryker said. "I can't get away with the pure athleticism. I just work hard."

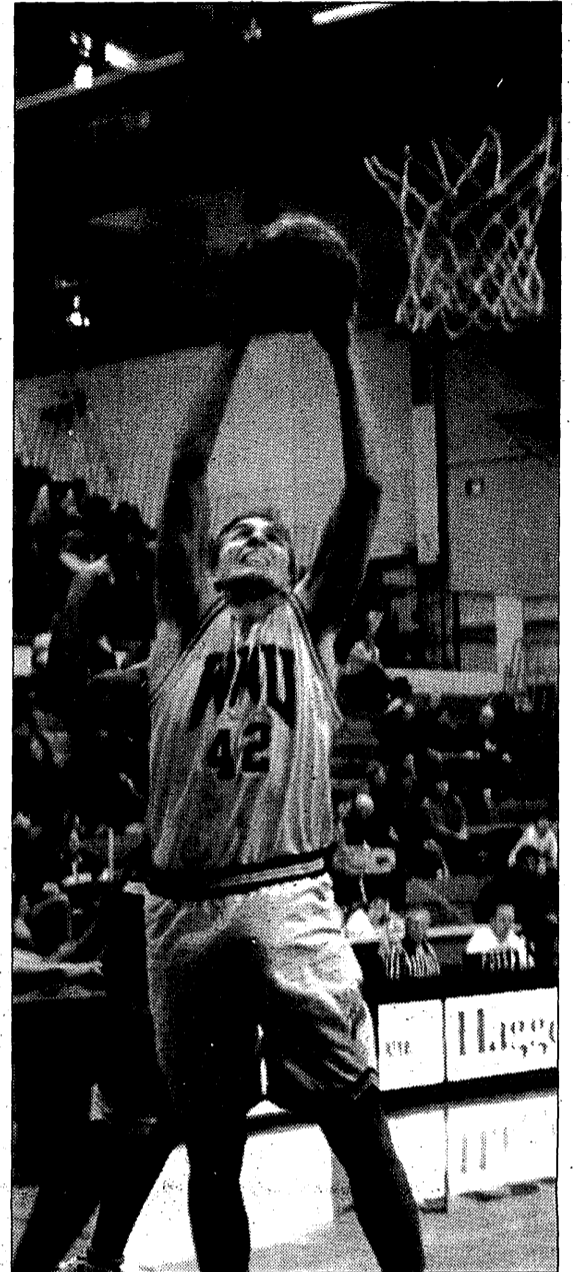
After he was injured, Engblom-Stryker said he questioned whether basketball was really worth all of the pain.

"I questioned my love," Engblom-Stryker said.

Fortunately the injuries and lay-off were only temporary and Engblom-Stryker said he has "definitely found (he) wants to stick with it."

"I feel like basketball has been a real help to me," Engblom-Stryker said. He added that basketball has increased his confidence. "I like the feeling. I like being in that space," he said.

Engblom-Stryker said the team is still working on forming a group dynamic right now because a couple of the players are new, but he predicts they should do well. Their team goal is to be number one in the league so they can go to Nationals. Some difficult teams to beat include St. Martin's University,



Front/Barney Benedictson
Junior forward Todd Engblom-Stryker.

Simon Fraser University and Western's traditional arch-rival, Central Washington University.

Regular league play begins after the Christmas break.

"These next two to three weeks are important," Engblom-Stryker said.

Engblom-Stryker is a history major and will be graduating in the spring of next year.

Viking women split two in Colorado

By Mike Dashiell
The Western Front

Western's women's basketball team collected its first loss of the season, splitting a pair of matches at Colorado Christian University's Thanksgiving Invitational Tournament last weekend in Lakewood.

On Friday, center Celeste Hill and guard Amanda Olsen threw in 17 points each for the Vikings in a 75-54 defeat of host CCU.

Western coach Carmen Dolfo said, "(The team) ran really well and got a lot of lay-ups and we played defense at times very well."

The Vikings controlled the game from beginning to end, using an 18-5 run in the first half to lead 34-21 at the break. CCU fared no better in the second half, falling behind by as much as 24

with three minutes left. Western's rabid defense forced CCU to shoot only 35 percent from the floor, while the Vikings hit for 47 percent.

Hill, a sophomore from Auburn, hit eight of 11 shots from the field, scoring 13 second-half points before fouling out.

Western controlled the glass, towering over CCU for a 45-36 edge in rebounds. Sophomore forward Sara Nichols led the Vikings with 13 boards, while senior April Saunders gathered in seven.

CCU, who was paced by forwards Cassi Warner (12 points) and Brooke Carrigan (10), fell to 3-2 on the season.

Saturday, Western was defeated by the Colorado School of Mines, 61-56, in a game marred by terrible shooting.

CSM hit only 27 percent from the field, but made 24 of 31 free throws (77 percent). Western came into the game shooting 52 percent from the field, but could manage only 35 percent for the game.

The Orediggers used the first-half momentum to open the second with a 23-9 run, during which point guard Amy Bollinger scored 12 points. Western was unable to contain Bollinger, who hit for a game-high 24 points and shot 11-15 from the line. CSM guard Mindi Harman added 13 points.

The Vikings were led by Olsen's 14 points.

"Amanda had a great tournament," Dolfo said. "She really got her confidence back."

Olsen didn't have much confidence in the early

games of the season, Dolfo said. The Vikings couldn't hit their shots to stay in the game, though. "Our shooting was pretty poor," Dolfo said. "They played zone all night long. We couldn't buy an outside shot."

Hill scored 12 points and guard Nicole Krell added 10. Western continued their rebounding dominance, out-boarding the Orediggers 49-44.

