

The Western Front

Forum addresses safety issues

By Sara Buckwitz
THE WESTERN FRONT

More than 300 people, many of them standing, gathered to discuss the recent report of rape and a safety on campus Wednesday afternoon in Viking Union Main Lounge.

Eileen Coughlin, vice president of Student Affairs, began the meeting by stating that no community is immune to acts of violence. She commended Western's community for its positive response, apparent by the high turnout of people.

University Police Chief Jim

Shaw talked about the alleged rape and role.

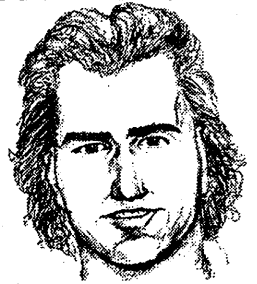
"You have my undying commitment that [the police department] will do everything it can to conclude this investigation," Shaw said.

Shaw asked the audience members for feedback and information

regarding the alleged rape. He talked about the self-defense classes and personal safety presentations on campus that help ensure the safety of those on campus. He said 28 emergency phones are on campus and six

See SAFETY, page 4

Police seek suspect



Courtesy of University Police

A Bellingham Police Department forensic artist composed this composite sketch of a man suspected of raping a woman at 8:30 a.m. April 8 in Miller Hall. The suspect, described as a white male in his twenties, 5 feet 10 inches to 6 feet tall with dark brown hair, has been connected to the victim by University Police.

Kosovo, sexual assault among topics protested in Red Square

By Daniel Peters
THE WESTERN FRONT

A loud, pulsing sound echoed through Red Square Wednesday morning while students lay sprawled on the bricks in silent protest to draw attention to the 1 p.m. rally.

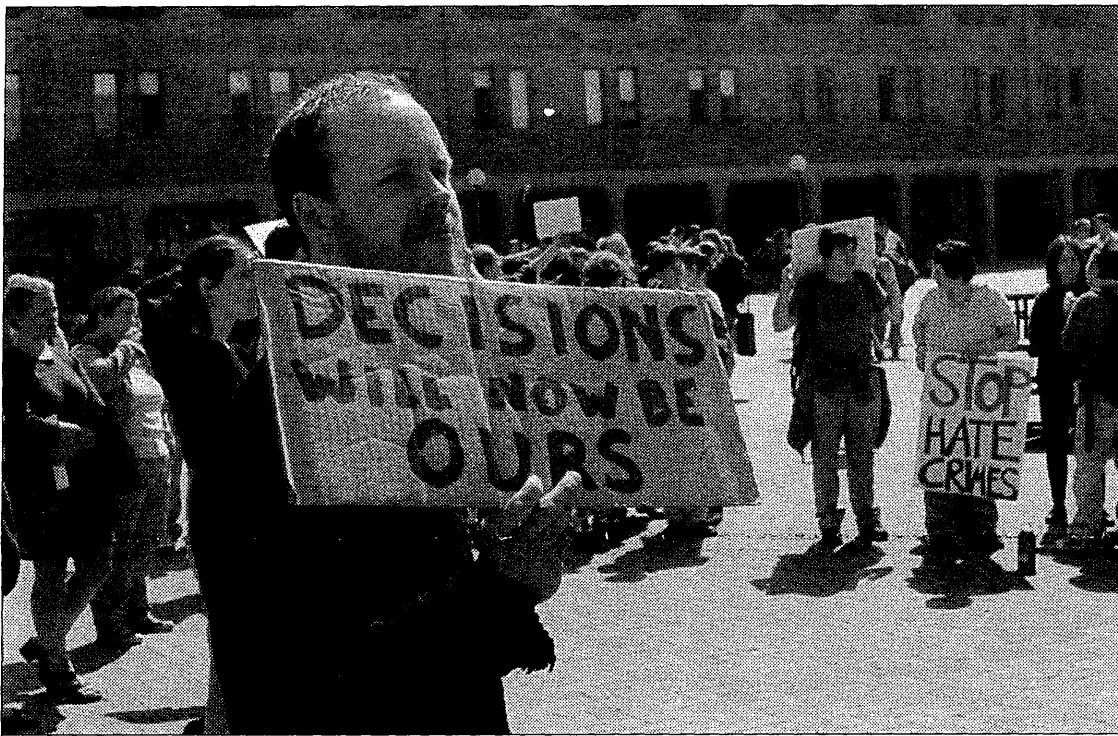
The staged event drew more than 200 students to the rally protesting American involvement in Kosovo and Iraq and address campus concerns including rape, diversity and animal testing.

"The violence happening so far away is the same violence happening on our campus and in our community," said Anna Brandt, cofounder of Activists Coming Together.

ACT, the Associated Student club that hosted the rally, is an umbrella group for A.S. clubs and community activists who work through non-violent means to bring equality, peace and justice to Western and Bellingham, according to the club's mission statement.

