

The Western Front

Western Washington University

Volume 107 Issue 16

Bellingham, Washington

Students, administration seek parking solutions

By Katherine Schiffner
SPECIAL TO THE FRONT

Sophomore Julia Perry drove to Western for her night class and looked desperately for a parking spot. With time running out, she decided to gamble on parking in a lot close to campus, hoping no one would check the area before 5 p.m.

She lost. Her penalty was a \$20 parking ticket.

Perry's story isn't uncommon. With a finite amount of parking spaces and a growing number of students, finding a spot to park has become more of a challenge. Although some students say they are satisfied with Western's available parking, student leaders and administrators are searching for possible solutions to Western's parking woes.

Changes: decreased pass sales and tickets

In order to alleviate last year's C-lot troubles, Parking and Transportation Services Manager Greg Lawrence said this year C-lot passes were undersold. Students were put on waiting lists, but often by the time they were contacted, they had figured out other parking solutions. Parking revenue to date for permit sales this year is about \$21,000 less than last school year, according to the P.T.S. budget.

Senior Jayson Pollock said he's been happy with the permit availability on campus.

"Since I've always gotten the permit I wanted, I've been pretty happy with parking (at Western)," he said. Still, he's ended up with more than \$200 total in tickets since he began parking at Western four years ago.

Pollock's experience seems to mirror parking budget trends. While permit sales may be down, fines and impounds are not.

Wheel-lock fees for this year so far have already topped last year's fees. Students paid \$2,530 in wheel-lock fees last school year, and have already paid \$5,950 this year — almost double the budget estimate. Parking fines look to be on pace to exceed last year's fines, with \$169,324 collected so far, compared to the \$185,998 paid last year.

Still, Lawrence said one of the major changes he has made this

year is evaluating when, where and why tickets are given. Lawrence estimates P.T.S. has given out 14 percent less tickets this year, compared to last year. While he concedes the drop in tickets could indicate increased compliance with parking regulations, Lawrence said some policy changes have been made to ensure sensible ticketing.

For example, in the 14G lots behind College Hall, parking enforcement technically begins at 7 a.m. However, Lawrence said students who lived in Ridgeway dorms complained when they received tickets before 8 a.m. Because faculty members who park in those lots don't usually arrive before 8 a.m., Lawrence said he decreased parking enforcement for that area early in the morning.

"The purpose of writing tickets isn't to churn money, it's to get people to buy permits," Lawrence said. "Our goal is to write less tickets. Ultimately, my goal is to get our system right so only people who are trying to get tickets get them."

"We've lightened up during finals week," Parking Officer Kim Pepperworth said, adding P.T.S. doesn't impound cars during finals week and allows students to purchase an extra hour of metered parking.

Although nearly a quarter fewer students receive tickets, finding parking spots on campus is still frustrating, students say. One option students are taking advantage of more is Western's Campus Express and Whatcom Transportation Authority buses.

Despite some grumbles, students opt for the bus

The amount P.T.S. has spent on the Campus Express this year and last year has increased from previous years because of expanded service, Lawrence said.

"It's not a good deal for everyone, but it does work for a whole lot of people," he said.

More students, such as sophomore Melissa Watson, are taking the bus. Watson drives from about five miles away from Western to Civic Field, where she parks, then takes the shuttle to school.

"I'd rather take the bus than drive to campus," Watson said, adding that she would prefer if

See Parking, page 4

Artists say lack of supplies and studio space hinders education



Chris Goodenow/The Western Front

Art student Chris Randles works on one of his pieces in a private studio.

Art students concerned about lack of space, supplies available for use

By Kari McGinnis
THE WESTERN FRONT

Some students in the art department are sick of sitting on the floor during class and supplying their own art supplies; they say they want changes.

Senior Sushi Nakano is initiating an organization he said will provide an open communication forum for students within different areas of the art department.

"I think it's useful to have a collective-artists' community," Nakano said, adding that he hopes an organization repre-

senting students' collective voice will be a strong force in creating change.

"Right now I'm waiting to see how many are up for it," Nakano said, adding that the amount of student support will shape the organization's structure.

"All you can do is make noise so the administration can hear about it," Nakano said.

Art department chair Thomas Johnston said faculty and staff are always supportive of the students in everything they do.

Supporters said they hope that if students speak out, then faculty speak out and the dean

speaks out, eventually the issues will reach state legislators.

"You're paying for this education and they don't even supply you with the proper equipment," said sophomore Ali Secrest, coordinator of the Viking Union Gallery.

Secrest said she has been in classes where she has to sit on the floor because there are 45 students and only 40 desks. In her sculpture class only three to four of the 18 students enrolled can weld at a time; the space is not adequate, she explained.

See Art, page 6

Bus pass for students being considered to ease parking

Katherine Schiffner
SPECIAL TO THE FRONT

One possible solution to Western's parking woes is the proposed university bus pass.

Similar to the University of Washington's U-Pass, Western's pass would allow students to ride Whatcom Transportation Authority buses anywhere for free.

David Toyer, Associated Students vice president for Legislative and Community Affairs, said he supports exploring the creation of a Western version of the U-Pass.

Since Toyer, who lobbies the state legislature for Western students' interests, doesn't

expect state funding for a parking facility to materialize anytime soon, he said the U-Pass may be a way to reduce demand for limited parking spaces.

"The state's not shelling out money for classrooms now, or for faculty salaries, or for tuition," Toyer said.

"(Parking) isn't the state's top priority. That's going to be so low on the state's priority list to build a parking garage," he added.

Toyer has met with WTA representatives and discussed the idea with Parking and Transportation Services Manager Greg Lawrence, but he said the pass is "still in the very early stages."

Toyer said the Associated Students board members considered the possibility of including the bus pass propos-

See Pass, page 4

IN THIS ISSUE

Women defeated in NCAA II tournament

Loss to Montana State-Billings ends women's basketball season. p. 15



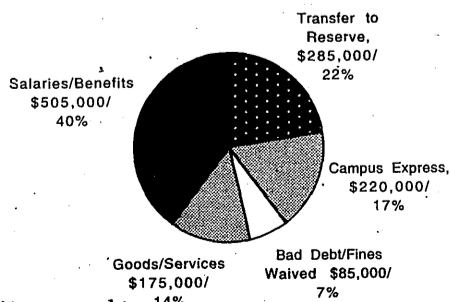
Hill

Get a jump on your summer job search

National parks, cruise lines and summer camps are searching for employees. A multitude of jobs exist under the sun. p. 11

FRONT ONLINE
wcuq.wvu.edu/westernfront

1998-1999 Parking & Transportation Expenditures Approximately \$1.25 million



Ben Stabler/Front graphic

COPS BOX

Campus Police

March 1, 8:13 a.m.: A student health center staff member reported the SHAIC was burglarized during the weekend. Two computers, a stereo receiver, CD stereo system and other items were stolen. The estimated loss is \$4,259.

March 3, 7:56 a.m.: University Police and Bellingham Fire Department units responded to a report of a woman apparently suffering a seizure at the southwest corner of Haggard Hall. The paramedics checked the woman at the scene and determined she needed further medical attention. The woman was transported to St. Joseph Hospital.

Bellingham Police

March 3, 5:49 a.m.: Police responded to a call about guests who had overstayed their welcome in the 800 block of North Garden Street. A man had invited his friends over and they refused to leave. Police arrived and asked the guests to leave; all left without incident.

March 5, 8:06 a.m.: A woman in the 2100 block of Young Street requested police locate an individual who was acting oddly in front of her residence. The suspect was reportedly pacing in front of her home and walking through other yards in the neighborhood. The woman said the suspect seemed to be looking at flowers while brushing his teeth. Police arrived but were unable to locate the suspect.

March 5, 3:36 p.m.: A woman at Bellis Fair Mall returned to her vehicle to discover someone had stolen her front and back license plates. The woman didn't have any suspects in mind and the plates were entered as stolen.

Compiled by Melissa Laing

Campus Curiosities

Web site creator to address computer science department:

Wayne Berry, president and CEO of Sign Me Up Marketing and creator of Whatcom County community Web site www.kulshan.com will speak to computer science professors and students March 17 about his experience at Microsoft and in the Internet industry. For more information, contact Martin Osborne at 650-3798.

Corrections and clarifications:

On page 5 of the March 3 edition of the *The Front*, we incorrectly stated Associated Students provided \$875 each for board members Victor Cox and David Toyer's trip. The A.S. provided \$875 for both Cox and Toyer.

On page 6 of the same issue, Fred Collins was pictured beneath an article about a forum he did not attend. He actually attended a forum the night before about racial diversity in education. See full correction page 6.

The *Front* regrets all errors.

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News content is determined by student editors. Staff reporters are enrolled in the course entitled "newspaper staff." Western students may send submissions to the above address.

Advertising inquiries should be directed to the business office in College Hall 07, or by phone to (360)650-3161.

Members of the Western community are entitled to a single free copy of each issue of *The Western Front*.

Western Briefs

Volunteers offer free tax assistance to public

Free tax assistance is available to the public at eight sites throughout the county through April 15. Volunteers will help file personal, non-business income taxes.

For location information or to schedule an appointment, call Candi Carino at 650-4825.

Bellingham Parks and Recreation sponsors run

The Second Annual Runnin' O' The Green Foot Race and Walk will take place at 10 a.m. March 20, starting at the Bloedel Donovan Park Community Pavilion.

Two courses, a three-mile fun-run/walk or a 10 kilometer race, offer fun for all fitness levels. Registration for the event is \$15 including an event shirt, or \$7 without the shirt.

Awards will be given for best and "greenest" costume at the event, and refreshments will be provided.

For more information, contact Lauren Woodmansee at 676-6985.

Poet/priest reads poetry, leads Zen retreat

Zen priest and poet Zoketsu Norman Fischer will be in Bellingham March 11 through 14 to lead a Zen meditation retreat at the Bellingham Dharma Hall.

Fischer will speak and read from his book of poetry, "Narrow Roads," at 7:30 p.m., March 12, at Village Books.

He will discuss, "The Practice of Living — Zen Practice and Everyday Life," at 7 p.m., March 13, at the Bellingham Public

Library Presentation Room.

For more information, contact Tim Burnett at 647-2363.

Recycle lawn clippings, leaves, sod pieces

The Clean Green Transfer Station, located at Lakeway Drive and Woburn Street, is accepting household yard waste from 8:30 a.m. to 4 p.m., Saturdays and Sundays.

The station accepts grass clippings, sod pieces, leaves and hedge trimmings. The materials received will be used to make compost. No contractor or commercial loads are accepted.

For more information, call the Department of Public Works at 676-6850.

Farm worker states case at forum tomorrow

Western's Peace Resource Center will host a speaker from the United Farmworkers' Union at 7 p.m., March 10, in the Wilson Library Presentation Room.

The speaker will discuss the living and working conditions of migrant farmworkers in the Northwest and their fight for respect. Information about this year's Migrant Farmworkers' Rights March will be available.

Cyberspace conference demonstrated on campus

The next lecture in the Turning Points series will be "Electronic Meetings for the Next Century: Any Time/Any Place."

Three Western professors will describe and demonstrate software that facilitates conferences via the Internet.

The presentation is at 6 p.m.,

March 9, in Science Lecture Hall 150. Admission is free.

For additional information or disability accommodation, call 650-7545.

Local artist signing at Village Books

Bellingham artist Jody Bergsma will sign autographs at Village Books to celebrate her illustrations for a new book, "Sky Castle," written by Sandra Hanken.

The autograph party will be at 3 p.m., March 13. For more information, contact Village Books at 671-2626.

Yale archivist to lecture about digital ethics

The Western Student Chapter of Society of American Archivists will host Paul Conway, an archivist from Yale University.

Conway's lecture, "Digital Transformations: The Continuing Relevance of Preservation principles in the Digital World," will be at 7 p.m. March 18 in the Mount Vernon Mitzel's Restaurant banquet room.

Admission is free; for details, contact Paul at 715-3284 or Andrea at 650-0670.

Briefs compiled by Bryta Alvensleben

Western Briefs Policy

To include an event in Western Briefs, send a news release two weeks before the event to The Western Front, College Hall 09, Bellingham, WA 98225, via fax, 650-7775, or e-mail, wfront@cc.wvu.edu. Due to space and time limitations, we cannot guarantee the publication of all submissions and reserve the right to edit any news release.

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, via fax to X/7287, or brought in person to Commissary 113A. DO NOT SEND ANNOUNCEMENTS DIRECTLY TO THE WESTERN FRONT. Phoned announcements will not be accepted. All announcements should be signed by originator.

PLEASE POST

SUMMER QUARTER DEGREE APPLICANTS: Degree applications must be on file in the registrar's office by March 12 for students who expect to graduate at the end of summer quarter and by June 4 for students who plan to graduate at the end of fall quarter. Degree applications and instructions are available in the registrar's office, OM 230.

READMISSION: Students who interrupt their studies at Western other than for a summer quarter must complete an application for readmission by the appropriate deadline. Applications are available from the Office of Admissions, OM 200, X/3440.

MATH PLACEMENT TEST: Registration is not required. Students must bring picture ID and a No. 2 pencil. A \$10 fee must be paid in the exact amount at the time of testing. Allow 90 minutes. Testing will be in OM 120 at 9 a.m. March 15 and at 3 p.m. March 11 and 18.

SPECIAL REGISTRATION OPTION for sophomores, juniors and seniors looking for GUR courses: On Western's home page, see Class Finder and scroll to "GUR Clusters." For add codes, contact Carmen Werder, WL 491, X/7329, or send e-mail to carmen.werder@wwu.edu.

THE ACADEMIC ADVISING CENTER is hiring academic student advisers to work during Summerstart and fall orientation. ASAs work with faculty members to advise new freshmen. Qualifications include a 2.5 minimum GPA and demonstrated interpersonal, helping, and leadership experience. Applications are available in OM 380. Call X/3850 for more information.

INTERNATIONAL PROGRAMS AND EXCHANGES IS HIRING PEER ADVISERS to work with students interested in studying abroad, as well as with international students studying at Western. Applications and information are available in OM 530E or call X/3298.

HUNGARIAN VIOLINIST DENES ZSIGMONDY performs the last concert of his 1999 U.S. tour at 8 p.m. March 13 in the PAC Concert Hall. Free to all students; \$8 for adults. Free master class open to the public from 2 to 5 p.m. March 12. Call X/3718 for more information.

AAUW SCHOLARSHIP: The American Association of University Women's Bellingham branch offers scholarships for 1999-2000. For consideration, students must have at least 135 credits, the equivalent of senior or graduate student status as of fall 1999, a cumulative grade point average of 3.5 and financial need. Applications, due by March 15, are available in OM 260 or call X/3471.

MULTICULTURAL ACHIEVEMENT PROGRAM SCHOLARSHIP APPLICATIONS are available to continuing Western students. MAP scholarships are \$600 per quarter, \$1,800 per academic year. Current recipients must reapply to be considered for 1999-2000. Applications, available in OM 260, must be submitted by March 31. For more information, call X/3471.

HOLDERS OF VALID PARKING PERMITS may park in any G lot March 21-28 except for 8C, 10G, 29G, Parks Hall, Engineering Technology or the CBS lot. • A limited number of short-term permits for 10G will be issued at the Parking Office on 21st Street on a first-come, first-served beginning at 7:30 a.m. March 22. • Permits are not required in C or 16CR lots March 21-28 nor in 12A or R lots March 21-27. • Visitor Center hours during the break will be 7 a.m. to 5 p.m. Monday through Friday.

SELL ADS FOR THE 1999-2000 CAMPUS DIRECTORY. Interviews begin March 31. Applicants must have own telephone and transportation; access to voice mail or answering machine preferred. Must be available through fall quarter, including summer break. Salary range \$6 to \$8 an hour plus mileage. Call Margaret Loudon, X/3914, to arrange an appointment.

