




Vikings
heading
to playoffs
SPORTS/8



FUN
in a **VW's**
FRONT SEAT?
FEATURES/6



THE WESTERN FRONT

TUESDAY
February 24, 1998

WESTERN WASHINGTON UNIVERSITY

VOLUME 103 ISSUE 12

BELLINGHAM, WASHINGTON

City Council hears master plan complaints

By Arvid Hokanson
The Western Front

Bellingham City Council members faced a standing-room-only chamber of citizens, students and Western officials last night as it began the process of reviewing Western's Neighborhood Plan for potential adoption in the months to come.

The public-comment portion of the meeting began with City Planning Director Patricia Decker and Associate Director Greg Aucutt speaking about the complexity of the plan and the various issues involved.

Many of the members of the public who spoke expressed confusion about the size and scope of the plan.

"It's understandable that people are confused, and hopefully we can correct some of that confusion through this public process," Decker said.

"Patricia Decker was confused; she didn't know whether to tell us to speak on the Memorandum of Agreement or not," Happy Valley resident and citizen activist John Servais said. "She didn't know what they (the city council) should or should not listen to."

"It's a difficult process when you're dealing with an institution like Western that covers the neighborhood," Decker said.

"It's very, very confusing, and that's the problem with this process," Servais said.

After 10 months of tedious review, which included 11 public meetings, the Bellingham City Planning Commission submitted its 38-page "Findings of Fact and Conclusion" on the neighborhood plan that included a Memorandum of Agreement to the city council at the end of last year.

In the proposed Memorandum of Agreement, the city would release Western from complying with the state Growth Management Act until the adoption of the IMP. This has come under fire for being disrespectful of the law.

The plan, which will be used to develop an Institutional Master Plan, lays out rules for developing Western's regulatory guidelines.

Issues included parking, the Viking Union renovation, property acquisition and a newly proposed Memorandum of Agreement between Western and the city.

"Interest (in Western's neighborhood plan) is greater than any of the other seven plans already reviewed by the city," Aucutt said. "This neighborhood plan is only a first step in developing regulatory plans."

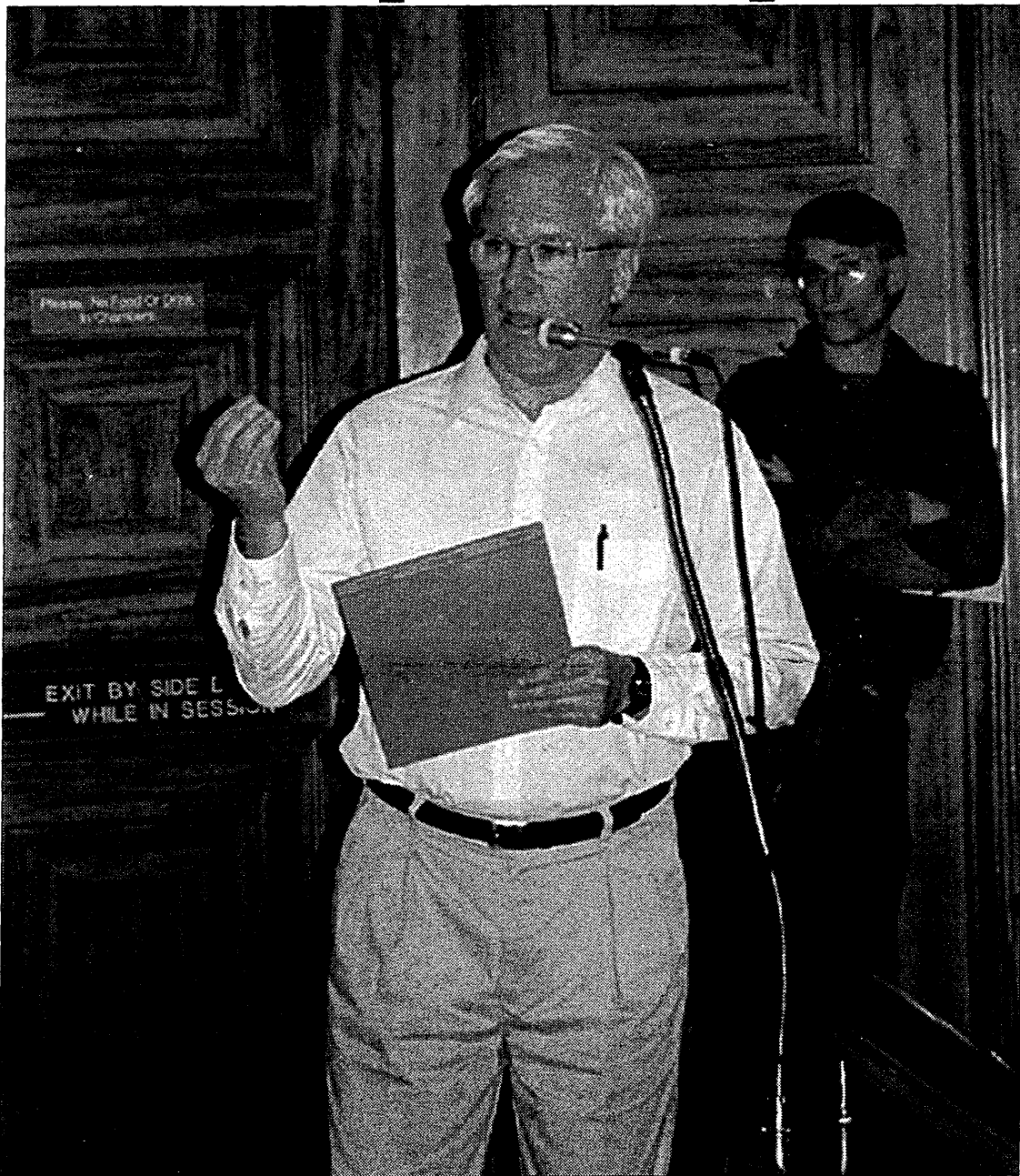
Officials from Western then made a short but strong presentation to the city council, stating their position on the adoption of the neighborhood plan.

Western Board of Trustees Chair Grace Yuan, President Karen Morse, Trustee Charlie Earl and Trustee Warren Gilbert all commented about Western's inevitable growth, increasing enrollment and value to the community, before members of the public spoke.

"The Growth Management Act is clouded on development of the university with relation to the city development plans," Earl said.

"Development will not occur until the city and neighborhood have been consulted and an

See Plan, page 4



Front/Wendy Giroux

Happy Valley resident John Servais addresses Western administrators about the necessity of justifying Western's academic needs for the proposed expansion into Happy Valley.

Viking Union renovation brought before public hearing

By Wendy Giroux
The Western Front

The proposed Viking Union renovation and the removal of Vendors' Row were vehemently discussed during the public forum at the Bellingham City Council meeting Monday night.

At the opening of the meeting, council chairperson Bob Ryan asked for the signatures of meeting attendees who wished to speak about Vendors' Row.

More than ten people signed up, but not all were able to speak due to time constraints.

"The most significant part of the proposed plan is the VU remodel — it will require a public review process," Greg Aucutt, an associate director of city planning, said.

Aucutt said the time frame will allow time for public review before construction of the final document begins.

"The plan-development process involves

public participation," Western President Karen Morse said.

Morse spoke about specific issues, including the VU renovation: "The vacation of High Street (will be completed) for safety purposes and to help with the construction of the plaza," she said.

Associated Students President Shane O'Day did not directly address the VU renovation, but he reiterated Morse's statement.

"The purpose of the university is to meet the changing and growing needs of its student population," O'Day said.

April Markowitz represented Western's staff and faculty; she spoke about the community at Western and its infrastructure.

"We need to be getting everybody's input — getting creative ideas," she said.

"Western is an enormous cultural asset

... and (provides) many inexpensive things of extremely high quality," Robert Monahan, a Bellingham resident for 36 years, said.

Western junior Theresa Fagin said that she can buy food for a whole school day at Vendors' Row for \$3.65, compared to the \$10 she spends for the same number of snacks and meals at Mar-riott.

"There are two essential differences between Vendors' Row and the Marriott food services on campus — one (is) quality and cost, and the other half is

personal satisfaction," she said. Fagin said she feels the administration did not strive hard enough to seek student views.

"My voice was never sought, and it's falling on deaf ears now as I hear more and

"In a world that's growing more impersonal, (Vendors' Row is) a human place."

Tim McHugh
Cookie Table employee

more about the renovation plans."

Vendors' Row worker Joel Litman presented to the council the 2,700-signature petition in opposition to the renovation plans. Litman said the signatures were collected in only seven days.

"For those of you who might not know, Vendors' Row is a 22-year tradition," Litman said. He described the row as "an open-air marketplace — kind of similar to Pike's Place Market in Seattle, although considerably smaller."

Litman said Vendors' Row "offers an alternative to corporate interests up at Western, but more importantly, it offers a cultural and political link to the community — the only link of that kind left at Western today."

Litman said it's important to understand the difference between the existing Vendors' Row and the proposed university-supplied vending spaces.

See VU, page 4

COILS BOX

Campus Police

Feb. 17, 10:42 a.m.: A student reported her vehicle was damaged in Lot 15R. She discovered muddy footprints on her vehicle's hood, roof and trunk. One footprint was visible where a slight indentation was created on the roof. No other damage was noted.

Feb. 17, 3:05 p.m.: Parking Services personnel discovered a vehicle with the driver's side window broken. The owner was contacted; she reported damage to the CD player, but no property was missing.