Hill is leading Western's attack with 15 points per game through four games. She's also leading the team in field goal percentage, at 62 percent. Olsen is second on the team with 13.5 points per game, while Nichols is getting nearly eight boards a game.

Western is home this weekend, hosting the Viking Classic.

In the first game, the Vikings take on Humboldt State University tonight at 7 p.m.

Saturday, the Vikings are pitted against defending NAIA Division II national champion Northwest Nazarene College, also at 7 p.m. Dolfo expects NW Nazarene to be a threat because of their fine play in the post.

Our shooting was pretty poor. We couldn't buy an outside shot.

— Carmen Dolfo,
Women's basketball coach

The Vikings (3-1) roared out to a 22-8 lead, but couldn't hang on to the lead. The Orediggers (3-3), went on a 21-7 run to tie the game as the teams headed for their respective locker rooms. The halftime score was 29-29.

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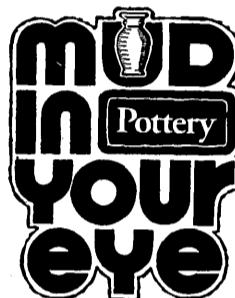
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FOOD CO-OP

Rugby: Western's oldest sport?

By John Bankston
The Western Front

Western's women's rugby team ended the fall segment of its season on, Nov. 22 with a 15-12 win at home over the Oregon Rugby Sports Union from Portland.

An ORSU representative had telephoned Western earlier in the week, saying they could only suit 12 of the necessary 15 players. By Friday, after repeated contact with Western, the number had dwindled to eight. ORSU showed up for the match with only five players suited up and ready to play.

"We love to play rugby," said Western Rugby President Amy Christiansen. "So we didn't care."

"Basically, they came all the way up to play some rugby," Christiansen said. "It's pretty common in rugby to 'whore' players out so that you can play a real match. We gave them nine players and our adviser played too. It was a good time."

In tournament play, women play two 20-minute halves and up to five matches in one day. On Saturday, as in most single matches, the teams played 40-minute running halves. There were no time-outs and only "blood" substitutions were allowed.

"It was a long, hard haul for most of the rookies who've never experienced anything like that," Christiansen said. "Rugby is an intensely physical game. Offense and defense are the same unit — so everyone plays both sides of the ball. It can get pretty rough out there."

Christiansen said most of the "whores" who played for ORSU were Western rookies, as was the Western team itself.



Front/Barney Benedictson
Western's defense gangs up on an opposing player in a game earlier this year.

"I was a whore today," Christiansen said. "I wanted to give a rookie the opportunity to play for Western in the final game of the season."

"Last time we played ORSU up in Canada, I whored for them," said Western hooker Christy Wong. "I was glad I actual-

ly got to play for Western this time."

Western scored three tries in the first half, but failed on all conversion attempts. They did not score in the second half.

Rookie scrum-half Megan Bailey got Western on the board with a try early in the first half. Back captain Ana Liberty scored

and Western adviser Lori Brilla rounded out the first-half scoring with a try on the left side. Western's defense held ORSU scoreless in the first half.

"Nobody was backing down out there," Liberty said. "Even though it was kind of an inter-squad game, I forgot it was mostly my teammates on the other side. It was pretty competitive out there today."

ORSU scored two tries and converted one point-after kick in the second half. With the game on the line and a sputtering offense, Western's defense stepped up in the final minutes to preserve the victory. ORSU's defense kept the match close, with two goal-line stops late in the second half.

Liberty said she felt the rookies showed promise, and she is looking forward to the continuation of the season in the spring.

None of Western's 28 rookies have played rugby in the past.

"This is a lot of fun," said rookie wing Courtney Harris. "I've never played a team sport. I'm looking forward to learning the game and playing with this group of girls."

"I wasn't sure about rugby at first," Wong said. "I played ice-hockey for three years and I kind of missed the rough and tumble. Rugby is a fun challenge and the girls are great."

"This year's rookies have a lot of athletic ability," Christiansen said. "We only have 10 returners, but there's nothing holding us back from being very competitive this year."

Last year, Western went all the way to the regional finals where their season ended with a loss to Stanford.

"There is no reason we can't be just as competitive this year," Liberty said.

Recruiting for Western's army

By Jessica Sprenger
The Western Front

Student athletes have it pretty easy.

Full-ride scholarships. Room and board on the house. Fame and glory on the field. Pattycake tests and assignments in the classroom.

Many people, including athletes, believe this to be true. But in reality, student athletes have to prove themselves every day. A scholarship does not promise athletic or academic success.

Although you may be a standout athlete, that does not guarantee you will play at the collegiate level. Coaches look beyond athletic talent to academics and other activities.

"The first thing I notice is athletic ability, but the first thing I look at when I get that pool is their academic ability," Vikings volleyball coach Michael DiMarco said. "It takes an academically strong student to juggle both athletics and academics and the new-found freedom of being a college student being away from home."

Every year coaches are bombarded with letters and home videotapes from high school athletes wanting to extend their playing days just a little longer.

"I literally get hundreds of letters each year from interested prospects. Out of those maybe 200 letters, I get 50 video tapes," DiMarco said.

"I try to look at as many people as I can because you never know if that right person is going to pop up the first letter you get during the recruiting year or the last team you watch in the spring," he said.

While the majority of the sports skills are hard to judge at the high school or club level, track and field and cross country coaches are able to look at times and distances of the prospect to get a feel for the athlete's skills.

"If somebody's running the 100 meters in 10.5 (seconds), then I know they're real close to qualifying," track and field and cross country coach Pee Wee Halsell said. "So, I have an idea of what level they're at."

Just because an athlete can run fast or throw far does not mean they are always the athlete he's looking for.