The rally opened with ACT member Blair Taylor attacking American and NATO involvement in Kosovo while promoting a peaceful end to the bombing.

Taylor accused the U.S. gov-



Top right: Kim Morrison speaks to an audience of 200. Above: Students and supporters of the Peace Resource Center gather in Red Square to protest NATO action in Kosovo.

ernment of escalating the war and increasing genocide in Yugoslavia by giving an ultimatum at the February peace talks in France.

Activist Charlie Brown, who recently returned from Saudi

Arabia, spoke against the conditions in Iraq, saying 1 million hunger-related deaths have occurred since U.N. sanctions were imposed.

Protesters related the international violence to Western issues

Nick Haney/The Western Front

of animal rights and rape.

Monica McCallum, co-coordinator of the Women's Center, spoke about the recent report of rape on campus.

See RALLY, page 4

First forum introduces candidates' stances on issues

By Tiffany White
THE WESTERN FRONT

The Associated Students' first panel featured the 1999 candidates for the A.S. elections last night in the Fairhaven Auditorium. The candidates sat facing the audience as a panel of three members quizzed them on a

variety of campus issues.

The A.S. presidential candidates, Victor Cox, Aaron Spencer, and Stephen Shurtleff, discussed issues of diversity, safety and chalking. Cox said all three issues intertwine and can be solved with open lines of communication between students and faculty.

"We need to have open forums

with students and administration — that is where the problems are solved," Cox said.

Spencer said he would take a pro-active approach to the issues and used the problem of campus diversity as an example.

"I can tell you as A.S. board president that I would encourage to bring out the diversity that we

do have to attract people," he said.

Shurtleff agreed with his opposition about the need for education concerning issues of campus safety and diversity. He said, however, students can find other methods to voice their opinions,

See CAMPAIGN, page 4

Provost candidate goal: translate university aspirations into reality

By Julie Graham
THE WESTERN FRONT

The fourth provost/vice president for academic affairs candidate forum ended with a 20-minute dialog between professor Andy Bodman, vice provost at the University of Vermont, and faculty and staff regarding resource allocations.

Approximately 60 people attended the forum for Bodman, geography professor and interim dean for UV's graduate college.

Bodman said he tried to

approach resource allocation rationally: "I can't defend a situation where a department that's been very successful is penalized for its success because its operating budget is rising at the same rate as a department which has been spectacularly blind."

He said education is facing several pressures, including a lack of clear direction and tightened funds.

"What I'm attempting to do is translate university aspirations into reality," he said.

Bodman stressed he didn't

want to overemphasize the division often perceived between administration and faculty.

"I'm not interested in building an empire. I want to be able to communicate with the faculty," he said.

On a similar note, Bodman said if he was chosen as Western's provost he hoped he would be able to teach classes as he does now.

"I liked him," said communications professor Kelly McDonald. He said Bodman sounded as if he would come with a very open mind.



Chris Fuller/The Western Front
Andy Bodman

Technology fee increase referred to students

By Natalie Quick
THE WESTERN FRONT

The Associated Students Board of Directors voted unanimously Wednesday evening to include a \$5-per-quarter increase in the Student Technology Fee as a referendum in the April 27 and 28 election.

"The fee increase has been proposed because the current capital is inadequate to meet the technological needs of the campus community," Cox said.

Each \$10 STF is matched by \$7 from the administration. The Western Foundation contributes \$100,000 per quarter, bringing the quarterly STF revenue to \$530,000.

With the proposed \$5 increase the quarterly STF revenue would be \$745,000.

"I would vote for it as long as they show how the funds are being allocated," senior Hilary Ferguson said.

Cox said that during the past four years, students, administration and the Western Foundation have invested more than \$200,000 in technology on campus — 365 new computers, 18 new laser printers and the Titan server.

IN THIS ISSUE

Western students to perform award-winning play



"Cabaret" brings the decadence of pre-war Berlin to life next week at Western's Performing Arts Center.

Story page 6.

FRONT ONLINE

<http://westernfront.wvu.edu>

COPS BOX

Campus
Police

April 10, 2:43 p.m.: A woman's jacket was taken from the storage bins in the Lou Parberry Fitness Center while she exercised.

April 12, 5:56 p.m.: A woman fell while playing tennis and knocked her head on the court. She cut her head but declined medical assistance. She was helped away by friends.

Bellingham
Police

April 13, 12:03 a.m.: Two males struck a woman's mailbox off its post with an object and ran away. No suspects were found.

April 13, 1:41 a.m.: A person reported a loud engine noise in an alley behind their house. A man was working on a car he said his wife needed that morning for work. The man was told the noise bothered neighbors and he shut the car off.

April 13, 8:58 a.m.: A woman reported that a computer message recording had made numerous phone calls to her home during the past week. The phone calls did not stop after she contacted the phone company. When police called the number, the line was disconnected.