WILLIAM BRYANT MEMORIAL SCHOLARSHIP. One \$650 scholarship is offered for the 1999-2000 academic year to an International Programs and Exchanges study abroad student. A potential foreign language teacher is preferred. Applications are available in OM 260 or OM 530E. Application deadline is March 31.

Newsmakers

PEOPLE MAKING AN IMPACT ON CAMPUS

By Carrie Van Driel
THE WESTERN FRONT

On a whim, David Toyer decided to attend Western. He said he had already completed a year and a half at Augusta College in South Dakota when he made his decision to transfer.

Toyer, Associated Students vice president for Legislative and Community Affairs, said he doesn't regret the move because he needed the extra outlets for student involvement he found at Western.

"I ran for this position because I like being involved," Toyer said.

The Snohomish County native comes from a family background rooted in politics; his father served as mayor and city council member in a small town.

"I had some concerns myself," Toyer said about holding office. "I knew I could represent myself well, and I thought maybe I could represent others well."

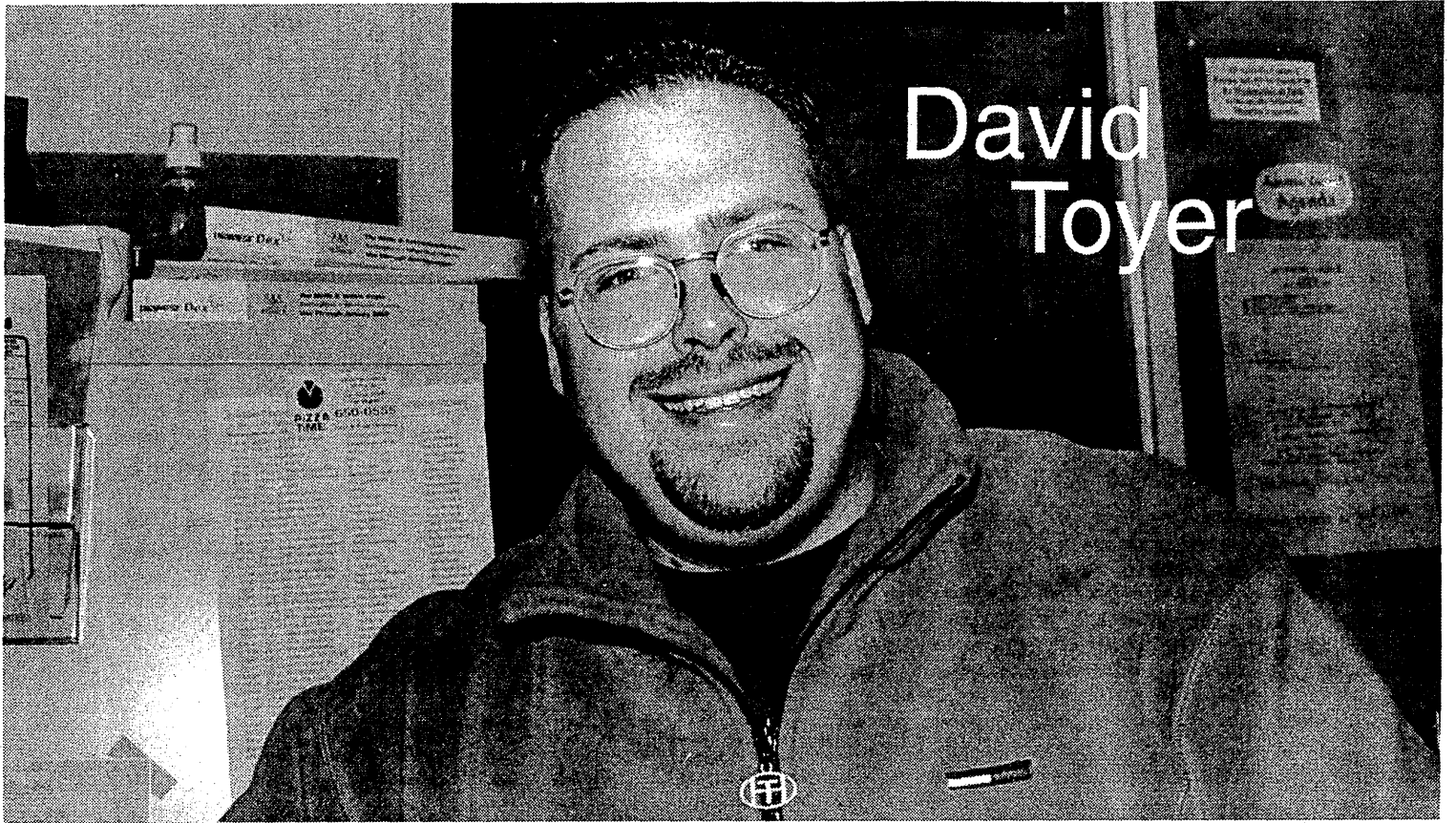
Toyer recently spent time in Olympia fighting for a tuition freeze at Western, and on campus lobbying for student support.

"I worry a lot about the cost of education and how it's going to affect the students," he said.

One of Toyer's duties is running the Legislative and Community Affairs Council.

"He runs a really good meeting," Vice President for Academic Affairs Victor Cox said. "He is very organized and keeps everyone up-to-date."

"I try to be as visible as possible," Toyer said. "I like to have students come in. I want to know that I am making students



David Toyer

Associated Students Vice President for Legislative and Community Affairs David Toyer lobbied in Olympia for a tuition freeze.

happy."

"If you ever need someone to talk to, Dave loves to talk," Cox said. "Dave offers his opinions and takes others' into consideration."

"I consider myself a fair person," Toyer said. "I am not judgmental. Students can bring their cases to me, and I will be consistent in dealing with them."

"I am down-to-earth and a humble guy," he said. "I have a complicated job with all the issues, so I gotta stay humble."

Toyer is majoring in political science and he said he plans to go into politics later in life.

He works for a political party, but declined to reveal which one. He said he keeps it separate from his job.

Toyer applied for an entry-level position with the party, yet he was given the job of area captain, which entails supervising the district telemarketers looking for funding.

"I fall into things with my level of skill," Toyer said. "I'd

rather be lucky than good because luck has gotten me a long way."

When Toyer isn't working he said he spends a lot of time with his friends and family.

"My dad and I are best friends," Toyer said. "My dad is currently in the transformation from being a parent all the time to being my friend."

Although his dad has accepted him as an adult, his mother hasn't quite let go yet, he said.

In his spare time, he said he

enjoys watching movies with his friends.

"I like classic movies and epic sagas, like 'Patton,' 'The Godfather' series and 'Goodfellas,'" Toyer said.

He also enjoys golfing and traveling.

Toyer is considering his plans for involvement at Western next year.

"I want to stay involved no matter what I do," Toyer said. "I'm currently thinking of running for re-election."

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Women outnumber men at Western

By Jaime Martin
THE WESTERN FRONT

More women than men attend Western — the student population is 56-percent women and 44-percent men, according to the registrar's office.

"All of my classes have a lot more girls than guys," sophomore Tag Stevens said.

Admissions Director Karen Copetas noted several reasons for Western's gender imbalance: There are more women who apply, more women graduate from high school, more women are in Running Start and more women are in community colleges," Copetas said.

In community colleges and universities throughout Washington state, the trend is the same.

Most Washington state colleges have a majority of female students.

According to recent demographic information for Washington state higher education, female students comprise 59 percent of the total body for community

colleges.

Washington State University is the most balanced, at 50 percent male and female.

Western has more women than the University of Washington and WSU.

"Western does not have big-name athletic teams like the UW or WSU and traditionally male programs, like engineering, are not strong at Western," Copetas said.

The gender disparity in the education program is profound.

Fall quarter's headcount found 125 male students with an educational interest compared to 498 female students.

Only five men are majoring in elementary special education versus 74 women.

However, of those students seeking a bachelor's of science degree in computer science, only 12 are women, compared to 104 men.

"I'm in human services, so it's mostly girls," Tracy Cleveland said.

This doesn't surprise Copetas. "Western promotes itself with

Parking on campus:

Parking, from page 1

Parking officials realize problem, plan for future

more spaces were closer to campus.

She's certainly not alone, which members of the Transportation Planning Initiatives Task Force realize. Solutions, such as possible construction of a parking structure, are being closely examined to find the key to Western's parking future.

Planning for the future

Lawrence said his department is attempting to look six years into the future for most parking planning, and up to 10 years in some cases. Because it takes six years for any major building project, it's essential to plan ahead, Lawrence said. It can be tough for students who want short-term results, though, to see the benefits of long-term planning.

"It's hard to interest someone who's going to be here for four years in a long-term project that won't be done while they're here that they will have to pay for," Lawrence said.

One long-term project Lawrence has been involved with is the potential construction of a parking structure. As a result of planned, south-campus expansion, about 650 spaces will be lost. In order to compensate for these spots, as well as Western's growing student and staff population, a multi-level parking structure may be built.

Three locations tentatively being explored as possible locations include: below Viking

Union, east of Arntzen Hall and north of Higginson and Edens Hall dorms. The cost of constructing the structure could range from \$11 million if it were privately built then leased to the university, or up to \$18 million, Lawrence said.

The high cost presents multiple problems, Lawrence said.

"The primary challenge is funding," he said. "Our rates aren't adequate to service the cost for a parking structure."

However, keeping the rates affordable to a majority of students may be the only way to ensure revenue keeps coming in.

"There's obviously a ceiling on rates," Lawrence said. "We can't keep jacking rates up."

Other funding sources, such as donations and state funds are tough to come by, Lawrence said. The state isn't likely to fund the parking structure because of all the other demands for higher education funding, including adding more classrooms.

Still, "There's a general agreement a parking structure would be a spiffy thing to have here," Lawrence said.

In addition to more long-term projects like a parking structure, some projects the P.T.S. office is working on now include:

- Technical improvements for the P.T.S. computers.
- Sign standardization, which will take several years to complete.
- Extension of the C lots to

compensate for parking that will be unavailable during the Viking Union renovation.

• Being involved in the institutional master plan planning process.

How Western compares

Compared to other Washington state campuses, Western has some similar problems. Like other schools, the number of parking spots at Western, 3,516, hasn't grown at the same rate student enrollment has. The University of Washington, which, like Western, has a finite area for expansion and is land-locked, also has limited parking facilities.

The UW has responded by offering the U-Pass, a university bus pass which allows students to ride the bus for free in designated Seattle areas. (See University Bus Pass, page 1)

However, other campuses, such as Washington State University, are near rural areas where students often commute to school, like Western, Lawrence said, so students expect some parking availability. Finding a perfect solution that makes students, staff and faculty happy is tough, though, Lawrence and students said.

"We like to find out what we are doing that makes people hate us and fix it," Lawrence said, adding students are always welcome to offer ideas to try and tackle Western's parking woes.

Western has a problem: Parking spaces are scarce, drivers are plentiful. Solutions exist, but none will reach fruition soon.

Parking myths, realities

By Katherine Schiffner
THE WESTERN FRONT

When it's 5:30 p.m. and finding a parking spot seems impossible, or a bright yellow parking infraction envelope is the first thing you see after a long day of classes, you may be seriously pondering the parking situation at Western. But before you fire off a letter about parking filled with four-letter words, consider these common parking myths.

Common Misconception: Faculty and staff have it made. They can park wherever they want, usually in reserved spots, without paying a dime, while you decide if you want heat or a parking pass.

Reality: Faculty and staff, including President Karen Morse, pay for parking. In fact, they pay a lot. Reserved spots cost \$504 per quarter, and state funds can't be used to pay for parking.

Common Misconception: Parking enforcement officers have to write their quota of tickets every day, so they wait by cars until the meters expire.

Reality: Greg Lawrence, the Parking and Transportation Services manager, said parking enforcement officers do not have a quota of tickets to write. Kim Pepperworth, a Western parking officer, said he likes to cut people some slack, like not ticketing a car that's spent a few more than 15 minutes in the loading zone.

Common Misconception: There's no way I can possibly get a parking pass at Western. You have to be on the waiting list for years before you can get a C-lot permit.

Reality: Lawrence said C-lot passes were actually undersold

this year to avoid the problems that happened last fall when students with passes had no place to park. Parking and transportation services currently has passes available for several lots.

Common Misconception: Attempting to dodge the Parking Gestapo is a good way to save money on a parking pass. Parking tickets are only \$10 or \$20, so you'll save in the end, right? Even if you do get parking citations, who cares? This is only Western; nothing will happen.

Reality: \$10 and \$20 parking tickets add up, and if your car has more than two unpaid violations (or about \$50 worth) it can be wheel-locked or towed. Then, you have to pay the cost of having the wheel lock removed or your car bailed out, in addition to paying all your parking tickets. Outstanding parking fees can also block your registration. Buying a pass for a few hours (\$1 per hour), paying for a metered spot or purchasing a parking permit can be much less expensive — or take the free Campus Express or ride a WTA bus to campus.

Common Misconception: The parking enforcement officers are actually Nazi party members in disguise. Once you get a ticket, you'd better pay up — or else.

Reality: If you receive a ticket you think is unfair, you have seven days to appeal. If it's your first infraction, the fee will usually be reduced by half. Kim and Phil (the parking officers) said they are happy to have students ask them for advice about where to park legally and listen if a student's parking pass fell on the floor, or if some other understandable situation occurred.

Pass, from page 1

Bus pass could ease parking woes

al as an initiative in the spring A.S. elections, but they determined too many details still had to be worked out.

"We're moving in the right direction, but it's a slow process," Toyer said.

Who and how the pass would be paid for is a major issue, plus whether the pass would be optional or mandatory.

However, Toyer points to the University of Washington and the University of Wisconsin, Madison's successes with university bus passes as a strong indication a pass can help solve parking problems.

"We really need to look at where we want our transportation concepts to go," Toyer said. "We can build and build more parking spots, but I'd rather see something like a bus pass."

So far, Toyer said, he's received positive feedback from students. Still, since the proposal is in its beginning stages, student insight is important in developing the

idea further, or finding a better solution.

Western sophomore Melissa Watson, who usually takes the Civic Field shuttle to campus, said she supports the idea of a Western bus pass.

"I'd rather take the bus than drive to campus," Watson said.

Mark Miller, a Fairhaven senior, said he wouldn't have used a university bus pass this year, since he has a part-time permit, but said he likes the concept. If he were required to pay for a bus pass in addition to his parking permit, he said he may not be as supportive.

Toyer said he doesn't expect the proposal to be completed this year, but hopes the university bus pass will continue to be seriously considered next year.

Right now, "There's a lot of questions that need to be answered," Toyer said. "There's no use in implementing a bus pass if that's not going to help our parking problems."

"There's not enough parking, there's too many tickets. I think (parking) is terrible."

Latasha Wortham
senior, law and diversity major



"I've been riding the bus or walking ever since I got rid of my car freshman year. I think people should use other transportation."

Elizabeth Unsell
junior, undeclared



What do you think?

Western students sound off regarding parking issues

"(Parking) is terrible because I think it's too expensive and it doesn't meet our needs ... and is too far from campus."

Jeremy Foust
senior, history major



"It's too expensive to park on campus. I had a parking permit, but I couldn't afford it."