"Their primary reason for coming to Western is to get an education," Halsell said. "We're not going to recruit someone who isn't going to be successful in the classroom."

Once the athlete gets to school there is another big change that happens aside from course work — realizing they are no longer the star. While most high school athletes are used to plenty of playing time, freshmen often see their playing time reduced to less than half a contest. Sometimes it even means redshirting, being allowed to practice, but not participating in the contests.

This is a frequently-used option with football players, so they can put on some weight and learn the system, but other sports use it too.

Last year, the volleyball team redshirted Sara Hiss, Jessica Jones and Kari Varnell and this year all made significant contributions to the team.

"I think I can speak for them," DiMarco said. "Redshirting was a good experience in that not only did they get a chance to learn the offensive and defensive systems, they were able to take a year and really get rooted," DiMarco said.

"On the flip side, redshirting can be tough," DiMarco said. "Usually the senior athlete in high school is used to playing all the time. You go from playing all the time to not playing at all for a whole year."

While redshirting is beneficial, it also has its pitfalls, DiMarco noted.

"Just like having a car parked out in front of the house and you don't drive it for five or six months," DiMarco said. "It might be a great car and run really well, but after five or six months sitting there's some black smoke that comes out the back when you start it up, and we saw some of that this year. But we really saw the advantages of doing that last year at the end of this year."

Western, which has been a member of the NAIA Division I and is in its final provisional year with the NCAA Division II, is a long way from being able to give its athletes the ultimate "full ride" that many outsiders think every athlete gets.

Some schools just hand out tuition money to their athletes, but Western's athletic aid is distributed on a need basis.

Most of Western rosters are filled by Washington residents, due to the fact that out-of-state tuition is so much higher than in-state tuition and the athletic budget can do only so much.

"It's hard to take a serious look at a lot of them, especially out-of-state recruits just because there is such a difference between in-state and out-of-state tuition," DiMarco said. "Our athletic aid isn't based on just tuition as a nebulous thing that a portion of is taken care of, all of our dollars are based on in-state tuition."

"To look at out-of-state students as prospects, they have to be academically and athletically outstanding — head and shoulders above the rest — or they have to have a great desire to come to Western over another institution because if they were to receive any aid it would be on 1-3 scale lower than anyone else. Those people are hard to seriously look at," DiMarco said.

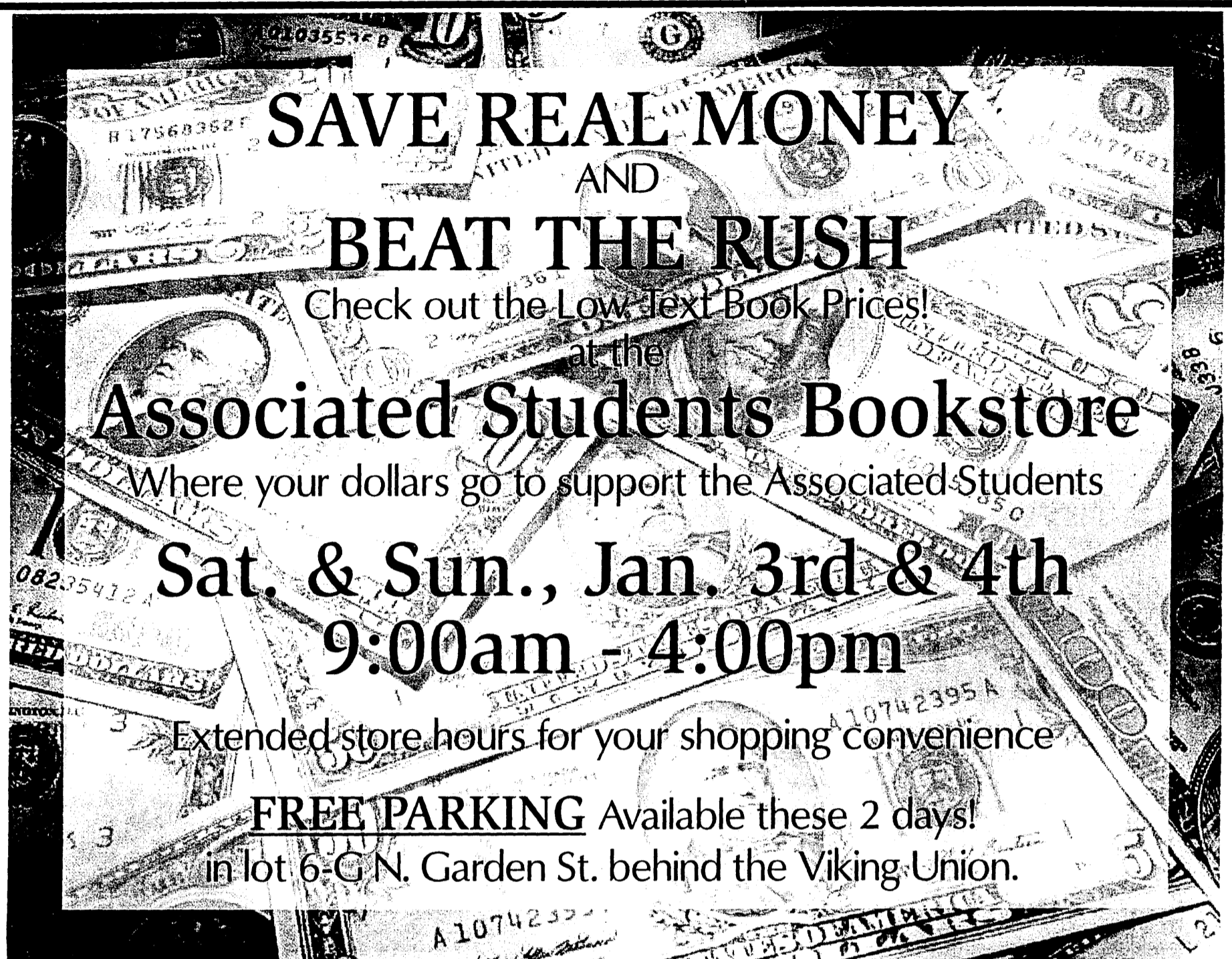
Although, if the athletes are aggressive enough in their pursuits, the rewards may be to their liking.