Bellingham Police

Feb. 22, 11:20 a.m.: A man was pulled over in the 1100 block of E. Maple Street. He was subsequently arrested on the scene for taking a motor vehicle without permission and was booked at Whatcom County Jail.

Feb. 22, 6:42 p.m.: A man reported the theft of his gas-powered barbecue. The unknown suspect(s) wheeled the barbecue away from where it sat next to his house.

Feb. 23, 12:09 a.m.: Police responded to an alarm in the 3100 block of Ellis Street. The perimeter was secure. The K-9 unit checked the inside. A balloon was found blowing around inside the office. The balloon was put away.

Feb. 23, 12:17 a.m.: Two people in the 1600 block of Fairhaven Avenue were contacted by officers after a large fireworks display generated a number of calls to the Bellingham Police Department 911 Dispatch. Upon investigating, the activity appeared to be planned and permitted.

Feb. 23, 1:35 a.m.: A woman called to complain about a neighbor's wood stove and the problems associated with smoke emissions.

Feb. 23, 8:33 a.m.: A man was pulled over near the corner of Illinois and Summer streets for a traffic violation. A routine warrant check was performed; two outstanding warrants were discovered. He was transported to the Whatcom County Jail where the warrants were served and he was booked.

Feb. 23, 9:03 a.m.: A man reported that someone smashed the windshield of his car in the 2000 block of Franklin Street while it was parked outside of his workplace over the weekend. The unknown suspect(s) used rocks to smash the windshield.

Compiled by John Bankston

CORRECTION

Once again, *The Front* has demonstrated its unique ability to get even the most basic facts wrong. In Friday's issue, we completely destroyed Matsui Yoshiko and Ryan Hawkes' names in the Valentine's Day story on page 6. We humbly apologize for our oversight and promise to pay attention next time.

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Western Briefs

Rally given to save Vendors' Row

A rally will be given to help save Vendors' Row at noon on Feb. 25 at the Viking Union Plaza. The rally is sponsored by the Cesar Chavez Student Organization for Labor Solidarity. Speakers, and musicians will be present to strike up student and community support concerning the preservation of Vendors' Row.

"Boogie Nights" shown today

Associated Students Productions Films will show "Boogie Nights" at 7 and 10 p.m., Feb. 24, in Fraser Hall 4. Admission is \$2. Featuring Mark Wahlberg and Burt Reynolds, the plot of "Boogie Nights" revolves around the pornography industry. As part of "Promiscuity Week," the AS Sexual Awareness Center will display condoms that evening.

Veterans information session given Thursday

The Veterans' Outreach Center will host a question-and-answer session with a Veterans Affairs Service officer. The event will take place from 1 to 3 p.m., Feb. 26, in Viking Addition 300. Information about filing for benefits and obtaining home loans will be offered.

Celebrate your body

As part of "Body Pride Week," Western's Counseling, Health and Wellness Program and St. Joseph Hospital are co-sponsoring several events.

A Women's Health Fair will take place from 11 a.m. to 3 p.m., Feb. 26, in the Viking Union Main Lounge. All programs are open to the community and are free. Pre-

registration is not required. To receive more information, call Jan Rystrom at 738-6300, ext. 4161.

In addition, every day this week will feature an on-campus event to celebrate "Body Pride Week." For details on times, dates and places contact Candice Wiggum at the Counseling Center at 650-3164.

Tour Wilson Library

Wilson Library will give a tour at 3 p.m. on Feb. 26. Learn about future plans for Wilson, share your information needs and get introduced to the staff and various services. An optional demonstration of Wilson Library's Information System will be offered following the tour. To register, call 650-7764.

Benefit drag show

An AIDS charity drag show will take place at 7 p.m., Feb. 27, in the Viking Union Main Lounge. The cost is \$5, or \$4 with a non-perishable food item. All proceeds will go to Camp Rise and Shine and the Sean Humphrey House.

Volunteers Needed

Volunteers are needed to install plant material for the Bluff Planting Project. Work parties are scheduled at 9 a.m. to 1 p.m. for Feb. 28 through April 4 in the Maritime Heritage Park. Contact Tara at 676-6880 for more information.

Heroin information presented today

An open and honest discussion on the effects of heroin use and abuse will take place at 7 p.m., Feb. 24, in the Library Presentation Room. Panel member representatives from Whatcom Combined Treatment Center and

the Bellingham community will lead the session. Call 650-6116 for more information.

Listen to both sides of Initiative 200 debate

Rep. Scott Smith, co-sponsor of Initiative 200, and Tim Wise, affirmative action advocate, will address topics about racial equality and whether or not affirmative action gives preferential treatment to some and discriminates against others. The debate begins at 7 p.m., Feb. 24, in Viking Union Main Lounge. It will also be broadcast live on 89.3 KUGS.

French Film Festival comes to campus

Associated Students Productions Films will host the 3rd annual French Film Festival at 8 p.m., March 1 to March 5, in Fraser 4.

Tickets cost \$2 and can be bought at the door. For more information, call 650-6130.

Discuss sexual issues

The Student Health Assessment and Information Center is hosting free consultations about sexual health this week. The educators will speak with students one on one about birth control, sexual diseases, pelvic exams and various other sexual issues. For more information, contact Catharine Vader at 650-2961.

Attend rally opposing renovations

There will be a rally opposing the proposed renovations to the Viking Union building, at noon on Wednesday in the VU Plaza.

Compiled by Kelly Ferguson

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

ACADEMIC ADVISING CENTER is hiring Academic Student Advisers (ASAs) to work during Summerstart and Fall Orientation. ASAs work with faculty members advising new freshmen. Qualifications include a minimum GPA of 2.5 and demonstrated interpersonal, helping, and leadership experience. Applications available in OM 380. Call X/3850 with questions.

VIKING UNION RENOVATION DESIGN DEVELOPMENT PRESENTATION to update the campus community on the upcoming renovation of the Viking Union Complex will be held at 4 p.m. Feb. 25 in the Viking Addition 5th floor food court.

SUMMER QUARTER 1998 DEGREE APPLICATIONS are due in the Registrar's Office, OM 230, by March 13, 1998. All students expecting to graduate summer quarter must have a degree application on file with the registrar.

OPEN COURSE LINE, X/7300, will be in operation during spring quarter registration as follows: 8:30 a.m.-5 p.m. March 9-12, 30-31, and April 1-2, 8:30 a.m.-noon March 13 and April 3. Call during these hours for help finding open classes.

PARKING SERVICES will reserve lot 9G and 31G beginning at 7 a.m. Feb. 24 for the Athletic Campaign Kickoff "Donor Breakfast." • Lots 6G and 9V will be reserved beginning at 5 p.m. Feb. 25 for the VU Renovation meeting. • Lots 6G and 9V will be reserved beginning at 5 p.m. Feb. 26 for Sister-to-Sister. Patti Allen. Permit holders may leave vehicles parked in reserved lots for work-related purposes.

PACIFIC NORTHWEST INTERNATIONAL CAREER FAIR will be held Feb. 27 from 10 a.m.-3 p.m. at Seattle Pacific University in the Royal Brougham Pavilion. Seniors and master level students welcome. A résumé is required for admission. Dress for success. For more information: visit www.ups.edu/pnwicf.htm or call Don Gorman at X/3240.

MILLER ANALOGIES TEST: Registration required. Call X/3080. \$35 is payable at test, 3 p.m. March 3 in FR 3.

MATH PLACEMENT TEST: Registration not required. Bring picture I.D. and a No. 2 pencil. \$10 is payable in the exact amount at test. Allow 90 minutes. Testing will be at 9 a.m. in OM 120 on Feb. 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. 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.

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

CAREER SERVICES WINTER QUARTER WORKSHOPS are open for registration at OM 280, or X/3240. • Cover Letters, 4 p.m. March 2. • Interview Techniques, 10 a.m. Feb. 26. • Mock Interview times are available. • Effective Résumés for Educators, 10 a.m. March 3. • Focus — Your Career Decision Making, a computerized career guidance system. \$5 fee. • Myers-Briggs Workshop, 2-4 p.m. Feb. 26.

On-campus recruiting

For additional information and to sign up, contact Penny Wilson, Career Services, Old Main 280, X/2944.

- **Access Telecommunications** interviews scheduled Feb. 26 for Account Executive positions in Seattle. Submit a résumé when you sign up.
- **American President Lines (APL)** interviews scheduled Feb. 25 for Management Training positions. Submit a résumé when you sign up.
- **Fortis Investors** interviews scheduled March 4 for Management Training positions in Bellevue. Submit a résumé when you sign up.
- **Public Interest Research Groups** interviews are scheduled March 4 for Campus Organizer positions and the PIRG Fellowship program.
- **Public Schools Personnel Cooperative** campus interviews are scheduled March 4 for public school teachers (all areas and levels). PSPC hires for 11 school districts in the Olympia, WA vicinity. Informational session at 8:30 a.m., followed by individual interviews. Submit a résumé.
- **RealNetworks** campus interviews scheduled March 3 for positions in their Seattle Software company. Submit a résumé when you sign up.

Western Review

Looking back at stories from The Western Front, Winter, 1977

Huxley graduate kidnapped in Colombia

A 30-year-old Huxley graduate working in Colombia as a Peace Corps volunteer was taken captive by leftist guerrillas on Feb. 14, the State Department reported on Wednesday.