Kegan Simons
sophomore, English major



Contact these folks to share your insight about Western's parking and transportation:

Greg Lawrence, Parking and Transportation Services manager: 650-2945 or greg.lawrence@wwu.edu

Sarah Steves, Associated Students president and member of the Transportation Planning Initiatives Task Force: 650-3560 or aspres@cc.wwu.edu

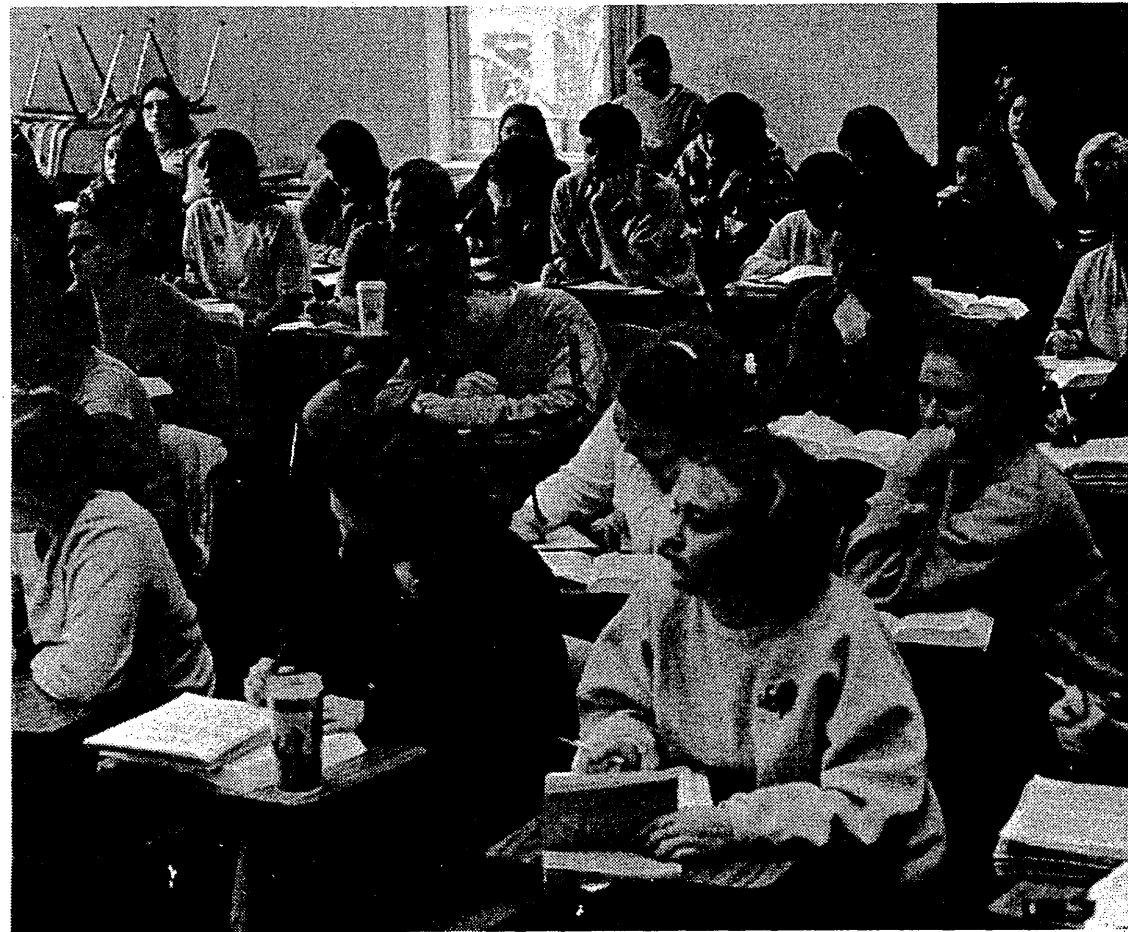
David Toyer, Associated Students vice president for Legislative and Community

Affairs and Whatcom Transportation Services student liaison: 650-3460 or asvp-leg@cc.wwu.edu.

For info about parking regulations, the WTA schedule or where to park on campus check out: www.park.wwu.edu

Women, from page 3

More females than males at Western



Kari McGinnis/The Western Front

Many classes, like the one above, have high female-to-male ratios.

emphasis on service learning and volunteerism, traditionally feminine traits," Copetas said.

The ratio does not appear to bother many male students at Western.

"The ratio was one of my deciding factors in coming to Western," junior Mike Saedi said with a grin.

As far as how the ratio affects the dating scene, men and

women don't seem to agree.

"I have no problem getting dates," sophomore Jared Lindberg said. "In fact, there should be quotas to keep the guys in the minority at Western."

Sophomore Stacey Hodges does not like the ratio.

"Some guys are cocky and arrogant because of the female majority," Hodges said.

Hodge's roommate, freshman Megan Maxey, disagreed.

"I don't think most guys act any more arrogantly than they would normally," she said.

Western is legally incapable of trying to attract more male students because of Initiative 200, which prohibits the recruitment of students based on gender, Copetas said.

College students not too young to start IRAs

By Jennifer Dye
THE WESTERN FRONT

College students have an advantage when it comes to investing for the future: Invested money earns interest.

Small investments grow exponentially and can be lucrative after several years, especially when the interest earned is tax-deferred or tax-free.

Although investing money may be the last thing on the minds of most college students, Individual Retirement Agreements are not just for people nearing retirement age.

Carol Remsen, senior personal financial representative at Washington Mutual, said young people have "time on their side" because of the power of compounding interest.

"If they have to beg, borrow or steal, college students should find money to invest," Remsen mused.

Remsen described a hypothetical situation demonstrating the power of compounding interest: One individual begins investing at the age of 25. For eight years, the individual contributes \$2,000 to an IRA, earning 9-percent interest annually. After this point, the individual never invests another dollar. The total contributions equal \$16,000.

Another individual waits until the age of 33 to begin investing in an IRA. This individual also contributes \$2,000 every year and earns 9-percent interest. This individual, however, contributes every year

until the age of 70. The total contributions equal \$78,000. Because of compounding interest, however, the individual who began investing at the age of 25 has \$676,796 by age 71 — \$81,031 more than the individual who started investing at age 33.

Two types of IRAs are available: the traditional IRA and the Roth IRA. Into both, individuals may contribute as much as \$2,000 every year. If individuals don't earn \$2,000, they may contribute as much as they earned.

In 1997, President Clinton signed the Taxpayers Relief Act, and the Roth IRA developed.

One of the most substantial differences between the traditional IRA and the Roth IRA is withdrawals from a Roth IRA are tax-free. For younger people in lower tax brackets who plan to allow the investment to accrue large amounts of interest over several years, the Roth IRA is beneficial.

Both traditional and Roth IRA's allow investments to be withdrawn after an individual reaches the age of 59 1/2, or in the instances of disability or death. Roth IRAs allow individuals to withdraw money to help fund the purchase of a first home.

As long as individuals have earned incomes, they may contribute to a Roth IRA. Traditional IRAs require individuals older than 70 1/2-years-old take a required minimum distribution. An individual may

See IRA, page 6

Program prepares students to teach overseas

By Lisa Bach
THE WESTERN FRONT

Imagine a program that would let you experience the world without ever leaving campus. Look no further than Western's Teaching English as a Second Language program.

"I enjoy school so much more," TESL student Kelly Ace said.

TESL is a 27-credit curriculum administered by University Extended Programs, program director Trish Skillman said.

Students take courses in linguistics, grammar and teaching methods that prepare them to work with diverse populations in a classroom or teach English abroad.

"It really is one of the hottest endorsements for undergraduates," Skillman said.

TESL meets the requirements of a secondary endorsement for teaching English as a second language in public schools.

"Classrooms are becoming much more diverse and many teachers have a hard time meeting every student's needs," Skillman said.

Students who are TES-certified are not only marketable for a career as a public school teacher, Skillman said.

Some students who complete the TESL program travel all over the world and teach English to help with their travel expenses. Since English is becoming increasingly universal, it is easy to find teaching positions, Skillman said.

TESL provides opportunities for students with various interests.

"TESL students come from anthropology, communication and linguistics majors," Skillman said. "Most are looking for a practical application for their degree."

For Ace, a German major, TESL was a perfect fit.

"I didn't know what I was going to do with German," she said. "I did know

that I wanted to work with people."

TESL is interactive, requiring students to spend a certain number of hours each quarter working with an ESL student. This prepares TESL students for a final practicum, in which they will spend 40 hours in the classroom writing lesson plans and learning to teach a class to students who speak more than one language.

"We learn to work with students who already know some English to those who have never heard the language before," Ace said.

TESL students do not have to be fluent in another language in order to teach English, Skillman said.

"We ask that everyone have one year of college-level foreign language, mostly so they will have empathy for those they are teaching," Skillman said.

One of the most important parts of learning to teach English is an in-depth understanding of the structure of the English language.

"We use subjects, verbs and objects and we never think about why," graduate student Haven Borgias said. "Sometimes studying English feels like you are studying a foreign language."

Some graduates of the TESL program are now teachers at community colleges or overseas. Karrie Groves, a Western and TESL graduate, will present with Skillman at the international TESL conference in New York, Tuesday.

Since TESL is not affiliated with a department, students must pay self-supporting tuition of \$110 per credit. The program is financial-aid eligible.

Applications for the TESL program are available in Old Main 400C or from University Extended Programs. Application deadline for fall quarter is May 15.

An informational meeting will be at 12 p.m., April 8, in Bond Hall 104.

For more information, contact Skillman at 650-4949.

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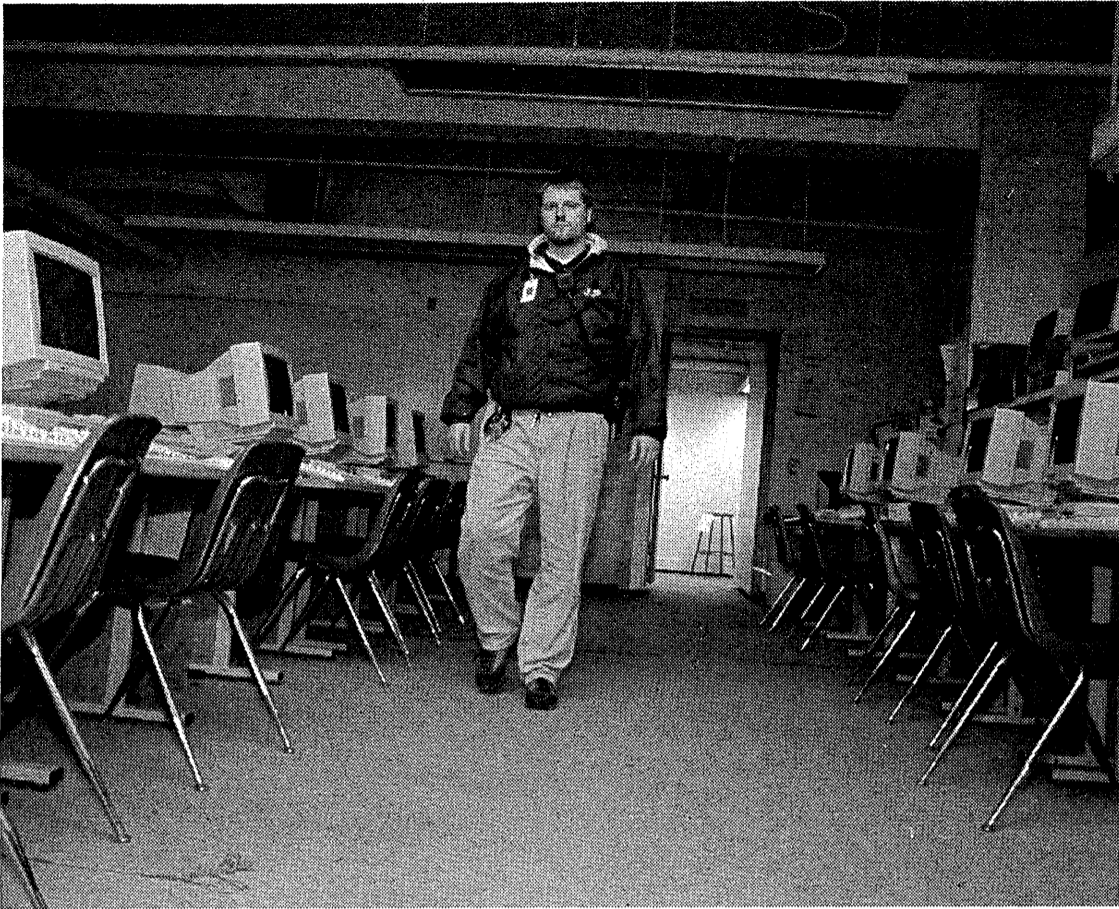
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EXCLUSIVE ENGAGEMENTS START MARCH 12TH

Lots of little things stolen around campus add up



Chris Goodenow/The Western Front

Greencoat Sam Bretz checks a Miller Hall computer lab for anything out of the ordinary.

Petty theft a problem at Western

By Lisa Curdy
The Western Front

Rose bushes, violins, foosball tables and a rug from Old Main all have one thing in common: They've been stolen from Western.

Between Jan. 1, 1998 and Dec. 31, 1998, 65 reports of theft were reported to University Police.

Recently, a photographic print was stolen from the "Battle of the Pacific" art exhibit in the Viking Union Gallery, and in separate instances, a rash of thefts have occurred in the Performing Arts Center.

"We're having a theft problem, but any community does," U.P. Chief Jim Shaw said.

"It's hard to maintain strict control and still allow the university to function," Shaw said. "Buildings are open for events, academic days, cleaning and sometimes they are inadvertently left open."

Building security has become a focus.

Two common ways individuals access buildings are through unlocked doors or with keys.

Individuals can procure keys two ways: They can get key authorization through a dean or department chairperson, then authorization is approved or denied by space administration, and a key is issued by the lock shop or individuals can find keys.

The number of keys issued is high, and this might be because

it is easier to issue a key than to let students into buildings, said Jim Sutterman, locksmith supervisor.

"I don't think there are many problems with keys getting misused," Sutterman said. "I think a lot of these buildings have been left unlocked; that's just the way it is."

Western takes many precautions to ward off theft, Shaw said.

Some keys are part of a high-security key system. The high-security system is in place in newer buildings and is being installed in the remainder as they are revamped.

High-security keys can only be duplicated by Western's lock shop. The blanks for the keys are special ordered for Western and can't be found elsewhere.

Western also tries to limit the number of keys issued to those who have legitimate access, Shaw said.

In addition, all of Western's property is marked with serial numbers for easy tracing in the case of theft, all property goes through an inventory process, and grounds are patrolled 24 hours per day.

Punishment for theft is decided on a case-by-case basis of what and where things were stolen, said Michael Schardein, student support services judicial officer.

On-campus residences have their own policies.

"Once someone has stolen

from their community, I highly question them remaining a part of that community," said Peter Rosenberg, associate director of university residences.

Rosenburg said he handles thefts in two ways. If he believes the thief can learn from their mistake, the student is given another chance. If, however, Rosenberg feels that the event was more serious than stealing a few compact discs or some petty cash, he said he will ask the student to leave Western's housing facility.

Theft from dorm common-areas is the most usual type in residential halls.

Coffee tables, couches and chairs mysteriously disappear for quarters at a time, and then turn up just as mysteriously when school ends, Rosenberg said.

For the most part, stolen property usually consists of materials that weren't secured properly, according to University Police's Event Synopsis print-out.

In Washington, different degrees of theft determine different punishments.

Individuals guilty of stealing up to \$250 of property are charged with petty theft, and individuals found guilty of stealing more than \$250 receive a Class-C Felony, punishable by time in state prison. Individuals receive an automatic felony charge if found guilty of stealing a credit card or weapon, Shaw said.

IRA, from page 5

IRAs available to college students

not contribute to a traditional IRA after reaching 70 years of age.

Traditional IRAs offer benefits to some individuals. The contributions made to traditional IRAs are tax deductible, while contributions made to Roth IRAs are not. Some individuals make too much money to contribute to a Roth IRA.

Certified Public Accountant Diane DeMott said most individuals, especially college students or recent graduates, do not have to deal with the earnings limit.

Although finance professor David Fewings said he doesn't

believe college students should be investing in a retirement account before graduating, he said, "Planning for future expenditures

should begin as soon as possible."

Fewings recommended people begin investing as soon as they begin working, and suggested developing a broad portfolio of quality equities or investing in good companies with worldwide market potential.

Research is important, but fairly simple.

"There are lots of good sources

about developing companies," Fewings said, recommending "Inc." magazine and "The Wall Street Journal."

Fewings said he figured individuals comfortable living at an annual income of \$30,000 will need, on average, more than \$1 million for retirement.

Fewings suggested individuals invest 5 percent of a comfortable annual income for the first 10 years of a 40-year retirement plan. For the next 15 years, the investment should increase to 7.5 percent, then increase to 10 percent for the last 15 years. With this investment plan, people can expect to

have enough money at retirement to live at the same level as when they were working.