"A lot of it has to do with how aggressively they pursue Western as well," DiMarco said. "I think that makes a better recruit, someone I don't have to really sway their emotions and their interests in coming to Western, someone who sees the good in Western as a whole and being an athlete here is just icing on the cake."

"That type of person is going to be more likely to succeed in academics as well as athletics, especially here," he added.

We're not going to recruit someone who isn't going to be successful in the classroom.

— Pee Wee Halsell,
Western cross country coach



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They don't make movies like they used to, buddy

Hollywood invites movie-goers to check brains at cinema door



David Plakos

COMMENTARY

Unlike most of my generation, I don't spend much time at the movie theater anymore.

It's not that I don't like movies. Rather, I'm just wholeheartedly unimpressed with the current crop of films Hollywood is churning out.

The plots are unreal and lacking. The stunts and effects are more so.

And I won't even go into depth as to why I don't like today's actors and actresses. I can't. They have no depth.

But the main reason I dislike most contemporary films is that they leave you with nothing to use your brain for — you are handed everything on a silver platter.

You're dealt up a few key characters, something resembling a plot is tossed in, the protagonist and antagonist are firmly established, tension builds into climax and the hero saves the day.

Then the viewer goes home, feeling satisfied that good has triumphed over evil and from that point on gives the movie little or no thought unless someone asks him or her if it's worth seeing.

Where's the depth? Where's the intelligence?

Not in the minds of the viewers. They just go to the theater like a bunch of automatons, watch a movie Siskel and Ebert have undoubtedly given the proverbial "two thumbs up," and leave, no less mindless than when they walked in.

What we need are movies that provoke thought, movies that force you to ponder the general and specific questions in life, regardless of how pragmatic the direction of thought takes you.

Instead of watching yet another Batman and His Miscellaneous Sidekicks, where everything is solved for you, try something that involves reflection.

Try *The Duel*. It's probably one of the most simple movie plots ever established: You have a businessman who rents a car. He drives the car. During his travels, the driver of a huge truck decides it's necessary that this businessman driver must die.

You don't know why the truck driver decides this. You don't even know who he is.

The only view you get of him is an occasional vague, third-person shot from the inside of the truck as he steers this monster vehicle in the direction of our hapless businessman.

You don't have a protagonist. You have a naive white collar person played by Dennis Weaver.

You think you have an antagonist, but you just don't ever find out for sure.

There's no damsel to save and no city to rescue. All you have is Weaver's character trying to save his hide, and doing a rather average Joe Shmoe job of it, too. No hero antics. Just a regular guy.

But it's reality. There are normal people who have abnormal things happen to them. There are abnormal people who do these abnormal things to normal people.

And the reality this movie provides provokes thought in the minds of contemporary movie viewers, the minds that get so little exercise.

So go out today and find a movie with a body count of less than five, maybe without the token nudity every film seems to have these days and with actors and actresses who might actually live up to their job descriptions.

Go give your brain a workout.

You have a businessman who rents a car. He drives the car. During his travels, the driver of a huge truck decides it's necessary that this businessman driver must die.

'If it bleeds, it leads' Media won't give up crime without fight



Jen O'Brien

COMMENTARY

Increased media coverage of crime is increasing public fear unnecessarily.

Studies show that in the last few years the media has increased its coverage of crime, while FBI figures show that general crime rates in the United States decreased by 3 percent in 1996 and violent crime (murder, rape, assault and robbery) decreased by a whopping 6 percent in 1996.

So why is the public overwhelmed by stories of rape and murder when much more pressing issues have been put on the back burner? The media manipulate people's perception of the incidence of crime in America. Women feel threatened that they will be the next rape victim or murder statistic every time they set foot outside their doors.

Crime as entertainment could be one reason the media feels the need to flood the public with sensational crime stories. When the public condones violence as a cultural norm — cheering at a good hit on Monday night football, bragging about war tactics in the Iraqi conflict, amusing themselves with movies like *Terminator* — it's no wonder the media's main focus is the evils of society.

A Washington Post article showed that people are less likely to become a victim of a violent crime today than they were 10 years ago.

So why is crime the second most popular topic of coverage? Because a crime story is the cheapest, easiest and laziest way to fill the news hole or the time slot. The media are shirking their responsibility as society's messenger when it tolerates sensation over news.

It is a complete waste of time for the public to devote attention to crime news unless it directly affects their lives or the lives of people they love. When the media run three, four and five stories telling the public that "Jane Doe is still dead," it is manipulating people's emotions and challenging their sense of safety.

The media need to adopt tactics to filter the amount of crime news the public is exposed to. They need to adopt guidelines and standards to ensure that they aren't challenging the integrity of their medium through the laziness of their reporting. Applying such guidelines would not be setting a public agenda, but instead respecting the public's security by accurately representing the real-

Save face, buy nothing



Arvid Hokanson

COMMENTARY

Amidst every department and specialty store fortifying their inventory for the holiday consumer war, Adbusters sponsored national "Buy Nothing Day" on Nov. 28.

Most people probably had no idea that Buy Nothing Day occurred, but the message Adbusters tried to send out should not fall by the wayside like wrapping paper scraps.