Charles Richard Starr was studying the status of vegetation and wildlife in the Macarena mountains, 95 miles southeast of Bogota, when he was kidnapped.

Hugh Perenyi, State Department press officer, said the name of the group who seized Starr had not been confirmed. Reports attribute the kidnapping to the pro-communist Revolutionary Armed Forces of Colombia.

The kidnapping took place during a two-hour raid on a police outpost. One policeman and one guerrilla were killed in the raid. Starr was the only person taken hostage by the approximately 50 guerrillas, witnesses said.

Starr graduated from Huxley in 1972 and received his master in botany from the University of Wisconsin.

Western's liquor license crushed

Western's chances for beer and wine service may have been crippled by Bellingham Mayor Ken Hertz's public announcement that he would oppose granting liquor licenses to the college.

SAGA Food Service and the Viking Union recently made a joint application to the Washington State Liquor Control Board for Class "A" and Class "C" liquor licenses. If the application goes through, beer and wine service would begin in the Viking Union Coffee Shop's Auxiliary Room. Proposed hours for service are 12 to 7 p.m. weekdays. SAGA would manage the sales and ID checking.

Associated Students President Bruce Ayers said Hertz's opposition makes it unlikely that Western will be granted the license.

"No liquor licenses get through when city hall opposes," he said.

Hertz asked for a public hearing in the event that the liquor board shows signs of issuing the "A" and "C" licenses. He predicted that the Bellingham citizens would oppose issuance 2 to 1.

Crazed fan charges at entertainer

A crazed fan lunged at folk star Al Stewart before his performance in Carver Gym on Friday, Jan. 21.

The young man, who called himself Lord Granville, was dragged off the stage by road crew members after bounding toward Stewart during a pre-concert rehearsal.

Jacques Duchesneau, 22, of Montreal, was arrested by campus security officers and charged with simple assault.

"He was heading straight for

Stewart, no two ways about it," said Warren Erksine, security director for the Program Commission.

Duchesneau apparently hid in a Carver classroom after being kicked out earlier in the day by concert officials. Another program commissioner said he put a "hex" on the concert prior to his ejection.

The man was chased from the classroom by a patrolling security officer. He then ran and jumped onto the stage where rehearsal was in progress.

Stewart's roadies recognized Duchesneau from the previous encounter and quickly surrounded him. One of the workers was struck by the intruder.

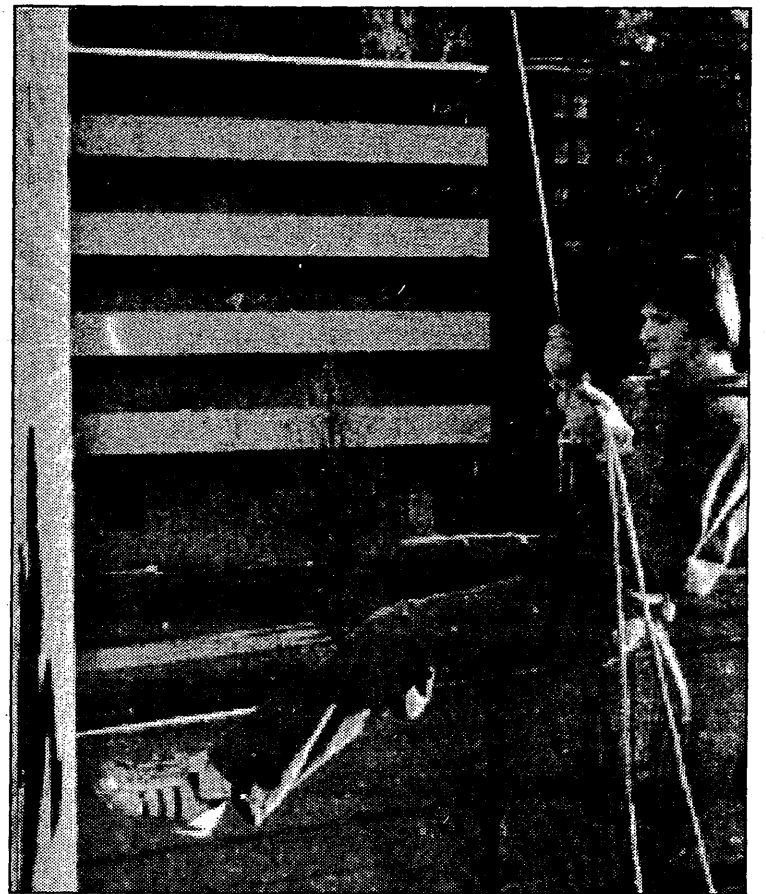
The man reportedly yelled lyrics from Stewart's songs and "Why did you bring me back from the dead?" at Stewart as he ran at him.

Duchesneau denied that he had threatened Stewart. He was sentenced to five days in jail and a \$50 fine, with time already spent in jail credited to his sentence.

Radicalesbian speaks at Western

Feminist author Rita Mae Brown talked about the feminist movement and establishment versus feminist art in a speech Wednesday, Jan. 19, in Lecture Hall 4.

Brown has been an activist for the past ten years in such groups



Front/File photo

Western student Pat MacNealy practicing his repelling techniques down the south wall of Nash Hall in February of 1977.

as Radicalesbians and the National Gay Task Force.

"This is not going to be 'Women's Lib 101,'" she said, as she launched into the problems of feminist art in the United States.

"Artists are considered dangerous," Brown said, "because they provide a conscience for their time, and they are generally criti-

cal. They make people think."

No security exists, either financially or emotionally, for the feminist artist, Brown said, and chances are one in a million that a feminist artist will make a lot of money.

Compiled by Meredith Lofberg

Clubs want alternative to Marriott catering

By Samantha Tretheway
The Western Front

Some Associated Students club members have questioned why Marriott Food Service has an exclusive contract with Western, saying Marriott charges too much money for food that does not meet the clubs' diverse needs.

"I'm not saying the food is bad—but for the amount we pay, it could be better," said Tony Im, a volunteer at the Ethnic Student Center.

Other clubs also have complaints with Marriott, including the Lesbian Gay Bisexual Alliance.

The LGBA paid Marriott \$74.10 to provide beverages for 30 people, Jess Torcaso, a staff member at the LGBA, said.

"It puts us in a no-win situation," Torcaso said. "As a university organization, we're required to use Marriott."

Co-coordinator of the Women's Center Christa Orth said she would like to support off-campus

businesses, but "our purchase orders would not be approved if we tried to get an off-campus business to cater our events."

Marriott's services and prices are negotiated in their contract with Western Viking Union Director Jack Smith.

"They have an exclusive right to provide university food service, but we retain the right to allow special events ... after consultation with Marriott," Smith said.

However, Marriott does offer

discount packages to clubs on limited budgets. But these packages do not include delivery, setup or cleanup, said Larry Stahlberg, general manager of University and Dining Services.

"When the (AS clubs) want full catering service, then we provide that, which does cost more," Stahlberg said. "A club can pick up, set up and clean up food from Marriott."

Last spring, the Sexual Awareness Center sponsored an Aphrodisiac Party that Marriott catered.

"It's good food and it's gorgeous," Ellen Chesley, assistant coordinator of the Sexual Awareness Center said. "But we're limited by what Marriott can do."

"Toasted almonds are aphrodisiacs ... but Marriott couldn't provide them," Chesley said.

Clubs can provide their own food if they get a catering waiver, Smith said.

In order to get an off-campus catering waiver, an AS club must disclose several things, including the name of the catering company or caterers, and the location of food preparation, according to the Viking Union Petition for "Other than Marriott" Food Service.

Clubs must also say if they have already asked Marriott to provide the food.

The waiver will most likely be accepted if the food is from home, an ethnic specialty, or donated,

Stahlberg said. Marriott will help if they can, he said.

"The Ethnic Student Center has a different issue: usually food offered by the ESC is ethnic," Gajee Parsons, an ESC volunteer, said.

Tyler Jones, assistant coordinator for the ESC, said the ESC has used Marriott's food service for many events.

On Nov. 1, 1997, the ESC sponsored an event titled Faces of America where Marriott provided beverages after the event in one of the Viking eateries, Jones said.

"When we cater things, we want ethnic food, and they already stated they won't do ethnic food," Jones said.

"Nothing was set up and people were waiting around for 30 minutes for Marriott to bring what was ordered," he said.

Jones' said his job at the ESC keeps him so busy that he doesn't always notice when Marriott has done its job right, only when Marriott messes up.

Marriott's contract with Western will end in July of 2000. At that time, anyone can bid for a food service contract at Western.

"A free market is operating when we go out for a bid," Jack Smith, director of Viking Union said.

Smith added that there are usually three or four bidders.

As with all bidding processes, whoever offers the best plan gets the contract, Smith said.

"LOVE DOES NO HARM" Sexuality and Intimate Relationships

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Where: MILLER HALL # 163-WWU

When: WEDNESDAY, MARCH 4TH, 7:00PM

**Sponsored by The Christian Quest
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Hi-tech dinosaurs come alive at Western

By Caroline Deck
The Western Front

Computer-generated dinosaurs came to Western yesterday, but they were not created by Steven Spielberg.

Professor Michael Parrish lectured Monday in Fraser Hall 2 about cyberpaleontology, which

incorporates the study of dinosaurs using current computer technology.

"Computer scientists and paleontologists are working together to do things they would not be able to accomplish by themselves," Geology Department Chair Thor Hansen said.