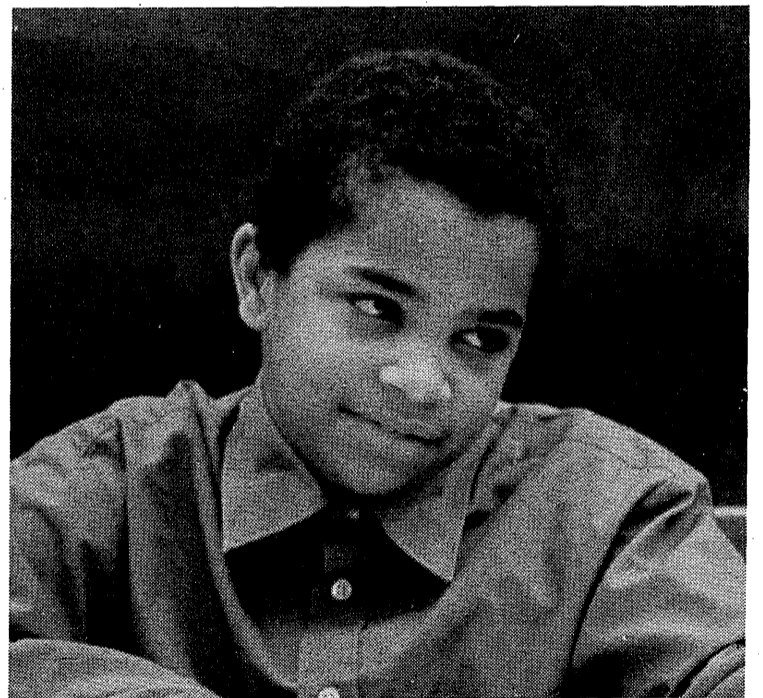
“Planning for future expenditures should begin as soon as possible.”

David Fewings
finance professor

Through past economic changes, long-term

investments have proven to be worthwhile. Fewings said fears of the Y2K problem should not deter individuals from investing. Institutions such as banks will be prepared, and although Fewings admits it will be an interesting time, and could cause a short economic recession, he says, "I don't think a long-term investor should pay much attention to it."

Correction



Sixth-grader Fred Collins participated in the March 3 panel about multiculturalism in the classroom, sponsored by Student Washington Education Association. Collins' picture was accidentally placed with a story about an unrelated panel in the March 5 Western Front. Collins was invited to speak about his personal experiences in school regarding prejudice and bias. SWEA sponsored the panel to give future teachers insight on how to incorporate multicultural education into their classrooms. The Front regrets this error.

Art, from page 1

Art students organizing to address concerns about shortage of classroom space, supplies

Nakano said students have to bring their own paints to school.

"We have a lot of easels, but that's all we've got," he said, "and we certainly could use another building."

Secrest said having to blue-slip into overcrowded classes is one of her biggest frustrations.

"We want to bring the issue to the surface so it can be dealt with," she said.

Life-drawing class, offered fall and spring quarters this year, is very hard to get into and is required for art majors, Nakano said. He is pursuing funding for next quarter so a life-drawing session will be offered for students once per week.

Another concern arises with the planned renovation of the Viking Union. Secrest said she understands the art gallery is

being moved to a less-accessible floor. She said she is frustrated that she and gallery co-coordinator Mackenzie Boetes weren't

consulted regarding the move. "Our mission is to get students involved in arts and moving it really hinders that," she said, adding that the new location is much less visible.

However, Jack Smith, director of Student Activities, said student coordinators have been involved. Several meetings addressed proposed floor plans, but since the project has been on

hold, some students may have been left out of the communications, he said.

Nakano said once he determines the level and direction of student interest, he will decide what route to take with the organization.

"It's kind of ridiculous that students have to fight so hard to get educated," he said.

“We have easels, but that's all we've got”
Sushi Nakano
art student

Grade-curving debated among students and faculty

By Duane Dales and
Chris Goodenow
THE WESTERN FRONT

A 50-percent grade in many classes means an automatic failing grade; in some classes, a 50 percent could be bumped to an A if the professor uses the grade-curving method, which takes the highest score in the class and makes that the maximum possible score.

Registrar Joseph St. Hilaire said Western does not have a policy about what system should be used to grade students' work; professors have the freedom to curve or not curve grades.

Computer science professor Gary Eerkes said curving grades gives him more flexibility in grading. He said using a strict, standard letter grade scale has restricted him in the past.

"A test is a snapshot of where

the students stand," Eerkes said. "It's an instrument, and it's an imperfect instrument. I would like to believe curving grades allows me to assign a letter grade to a student that he or she deserves."

Eerkes said tests are imperfect instruments because they vary in length and difficulty.

"I think it's really beneficial to the students who don't excel at testing," Darian Burton, a Western student, said. "It's kind of a safety net."

"The downside is that with an absolute scale, students always know exactly where their grade stands," Eerkes said. "When you curve grades, that isn't always the case."

Psychology professor Fred Grote also takes the highest score in the class and makes it the maximum possible score from which all of the other grades are derived. He said his system of grading gives more

accurate feedback about how students master material because the tests and assignments are not perfect indicators of student comprehension.

"If a student earned the highest grade in the class, the student is guaranteed an A grade," Grote said.

"Some instructors are grading easy to make students like them."
Mary Ann Hendryson
Economics professor

Some instructors said curving grades helps them in their quarterly instructor evaluations.

"Some instructors are grading easy to make students like them," said economics professor Mary Ann Hendryson.

"Curving grades promotes laziness in students; most students won't work that hard," Hendryson said. "It promotes laziness also to instructors because they don't have to worry about how much effort they have to put into the class because the results are curved."

Hendryson said not curving grades would promote excellent academic standards.

"The A grade that a student earns now has the same meaning of an A grade that has been earned three years ago," Hendryson said.

Hendryson added that curving grades decreases academic standards because students are able to get higher grades for learning less.

Even though Burton said he supports the system, he said a professor curving grades may be an indication the course could be improved.

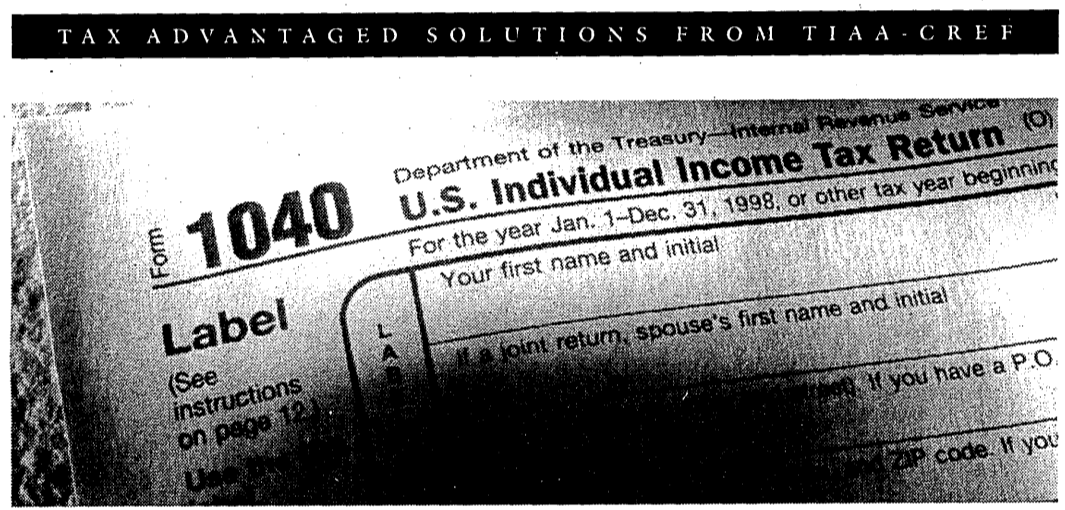
Lee Dallas of the Secondary

Education Department at the Woodring College of Education said she believes curving grades is a disservice to students in a course.

"Knowledge should be shared and not competed for; curving grades fosters competition and antagonistic relations," Dallas said. "We just don't believe in the need to stimulate competition — especially in students; we are trying to raise a standard, and we want everybody up to that standard."

Sara Neal, a Western senior, opposes one aspect of grade curving: Sometimes the grades are not equally distributed.

"If a student puts out no effort and receives 50 percent of the total points, and another student who works really hard and receives a 70 percent, the student with the 50 percent would get a C-minus because the student with the 70 percent got an A grade," Neal said.



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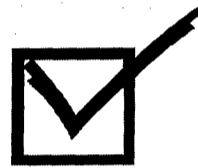
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Cherry Point:

The area near Birch Bay is home to a run of herring vital to the Nooksack River salmon. The herring are dying and while scientists search for answers. Development plans could create even more problems.

By Alyssa Pfau
THE WESTERN FRONT

Between now and the beginning of June, the Cherry Point herring stock will migrate into the shallow shoreline and lay eggs on the eel grass beds nestled between the ARCO oil refinery and Intalco Aluminum Corporation. If trends follow as they have during the past 10 years, however, fewer herring will migrate to the shoreline this year than last.

Depletion of the Cherry Point herring stock, existing development and interest to continue development at the deepwater port has many environmental interest groups concerned.

Gateway Pacific Terminal has tried for more than five years to get the state's approval to develop a shipping terminal at Cherry Point. The process has been slow due to concern for the natural habitat at Cherry Point.

"There are a lot of red flags and interest focused on Cherry Point because of a clear downturn in our herring stock," said Brian Williams, an area habitat biologist for marine waters with the Department of Fish and Wildlife.

The Cherry Point herring stock, the primary source of food for salmon, sea ducks and other marine mammals, has dropped in population by about 73 percent over a 19-year period. Between 1977 and 1996 the population went from 11,000 tons of adult spawning fish to 3,000 tons, Williams said.

The herring are only one portion of the larger ecosystem at Cherry Point, Williams said. The Nooksack River chinook salmon that feed on the herring are expected to be listed as threatened species under the Endangered Species Act sometime this month.

Scientists still don't understand the reasons for the decline in the herring stock, but environmental groups have encouraged research to sort out why this particular herring

stock is in decline before a shipping terminal is built.

The Washington Department of Fish and Wildlife is looking at all the variables — historical, natural and industrial — that could be affecting the herring.

"We hope to learn whether or not the man-related factors are the most significant," Williams said. "However, our inclination is that the natural factors may have a larger influence on the survival of the Cherry Point herring stock."

Natural factors include change in water quality, water elevation due to El Nino, which can cause disease in the stock, and available food supply for herring and the predators that feed on herring.

While natural factors are, for the most part, out of human control, many of the industry-related factors aren't, Williams said.

Gateway Pacific has done a fair job, considering potential, industry-related hazards, said Berry Wenger, environmental planner for the Department of Ecology in Bellingham.

The Gateway Pacific Terminal plan misses all the eel beds with 100 feet to spare, so shading is not a concern, Wenger said. Shading is pier development over or near vegetation, which would cause the eel beds, in this case, to die.

Gateway Pacific Terminal has also addressed the potential of spillage, ballast water from foreign vessels, and traffic safety, Wenger said.

"This begs the question: Will that be enough to help the stock recover?" Williams asked.

Even if all the industry-related risks are identified and Gateway Pacific Terminal makes a conscious effort to address those factors, there are still unknowns, Williams said.

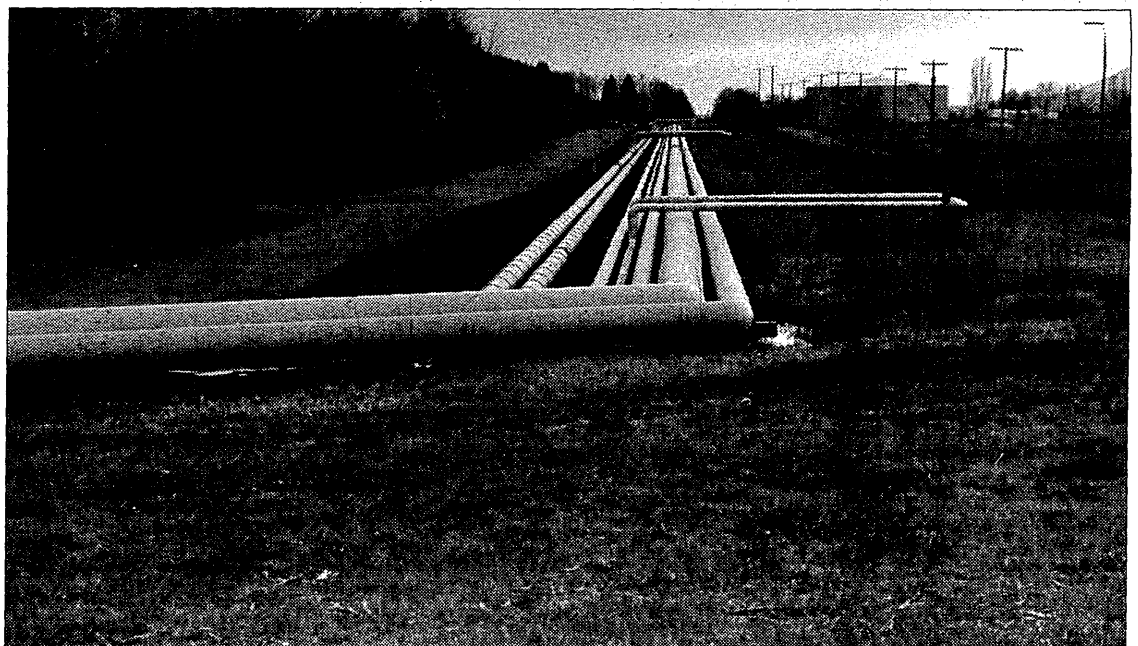
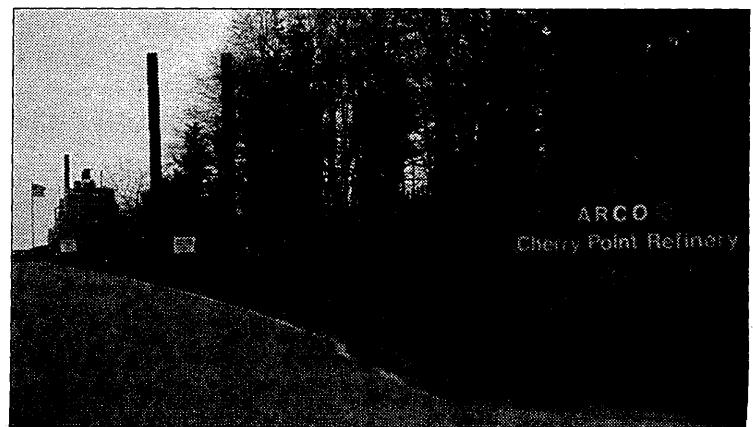
Large vessel traffic patterns and their effect on the herring's behavior is the biggest unknown, Wenger said, and it will remain that way until a terminal is up and running.



Photos by Erin Fredrichs
(Top) The ARCO oil refinery lies to the north of the at-risk area.

Environmentalists are worried that further development will endanger herring stocks that provide food for salmon.

(Bottom) Huge pipes transport water and oil to and from nearby Birch Bay.



Rent near campus among most expensive in state

A two-bedroom apartment ranks second only to the greater Seattle area in rent prices, averaging \$672 per month

By Melissa Miller
THE WESTERN FRONT

Movin' on up to the south side, to that mediocre, over-priced apartment on the first floor? It's not what everyone dreams about, but these days, it is a reality for a majority of college students.

North Garden Street may be lined with colossal, Victorian houses enclosed by the classic, white-picket fences, but inside, many have been remodeled into a maze of apartments Western students call home.

Scattered along the south end of campus are endless rows of apartments available to college students.

Robyn Richardson, senior, lives on North Garden in a house that has been converted into three apartments. The two-story house, constructed in the early 1900s, has a three-bedroom apartment on the first floor and a three-bedroom and studio apartment on the second-floor.