Compiled by Aaron Snel

A P WIRE NEWS BRIEFS

STATE NEWS

Anti-whaling group
on alert at Neah Bay

Not today.

That's what a spokeswoman for the Makah American Indians said Thursday about the tribe's whaling plans. Denise Dailey, the spokeswoman, won't say when the Indian whalers will try to kill the first gray whale in more than 70 years.

The anti-whaling group Sea Defense Alliance is on alert at Neah Bay because it believes a whale hunt is imminent.

The alliance said it will use three boats — a 42-foot cruiser, a 23-foot speedboat and a 19-foot Zodiac — to intercept the whale hunters.

The tribe has planned to kill a gray whale since last fall's southerly migration. The whales are now migrating back to Alaskan waters.

The Makah said they hope whaling will revive tribal culture.

U.S. - China agreement
to benefit state growers

The United States has reached an agreement with China on reducing tariffs on apples, pears and cherries by 2004.

President of the Northwest Horticultural Council Chris Schlect said the agreement calls for dropping the current ad valorem tariff on the fruit from 30 percent to 10 percent.

The deal, however, depends on China's entry into the World Trade Organization.

Schlect said while it will take some time, it is good news for Washington growers.

Talks on China's entry into the world trade group will continue; trade representatives said a deal is possible by the end of the year.

Presently, tariffs and value-added taxes force a markup of at least 56 percent on the price of Washington apples in China, which has limited direct sales to China to less than 10,000 boxes per year.

NATIONAL NEWS

New York police treat
minorities unfairly,
protesters say

Thousands of people rallied in New York City, Thursday against what they said is racially unfair treatment by police.

Entertainers Harry Belafonte and Ossie Davis were among the participants.

The protest began at the courthouse at the trial of four white officers accused of beating a Haitian immigrant.

National Urban League President Hugh Price said the rally wasn't about bashing the police, but about "stopping the police from bashing us."

Protesters are also decrying the shooting of Amadou Diallo, an unarmed African-American shot 19 times by four white officers seeking a rape suspect. The officers, charged with second-degree murder, claim they thought Diallo had a gun.

INTERNATIONAL NEWS

Serb sources report
refugees killed in
NATO strike

NATO is investigating a report that dozens of refugees have been killed in a NATO air strike.

Serb police sources said at least 64 people were killed and 20 wounded when a convoy of ethnic Albanian refugees was hit on a bridge in southern Kosovo.

Enormous booms were heard 12 miles away, across the Albanian border.

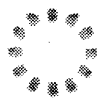
A NATO military spokesman didn't confirm the report but said the alliance is looking into the incident.

The reported strike occurred in Djakovica, which was Kosovo's third-largest town before the mass expulsions of ethnic Albanians.

Compiled by Laura Zimmerman

BELLINGHAM WEATHER: APRIL 16 - 18

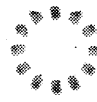
Today



Sunny and
warm.

Highs near 70.

Saturday



Mostly sunny
and warm.

Lows 35 to 40.
Highs 60 to 65.

Sunday



Mostly cloudy.
Lows 35 to 45.

Highs near 60.

Weather courtesy of wunderground.com

Corrections and clarifications

On page 1 of the April 13 edition of The Western Front, the Democratic budget was stated as \$10 million. It is \$20 billion. The State Need Grant, not the Washington Promise scholarship, as stated in the article, benefits only families that make up to \$24,000. The House Higher Education Committee did not amend the Washington Promise scholarship to include students whose families make as much as \$32,000; it amended the bill by stating the scholarship should not be funded until SNGs benefit students whose families make as much as \$32,000.

On page 8, it was stated that a local tuition bill was killed in the Senate. It was killed in the House and the Senate. Local tuition would allow universities to raise or lower tuition by 20 percent each year for two years for all students except resident undergraduates, not just graduates as the article states.

The Western Front is published twice weekly in fall, winter and spring; once a week in summer session. Address: The Western Front, Western Washington University, CH 110, Bellingham, WA 98225-9100. The Western Front is the official newspaper of Western Washington University, published by the Student Publications Council, and is mainly supported by advertising. Opinions and stories in the newspaper have no connection with advertising. News content is determined by student editors. Staff reporters are enrolled in a course in the Department of Journalism, but any student enrolled at Western may offer stories to the editors.

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.

Visit the Western Front Online <http://westernfront.wvu.edu>

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

UNIVERSITY WRITING CENTER PROGRAM RECRUITING: The Writing Center and the Writing Fellows Program are recruiting qualified students for 1999-2000. Applications are available in WL 482.

STUDENTS PLANNING TO TAKE BIOLOGY 202 summer quarter must return course request forms to Janice Lapsansky's mailbox in BI 315 by 5 p.m. today (April 16). Add codes will be distributed April 19-23 in BI 315.