Parrish collaborated with Uni-

versity of Oregon computer scientist Kent A. Stevens to study the movements of sauropods—long-necked, herbivorous dinosaurs such as the brontosaurus. According to a press release from Western's Public Information Office, Parrish and Stevens have recorded dimensions from the United States and Europe of sauropod vertebrae and recorded them onto computers.

Parrish and Stevens have been working on this project for about three years, usually in spurts, Parrish said. They were brought together when Stevens took a class from Parrish about dinosaurs. They were standing under the enormous skeleton of a dinosaur when they concocted the idea of a computer generated analysis, Parrish said.

"One thing that distinguishes dinosaurs from other mammals is that most mammals stop growing when they reach maturity,"

Parrish said. "This isn't the case with dinosaurs."

The enormous size of dinosaurs is what makes them extremely interesting, Parrish said. It is because of their enormous size, however, that dinosaur bones are like huge stones and hard to move, Parrish said. The computers helped to solve this problem.

Parrish and Stevens worked to isolate the constraints of dinosaurs' bodies, such as bone structure and joint capsules. This information was included with recorded data about particular dinosaurs, mostly the *Apatosaurus louisae*, Parrish said.

Parrish and Stevens found that the neck vertebrae had "21 degrees of freedom" and, using a 3-D graphics program, could see the difference between a "neutral position—or the relaxed position—and an eating or walking position, Parrish said.

In the neutral pose, the

dinosaur's head actually tipped down and usually did not rise above shoulder height, Parrish said. This contrasts with traditional ideas that long-necked dinosaurs kept their head high to reach tall plants.

With their research, Parrish and Stevens have found that the dinosaurs were very flexible animals, Parrish said.

"That's what the bones suggest. Of course, there would have been skin and muscular restraints, also," Parrish said.

The accuracy of the project seems to be very high, said Parrish. The project was first tested with giraffes, and the results were very close.

Countless hours were spent figuring the function of the zygapophyses, a vertebrae that helps link the spine together, said Parrish. They found that the closer the zygapophyses are together, the less flexible the animal was.



Front/Erin Fredrichs

Professor Michael Parrish lectures yesterday in Fraser Hall 2 on the use of computers to study dinosaurs.

Plan, from page 1

agreement reached," Gilbert said.

"Western must plan for growth and is committed to community involvement," Morse said.

"Is the tail wagging the dog? Is Western telling the city what to do?" Happy Valley resident Joe Deeny asked.

Charlie Casey lives just south of campus on Indian Terrace, which according to the master plan the university wishes to acquire. He expressed his support for the university and the university's friendliness in trying to acquire his home.

"I was surprised and hurt by the suggestions that we don't love Western, or that we want Western to go away," Servais said.

The Institutional Master Plan is being used for only the second time. The city used it successfully with St. Joseph Hospital, which lies within the Cornwall Park neighborhood.

A portion of the agreement states, "During the period of tran-

sition between now and the time agreement is reached on an Institutional Master Plan or this agreement is terminated, the city will process university permit applications as set forth herein. The city will not delay or prohibit permit processing even though the Institutional Master Plan has not yet been approved by the city. The city will review each permit application to ensure compliance with all applicable development regulations as set forth in this memorandum."

Happy Valley resident and former city council member Tip Johnson commented that the city would most likely not sign an agreement with any other party that had proceeded without check as far as Western has.

"We hear that our needs are important and the universities are essential," Johnson said.

The public-comment period will continue next month at 7 p.m., March 23rd, in the city council chambers.

VU, from page 1

"Let's take Pike's Place Market for an example — it has vendors. Now let's take Bellis Fair food court — it has vendors also, so what's the difference?" Litman asked.

He said the difference is that Vendors' Row is a community and cultural center, whereas Bellis Fair is a commercial center.

"Vendors' Row is a place where people show up to gather and protest different issues of concern," part-time cookie vendor Tim McHugh said.

"A student can show up without any money and get a snack and a cup of coffee and it's ok,

the food and coffee vendors are based upon the honor system," he said.

"The reason we have almost 3,000 signatures so far is that, in a world that's growing increasingly more impersonal, it's a human place," McHugh said.

In closing, he compared the 2,700 students who signed the petition to the most recent AS election when less than five percent of the students voted.

Patricia Decker said neighborhood meetings addressing the VU renovation will take place at 4 p.m. and 7 p.m. on Wednesday at Western.

Fair focuses on international business

By Ernesto Cardenas
The Western Front

Seattle Pacific University will host the Pacific Northwest International Career Fair '98 from 10 a.m. to 3 p.m. Friday, Feb. 27. The career fair is an introduction to multi-national or American corporations with subsidiaries in foreign countries.

The fair is in its second year and will be sponsored by five northwest universities, including Western. Booths will be set up around SPU's gymnasium, where students interested in areas ranging from international business to foreign language education can meet potential employers.

Last year's fair welcomed more than 1,000 students from around the Northwest, including more than 20 Western students.

No transportation is planned by Western, but with enough student interest, it's a possibility, Donald Gorman, Career Services Center coordinator, said.

The fair will also include simultaneous workshops, such as an 11 a.m. international workshop featuring education of English as a second language, and a 1 p.m. "International Networking Made Easy" workshop.

One Western professor, Erika Work, will serve as a panelist on the ESL workshop. Work heads the China Teaching Program at Western and will present the program at the fair.

For information about the businesses that will be attending, as well as directions to the fair, contact the Career Services Center's website at <http://www.wvu.edu/~careers>.

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Jeffrey Gilliam

By Sara Magnuson
The Western Front

It's a rather large room, as offices go, but the two Steinways leave little space for maneuvering. Dominating the room, the pianos demand attention, and Jeffrey Gilliam, Western's associate professor of music, complies — although not as often as he'd like. In Gilliam's utopian world, he would practice five to six hours per day. Former student Tony Keil offered an observation. "The color of his hair describes his intensity — the bright orange-red color." Music has been a part of Gilliam's life since he was six years old. He was a choir boy, but singing was just part of the package. He was fortunate enough to receive individual theory lessons, which he said is almost unheard of. Through these lessons, he learned to compose — something he said he will be eternally grateful for. "You have to either play something someone else wrote, or else compose it yourself," he pointed out. Of course, playing someone else's music isn't all bad. Many musicians have inspired him. Apparently, composer Franz Schubert has had considerable impact; Gilliam's computer hard drive is labled with the composer's name. And, as the computer is a continuous reminder of his inspiration, a floor-to-ceiling column testifies to his accomplishments: secured with tacks, multiple programs boast his and his students' recitals. Students are a huge part of his life. Diane Greenburg, who has worked with Gilliam, said, "He even takes times out of his own schedule, on weekends, to help students." But their accomplishments aren't his only source of pride. "I like being here. That's an accomplishment," Gilliam stated.



Front/Jesse Kinsman

Gilliam obtained his undergraduate education in the states. From there, a scholarship allowed him the opportunity to study in Germany. His stay in Europe was extended, and he found himself in Switzerland attending the International Menuhin Music Academy, a school specializing in the study of string instruments.

He said he worked diligently at the not-so-fun stuff because he was young and eager to do anything.

It wasn't all busywork. He also followed the students on competition trips, Gilliam said.

"I know small-town America like a presidential candidate," he declared.

However, he's no stranger to the other side of the world. A boy visiting the school invited him to Thailand. He said he enjoys playing in familiar areas, despite the adventure of a foreign place.

"There's more of an edge going to a place where you don't know anyone," he said.

His face became pensive as he tried to recall the thoughts that occupy his mind while he is performing.

"I try not to think of the piano," he admitted. "It's too limiting. I try to silence the chatterbox in my head."

His story about a runner illustrates his point. If a man is racing, and suddenly he stops to contemplate the fact that they're running, it can throw off his concentration. To avoid that catastrophe, pianists ought to be so familiar with the music that it's almost second nature, he said.

Prior to a performance, Gilliam might practice a piece of music for months. "I know a piece so well that I can trick myself into believing that I composed it," he said, grinning.

Right now, Gilliam is exploring the Concord Sonata by Charles Ives — a task comparable to reading Ulysses. The first time through the piece, pianists haven't a hope of understanding it; they must immerse themselves in it.

"You live in (Ives') world — in his mess, in his dreams, in his philosophies," he explained.

While he plays, his perspective changes.

"Like in a play, if I'm always intense, you'll get tired of me."

Gilliam said he absorbs knowledge while accompanying. "I make my personality a chameleon," to fit the musician's style. But he said accompanying is oppressive — the pianist wears a leash held by the performer.

"If I only (accompanied) for a lifetime, it would be scarring for my musical psyche," he said. Solos are important because "you get to flex your own musical muscles."

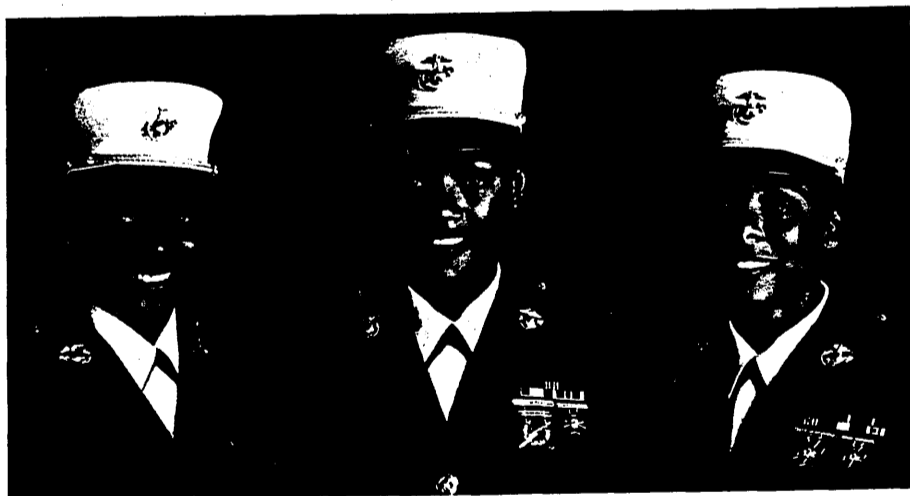
Gilliam said he the learning process never ends.