"The house has a lot of charm, and I definitely like it, but I chose it primarily due to the location," Richardson said.

Howard Adams, of Adams Property Management rents some houses on the north end of campus. He said if a house is converted into a decent-sized rental, it will rent, because many students are willing to take any-

thing close to campus and will pay the extra price.

A Bellingham property manager for 16 years, Adams said 50 to

”
‘Whenever we told people we were moving into the 808’s, people gave us a funny look.’

Matt Davis
Western student

60 percent of his tenants are Western students.

He said many freshmen moving out for the first time don't know what to look for, or don't start looking until after June when many of the rentals are already occupied.

Matt Davis and Larry McDevitt, juniors, checked out the infamous 808s on 21st Street eight months ago, feeling a bit apprehensive.

"The first impression we got from the outside wasn't very good, and whenever we told people we were moving into the 808s, people gave us a funny look," Davis said. "I think it's above-average housing because it's so close to the college, and the cost is low compared to other

apartments in the area."

Adams said an average, two-bedroom apartment near Western could rent for about \$575 per month and a few miles north near Sunset Drive the same apartment would rent for \$500 per month.

According to a survey from the National Low Income Housing Coalition and the federal Department of Housing and Urban Development, an average two-bedroom apartment in Bellingham average \$672 per month, second only to the Seattle/Bellevue/Everett area, which rents for \$710 per month. The state-wide average is \$650 per month.

Computers: 'Dos' & 'Don'ts'

Serious injuries may result from long-term computer use

By Bryta Alvensleben
THE WESTERN FRONT

People needn't fear fatal car accidents when driving on today's information superhighway, but that doesn't mean health risks aren't involved when people put themselves behind their keyboards.

With carpal tunnel syndrome in her right hand and "tennis elbow" in her right elbow, faculty member Kathy Sheehan of Western's journalism department can testify to the problems incurred by frequent computer use.

"Last December, I felt the tell-tale signs of being sore, and my elbow really started to kill me," Sheehan said, rubbing her right wrist.

"By late January, my fingers were not only sore and painful, my index finger went numb on me."

She explained her elbow problem was diagnosed as tennis elbow because the movement of her hand from the mouse to the keyboard is like the motion of swinging a tennis racket.

To treat the symptoms in her right arm, Sheehan said she goes twice each week to physical therapy appointments prescribed by her family physician. The therapy includes a deep tissue massage, ultrasound treatment and icing of her wrist and elbow.

She also wears braces on her right wrist and elbow, which keep her from compounding the injuries, she said.

"I got (carpal tunnel) from working at the computer too long without proper posture and because neither my workstation here or at home was set up to avoid these problems," she said.

To avoid wrist and elbow problems in the future, Sheehan said she bought a keyboard rest and a mouse rest. She pointed to

the two gray foam rests, about one-and-a-half inches high, situated in front of her computer keyboard to cushion her wrists and keep them stationary while she types.

"The pain has been the impact, but if I had let it go on longer, it would've become more severe," she said. "I had pain in my fingers, so I couldn't grab things; couldn't open a door. I belatedly have adjusted my work station, and the pain is going away."

Other consequences of extended computer use are neck and back problems, headaches and eye strain.

Symptoms of eye strain are blurred vision, headaches and burning and dry or itchy eyes, according to a pamphlet from the Binyon Vision Center in Bellingham.

Solutions for eyestrain range from special glasses prescribed for computer use to eliminating glare on the computer screen from windows or artificial light sources, according to the brochure.

Local chiropractor Will Cummins of the Advanced

Health Care Center sees many patients who complain of neck, back or headache problems he associates with computer use.

"The biggest problem is inactivity and the position the computer puts us in," Cummins said. Sixty to 70 percent of the patients he sees have some kind of computer-related problem.

He explained that sitting in a chair can put pressure on the lower back and cause tightness in the neck and muscles between the shoulder blades.

To prevent or reduce the chance of experiencing these symptoms, people can use a chair that provides good lower back support, Cummins said.

He stressed that people should maintain good posture and work in comfort at the computer.

For a long-term solution to the problems caused by computer use, Cummins recommended more physical activity.

"Walk, run, do aerobic activity," he counseled.

"You're really meant to be a hunter-gatherer. Get out of the chair — become more physically active."



Nick Haney/The Western Front
Joe Baginski, like many other Western students and staff, uses poor posture while sitting at the computer.

The little search engine that could

By Kristen O'Connor
THE WESTERN FRONT

Internet search engines can be a college student's best friend.

With a worldwide repository of knowledge at their fingertips, Web-savvy students can plop down in front of the monitor, type a few words and let the information come to them, right?

"Wrong," says computer science professor George Mobus. He said he finds many students use the Internet naively.

"Because (the Internet) is so easy, students get lulled into thinking you just point and click," he said.

Internet search engines, such as Excite and AltaVista, are valuable for research because they are efficient and draw information from sources that may not be available at the library. But conducting research online is more sophisticated than people realize.

Most search engines operate under the Boolean logic method. To use this method in a search for, say, political scandals, the researcher would type in "political and scandals". By using "and" to separate the terms, the search engine will retrieve documents that contain both terms, said arts and sciences librarian Peter Smith.

Mobus said there are 12 to 15 high-grade search engines that are general purpose and free for anyone.

For research, he recommends AltaVista, which offers a reference and education category subdivided into disciplines such as health sciences, K-12 education and social sciences.

Heather Neel, a senior elementary education major, does most research on the Internet. "It's easier than going to the

library and hunting down books that may be checked out," she said. "Sometimes it's hard to narrow your search to exactly what you need."

To get the best results from a search, Mobus advises users learn to use keywords that will generate fewer returns and higher-quality results.

The benefits search engines offer — connections to many sources of information, can also have a downside, Mobus said.

"The biggest problem with search engines is that they return too much information, most of which is not useful to the researcher," he said.

Questions regarding the credibility of the Internet are of particular concern to students, since it has become increasingly acceptable to write research papers using Web sources.

Senior political science major Adam Peddicord said he prefers to use the Internet for research, but he has also found the information is lacking credibility.

He stressed that students must judge for themselves whether the information is reliable urging them to determine if the document is well-written and follows standard research reporting guidelines.

Most importantly, Mobus said, check the URL address of the site to verify that the information is from an acceptable academic source.

One way to ensure the reliability of the information is to use domains of .edu and .gov, academic and government domains, respectively.

With a little practice — and perhaps a bit of luck — even the most computer-illiterate student can read the morning news, check stock prices and find sources for research — all without leaving the comfort of the computer lab.



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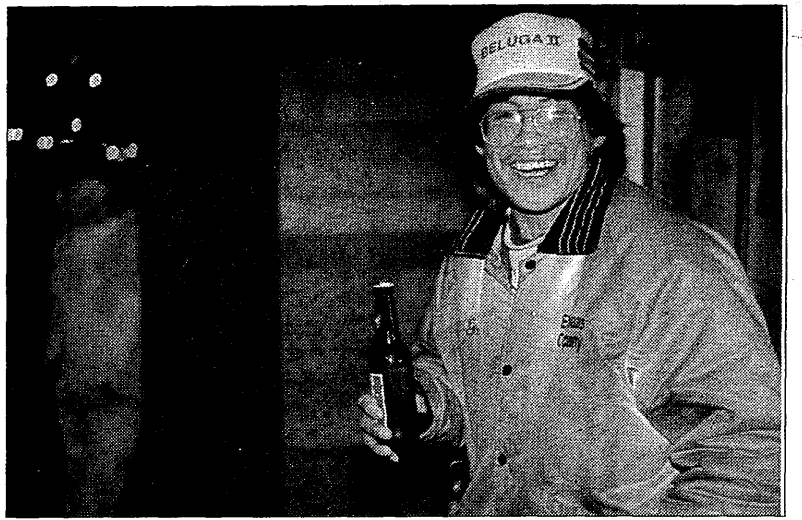
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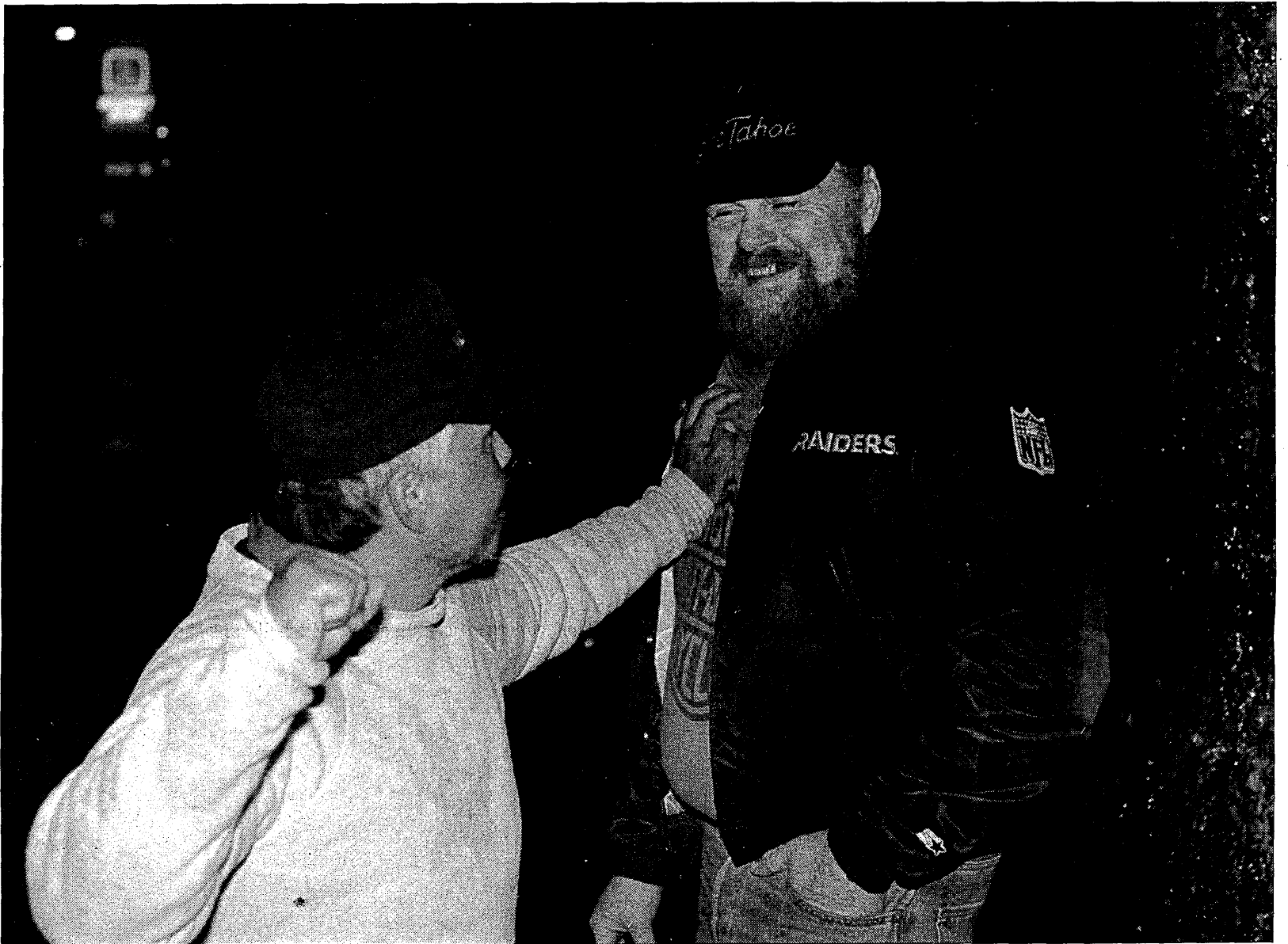
Photos by Nick Haney
Text by Chris Worth
THE WESTERN FRONT



(Right) Allen Jefferson uses humor to pass time. Joking with a passer-by, he shows how living for the moment isn't bad on the streets.

(Top) After finding four beers left in a brown paper bag on the side of the road, Rittel said "now that's what I call free."

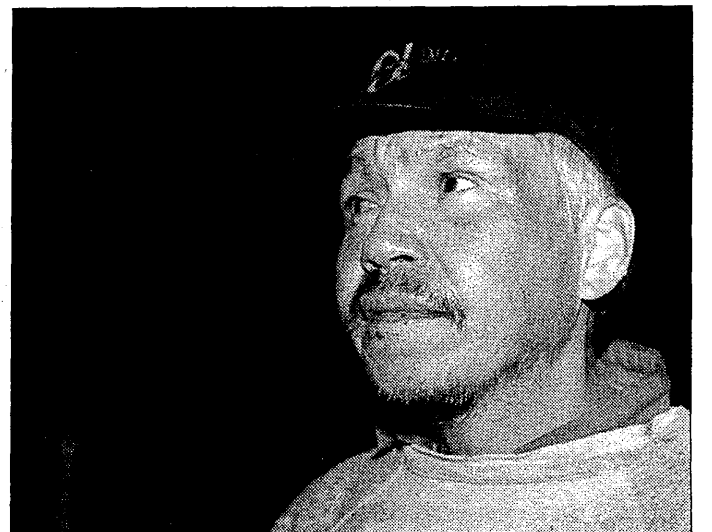
He threw a beer bottle onto Holly Street and chuckled to himself as the smashed fragments slid across the rain-soaked pavement. Adjusting the rim of his mesh cap while stroking the three-day stubble on his face, Rittel said he feels the homeless exist on the same level as their surroundings.

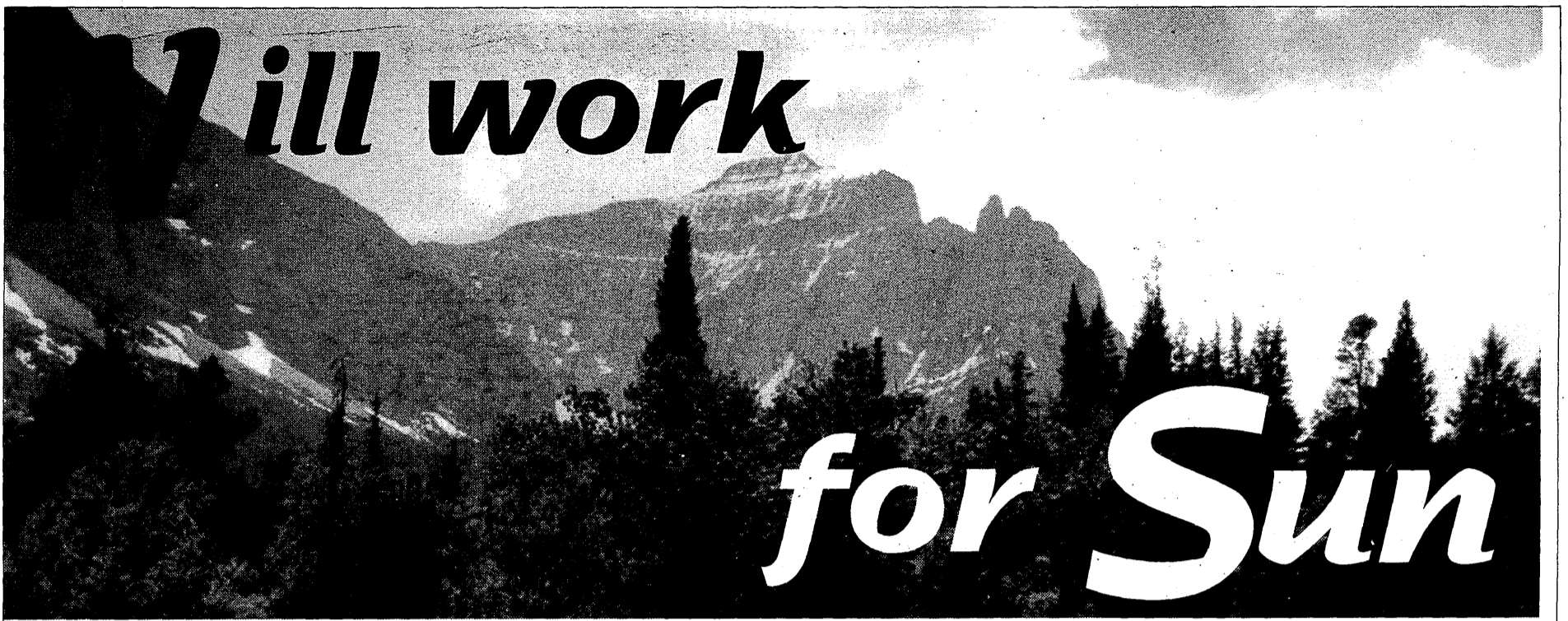


(Above) Close to midnight, wearing a rain soaked sweatshirt with a design he made with a blue marker, Allen Jefferson looks for covering downtown from the mid-winter rain. He tells passers by of his times as a fisherman and how he can determine where the fish are by looking at the stars. He is proud of his culture and his spirit as a Lummi Native American.