LOT RESERVATIONS. Lots 11G, 14G and 25G will be reserved beginning at 7 a.m. April 17 for those attending a Rotary assembly. Permit holders may leave vehicles in reserved lots for work-related purposes.

MATH PLACEMENT TEST. Registration is not required. Students must bring picture identification and a No. 2 pencil. A \$10 fee must be paid in the exact amount at the time of testing. Allow 90 minutes. The test will be in OM 120 at 9 a.m. April 19, 26, May 3, 10, 17, 24, and June 17, and at 3 p.m. April 22, 29, May 6, 13, 20, 27, June 3 and 10. Sample problems may be found at <http://www.washington.edu/oea/aptp.htm>.

THE TEST FOR TEACHER EDUCATION (TETEP) will be given at 3 p.m. April 21 in FR 3 (fall admission deadline is April 30) and at 3 p.m. May 18 in FR 2. Registration is required in OM 120. A \$25 fee is payable in the exact amount at time of registration.

HUMAN SERVICES PROGRAM INFORMATION SESSIONS will be held in MH 114 at 4 p.m. April 22 and noon April 28. Learn more about the bachelor of arts degree in human services offered through Woodring College. For more information, call X/7759.

WWU SURPLUS GOODS will be auctioned at 9:30 a.m. April 24 at the Armory Building motor shed, lower level. Sale items may be inspected 9 a.m. to noon April 23. Bidders must register then or one hour before the sale. Payment must be within an hour after the sale by cash, money order, cashier's or certified check, or personal or business check with proper identification.

TEST DATES FOR THE MILLER ANALOGIES TEST (MAT) are 3 p.m. May 11 in FR 3, and 3 p.m. June 16 in FR 4. Registration is required in OM 120 or by calling X/3080. A \$35 fee is payable at time of test.

FALL QUARTER DEGREE APPLICANTS: Students who plan to graduate at the end of fall quarter must have degree applications on file by June 4. Degree applications and instructions are available in the Registrar's Office, OM 230.

FALL REGISTRATION FOR BIOLOGY: Students with listed majors and completed prerequisites may register at appointment times if the system works as expected. All students need to complete course request forms in case the system does not work as expected. Students who do not meet these criteria must always complete course request forms, available in BI 315.

On-campus recruiting

For more information on the application process for any of the following opportunities or to sign up for an interview, stop by OM 280 or call X/3240.

Mervyn's. April 20. See company binder in career library, OM 280. Sign up and submit résumé, OM 280.

Camp Sealth. Interviews April 20-21, for summer jobs. Sign up and submit résumé or completed camp application and see summer job file, OM 280.

Camp Killoqua. Interviews April 20, for summer jobs. See summer job file, OM 280.

American President Lines. April 21. See employer binder/file, OM 280. Submit résumé at signup.

Monroe School District. April 21. To interview, placement file must be turned in. Sign up and submit résumé, OM 280.

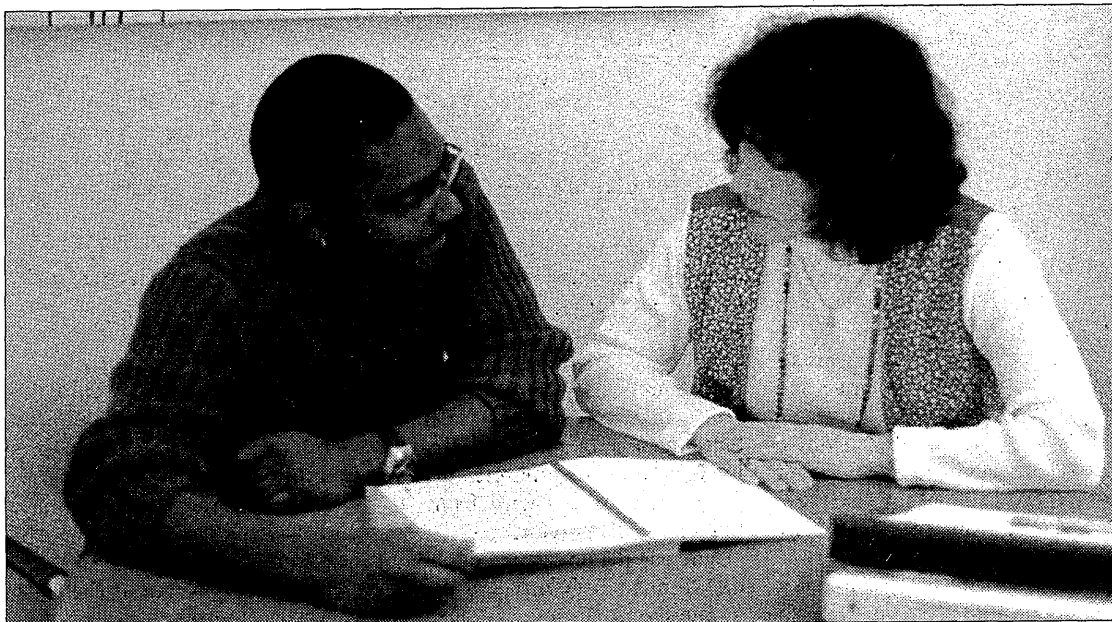
Payless Shoe Source. April 22. Sign up, submit résumé, OM 280.