First, Adbusters stressed, contrary to rumors, that they don't hate businesses. However, the Canada-based organization wanted consumers — many of whom are overcome by a gift-buying addiction — to remember Thanksgiving as more than a day of turkey and the Dallas Cowboys playing football. Buy Nothing Day emphasizes being thankful one extra day beyond Thanksgiving, as well as considering whether or not buying numerous gifts best demonstrates our love and appreciation for friends and family.

According to Adbusters, the United States has the lowest personal savings rate of any industrialized nation in the world. This demonstrates that we as American consumers should consider just how much stuff we really need. Go to Value Village, Goodwill or Salvation Army and you'll never notice any shortage of donated clothes, records, furniture or used bed mattresses.

College students are supposedly poor, but look at most students' rooms and you'll see a big stereo, dozens of posters, skis, mountain bikes and possibly a computer or salad-shooter.

The true meaning of Christmas has shifted from a religious holiday to a time of friends, family, parties, egg nog and, if you're lucky, fruitcake.

Some may disagree, but actions speak louder than words. No matter what people say, people love to buy and receive stuff.

Adbusters has the right idea. Consumers should buy whatever they want, but instead of consumers spending themselves into debt through June, we ought to consider the value of goods and services beyond making Dad happy with a new necktie.

Want to beat the crowds? Get a stick Christmas season about love, not shopping riots



Mike Dashiell

COMMENTARY

As this fall quarter draws to a close, my thoughts, like those of many of my fellow students, have turned toward the fake, neon, snow-falling, tree-killing, wallet-bursting, mall-marching, credit-burning, ugly, ugly, ugly holiday season. And I'm starting to get a little edgy.

Don't get me wrong — I love the lights, the family time, the free junk, although I can do without the eggnog. I can prod myself to enjoy a chant-inducing carol or two.

I can dig on the spiritual time of the season — I'm cool with the whole Jesus thing.

What I'm not so cool with is something more essential to modern Christmas' core than God himself — the mindless capitalistic greed of it all. These ideas don't exactly inspire soft music and bells.

We've got a whole system to support this, and the zenith is now, at Christmas time.

Can't we just put a big dollar sign in Times Square and ice-skate around that?

Maybe silver dollars instead of ornaments and Bill Gates at the top of the tree instead of the star?

But that's old news. The breakdown is this: America is based on democracy. Democracy = liberty vs. equality, not liberty with equality. Liberty wins.

Capitalism is formed. Big business gets bigger, as does the welfare line and the need for change. And we see it all on display every winter.

Still, America loves it. Conservative estimates are

that the average American family will spend \$1,200 on Christmas.

And the hype! The hoopla! Do we need this in our faces way before the event?

Kmart had an advertisement in circulation recently. Many of their locations were open on Thanksgiving so you could start your Christmas shopping a day before the biggest of the year, while "the turkey is in the oven" and the males are immobile, watching football. Thanksgiving!

Why?

What do we need from Kmart that necessitates a trip on Thanksgiving?

If you need food, go to a grocery store.

If you want to beat the crowds, get a stick! Don't go to Kmart!

If you can manage, don't go anywhere!

Give people you care about some things that are really rare in this world: your time, patience and love. It's not hard at all.

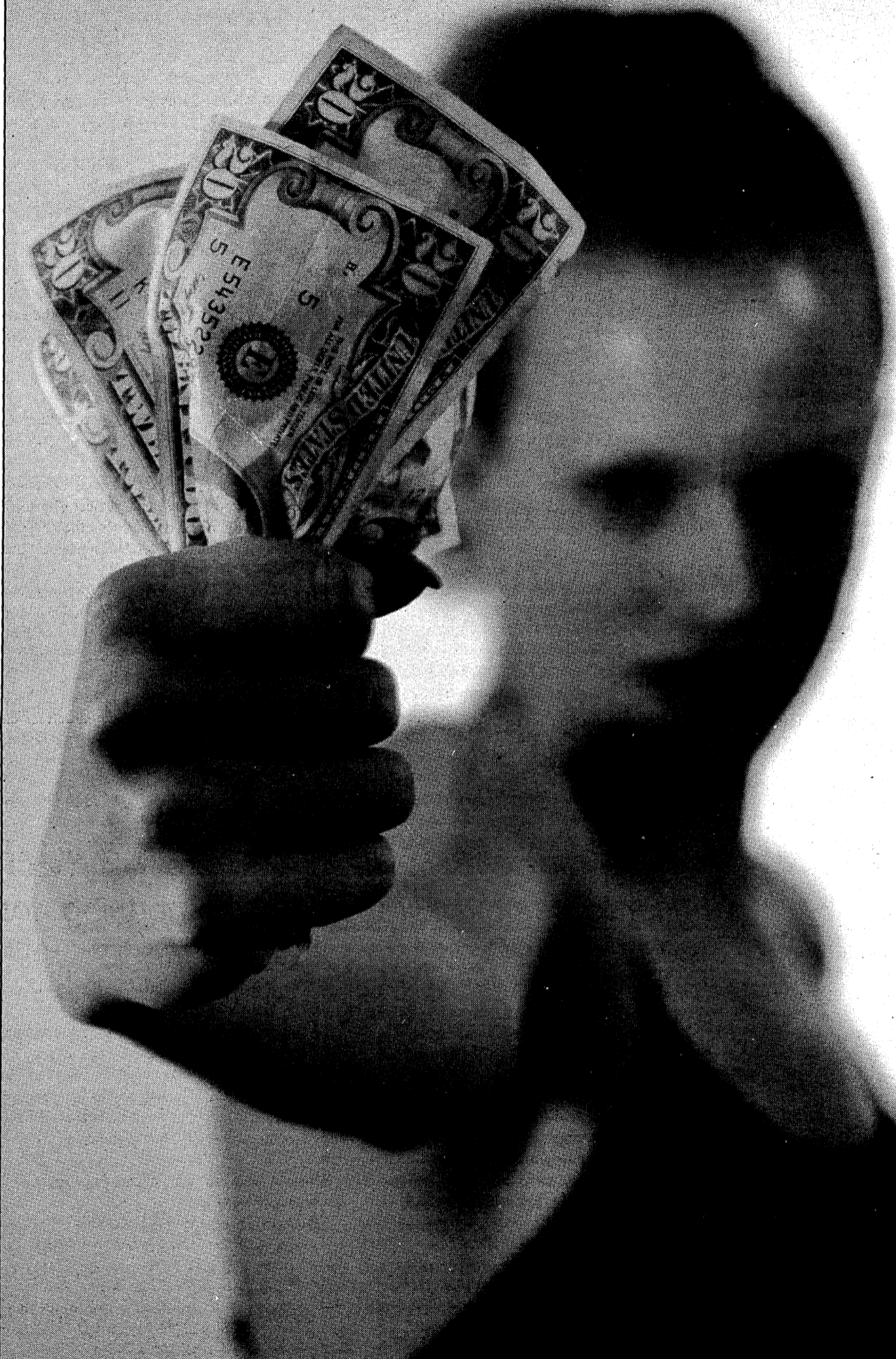
Perhaps they'll appreciate the break between gifts 546 and 547.