(Right) James Dean Rittel, 25, is a homeless man who has been calling the streets of Bellingham home since he moved here from Japan in 1992. When he was 12, he left an abusive family in Montana. Once all the permits go through, he says he has made plans to open up and teach students at his own kick-boxing school in Bellingham.

The streets of Bellingham can be cold. They can be wet and unwelcoming. However, the streets of Bellingham are what many residents call home — a way of life.





By Kristen Hawley
THE WESTERN FRONT

As the days get longer and the air gets warmer, many students are thinking ahead to summer. Some plan for summer session classes, some plan for internships, but some plan for a different job opportunity.

Imagine a job where the snow-capped peaks of Alaska's Denali National Park are part of the landscape, or guiding rafters down the raging rapids of the Arkansas River in Colorado.

Seasonal summer employment offers college students these opportunities.

Seasonal jobs generally range from three to six months, depending on the employee's availability. Summer months are an especially good time to find work in national parks, on cruise lines and at summer camps and come in a variety of positions, from restaurant work to housekeeping. Some companies even offer internship positions.

While seasonal work may not be the highest-paying job a student can find, many companies

offer a meal or housing plan deducted from an employee's paycheck.

Employers usually seek people willing to work a variety of positions, as well as people who can adapt quickly to a new environment.

Brenda Miller, human resources director for St. Mary Lodge and Resort, said she looks to hire people seeking the adventure of being in a new place, meeting new people.

"It is an experience of enjoying what is out there that you don't normally get to see every day," she said.

St. Mary is located near the east entrance of Glacier National Park in northwestern Montana. Glacier is known for the scenic Going-to-the-Sun Highway, a road that winds through the park capturing impressive views of jagged peaks, cascading waterfalls and frequent mountain goat sightings.

Resort work attracts people from all over the world, Miller said, and it gives employees the opportunity to meet others with common interests.

"On days off, it is never hard to find someone who wants to do the same thing you do," she said. "It's people asking, 'Where are we going today?' We work hard, and we play hard."

Miller said the most important qualities for prospective employees are good customer service skills, the ability to work well with a team and the willingness to be scheduled into any position.

An applicant will need to understand that work in a national park is usually very isolated, she said.

"This is the kind of job for people who don't mind being away from malls and movie houses because we are secluded," Miller said. "This job lets us look up at something besides a building."

"The people that came away with the best experiences were not the people with the cars, but the people who went out and got involved with what others were doing," Miller said. "You meet the friends of your life here."

Another popular line of seasonal work is with cruise line. Many cruise ships seek people to work on board and employees to

guide guests when the ships reach a port.

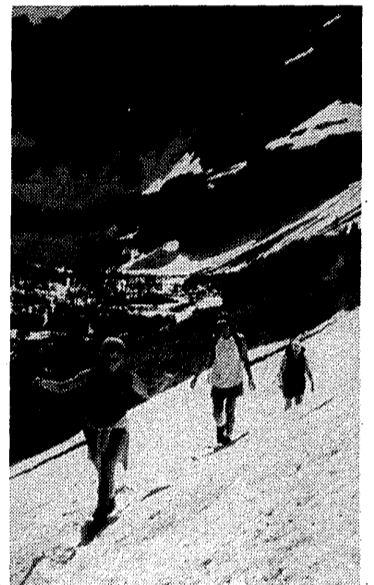
Western junior Sarah Mitchell spent last summer as a tour director for Holland America West Tours in Alaska. She led groups of 50 people on land tours lasting as long as 10 days. Mitchell took tourists to well-known Alaskan landmarks, such as Denali National Park, Mount McKinley and several historic towns.

Mitchell said she learned about the cruise line opportunity when she saw a recruiting booth in the Viking Union last winter.

"I thought it looked like fun, and I'd never been to Alaska, so I decided to apply," she said.

Mitchell said she worked for the cruise line for three months and shared an apartment with 13 other employees, but often stayed in a hotel room provided by her employer.

The work was hard, Mitchell said, generally lasting 10 consecutive days, followed by one or two days off, however, the pay, extra tips and experience of leading tours in the country made the job worthwhile.



photos courtesy of Kristen Hawley

Glacier Park is a popular summer work place.

The experience of seeing Alaska's scenery and meeting new people left an impression on Mitchell:

"I had so much fun and met so many people if I ever want to travel across the country, I have friends everywhere that I can visit."

Benevolent — a man and his alter ego

By Julie Graham
THE WESTERN FRONT

Take some "R-E-S-P-E-C-T" and mix in the love of I Corinthians 13.

Add a healthy dollop of belief in the importance of communication and a man like Malcolm Oliver results.

The outgoing man from Port of Spain, Trinidad, fills many roles: father, husband, son, race relations counselor, musician, vice president of the Puget

Sound-area chapter of National Association for the Advancement of Colored People, Diversity student support services coordinator at Bellingham Technical College and soccer coach.

Oliver said he always knew he wanted to help and represent people.

That desire is part of what brought him to Western in the mid-'80s, but in school, he focused on classes rather than activism, he said.

His dad advised him to concentrate on his schooling: "You need to get your education; keep your eyes on the prize."

For him, the biggest difference between Trinidad and Bellingham is that here, he's always in the minority.

In Trinidad, Africans and East Indians make up 80 percent of the population, Oliver said, leaning back in his office chair.

He thinks this gives him a different perspective; he knows what it's like to be in the majority, not to feel his dark-skinned appearance sticks out, to be unconcerned.

Here, he is always on his guard, wondering, "Are people looking at me?"

Are they looking at me as an African-American or as Malcolm Oliver?"

That concern became part of his career, especially with the increase of minority populations of color — Hispanic, black, Asian, etc. — in Bellingham during recent years, he said.

They need representation and someone to talk to, Oliver said.

He and his associate, John Hall, are race relations coun-

selors. They provide training and evaluations for businesses that request help.

He came into the D.S.S.S. three years ago to help develop the program, and for the past two years, he has been the primary coordinator of recruitment, retention and support services for diversity and disabilities, Joann Linville, dean of student services, said.

Oliver has volunteered at Bellingham High School as a consultant for at-risk youth and as a soccer coach — a game he said he loves.

Oliver said he has so many involvements, he invented an alter ego — "Andy O" — to keep him sane.

"Malcolm is a serious guy you see during the week representing the students, making sure their voices are heard; Andy O — he's a fun guy," Oliver said.

Andy O leads a band — a "reggae-calypto" band — that plays for community events, church, fraternities and at clubs.

Since he's his own boss, Oliver said he can make sure Andy O gets the time he needs.

Andy O has two CDs in the works, Oliver said.

"God has blessed me in so many ways, and I want to give that back," he said.

He gestured at the four 5-by-7-inch photos sitting in each of the room's windows: daughter Andrea, sons Malcolm II and Jonathan with a man he jokingly refers to as "my twin brother, Andy," — actually himself.

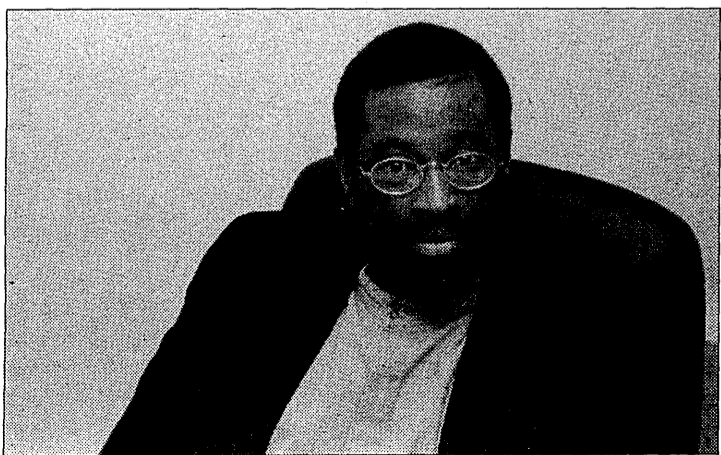
His eyes light up when he looks at the photos.

Oliver said he thinks he has raised his children well, teaching them the necessary values, giving them the faith that mom and dad will always be there for them and creating a relationship where they can talk as friends.

A hand-drawn and colored map of Trinidad made by his daughter and a collage of soccer articles and posters of Dale Chihuly's glassworks — a stark contrast with the black-and-white pictures of his parents standing on opposite corners of his desk.

His "buddies" always watch over him, he said, and they taught him an important lesson at an early age.

"Respect people, you're gonna get respect back," he said.



Erin Fredrichs/The Western Front

Malcom Oliver from Trinidad fulfills one of his many roles right here at Western.

Organ needs a donor to survive

By Chris Goodenow
THE WESTERN FRONT

A beast lies asleep in the attic of the Performing Arts Center.

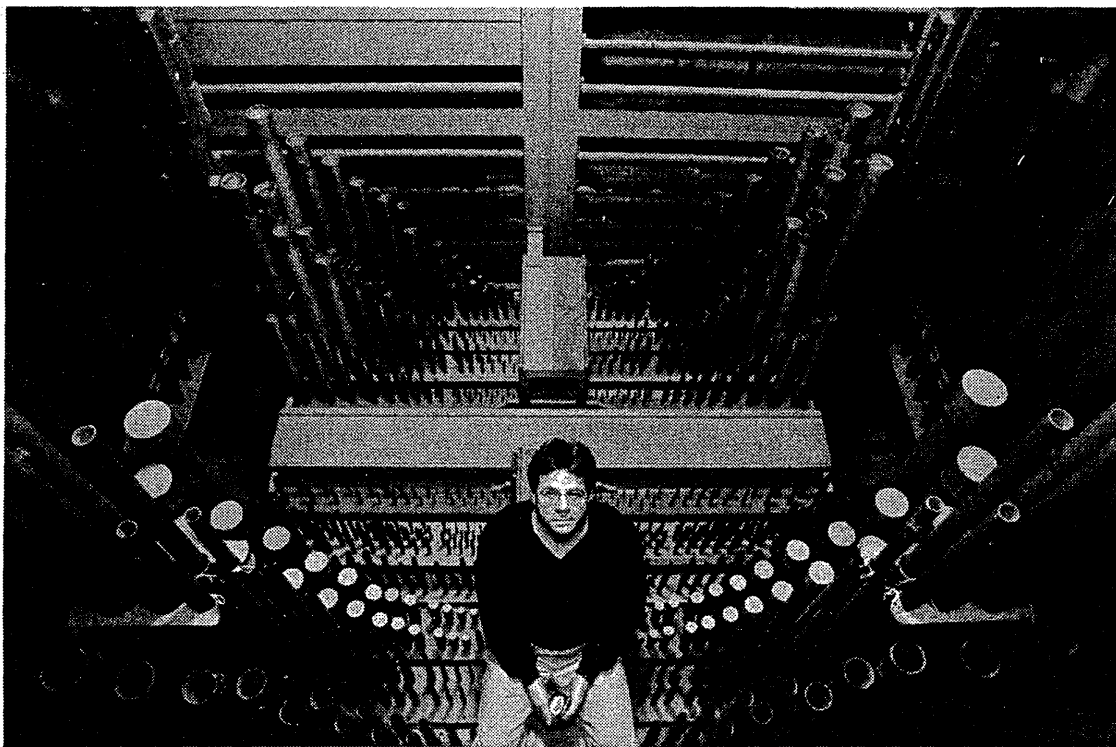
Above the Performing Arts Center mainstage, parts of a deteriorated giant pipe organ have been sitting silently waiting for someone to play them for two decades. But few people know about it, fewer have heard it played and no one has any plans to fix it.

The organ was installed in 1951, with its 2,805 pipes towering several stories above the auditorium, and the console, with two rows of ivory keys, elegantly displayed at the side of the mainstage. The wooden and metal pipes range from 17.5 feet tall and eight inches in diameter to no bigger than a pencil.

The same wooden shutters that, when opened, allowed its sound to travel to the audience, also allow dry heat from the theater to rise into the pipe rooms.

These factors eventually disintegrated the leather bellows that pump air through the pipes and the leather pads that regulate the pipe's air flow.

During the '70s the process deteriorated the leather to the point where some people



Chris Goodenow/The Western Front

David Willett, senior architect for the Office of Facilities Master Planning, among the 2,805 organ pipes that have remained silent for years.

deemed the organ unplayable. The console, standing 4 feet high and 5 feet wide, was disconnected from the conduits that carry about 600 wires from the keyboard to the pipes, and it was moved from the stage down to the basement, where it rests today. The pipes remain above

the stage.

The organ was reportedly a gift to Western from World War II veterans in honor of students and alumni who lost their lives in the war.

The fingers of some of the greatest organists have graced the console's keys, such as

Virgil Fox and Frederick Swan. Retired music professor David Schuab used to give individual organ lessons on it. Mayme Poppel-Rowlands used to play the organ to spice up silent movies shown at the P.A.C. in the '50s.

"Most people don't have any idea what that thing looks like because it's in a pretty inaccessible place on campus. You wouldn't even know it was there unless somebody told you," said David Willett, senior architect for the Physical Plant's Office of Facilities and Master Planning, who oversaw the recent renovation of the P.A.C.

Willett said that its size, detailed craftsmanship and beauty make the pipe organ unique and possibly worth restoring.

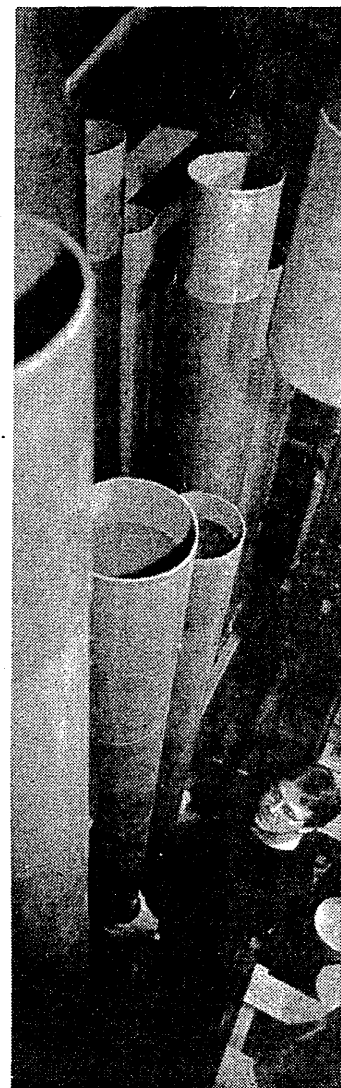
"It's like anything else that just sits — if you don't use it, it deteriorates," he said. "This thing is like a living, breathing machine. These bellows, pipes and all these leather parts need to move in order to stay supple and stay in tune. And if they're not used, they're going to get hard and ... they're just going to freeze up."

Dean of the College of Fine and Performing Arts Bert van Boer said the most recent and least expensive estimate to fix the organ was \$500,000.

"The (P.A.C.) renovation itself is about a million dollars. We could not justify spending half that amount just to put the organ back into place," he said. "This is a very ordinary and ... not a terribly valuable instrument, as organs go. Within 10 years it was already showing an incredible amount of repair that needed to be done."