Northwestern Mutual Life. April 22-23. See company file, OM 280. Information session for potential interns 7 p.m. April 22, OM 280.

Target. April 22. See company binder, OM 280. Sign up, submit résumé, OM 280.

Western improving academic advising

By Chris Blake
THE WESTERN FRONT



Rachimah Magnuson/The Western Front

Associate director of Academic Advising Yolanda Minge advises graphic design major Niklas Ageros.

Committee.

Many students said they believe academic advising at Western needs improvement.

"It should be more personalized," junior Kjell Risdal said. "When you're a freshman and sophomore, especially."

Risdal said students should be required to meet with their adviser at least once per year and advisers should be in contact with students more often.

Johnson said past proposals included such ideas, adding that requiring meetings puts an undue burden on students who don't need help. In the end, it is the student's responsibility to contact an adviser, Johnson said.

"If a student chooses not to follow up on advising, it is true they won't get advising," Johnson said.

Western has changed policies in the past few years to increase intervention with students in need of help, he said. Students placed on academic probation are sent a letter inviting them to meet with an adviser. Students are also required to declare a

"If a student chooses not to follow up on advising, it is true they won't get advising."

Ron Johnson
Director of Academic Advising Services

major by the time they reach 120 credits.

One possible solution is for students to make an intended choice of major at the end of their freshman year, Johnson said.

"That would help them along to making an actual choice of major by the end of their sophomore year," Johnson said.

Another problem with academic advising is some students don't even know the program exists or don't know where to go for help.

"I was never able to find them if I needed them," junior Andre Liloc said.

Johnson said he is aware of the

problem.

"There is evidence students don't even know it exists," Johnson said. "It's amazing to me students aren't aware of this."

Students should know of the program since they meet with their adviser at Summerstart and other entrance programs, Johnson said. The burden does not fall only on the students.

"We always need to work to be more visible and known," Johnson said.

A newsletter for freshmen and a new Webpage that offers online advising are a few of the ways Academic Advising Services is addressing its publicity problem, Johnson said.

Students said they are pleased with the the new Website.

"The Website stuff was good," junior Kevin Comfort said. "It gave me some insight I didn't know."

Improving advising is a continual process and is important because good advising is the hallmark of a good undergraduate university, Johnson said.

CAMPUS CALENDAR

April 16:

• **The Underground Coffee House** will host a Tim McHugh concert and album release party. The show starts at 8 p.m. in the Viking Addition fifth floor coffee shop. Tickets are \$5 for students and \$6 for the general public.

For details, call the Underground Coffee House at 650-3262.

April 17:

• **"Poetry Slam,"** presented by the Associated Students featuring teams of poets from Seattle, Vancouver BC and Bellingham. The event is at 8 p.m. in the Viking Union Main Lounge. Tickets are \$2.

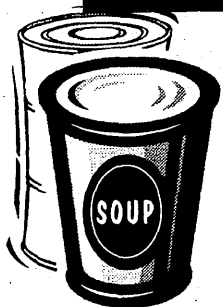
For details, call A.S. Special Events at 650-3738.

• **Nation Youth Service Day** is being celebrated by Western's Center for Service-Learning. Bring a child and meet in front of the student bookstore at 1 p.m. for activities.

• **Semi-formal dance, 'pic-a-dilly,** sponsored by the Residence Hall Association, Alumni House, Mathes and Nash. The dance will be from 8 p.m. to midnight at the Bellingham Ferry Terminal. Tickets are \$8 at the plaza cashier or at the dining halls during lunch and dinner hours.

For details, call the Residence Hall Association at 650-4782.

Compiled by Remy Kissel



Fight Hunger in Our Community!!

SERV-A-THON 1999

Sponsored by University Dining Services

April 17-23

This year University Dining Services is dedicating April 17-23 to fighting hunger in our community.

This will be an exciting week with many opportunities to support and serve our community!!

KICK OFF THE WEEK by visiting the Hot Dog/Soda Stand at Sehome Haggen's on Saturday, April 17

from 10 a.m.-2 p.m. All products will be donated and all the proceeds will benefit the Bellingham Food Bank. Come and support this great cause!!