"The moment you think you've got it all figured out, you're dead," he said matter-of-factly.

Gilliam is encouraged to express his visions for the department, one of which is to see more mingling between pianists. Elite schools tend to be more one-on-one, which he said is good, but "pianists tend to lead lonely lives — in practice rooms and cubicles."

Of his breed Gilliam admitted, "We're a little special."

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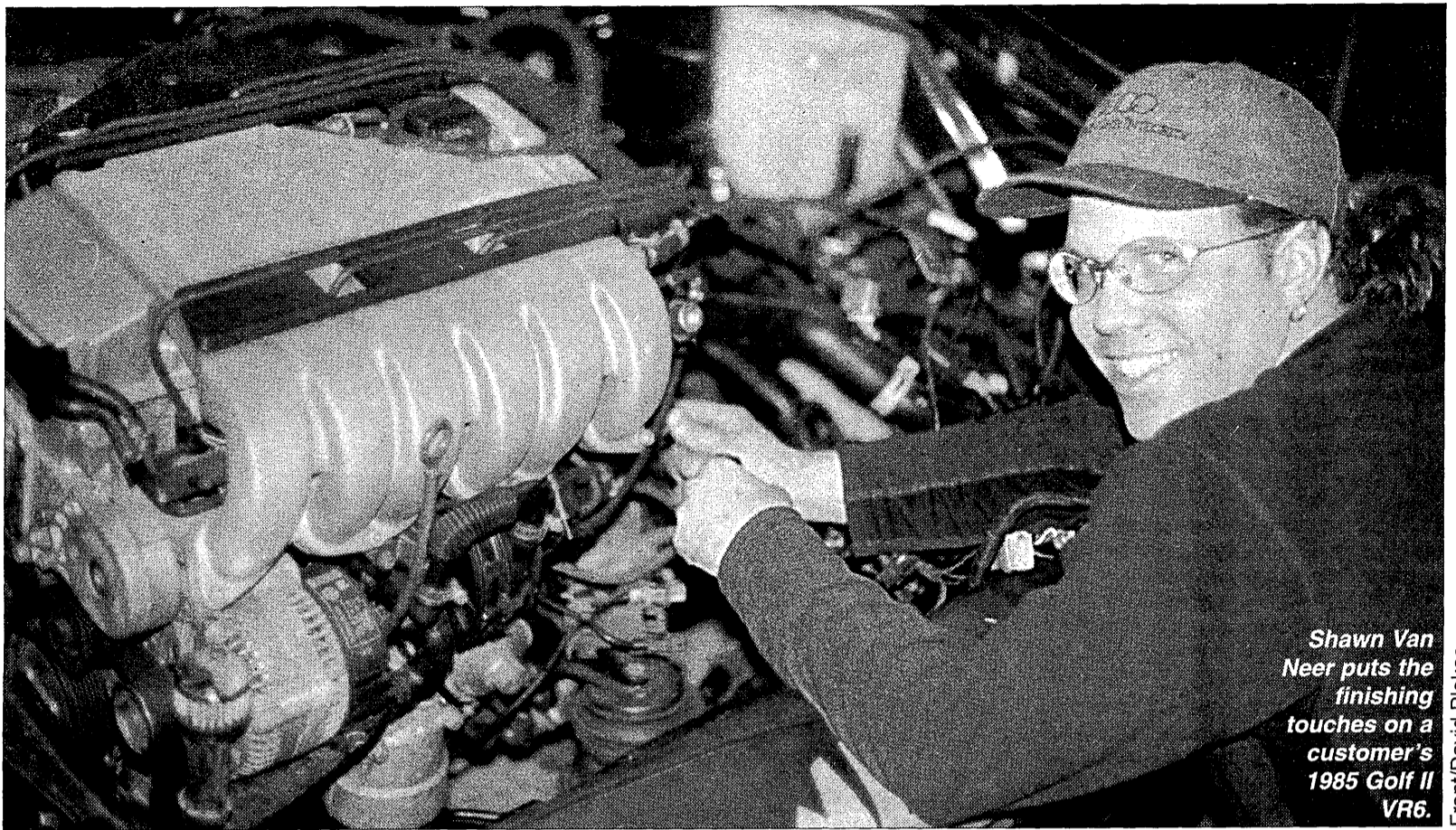
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Unstoppable speed demons



Shawn Van Neer puts the finishing touches on a customer's 1985 Golf II VR6.

Front/David Plakos

By David Plakos
The Western Front

Man kind has always had an attraction to speed. No matter their choices of transportation, people are always trying to make it faster. If someone took a trip back a few thousand years, odds are she would see Grog rolling around on the newly invented wheel, wondering how he could make the thing move faster.

Contemporary uprights are much the same way, and the popular choice of toy is now the automobile. When the idea of a fast car is brought up, people think of names like Ferrari, Viper, Lotus, Corvette and BMW.

But rare indeed is the moniker of Volkswagen mentioned. However, the image of Volkswagen is changing, and all because of people like Shawn Van Neer.

Van Neer is a Volkswagen tuner who spends his days turning Germany's less-expensive answer to lead-footed drivers from stock automobiles into entirely different animals — cars that can eat traditional speed demons for breakfast and then be driven home in comfort.

He has made such metamorphoses happen for the past 10 years at Ron's Parts in Port Coquitlam, British Columbia. Last July, he opened his own shop, called Momentum Motorsports, up in Port Moody, B.C., where he and cohort Brian Ng work some serious mechanical magic on some of Germany's finest.

Some of his deeds include being the first person in the world to yank the four-cylinder engine out of a Rabbit and replace it with Volkswagen's rather potent VR6, a 172-horsepower, six-cylinder engine that forms the basis for many of Momentum's projects.

But just dropping an engine into a little VW is hardly enough for Van Neer, for his wares extend much further than swapping. Usually he will add a few go-fast goodies to the motor and the rest of the car before it leaves his shop.

One of his recent examples is a 1992 Golf II VR6. This black beauty has a whopping 280 horsepower just waiting to be unleashed by the driver's foot. Considering that the fastest car BMW sends to this side of the Atlantic is the heavier 240-horsepower M3, it seems obvious that Van Neer is doing something right.

Although giving a car barely bigger than a bread box enough power to rip the skin off your face can be truly exhilarating, Van Neer considers this car far from finished.

Usually he upgrades the wheels and tires, suspension and brakes, leaving the customer with a car that can corner like a dragonfly and stop fast enough to yank your eyeballs out.

Basically, Momentum takes Volkswagens to another level.

"We're trying to overachieve what people have already done," Van Neer said. And if that isn't enough, he has more than enough imagination for new projects.

"We're building a VR6 turbo Rabbit," Van Neer said. Having already put a VR6 into a Rabbit, he knows what this can do. But he's going to turbocharge it as well, giving it that much more oomph. When he and Ng are done with it, this little wonder will be putting out about 375 horsepower — far more than almost any car coming out of Detroit, Japan or Germany these days — in a car about the size — and shape — of a toaster.

And if this still isn't enough, Van Neer has even more up his sleeve.

"We're building a VR6 turbo, Syncro Cabriolet," Van Neer said with what seemed to be a smidgen of drool on the corner of his mouth. When complete, some lucky person will get to drive home a cozy little convertible with a four-wheel-drive system similar to Audi's and Subaru's, but with enough power to stretch that already huge smile all the way around the driver's face.

Although Van Neer loves Volkswagens, he doesn't limit himself. "Audi, VW, Mercedes and BMW — that's my forte," he said.

However, Van Neer seems partial to VWs, and it is interesting to see why.

"It's primarily about Volkswagen as the underdog," he said, grinning. "When you beat somebody, you don't just beat them. You embarrass them."

Coming from a man who scrubs the pavement with Corvettes and

Mustangs as often as he does, the little mites must have something appealing; driving an appliance-shaped car at speeds around 150 mph would have to be entertaining, except in cases of a weak constitution. In this situation, the best bet is to change shorts and go back to a Geo.

Van Neer admitted that although driving a sooped-up VW can be loads of fun, what he does for each car ultimately boils down to what the customer wants.

Many of the modifications he can perform have undesirable, yet expected, side effects. Lowering a car and tightening its suspension will make it corner like there is no tomorrow, but it may hurt riding comfort. Tuning an engine to achieve race-car-like performance will make the car fly like a rocket, but everyday drivability will suffer. What it comes down to is what the car's owner desires, is willing to compromise and can afford.

Van Neer makes these compromises easy to handle. He is one of the premier tuners in North America, with profiles of his work having been published in *European Car* magazine — an authority on vehicles from the other side of the pond — eight times. He said with pride that he knows what he is doing when people drop off their babies.