A different estimate came from Richard Warburton, a specialist in organ repair, who helped install the organ originally and gave it tune-ups when it was still used. He looked at it this year and said it would cost \$30,000 to \$50,000 to fix, he said.

Facilities Manager of the P.A.C. Roger Shipley said the problem is more complicated



than Warburton said. He said it won't be fixed unless a private group or a volunteer pays for it. All of the leather and some wooden pieces would need to be replaced — a project that could not be done on site, but shipped somewhere else.

Another possibility, he said, is to find another location for the pipe organ. Although people offered to take it, nobody has offered to pay for its removal, which, Shipley said, would be very expensive.

The pipes would be lowered down to the stage through removable metal plates, then shipped by a large truck or trailer, Willett said.

Another dilemma arises with removing the organ: disposed of a gift dedicated in the memory of World War II veterans. Shipley said Western can continue the concept of the memorial without having this "beast deteriorating in our attic."

"If you give something to anyone, and that thing disintegrates and falls apart, what good is it to have this disintegrated, non-functioning thing as something in memory of?" he asked.

"This is not my decision, and I'm kind of glad about it."

For approximately two decades, the beast has been sleeping soundless in the P.A.C. It's doubtful that it will be moved any time soon, and it's even more doubtful that it will be repaired, Willett said.

Fixing it, at the expense of a benefactor or groups, would only be worthwhile if it could be used, he added.

"There's no sense in fixing it if its never going to be played," Willett said. "It just seems a real shame to have such a beautiful instrument just sitting there idle."

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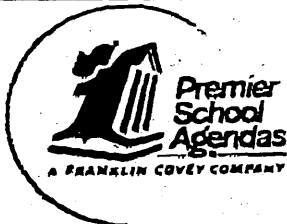


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2-on-2 tournament successful

By Holly Hinterberger
THE WESTERN FRONT

In the beginning, 16 teams signed up to compete, but only one could win the coveted intramural 2-on-2 volleyball championship and take home the grand prize — a coveted campus recreation T-shirt.

Volleyball teams can be co-ed or same sex, though men and women have different rules, Lauren Bode of campus recreation said. Men have to hit from behind a 10-foot line, but women can hit from anywhere on the court.

Sunday night, four teams met to decide the winner. Short and Tall, Outta Shape, Hot Shots and Floor Play made it to the semifinals.

Due to injuries, Floor Play

forfeited and Hot Shots won by default.

Outta Shape's Jennifer Repp and Ryan Shimabukuro dominated Short and Tall's Erik Skoor and Heather Murray, winning the first two sets and advancing to the finals.

James Suh, Tony Miller and back-up player Travis Huntsinger, who comprise Hot Shots, were ready to play after watching the game between Outta Shape and Short and Tall.

"We want to win. The T-shirts are no big deal," Suh said.

Suh and his teammates' winning strategy was to "play good defense and pass well," Suh said.

Hot Shots took the early lead with a 4-1 run. Outta Shape

fought back with some great saves and serves by Repp.

Suh, a strong spiker, managed to score several points for his team with his aggressive playing. Miller, a good defender, helped dominate the first set, which Hot Shots won 15-9.

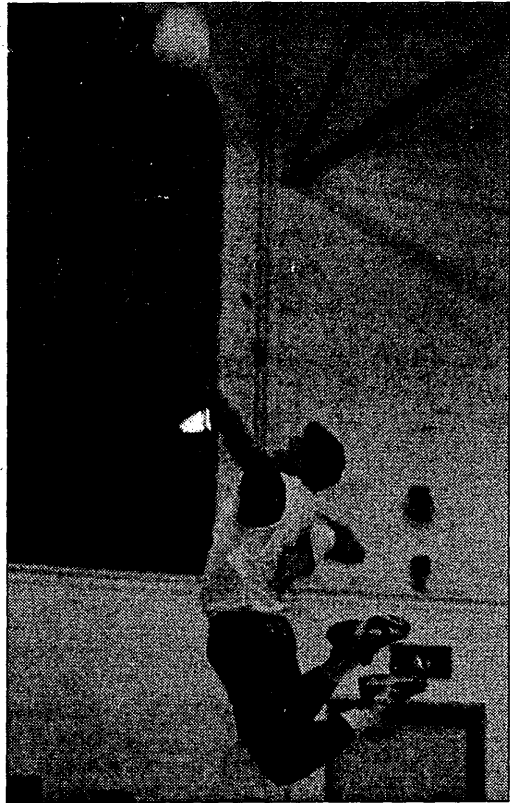
Outta Shape had not given up, however. They started the second set with a 2-0 lead.

The teams battled for each point in the beginning of the second set; 10 minutes passed with no scoring by either team.

Outta Shape took control of the final three points of the third set and won 15-12. Their secret?

"To try not to kill each other," Shimabukuro said.

"We are out to have fun," Repp said.



Hot Shots' James Suh leaps in the air for a jump serve while playing in the 2-on-2 co-ed intramural volleyball tournament Sunday night in Carver Gym.

Chris Goodenow/
The Western Front

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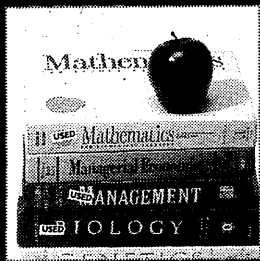
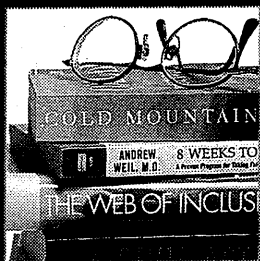
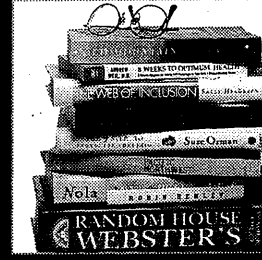


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Western loses in second round; team intact for 1999-00 season

By Jen Webber
THE WESTERN FRONT

After a first-round overtime victory against Seattle Pacific University, the Western women's basketball team ended its season Friday losing to Montana State University-Billings 70-48 in the NCAA II West Regional semifinal. The Yellowjackets went on to win the regional championship Saturday against University of California-Davis.

Western beat Seattle Pacific Thursday for the fourth time this season, edging them 77-69.

The Vikings, seeded third in the tournament, finished their season with an overall record of 23-7. It was their third loss to Billings this season. Western's last loss to Billings happened in the PacWest championship game in Carver Gym, Feb. 27.

Playing two consecutive nights, the Vikings were tired going into the semifinal.

"Fatigue had a part in the little things," junior center Celeste Hill said. Freshman guard Jodie Kaczor led the Vikings with 14 points; Hill added 12 points and 10 rebounds.



Dolfo

Western shot only 25.8 percent from the floor. Hill converted on 4 of 18 attempts, while guards Amanda Olsen and Briana Abrahamsen combined for 3 of 21.

"We couldn't buy a jump shot," Hill said. "From the get-go, we knew it wasn't a shooter-friendly gym."

The Yellowjackets (24-6) were led by center Codi Schmitz, who had 19 points and 12 rebounds.

"We played awesome defense," Hill said. "To hold that team to what we did was really good."

Looking back, Hill described the season as a "total team progression."

"We had our ups and downs, but we grew," she said. "All of the hard work paid off."

The Vikings won't graduate any seniors this year, so the team will look the same for the 1999-00 season.

"We have our team, and now we are just looking to perfect it," Hill said. "We aren't anywhere near our potential."

Hill said she is pumped for next season, but is ready for a break.

"Our team has so much fun together; it keeps getting better and better."



Hill

Track and field team takes fourth at invitational

Western placed fourth overall, finishing second in the men's division and fourth in the women's division, at the Pacific Lutheran University Salzman Invitational Track and Field meet Saturday.

Dominating the 12-team meet was the University of Washington, which finished with 451 points; runner-up Seattle Pacific University posted a distant 192. Host PLU edged Western for third place, 184 to 181, and Central Washington was fifth at 143.

In the men's competition, junior Devin Kemper, sophomore Brandon Ohnemus, senior Kahn Khabra and junior

Scott Gilmore led the Vikings to a victory in the 1,200-meter relay with a time of 10:25.67.

Junior Mike Lynch placed second in the 200 meters. Junior Nick Little was runner-up in the 400 hurdles.

Leading the Western women were senior Jane Wallace and junior Sarah Hiss. Wallace won the triple jump with a mark of 36-10 1/2. Hiss was second in that event with a leap of 35-1 3/4 and finished third in the long jump with a mark of 18-1/4.

Western competes in the Washington Preview Meet at 9 a.m. Saturday at Husky Stadium.

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Ruggin' it out

Warthogs scrum up win vs. UW

By Curt Woodward
THE WESTERN FRONT

The Western men's rugby Warthogs picked up a big win Saturday, running wild in a 22-12 victory against the University of Washington at Redmond's Marymoor Park. The Warthogs' performance last weekend indicates the improvement they have made since last fall, going undefeated in the league with one game left in the spring half of the season.

The team, which had trouble playing as a unit last fall, combined solid contributions from every position with ball control and a little scheming to get the job done.

Scrum-half Gary Olguin scored two tries against UW and praised the Warthogs' teamwork and relentlessness. After posting his first try on a self-described "sweet move," Olguin received a gift try from his teammates on the scoring end of a long, hard collective drive through the UW defense.

"It was the other guys' work," Olguin said. "I was just the last guy in a line of guys pounding through. I got lucky."

The 'Hogs were able to spread the field effectively all day, creating good avenues for the backfield to exploit.

"We used a lot of tactics to win the game," Olguin said. "We drew in their defense and got it out to our backs, who are fleet of foot — real fast guys. They just attacked and were able to score. It was great."

"They had a couple guys they had to switch out, and put in

some guys who hadn't played in the back line before. We took advantage of that," junior eight-man Bob Ford said. "I think that helped us a lot."

"Our forwards played incredibly. They made the game," co-captain Matt "Sugar Shoes" Majorowicz said. "They kept possession of the ball and just drove down field. They allowed the backs to get out wide and have some nice runs."

Because of a poor showing in the fall season, the Warthogs will not be making a postseason appearance after the regular season wraps up next week. Nonetheless, Majorowicz said, the night-and-day improvement Western has undergone is a triumph for the team.

"First half of the season, we played like crap. We played like trash — not as a team at all," Majorowicz said, adding that preparations this winter helped the Warthogs jell.

"We've been practicing for a couple of months now without any games. We played a really good game against Trinity two weeks ago, and I think this game we even improved on the Trinity performance," he said. "I see the trend continuing. Playing better as a team as each game goes on, and guys understanding more what happens out there."

The top two teams in each league advance to regionals after the league schedule, and although the 'Hogs now find themselves out of contention, their sudden burst cannot be labeled a wasted effort. Western would like break some hearts and send a message to other



Nick Haney/The Western Front (Top photo) A Western rugby player muscles his way out of a tackle. (Right) Warthog defenders attempt to rip a UW player to the ground.

teams that may have slept on the 'Hogs in the past.

"We're hoping to keep some guys out of the playoffs," Majorowicz said. "That's our goal. We're looking to make a statement right now and go out there and beat some guys and put the thought into their head for next year that we're not just a team to be joked about."

Western is also seeing a rise in the numbers and quality of its younger players, who contributed to a win against UW in Saturday's second game. With a strong foundation and their late momentum, the Warthogs look forward to continued success.

"We're getting a lot of younger



boys," Majorowicz said. "We got a lot of freshmen out this year, which is real nice. They're going to be here for a long time. We also have a lot of sophomores and juniors, so the core of our team is going to be back. It's great."

Western ends the season next week with a trip to Langley, British Columbia, to face Trinity University. The Western women, unable to find a field to play on this weekend, will also meet Trinity.

Intramural soccer teams battle in championship

By Shane Davis
THE WESTERN FRONT

Team A was crowned champions of the intramural co-ed indoor soccer season Sunday, after defeating Tylenol 7-5 at Carver Gym.

"We have achieved group cohesiveness," Team A forward Heather Bergquist said.

Team A jumped to a 5-2 lead in the first half, but Tylenol battled back, scoring three unanswered goals in the second half to tie the game, 5-5.

With time running out, Ryan Laureau scored one of his five goals to give Team A the lead again. Greg St. Peter added another goal seconds later, ensuring a championship T-shirt for Team A.

Indoor soccer is drastically different from traditional outdoor soccer. Indoor soccer is played with hockey-sized goals, and the ball is playable off the walls and ceiling of the gym.

"It's a lot quicker, and it requires a lot more touch," Tylenol forward Per Johnson said.

With the limited size of the courts, teams must play 5-on-5 without a goalie. The teams play two 20-minute halves.

"It is a constant sprint, and we never had any subs during the season," Laureau said. "We love to play iron-man soccer."

Another aspect of this quarter's soccer season is men and women play with and against each other.

"It's good because it teaches you to respect women and men as athletes," St. Peter said.

All the players agreed playing co-ed was more fun and less competitive. Team A members said if it was not co-ed more fights would have broken out during season because of the smaller area of play.

"It makes it a lot more laid back," Johnson said. "Our feet would have filled with testosterone if it wasn't."

"There is not as much testosterone, but the women and men still push each other," Bergquist added.

Western takes third-place finish at Central invitational

Nationally ranked Western tied for third place among 15 teams at the Central Washington University Invitational Women's Fastpitch Tournament as it split a pair of games in final-day action Sunday.

The Vikings, 8-3 overall, began the day with a 9-5 win

over George Fox College, advancing to the semifinals, where their six-game winning streak was snapped. They lost 2-1 to Eastern Oregon University.

Western, ranked No. 19 in the NCAA Division II preseason poll, won six of seven games at the tournament, which began Friday, outscoring its oppo-

nents, 38-10.

Western opens Pacific West Conference play at 2 p.m., Friday with a doubleheader against Simon Fraser University, the first at the Vikings' new, on-campus field. The same two teams met in the NAIA National Championship game last year; Western won 5-1.

Hill, Olsen grab NCAA Division II All-West honors

Western center Celeste Hill was named to the first team, and guard Amanda Olsen earned second-team honors on



Olsen

the NCAA Division II All-West Region women's basketball team.

Hill, a junior, ranks among the top 15 in the Pacific West Conference in five statistical categories. She finished averaging fourth in blocks (1.5), fifth in

points (14.8), eighth in rebounds (7.0), 13th in free throw percentage (73.3) and 15th in field-goal percentage (47.1).