1999 University Dining Services Food Drive Competition

Place food in bins located at any Resident Dining Hall or Viking Union Eatery during the week of Saturday, April 17-Friday, April 23! Compete with other campus locations to collect the most pounds of food! University Dining Services will match the Resident Dining Hall or Eatery to collect the most food. All donations will be distributed to the Lighthouse Mission and Bellingham Food Bank.

Can't spare any cans, but still want to help fight hunger in our community?

University Dining Services and Service Learning are also sponsoring a

"Points" Drive

Donate "FLEX" points or Munch Money to purchase bulk goods to be distributed to the Bellingham Food Bank. Sign up tables will be located in each Resident Dining Hall Monday, April 19 - Thursday, April 22 from 5:30-6:30 p.m.; and Buchanan Towers Market 7-8 p.m.; Fairhaven Market 8-9 p.m.; Ridgeway Market 9-10 p.m.; Viking Commons, Friday, 11 a.m.-1 p.m.

THANK YOU FOR YOUR SUPPORT!

A special thanks to the University Dining Services staff who are volunteering their time during the SERV-A-THON.

Viking Union
Eateries

Summer Camp Jobs

Work with kids ages 6-17 at Camp Sealth on Vashon Island. Great positions for counselors, specialists, lifeguards & more!

Campus interviews
April 20-21
Info at Career Services, Old Main 280, 650-2944. Or call Camp Sealth at (206) 463-3174.



BOUNDARY BAY Brewery & Bistro

The LEIF THOMAS SEXTET

Thursday, April 22nd
9:30-11:30pm

- Kegs & Gallons to Go
- Happy Hour Pints \$2
Mon.-Thurs. 4-6 p.m.
- Breakfast
Sat. & Sun. 9a.m.-2:30p.m.

647-5593

1107 Railroad Ave.
Bellingham



Conflicting views about Kosovo crisis aired at discussion

By Sara Buckwitz
THE WESTERN FRONT

Katherine Clark, Viktor Novakovski and Anthropology professor Kathleen Young — people well informed about the Kosovo conflict — talked about their experiences and expectations last night to a crowd of more than 100 people in the Wilson Library Presentation Room.

Audience members questioned the speakers' opinions. Ideas discussed ranged from advocacy of hard-hitting attacks by NATO to

peaceful alternate resolutions.

Young said she used to endorse peaceful resolutions to conflicts but now thinks fighting back is better than being slaughtered.

Student Sergei Roraback said he thinks NATO needs to use more force and strike fast and hard to end the conflict.

Jenny Martin, coordinator for the Peace Resource Center, said people are mostly thinking about stopping the genocide, but she feels she has a greater responsibility. She said she wants to consider how to deal with the remaining issues and people left

after the military is gone.

Young presented Kosovo history from 1389. The last 15 minutes of her presentation were a blur of numbers counting the people murdered, raped and those fleeing the crisis.

As she relayed the atrocities her voice shook. She said she hasn't been able to sleep since April 1, and was disturbed when she found out NATO bombed Belgrade on April 4.

When she talked about the possibility of the war escalating in the future, she said, "It's scary; it makes my knees start to

shake."

Clark talked about how the rape of women has been used as a means for ethnic cleansing.

Novakovski, a Macedonian and Western graduate, said this sort of conflict happened 45 years ago.

"Is someone willing to argue that we have evolved?" he asked. No one responded.

Novakovski said Yugoslavian President Slobodan Milosevic only responds to force.

"I don't know where this ends," he said. "The danger is when the headlines won't be there for you to read."

CAMPAIGN, from page 1

A.S. elections heating up

such as fliers, and should follow the current chalking rules.

The candidates for vice president for Legislative and Community Affairs, Joshua Cummings and David Toyer, were asked how they would help open communication with other schools.

"It's trying to get together with other students from other schools and get what we need done," Cummings said.

"Washington State Student Lobby is the main resource to get our student body on the same level statewide," Toyer said.

Vice president for Diversity candidates, Morgan Hepfer and Phanta Chambers analyzed the impact of Initiative 200 on Western's enrollment.

Hepfer wants to encourage diverse groups to stay at Western so students who are considering leaving don't feel so alienated.

"I think overall all we can do is just educate and get programs out there for diversity," Chambers said.

The vice president for Academic Affairs candidates, Rafael Castañeda and David McIvor, tackled the issue of crowded classrooms.

McIvor said we have to work for more creative options such as hiring more faculty and adding more class sections.

Castañeda agreed with his opponent that Western needs to look for different alternatives. Western could offer independent learning sessions that are worth more credits and distance learning offered through the computer to create a "better learning environment," he said.

Michelle Yousey, vice president for Business and Operations, is running unopposed. Her duties would include working with the Students' Co-op Bookstore. The panel asked Yousey how she would solve the lacking business at the Students' Co-op Bookstore. Banners and fliers to educate the students would be a step in the right direction, she said.