Van Neer makes temporarily handing over the keys even easier for his customers in another important way: he doesn't charge much in respect to what he does. Putting a VR6 under the hood of the typical mild-mannered VW is a common feat for Van Neer, and he doesn't ask owners to part with a lot of money or time with their cars.

"A standard VR6 swap in a '91 to '96 is about a week — five working days," Van Neer said. He added that the procedure will cost "anywhere from \$3,800 to \$6,500," depending on any other work he and Ng have to do.

So, for a moderate amount of scratch, VW owners can give their pride and joy a lot more go. For a few dollars more, they can also give it a bunch more stop. And for the proverbial icing on the cake, they can have plenty more grip on the twisty roads and a ton more style to boot.

But it all goes back to doing things faster, and Van Neer is one who never actually realizes "fast enough." He will continue to do what is thought to be impossible and continue to make all the Groggs in his ancestry proud.

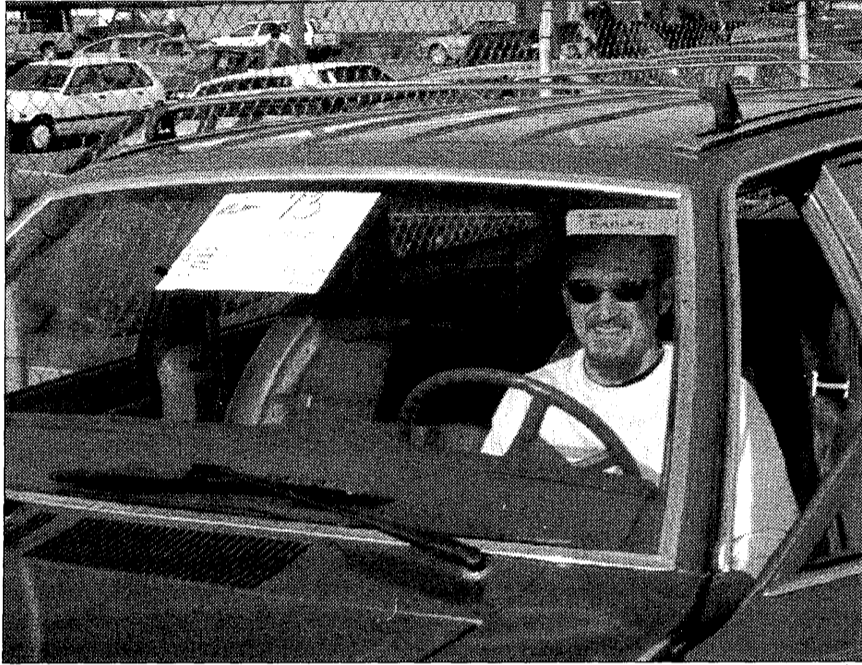


Brian Ng organizes an endless array of wiring during a Momentum engine swap.

Front/David Plakos

What goes around Comes around

By Ken Brierly
The Western Front



Front/Ken Brierly

Mike Brown tries out the 1977 AMC Eagle he bought at the Bellingham Public Auto Auction because of its stunning good looks.

Somewhere out in the county, a gray pickup's canopy is packed full of marijuana, its cargo headed for the incinerator. In Bellingham, a young man discovers the drug-seizure car he bought at an auto auction two days before wasn't as good a deal as he thought it was. At the truck crossing in Blaine, a customs administrator talks about drug disposal, seized goods and relays stories of his many years working with the U.S. Customs.

The street value of the cargo in the pot-packed pickup is \$70 million, said Ron Peterson, who coordinates the burns for the Whatcom County Sheriff's Department.

"We do it on an 'as-needed' basis," Peterson said of the evidence disposal process.

They're called "security burns" — for good reason.

"We don't announce when or where (the incineration) will be," Peterson said. "We don't want to jeopardize the safety of the officers involved."

"We use a different transport vehicle every time. We drive the truck through the building's doors, see that the furnace is on, load the narcotics into the furnace and close the doors," Peterson said. "It's 2,000 degrees in there. After a while, we open the furnace doors and make sure the drugs are disposed of."

U.S. Customs seized 335 boats and 12,500 cars world wide last year.

John Hollstein, U.S. Customs Operational Enforcement Analyst, said, "When goods are seized, ownership of the items is applied to the government."

Anything brought to the United States is subject to licensing and fees. Therefore, part of the job of enforcing the nation's boundaries is seizing prohibited or undeclared goods; in the case of drug smuggling, the vehicle of transport is also forfeited.

"Property can be destroyed, sold at an auction and sometimes is put to (government) use," Hollstein said.

Bellingham resident Mike Brown bought a car at the Bellingham Public Auto Auction on Saturday; by Monday, the car was broken and

in need of major repairs.

The car had been seized by the Northwest Drug Task Force.

"What a piece of junk," Brown said, referring to the bronze 1977 AMC Eagle he paid \$800 for; the car needs a new transmission.

The 23-year-old Brown said that at an auction, "buying a car is a crapshoot — you never know what you're going to get. That's why the selling prices are so low."

Brown said a new transmission will cost more than he paid for the car.

"I'll probably never buy at an auction again," Brown said. "I just thought the car was so ugly that it was cool."

The money generated from the sale of the seized items goes into the public coffers.

During recent years, the international border at Blaine has become a major trafficking area for British Columbia-grown marijuana moving into the United States.

"Marijuana is the biggie now," Hollstein said. According to The Vancouver Sun, the province is the world's top exporter of hydroponics-grown marijuana.

When large amounts of drugs are found, Hollstein said they are held for evidence pending charges and trial for the smuggler. Customs releases the drugs to the jurisdiction in charge of the case. They are usually incinerated.

"If it's only a couple of (marijuana) roaches, they could be flushed down the toilet," Hollstein said. "Pills could be ground and flushed."

After his many years working for customs, Hollstein has worked his way up the employment ladder.

He leaned back in the chair behind his desk, hands folded behind his head. His top-floor office at the Blaine truck crossing has an expansive view of the Canadian Cascades.

He has a wealth of stories. He relates one from several years earlier, when he was working in a different part of the country:

"I think it was opium. They used to incinerate that. The birds liked it. They used to sit on top of the smokestack and one by one, fall to the ground."

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Vikings down Warriors in thriller

By Justin Hall
The Western Front

The Western men's basketball team snapped a three-game losing streak Saturday afternoon against Lewis and Clark State College with a 75-68 win. Ranked fifth in the Pacific Northwest Athletic conference going into the contest, the Vikings needed a win this weekend to move up in the conference rankings.

"At the beginning of the year we had hopes of being the number one or number two seed," Assistant Coach Tony Dominguez said. "Things didn't go our way there for a week; so now we were in the position where we had to win tonight."

The Warriors, who won the league title two years ago, were led by transfer forward Jonathon George, who scored 31 points and grabbed eight rebounds. Western's Jared Stevenson scored in double figures for the fifteenth consecutive game as he led the Vikings with 24 points and seven boards.

L-C State won the tip; Warrior forward George, who established his presence early, was the first to score in the game.

Western soon struck back with a three-point basket that gave the Vikings a lead they would not relinquish until late in the first half.

As the half wound down, the Warriors took advantage of sloppy passing to gain the lead with 3:24 remaining in the half. Completing the last three minutes of the first half in a press, the Warriors added to their lead and headed into the locker room up by eight points. George scored 17 first half points and grabbed three

offensive rebounds while putting on an offensive display.

"He was our main topic of discussion at half-time," freshman guard Jeff Chapman said. "We said whoever takes him has to work hard to get in front, and that we really have to trust our defense behind us for the help-side."

The two Western guards, Chapman and Stevenson, led the Vikings in the first half by scoring 18 of the team's 31 points.

"We told our players at half-time just to relax," Jackson said. "They were very frustrated because our shots weren't going down."

"We were trying to figure out a way to stop George, but they were really finding the seams and hitting little jumpers along the baseline," Jackson said. "We weren't rotating very well, so we just said forget and decided to go after them."