There are real gifts to give, but they're not generally needed for college students, but for the poor, sick, lonely and helpless.

If Christ can teach us one thing this season, it's that there will always be an opportunity to help someone who isn't as privileged, who'd trade their personal computer or their new shoes for a meal, if they had anything like that.

After so many advertisements scream at us about what we need to buy our loved ones, let's try to hear the faint call of the people who aren't loved and have no one to love.

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Frontline

Time to lower the bar — world heating up, again

The nearly 20-year debate about the reality of global warming appears to have finally come to its long-overdue end, with a near-universal consensus among the world's scientists that human activity is indeed threatening the environment on a global scale.

What remains unclear is how to go about solving the problem.

Representatives from 150 nations are meeting in Kyoto, Japan to reach some type of agreement to limit the greenhouse-gas emissions responsible for this climatic change.

The main component of these emissions is carbon dioxide produced from the burning of fossil fuels and the continued slash-and-burn stewardship policy of the planet's tropical rain forests.

Representatives attending the 10-day conference, which began Dec. 1, have their work cut out for them.

The Western industrialized nations are unsurprisingly balking at the much more stringent controls being called for by the world's less-developed countries. The United States, which accounts for nearly 25 percent of the world's emissions, is at the forefront of this foot-dragging strategy.

Five years ago, a similar conference at Rio de Janeiro adopted the voluntary goal of reducing carbon dioxide emissions to their 1990 levels by 2000 — but this has proven to be unattainable.

The U.S. Department of Energy reports that in 1996, U.S. greenhouse-gas emissions grew by 3.4 percent — the largest increase since the United States signed the Rio treaty.

President Clinton wants to reduce these emissions to 1990 levels by 2008 or 2012 — the type of if-you-can't-make-the-jump-then-lower-the-bar reaction we have come to expect from an administration afraid to even slightly inconvenience its corporate sponsors.

Europe wants 15 percent lower emission levels than this. The less-industrialized countries want to abide by the Rio agreement and propose even lower goals for the following decades.

It is encouraging to see serious negotiations beginning, but talk is cheap and time is not on our side.

The industrialized West will have to begin weaning itself from its energy addiction. Developing nations must find alternatives to Western strategies for economic growth, which have only led to a dramatic increase in deforestation and energy consumption.

To achieve a compromise that will produce effective solutions, world leaders are going to have to make some tough decisions and ensure that the resulting sacrifices needed to combat the problem are equally shared among everyone — tasks they have previously shown little desire or ability to perform.