Jefri Peters, who is running unopposed for vice president for Student Life, and Amy Finkbonner, candidate for vice president for Activities, were unable to attend the forum due to conflicting schedules.

Vice president for Activities candidate Tillie Gallagher dealt with the question of planning activities and reserving time for spaces, such as gyms.

"Whoever turns it in first and is on the ball should get the time," she said.

Springtime bliss



Barney Benedictson/The Western Front

Two lovers bask in the glow of a Wednesday evening sunset at Boulevard Park.

SAFETY, from page 1

More than 300 people attend campus safety forum

more will be added.

Shaw said awareness of one's environment is important and gave tips to avoid dangerous situations.

People should walk confidently, especially if they are alone or in the dark. People should walk close to the curb and avoid dark doorways or bushes, he said. If assaulted, the person should scream, "Fire," and break a window to draw attention.

Program director of Prevention and Wellness Services Pat Fabiano said no one is completely secure in a community. Risk is in almost anything a person does, but many people on campus work to help those who have problems, she said.

"There are many, many people on this campus who everyday

engage in leadership to chip away at the violence, the hate, the despair, the unequal-power relationship and the intolerance that can make us all sick," she said. She then asked those people from different support groups on campus to stand.

The audience applauded after many people stood representing services provided by the counseling center, the women's center, the lifestyle adviser program and others.

Associated Students President Sarah Steves' voice wavered when she addressed the crowd. She said she wanted to offer hope to the audience, but apologized for her lack of eloquence. She said the intellectual part of her wanted to be strong, but that her emotional side made it difficult to

talk.

During the feedback portion of the meeting, Coughlin fielded questions ranging from "I just want to know where the 20-some-odd emergency phones are," to "Where is President Morse." The remaining time only allowed 13 people to comment.

After everyone finished speaking, however, Coughlin encouraged the audience to discuss the issues or write notes on a poster paper. Many stayed.

Anne Coleman, a Western student, said she attended the forum because she wanted to know if the alleged rape had happened.

"I haven't felt safe about this situation," student Anna Smith said. "The fact that it was in Miller Hall at 8:30 a.m. is scary."

RALLY, from page 1

Protesters concerned about effectiveness of forums

"I feel guilty because I have let violence happen — we all have," she said.

McCallum and other rally members expressed concerns about the lack of student voice and the effectiveness of campus forums.

McCallum noted that few students were allowed to speak at Tuesday's safety forum about campus rape, while administrators spoke for 45 minutes.

"We can't be lectured at all the time," McCallum said. "Our voice needs to be heard."

Eileen Coughlin, vice president of Student Affairs, said the intent of the safety forum was to get information out and provide a question and answer period.

Coughlin, who arranged the meeting said, "I'm proud of Western and the amount of people that showed up; it demonstrates a willingness to respond to violence on campus."

Protesters said they were concerned about the cancellation of the April 6 animal rights forum. Representatives scheduled to speak on behalf of the Animal Rights Connection learned of the cancellation the day before, Brandt said.

The psychology department cancelled the meeting, fearing a low turnout because the forum coincided with other events on campus. The psychology department had hoped to include other departments that use animals for

research in order to bring more views to the issue, Administrative Assistant Ruth Hackler said.

Protesters also said they would like to open a dialogue on diversity.

"We don't like to fight and have rallies — we would much rather work together to create change with dialogue on campus," activist Becky Statzel said.

Statzel and other Protesters said they are concerned with the two recent denials of tenure to ethnic minority applicants within the past six months.

She said students fear these denials may deter future instructors of color from applying to Western.

STRANGE DAYS

A LOOK AT THE WEIRDER SIDE OF THE NEWS

Radio station says nope to pope

A Christian radio station in Glendale, Calif., fired disc jockey Kaptain Kaos because he played a forbidden album on the air — the new album by Pope John Paul II. The pope's Abba Pater album, described, as music of hope and redemption for the new millennium, violated the station's new directive to avoid playing foreign language songs.

Show and tell gone wrong

A young boy went to recess at Ygnacio Valley Elementary School and found a young hummingbird on the ground. He brought it to his classroom, but his teacher asked him to take it outside. The bird hopped onto the boy's head, grabbed his hair and wouldn't let go. It took teachers three hours to pluck the bird from the boy's head.

Compiled by Janis Yi

Bead Bazaar

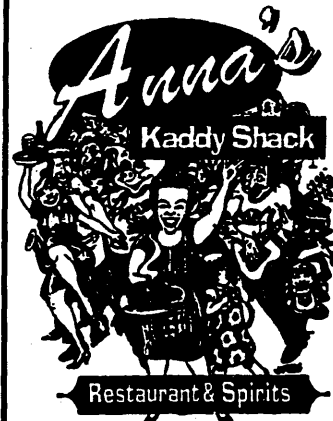
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Drinking on the net

By Soren Velice
THE WESTERN FRONT

Western students have forever been plagued with the Friday night cliché: "What's going on tonight?" It's a question that has stricken fear in the hearts of the financially, motivationally or creatively challenged since the beginning of time — or at least since they turned 21.