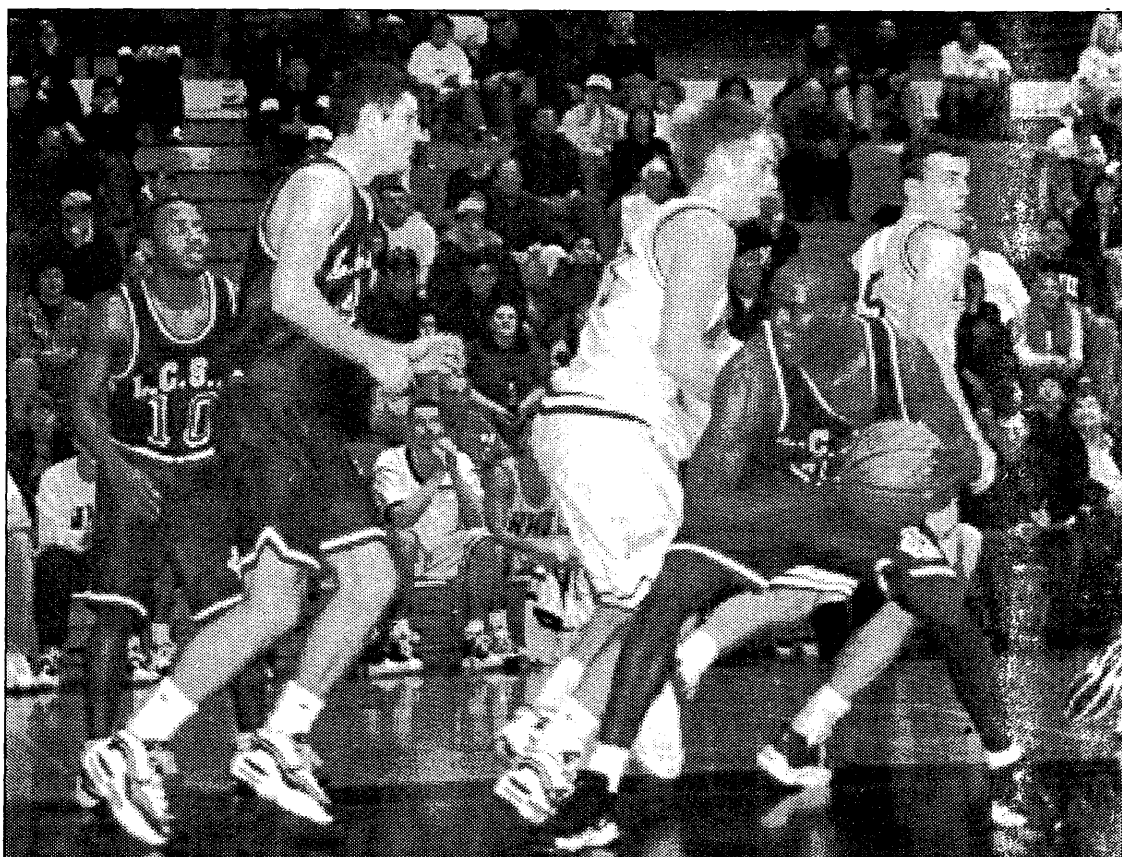
L-C State opened the second half with the same intensity that they had at the end of the first.

With hot hands and good defensive doubling of the ball, the Warriors took their biggest lead of the game, 48-38, with 14 minutes left to play in the game.

The Vikings got a late spark in the game from forward Michael Greene who hit a three-point shot with 12 minutes left to play. Soon to follow were three more three-point bombs that had the crowd going nuts.

"We had some big plays," Jackson said.

"Really, one of the keys to the game was Dave Mott because even though it won't show up on the stat sheets, he got his fourth foul with about ten minutes left," Jackson said. "We decided to keep



Front/Aaron Dahl

Western forward Ryan Kettman harrasses Lewis-Clark State's Jonathon George (with ball).

him in the game because he's one of our big guys — we felt he was the most energized and was working the hardest and clicking."

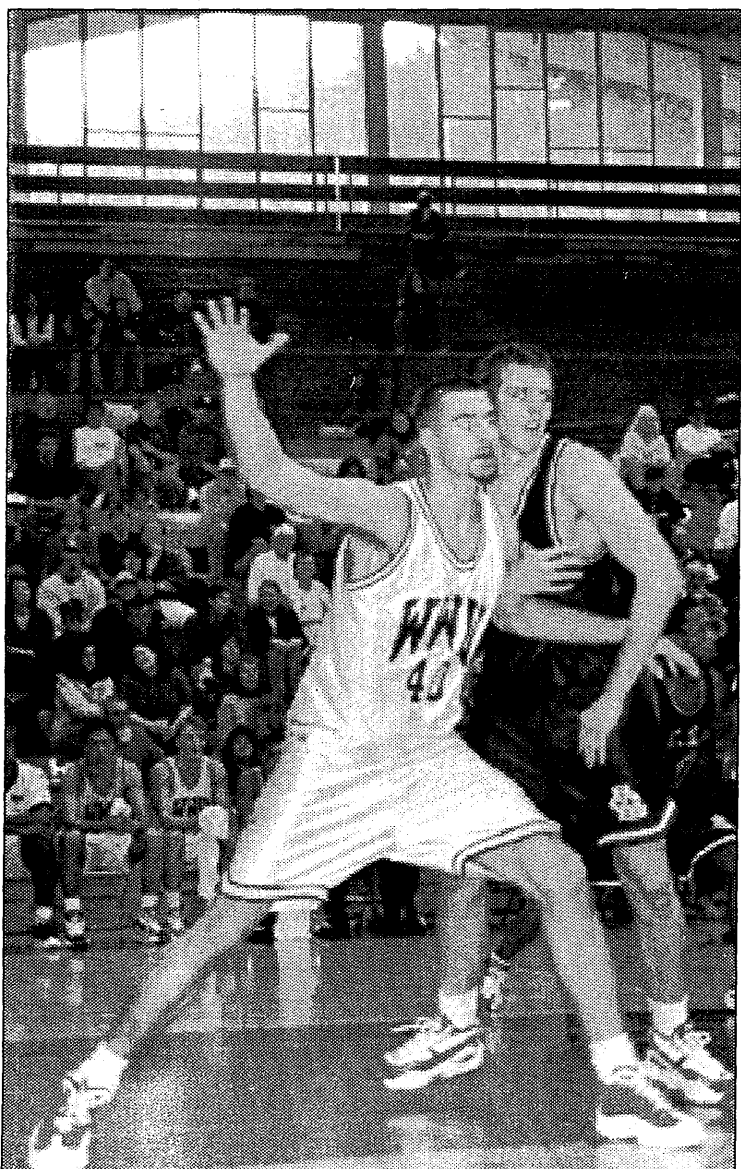
With fine rebounding and free-throw shooting, the Vikings sealed the victory, 75-68, despite a

poor field-goal shooting percentage of .400.

"We looked at this as our first playoff game and that's how we approached it," Jackson said.

Western's next men's basketball game is at Hawaii-Pacific on Thursday, Feb. 26.

No matter how the regular season ends, the Vikings will play The Evergreen State College in the opening round of the playoffs March 4. Due to the similar conference records of both teams, the site of the game has yet to be determined.



Front/Aaron Dahl

Western center Dave Mott (40) posts up against the Warriors.

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Albert lights up Vikings for 38

By John Bankston
The Western Front

Western's women's basketball team fought hard, but came up short, 84-79, in an exciting Pacific Northwest Athletic Conference shootout against Lewis-Clark State College on Saturday at Carver Gym.

Western couldn't stop L-C State's perimeter game as the Warriors hit 15 of 24 three-point attempts.

L-C State forward Rosie Albert led all scorers with a career-high 38 points on 11-of-18 shooting — hitting 7 of 9 from three-point range.

"They have so many good three-point shooters — Albert, (Jodi) Benson, (Robin) Berg," sophomore center Celeste Hill said. "They each had three three-pointers in the first half alone. It was so frustrating because we were in their faces, but the shots just kept dropping."

"It's just our luck," she added, "that whenever we play a team, someone has a career day."

The Warriors hit nine of their first 11 three-point attempts, enabling them to take a 32-23 lead with six minutes left in the first half. But Western charged back on the strength of a 10-1 run, tying the game at 33 apiece.

Western took the lead 39-38 when Hill hit an eight-footer from

inside the key. The Vikings led 41-40 with just seconds remaining in the half, but Albert hit a two-point buzzer beater to give L-C State a one-point lead at the intermission.

Four Western players scored in double-digits. Hill led the balanced attack with 20 points and nine rebounds. Senior guard Heidi VanBrocklin chipped in 13 points and two steals. Guard Amanda Olsen and forward Nicole Krell each added 10 points.

Midway through the second half, leading 54-53, the Warriors hit three consecutive three-pointers — two by Albert and one by guard Jennifer Marquardt — to take a commanding 10-point lead, 63-53, with 11:49 remaining.

But Western continued to battle, scoring nine straight points and pulling to within one point when freshman forward Pamela Lovely hit a wide-open Hill under the basket for the easy lay-in.

"We don't quit — we're fighters," Hill said. "We've been through a lot this season, and we're not going to lay down and die for anyone."

With the Warriors maintaining a six-point lead, 76-70, Western still wouldn't give in. Krell hit with a three-pointer to cut the lead to three. After a two-pointer by Albert, Krell blocked a shot and dished to freshman guard Briana Abrahamsen for the easy lay-up, cutting the deficit back to



Front/Aaron Dahl
Western forward Sara Nichols desperately attempts to steal the ball from L-C State point guard Amanda Campbell in the closing seconds of Western's 84-79 loss to the Warriors last Saturday.

three points with just under two minutes remaining.

Western had two more chances to pull even late in the game. Down 78-75, with 1:30 remaining, Hill scored on a drive and was fouled, but she failed to convert the three-point play.

Albert hit a lay up to give the Warriors a three-point edge. On the Vikings' next possession, Western guard Amanda Olsen's three-point attempt rimmed off

with less than a minute left.

Albert put the game out of reach with 13.8 seconds to go when she hit two free-throws to give L-C State an 84-79 advantage.

Even after the loss, the Western remains in a three-way tie for second in the PNWAC. Western, L-C State and St. Martin's are all 5-4 in conference play.

Western (18-7) has beaten five nationally-ranked opponents this

season. They will make the playoffs — the question is will they surge in or flounder out?

"I think we've done everything we can," Hill said. "We've focused on the things we need to focus on, we take extra shots after practice, we practice free-throws; we're doing the things we need to do to be successful."

"It's time for stuff to start falling our way," she added. "We're due."

Viking players make rugby all-star team

By Meredith Lofberg
and Amy Christiansen
The Western Front

Six members of Western's men's rugby team were selected to be members of the Northwest Collegiate Rugby Union All-Star team, which competed against the Fraser Valley Under-23 All-Stars in Langley, British Columbia, on Sunday.