— Gene Metrick, Editor

The Western Front

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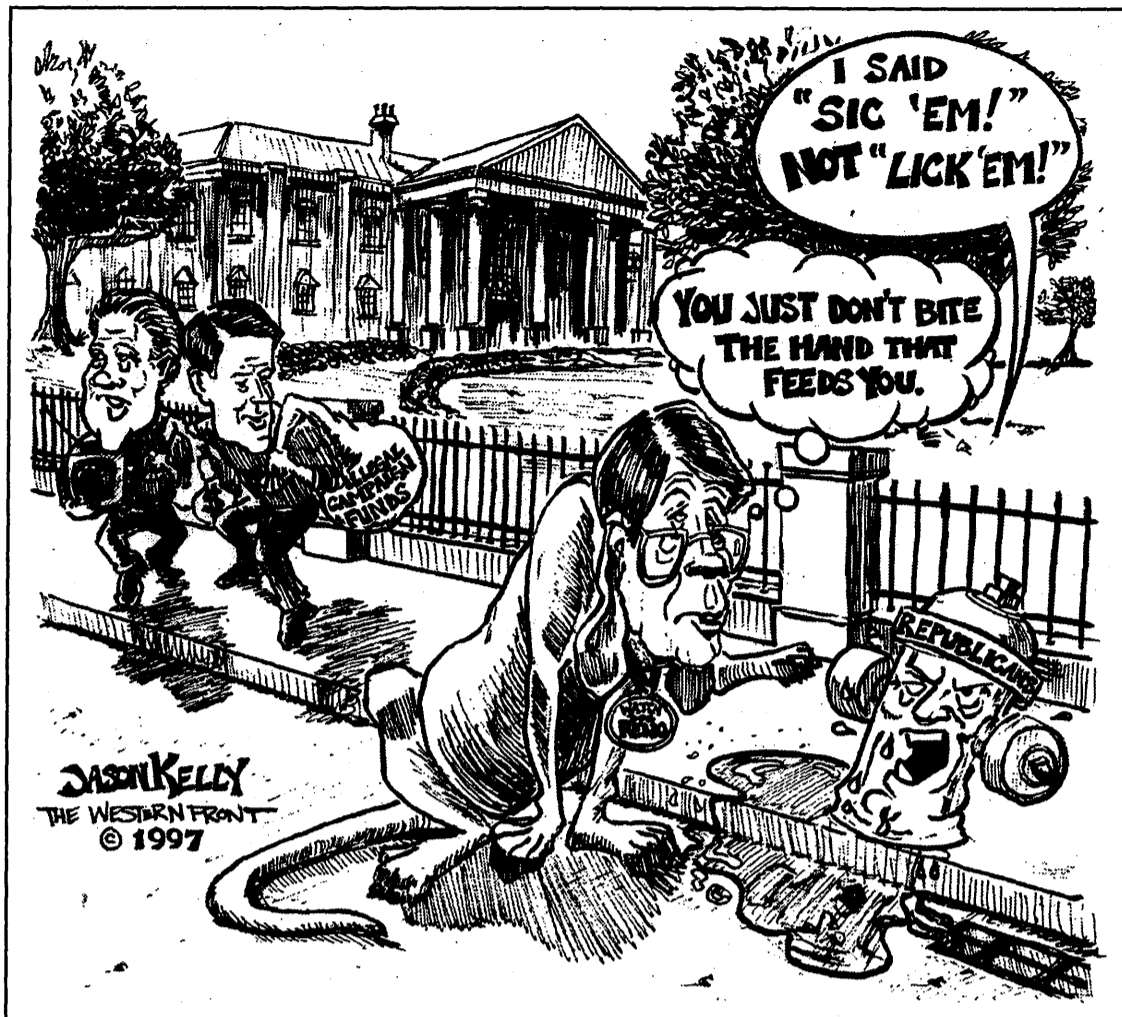
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Scientology profits too much for tax-free status as religion



David Plakos

COMMENTARY

root of all intentions.

Take the Church of Scientology — or many years it has been the focus of intense scrutiny for its methods of both "finance management" and religious practices.

In The New York Times on Dec. 1, an article regarding some of the church's actions in the death of a member was sprawled across the front page.

The church's religious practices mean no more to me than those of any other church, but the church's financial matters are another story.

The church has only recently been granted the tax-exempt status so many other churches have.

The Internal Revenue Service fought the change because it regarded the church as a commercial enterprise.

Other countries, such as Germany, still do not recognize it as a religion.

The IRS granted the church tax exemption earlier this decade, following 25 years of battle with

the church. I believe the IRS was right in the first place. I'm not stepping on the church's toes, but I don't believe it has the qualifications to be the non-profit organization that the exemption requires.

The First Amendment says, "Congress shall make no law respecting an establishment of religion." But when that religion, regardless of which one it is, delves into business, it oversteps its bounds and should no longer be granted non-profit organiza-

The Times article detailed the late Lisa McPherson, a woman whose psychiatric problems cost her \$97,000 for Scientology courses in the last two years of her life alone — 40 percent of her income

tion status. Members of the church pay exorbitant amounts of cash to take "classes" in the church. This is on top of the basic donations already given. The Times article detailed the late Lisa McPherson, a woman whose psychiatric problems cost her \$97,000 for Scientology courses in the last two years of her life alone. This amounted to roughly 40 percent of her income. Members are free to do as they

please, but if the church "encourages" members to give of their capital in large chunks, it's a totally different thing.

Even more important is how the church gets money through its businesses.

The World Institute of Scientology Enterprises is an international company with several subsidiaries. The Church of Scientology receives contributions from those subsidiaries in the form of an average of 10 percent of their annual earnings.

If a church gets big bucks from members, then maybe they just have rich members. If they promote this behavior, they're treading on thin ice.

But if that church is trying its hand in the commercial world, I don't believe tax exemption should be an option anymore.

The sole reason for tax exemption is to make it easy on companies that are in it to perform a service rather than make scads of cash.

But if a church is in it to make money for profit, then the IRS should step in and do their evil duty.

If any business is required to part with money they make, then all businesses should be required, regardless of their origin. If a church is also a business, tax exemption should no longer be an option.

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.

Send submissions and correspondence to: The Western Front, College Hall 09, Bellingham, WA 98225. E-mail letters to wfront@cc.wvu.edu

Letters

Humane Society responds to reporter's opinion

In Sara Stephens' opinion she said that five hours after she got her cat home it started acting sick. The animal had been examined by shelter staff prior to leaving the facility. In addition to the basic exam, I personally had examined this cat the day before she came to get it. At that time, the cat's temperature, heart and lungs were normal and showed no signs of disease.

The other animal mentioned was not taken to the vet for five days, implying it was not sick until after it left the shelter.

The adoption document signed by both Stephens and the other

student who was quoted states: "When animals enter the shelter, they are examined, given their first vaccinations and dewormed. They are also examined prior to leaving the facility."

"However, animals who appear healthy at the time of adoption may be incubating potentially contagious diseases. We will dispense medications at our cost plus a dispensing fee for the adopted animal through our facility during regular office hours up to one week following the completion of the adoption process."

"As noted on the enclosed vaccination card, the animal will

need a second deworming."

Stephens slanted the facts. It is true that the dewormings done at the shelter are insufficient, but that is because a minimum of two dewormings are necessary.

We perform examinations on ALL animals. If at any time during the animals' stay a medical condition is noted, that animal is transferred to an isolation ward for contagious conditions or a quarantine area for non-contagious medical problems.