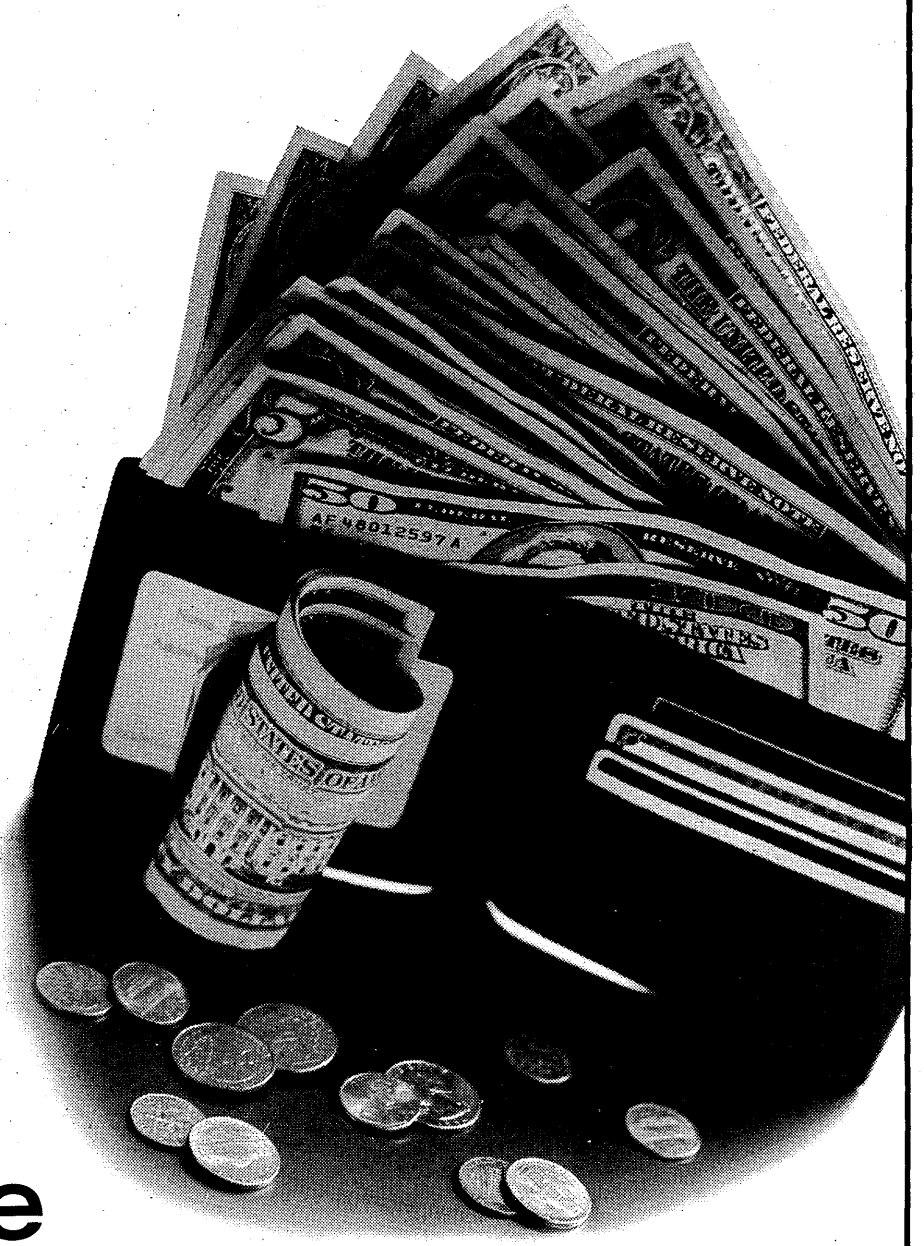
Olsen, also a junior, averaged 14 points and 2.3 steals per game. She received PacWest all-star and all-tournament honors.

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Frontline

Protesters rely on emotion, not reason

Animal rights groups have recently stepped up their criticism of Western's psychology department for conducting research experiments on monkeys and other animals in the Miller Hall basement.

While the cause of the Associated Students club — Western Animal Rights Network — is noble and heartfelt, it seems to be fueled more by emotion than reason. Advocating for the end of all behavioral and physiological research conducted on non-human subjects — at Western or anywhere — is too extreme because of its practical educational value and benefit to human life.

In many cases, animal experimentation is necessary to provide answers to any number of research questions. If animal research was prohibited, scientists would simply be unable to determine conclusive answers to many questions.

With animal research, it is generally true that some animals undergo painful testing. In a society that values animal life as much as ours, inflicting harm on animals bothers anyone who has a conscience — even the scientists conducting the research.

However painful some research may be, most of it is useful. Without animal testing, treatment and prevention methods would probably not have been possible for many afflictions, including polio, smallpox, measles, diabetes, HIV and AIDS, burns — the list goes on.

Pushing for a ban on all animal research is hypocritical — unless of course those advocating the ban have never used prescription medication, or have made a decision to never use it again — because you can bet almost every medication was first tested on animal subjects.

The results of many animal-behavior studies also have human benefits that outweigh the harm inflicted on the testing subjects. During recent decades, behavioral psychologists have revealed many answers to human development mysteries — answers that may not have been possible without animal research.

Some opponents of animal testing contend if humans seek an answer, humans should be the subjects in experiments. At WARN'S March 4 protest rally in Red Square, one group member was quoted, "Animals are not put here on this earth for our use; we can use people for that."

Granted, the research issue is a moral dilemma, but until a more ethical alternative is found, animal research is logical and necessary because humans and some species share many behavioral and biological mechanisms and using humans for research is a greater evil.

Because of our concern for the well-being of animals and humans, federal law requires a diverse committee to first conclude the justification of an scientists' animal research proposal, its procedures and plans to minimize pain to animals. This committee's rigorous evaluation of the experiments done at Western is available online at www.wvu.edu/~bfr/

The ongoing studies in the basement of Miller Hall have been deemed beneficial by a committee of varying interests — veterinarians, scientists and community members.

To prohibit animals as research subjects at Western would compromise practical education of psychology students and hinder advancements in science.

Frontlines are the opinion of the editorial board members: Ken Brierly, Wendy Giroux, Corey Lewis, Samantha Tretheway and Tiffany White.

The Western Front

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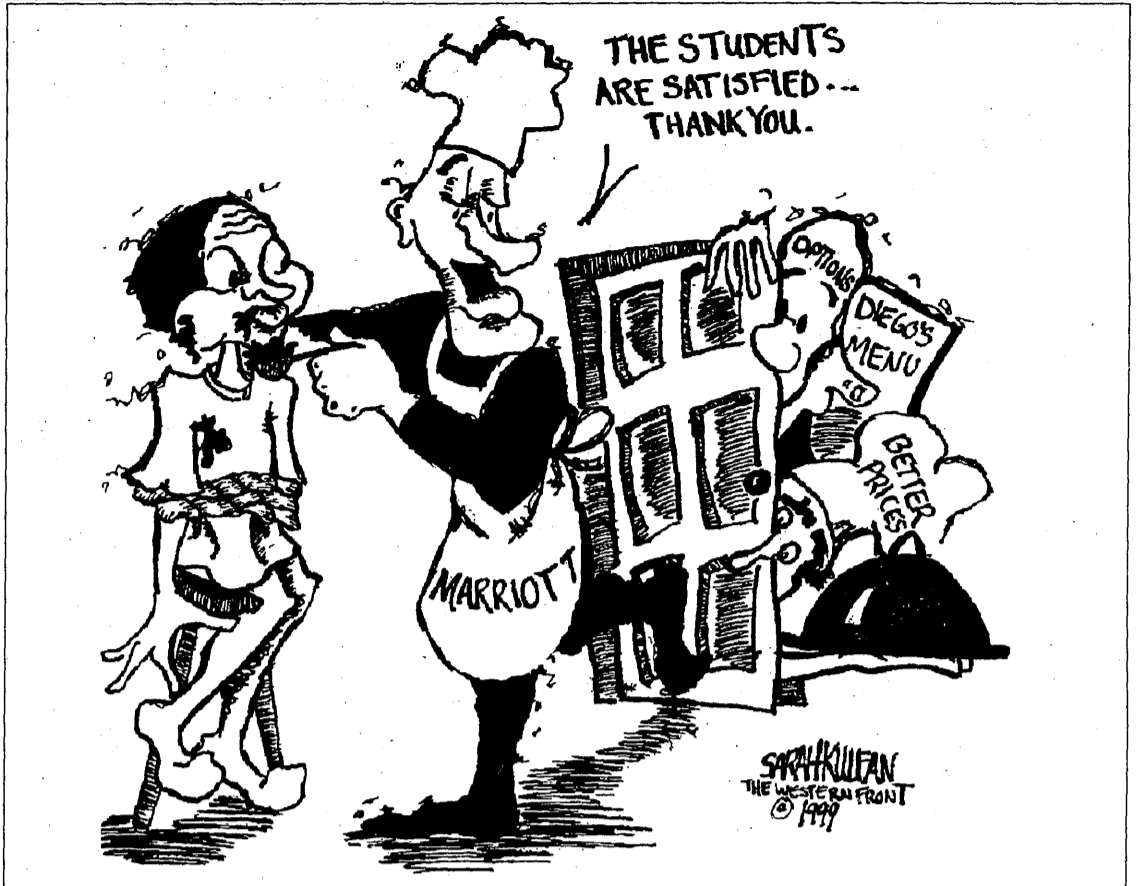
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And we quote:

"He copied no one, while all of us were scrambling to imitate him."

-director Steven Spielberg after hearing about the March 7 death of Stanley Kubrick, 70. He directed classics such as "Dr. Strangelove," "A Clockwork Orange" and "2001: A Space Odyssey."

Source: The New York Times



Hollywood traitor honored Director awarded lifetime achievement



JJ
Jensen

COMMENTARY

From 1945 to 1957, film institutes considered Elia Kazan the most profound and influential director of his era. He was nominated for four Best Director Academy Awards and won for "On the Waterfront" and "Gentleman's Agreement."

The Academy of Motion Pictures Arts and Sciences unanimously decided to award Kazan the Lifetime Achievement Award, March 21.

However, one small footnote to Kazan's career should not be overlooked: In 1952, Kazan voluntarily provided Joseph McCarthy's House Committee on Un-American Activities the names of eight friends he knew to be Communists.

The McCarthy blacklist era was one of the most shameful in American history. By informing to the H.C.U.A., Kazan contributed to a regime that was a virtual witch-hunt, conducted by a reign of terror.

Kazan was briefly a Communist during the '30s, but told the committee he quit because of his violation of the

daily practices of democracy. Kazan appeared before the H.C.U.A. twice, on one occasion naming those he knew to be members of the Communist Party.

Kazan's testimony sent people to jail, demolished careers and contributed to the atmosphere of fear and paranoia spawned by McCarthyism.

No one will ever know how many artists Kazan prevented from making significant contributions to the motion picture industry as writers, actors and directors.

“During McCarthyism, Kazan was referred to as a “rat,” “stoolie” and “canary.” Our generation should see him as a sell-out.”

To this day, Kazan has offered no apologies, and in his 1988 memoir, "Elia Kazan: A Life," Kazan said he acted honorably, and given the chance, would do the same again.

Kazan was aware of Hollywood blacklisting in the '50s, in studios resolved they would not knowingly employ Communists.

Had Kazan refused to testify,

perhaps this year's Lifetime Achievement Award would be going to someone whose marks on Hollywood he denied.

Robert Rehme, president of the academy, has tried to clarify that the academy is recognizing Kazan for his artistic contributions, not his politics.

If the academy doesn't believe artistic contributions and politics in the course of one's life go hand-in-hand, it should make up some awards for Hitler and Stalin as well.

Sometimes the good of one must take a backseat to the good of the whole. Kazan forgot a little saying we have in America: "United we stand, divided we fall."

Kazan should've stood by his peers rather than name names. Some witnesses were so adamant about not naming names they were dragged from the witness stand and served time for contempt of court.

During the McCarthy era, Kazan was referred to as a "rat," "stoolie" and "canary." Our generation should see him as a sell-out.

Awarding Kazan the Lifetime Achievement Award bewilders me. How can someone be given an award for a lifetime of excellent work when he betrayed so many others and cost them a shot at the same recognition?

Letters

A sample of readers' letters and e-mails

Alum concerned about monkeys

To the editor,

Every once in a while, someone is willing to state publicly

that the macaques held in the Miller Hall basement are "well taken care of." But, as usual, the comments concerning the specific conditions of the macaques remain vague.

Jennifer Murry in the March 5 edition of The Western Front ("Protests target animal testing, G-P chlorine") stated that "All of them down there are well taken care of, well fed" and that "they get the attention they need."

I'm glad to hear that, but I want to know more details.

Considering how small the cages are that the macaques live in, I find it cruelly ironic that Murry's research thesis is on "the spatial memory of macaques." Maybe a more useful research project would be to study a macaque's ability adapt to a larger living space after having lived for years in a confined space.

Eric Lewis
Western alumnus

see LETTERS, page 19

Community Voice:

Accessibility at Western's roots; let's continue



Larry Estrada

COMMENTARY

Recently, several students and faculty called upon the administration to hold firm on their commitment to diversity.

Admittedly, the legal machinations needed to comply with the Initiative 200 mandate are complex and will evolve as challenges to uphold, as well as to abrogate the authority of I-200.

However, as a university community, we must be ever mindful of the original mission and traditions of Western, which speak to abolishing class, gender and race barriers with the provision of publicly supported higher education.

Spurred by the Morrill Acts of 1862 and 1890, which provided public access to higher education, and the Washington State Normalcy School Movement of the 1890s, local politicians and leaders, at the behest of working-class men and women, sought to found a normal school in Bellingham that would train primarily female and some male public school teachers.

This new corps of teachers, largely a product of, working-class families, would in turn be the educators of sons and daughters of fishermen, lumber workers and farming families, unlike the University of Washington and other

Washington private colleges.

Whatcom Normal School, which opened its doors in 1899, later became known as Western, and was founded to include those who neither had the means nor the capability of attending any of the elite, higher education institutions in the region.

In 1902, the small Normal School, in defiance to the greater Bellingham community and scathing editorial by the local newspaper, admitted the first African American student to be trained as a teacher. This was a pronounced commitment by the school to attack racism and elitism and to formulate an inclusive student body that would be open to all students regardless of ethnic, gender or economic backgrounds.

Those who gathered in Red Square two weeks ago may be the true traditionalists and conservatives upholding a legacy of public education that is deeply rooted in populist sentiment and values.

As Western gears up for its centennial celebration, it would be useful for all of us to reflect upon our common heritage.

Larry Estrada directs Western's American cultural studies program.

Homogenous socialist ideals are not diverse



Edward Kaplan

COMMENTARY

"Diversity" has become a universal panacea for some, a danger to meritocracy to others. I am impressed by neither side.

The former view turns a perfectly innocent word into an empty symbol chanted as a kind of secular mantra.

The latter view is true enough, but those who hold it do not realize how risky it is to create an open-ended and arbitrarily defined meritocracy as one's primary instrument for selecting our rulers and their academic mentors.

William F. Buckley once said he would rather be ruled by the first 500 people listed in the Boston telephone directory than by the faculty of Harvard College.

I agree and would apply the same principle to Whatcom County and Western's faculty.

The Harvard and Western faculties share the same defect: Most of them are socialists and almost all of them are eager to impose their socialist ideas, ever so gently, to be sure, on everyone else.

The biggest problem with attempting to achieve diversity in higher education through some sort of preferential selection scheme is that the people selected will be diverse only in

race or sex, but will otherwise conform to the currently dominant academic template of merit.

Almost all of these physically diverse individuals will turn out to be socialists eager to impose their socialist ideas on everyone else.

Don't look for independent-minded literary women prepared to argue that contemporary feminism is hypocritical nonsense.

Don't hold your breath waiting for the appearance of a black Austrian School economist or a Hispanic American historian who thinks that the United States, despite all its problems, is the greatest country that ever was.

The awful truth is that academic diversity is just the latest stealth campaign waged by an elite of white male academic socialists, their flanks and front covered by a thin skirmish line of women and approved minorities, and who hope to replicate themselves by taking advantage of the feelings of guilt harbored by their mostly socialist white male colleagues.

Edward Kaplan is a professor of history at Western.

“

'Don't look for independent-minded literary women prepared to argue that feminism is hypocritical nonsense.'

Edward Kaplan
history professor

”

'... the original mission and tradition of Western ... speaks to abolishing class, gender and race barriers ...'

Larry Estrada
director of American cultural studies

Community Voice is a feature of the opinions section. The column runs every other Tuesday and provides an opportunity for community members to comment on an issue. If you have an idea for Community Voice, please contact the Opinions editor.

Visit the
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LETTERS, from page 18

Free the monkeys, say the protesters

To the editor:
(sing to "The Monkees" theme)

Hey! where are the monkeys? I don't see them messing around. They're to busy swinging and

eating monkey chow. Were just trying to be friendly.

We don't ever see them at all. Something is smelling funny down in Miller Hall.

They've got to be lonely. They've never seen the light of day. Monkees aren't for testing.

They'd much rather play. Monkeys don't need classes. They'd do better swinging from vines. We'll keep on marching,

protesting and holding signs.

Justin McKay
Western student

Letters to the editor must be no longer than 25 words. The Front reserves the right to edit for length, libel and content. Direct letters to The Western Front, College Hall 09, WWU or e-mail them to wfront@cc.wvu.edu.

CLASSIFIED

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