Dan Moseley, Matt North, Nathan Spitler, Mike Hemphill, Jeff Klinger and Judson Heller were chosen to play with about 15 other players from NCRU, the Canadian league that Western's Warthogs compete in. Each team in the league was allowed to contribute five players.

Since NCRU had fewer than the usual 20 players on its side, Western was allowed six all-stars. The usual number of players on each team's side is 20.

The 80-minute game resulted in a Fraser Valley victory, 25-0.

The NCRU team had one pre-game practice on Friday evening at Trinity Western University in Langley. Moseley, who played inside center, said the lack of preparation may have hurt the team's chance for success.

"We would have been more prepared if we had more practice," Moseley said. "We didn't even know the names of most of the people on our team."

NCRU held off Fraser Valley for most of the first half. Twenty-five minutes into the game, Fraser ran 50 meters to score the first try.

A try in rugby is similar to a touchdown in American football and allows the scoring team a place-kick for an extra point.

Klinger, playing prop, carried the ball into the try zone to score, but the referee did not award the try, ruling that the ball was held up by the opposition and did not award the try to NCRU.

"We played really well in the first half, but they pulled it out in the second," Moseley said.

"I think our forwards played really well, especially in the first half," North, who played eight-man, said. "We rucked really well; our scrums blew them off the ball. The line-outs were untouchable."

Fraser came out strong in the second half, scoring another try after six minutes of play. Two minutes later, they were once again at their try-zone.

A rash of NCRU penalties and a quick-handed Fraser back line led to two more Fraser Valley tries before the game was over. The score was 20-0 after Fraser kicked the ball 70 meters downfield and recovered the loose ball in their try zone to score.

A Fraser player was tackled in goal after a short break-away run to score what turned out to be the final try of the game.

"We played well considering (Fraser Valley) is a really good team," Moseley said.

The Warthogs will play Trinity Western University Wednesday afternoon in Langley, and Central Washington University on Saturday at 1 p.m. on Arntzen Field.



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Frontline

Corruption in CIA: And this is news?

Well, well, well. It seems the CIA is finally ready to admit what the public has known for 37 years.

On Saturday, the Associated Press obtained recently de-classified documents in which the shady and secretive agency blames itself for the botched Bay of Pigs invasion in 1961.

Ignorance, incompetence and arrogance are what the document called the CIA's efforts to overthrow Cuba's Fidel Castro.

For the invasion, the CIA recruited 1,400 Cuban exiles to stage a coup attempt against Castro. Of those soldiers, 200 were killed and 1,197 were captured and later released to the United States.

The document stated that the CIA did not give the operation "the top-flight handling which it required."

Apparently, the CIA operatives who trained the rebels did not speak Spanish and "treated the Cubans like dirt."

The \$46-million invasion went forward with the "pathetic illusion" of deniability even after reports came out that the U.S. government was involved with a possible plan to invade Cuba.

But after the invasion, which reportedly left President John F. Kennedy in tears, the CIA denied any wrongdoing. It blamed Kennedy for not sending in air strikes to back up the invasion.

That's all good — except for the fact that the mission was supposed to look like a coup with no U.S. involvement.

But the bigger issue is not just what went wrong with the Bay of Pigs invasion; it is what is wrong with the CIA.

This is not the only incident in which the CIA has demonstrated its arrogant tendencies. Rather, it is an organization built upon arrogance, power and deceit.

The agency's shady history includes such dubious allegations as being involved in the assassinations of many foreign leaders, the assassination of John F. Kennedy and starting the crack epidemic in Los Angeles.

None of these allegations have been proven, but that is because finding proof is virtually impossible.

On top of all of this, the CIA cannot be kept in check. It has authority that goes far beyond the president; the agency kept Kennedy only minimally informed about the Bay of Pigs invasion.

Until last year, the CIA was not required to release its budget. But according to last year's budget, it seems the agency has an unlimited supply of money to perform its dirty deeds — unlimited to the tune of \$26 billion dollars.

So, with unlimited power, unlimited money and no obligation to divulge information to the public or even the president, the CIA is a power-hungry glutton run amok.

What is the use for this organization? With the elimination of any real Soviet threat, very little nuclear threat and little, if any, threat to the safety of the United States from foreign countries, the CIA seems to have been rendered useless.

What would the U.S. government call an organization that operates outside the rules of diplomacy and is constantly involved in violent actions without regard or respect for human life?

A terrorist group.

It is time for the CIA to stop operating under a veil of secrecy and deceit and be exposed as the type of organization it truly is.

— Corey Lewis, News Editor

The Western Front

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Wake up call to Western: Apathy will not end war



Mike Dashiell

COMMENTARY

Since the United Nations first imposed sanctions, Iraq has reported more than a million deaths. Many of the dead are women and children who died because of a lack of food or water.

Most of the Iraqis who have suffered due to the sanctions would never touch a bullet or a bomb. But bombs may soon be dropped on them, if the United States is not appeased.

Pro-Iraqi protests have erupted across the Middle East. Jordan was forced to send tanks Sunday to control one city's protests. Israel is readying for a different kind of attack: On Sunday, leaders decided to distribute antibiotics to the citizens to protect against a biological attack.

And while the world is going nuts, our nation remains calm.

During every major war, significant protest and debate has erupted on college campuses. At Western, hardly a murmur can be heard. Attempts at discussions on the subject seem to be few and far between.

"I wish students were more aware of the world instead of living in a bubble," said Heather Gibbons in the Feb. 20 issue of The Western Front.

She makes a valid point: Can you honestly say that anything happening on the national scene affects your daily walk through this world? Does our involvement in the lives of others warrant your attention or action?

Millions of Americans are part of military families, and currently their lives are being turned upside down. Families across the world may have their defining moments or ways of life decided in the following weeks.

Are we so closed as a town, a community, a culture, that we can confidently ignore this?

Perhaps. We seem quite adept at sitting behind our computers and ignoring anything that happens on a national scale.

In a letter to the editor of the Bellingham Herald, Bellingham resident Libby Chenault talked about what she does on a daily basis to protest war against Iraq: "If I am to call for peace in the Middle East, I must examine my own role in the violence. So I am riding the bus and car pooling in solidarity with the Iraqi people. I am riding my bicycle for peace. I am walking for justice. I will not trade my blood for oil."

Saddam Hussein makes a living gambling his country's fate with world powers that could crush him. Unfortunately, his collateral is every Iraqi citizen and U.N. troop.

While we may not have a particular reason to protest or balk at another Gulf War, perhaps we should decide whether this is a gamble we really need to take.

Iraqi President Saddam Hussein is brutal and sadistic and has little to offer the world other than ulcers. He is also clever and, in recent months, has played both the United States and the United Nations like a dime-store piano.

U.N. Secretary General Kofi Annan struck a deal Sunday with Hussein concerning the opening of eight of Saddam's presidential compounds to U.N. arms inspectors.

Annan and Iraqi Deputy Prime Minister Tariq Aziz signed an accord Monday, which is suspected to detail Saddam's compliance with the United Nation's demands.

Annan is scheduled to meet with the U.N. security council to outline the terms of the agreement. As of Monday, U.S. officials had not confirmed the details of the accord, due to poor communication systems between the United States and Iraq.

"It is possible that he will come with something that we don't like, in which case we will pursue our national interest," Secretary of State Madeleine Albright said Sunday, on ABC's "This Week."

Her spokesman, James Rubin, said, "Whatever happens, we will be looking for actions, not words."

In Hussein's eyes, this ugly conflict has been raging since the United States imposed economic sanctions against his country seven years ago. He sees the inspections as "trampling" the dignity and sovereignty of Iraq. The situation gets uglier as time passes; Saddam has threatened to end all cooperation this spring if the sanctions are not repealed.

And the United Nations has legitimate complaints. Hussein has persistently toyed with and mocked the most powerful nations in the world.

After the 1991 Gulf War, the United Nations ordered Iraq to destroy all long-range missiles and weapons of mass destruction.

British Foreign Secretary Robin Cook has said that the United Nations would consider lifting the sanctions if Hussein gives Annan a written promise to comply with the inspections.

After holding out until the last minute, Hussein has complied. The only remaining question is: What will he do next to piss off the powers that be?

For all the talk and positioning, something is being overlooked: people are involved in this, not just politicians and money.

At least 25,000 U.S. troops are in the region. Young adults who joined the armed forces to earn money for college could soon be caught up in the conflict.

letters

To the Editor:

Katherine Schiffner asks, "Where are all the feminist voices during this latest Clinton scandal?"

Many of the feminists are in Washington, D.C., fighting for sanctions against Afghanistan and the atrocities committed against females there daily. Feminists are in Washington, D.C., petitioning to save reproductive rights nationwide. Feminists are in Washington, D.C., lobbying to save affirmative action. Feminists are standing toe-to-toe with the big boys and fighting every step of the way to ensure equal rights for people of any gender, color, sexual preference, religion or income level.

What feminists are not doing is worrying themselves with scandals that are products of media cir-

cus rings and are not about politics.

Bill Clinton is not our "poster boy." He is our president. As such, we will continue to bombard him with our presence. Only through communication can people see the majority voice.

President Clinton just happens to be one of the few political figures that acknowledges that voice; therefore, the conservatives attack him to further oppress us.

You should smarten up, Katherine. Without people in the world that stand up for our rights, you never would have been able to voice your opinion through an article. Why don't you use your writing skills to better the world for the next generation, rather than helping to push us back?

Andrea Curtis

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