Unfortunately, Stephens' cat began its clinical signs after shelter business hours.

Of the \$227 she spent at

VetSmart, \$175 paid for services unrelated to the medical problem and tests that could have waited until the shelter was open to verify what had already been done.

This did not, however, make it necessary for Stephens to redo tests and vaccinations. She chose to spend the money. Had she waited we would have found the correct records.

One mistake was made by the shelter staff. Stephens was given incorrect information regarding her cat. This should not happen, but it did, and I take responsibility on behalf of the staff.

When collecting information, a

journalist is responsible for representing all sides of an issue.

Negative publicity spreads faster and wider than positive. People may choose not to adopt shelter animals as a result.

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I have to ask, considering that you presented a one-sided, inaccurate recounting of events, what was the purpose of your article?

Dr. Giovanna Rosenlicht



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801. ANNOUNCEMENTS

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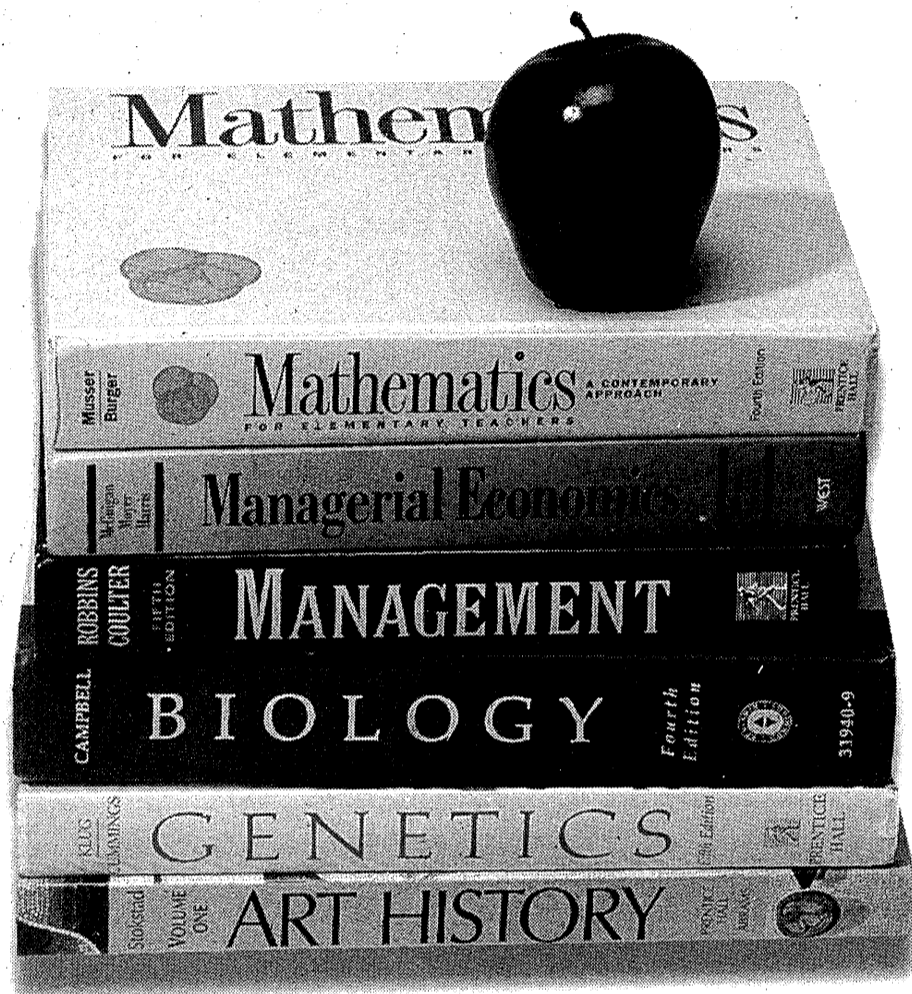
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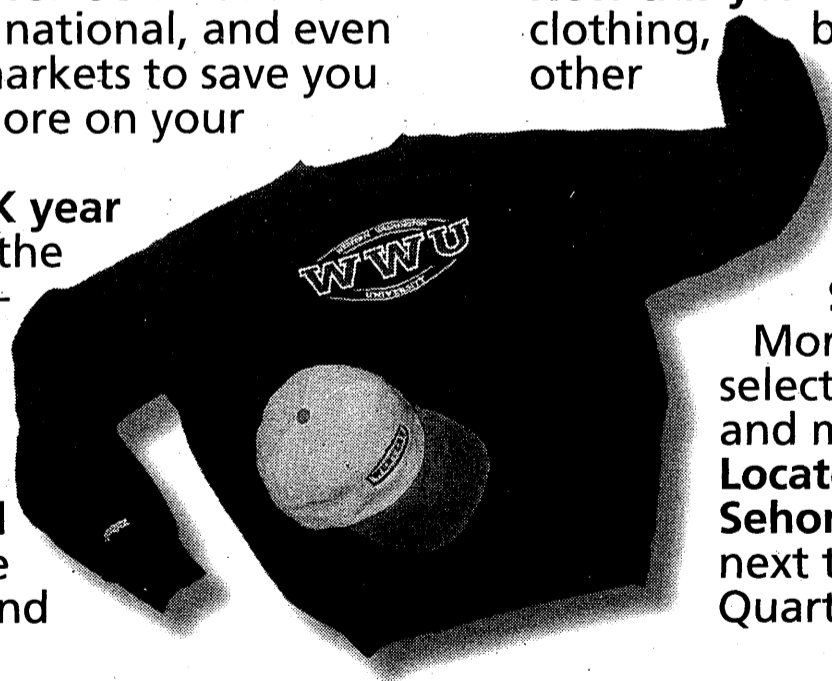
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