Barstop.com is here to help. "I created the Barstop site in particular for the live music in town," said the site's creator, Preston Hall, a 1996 Western graduate. "I wanted to support local live music."

Last summer, Hall started writing proposals and figuring costs to develop a Website dedicated to live music in Bellingham.

In October of last year, his dedication to the local scene paid off when the Up & Up Tavern and 20th Century Bowl bought pages on Barstop. Those establishments' owners said

they were not disappointed.

"(Hall) had a fairly convincing portfolio he showed me," said Ian Relay, owner of the Up & Up. "I went for it; it's a beautiful site — very nice, very professional."

Beth Lowe, owner of 20th Century Bowl, agreed.

"Compared to what else I've seen out there, we're real happy with it," she said.

Barstop's main page is neatly organized, with a rounded, funky look. The design is clean and easy to use, without the visual cacophony seen on many other sites.

Connecting people with Bellingham music was Hall's original goal, however, Barstop now connects with almost all of Bellingham's entertainment options.

"I envision it somewhat like a mini Yahoo for Bellingham," Hall said.

The site now includes links to theaters, restaurants and local businesses. It also hosts chat rooms for music, outdoor activities and textbook exchanging.

Barstop contains a link to Hall's business venture, Cobalt Multimedia. Hall and fellow Western graduate Josh Stone formed the business one year ago. Cobalt's services include graphic design and Website renovation.

Hall said his clients are as close as Bellingham and as far

away as England and Japan. The site contains a portfolio of other sites Hall has designed, with links to each.

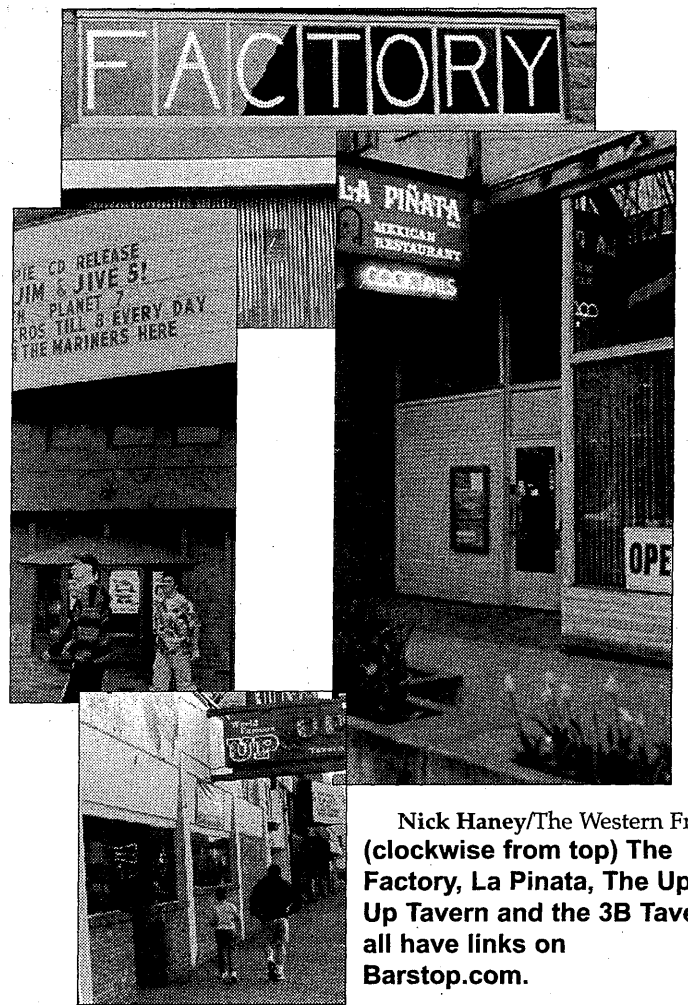
Although Barstop is running smoothly, Hall said Barstop was a hard sell at first — he didn't even have a laptop to show the site to potential customers.

"So many bars don't know what the Internet can do for them," Hall said. "I'm trying to convince them that I'm the man."

He said that can be tricky at times because many people set up their own sites with event listings and no input from the venues. Hall said this tends to devalue his work because some bar owners feel those free listings are enough to promote their events, even though they have no control over content.

Hall's approach is more involved. After an agreement is made with a customer, he takes photos of the premises and works with the owner to develop a unique look for that establishment's page. Several of the pages also feature coupons that pop up when the page is opened. Once the page is set up, Hall updates it as necessary.

Given Bellingham's general lack of easily accessible entertainment resources, Barstop is good ammunition against the demons who always ask, "...so what's goin' on tonight, anyway?"



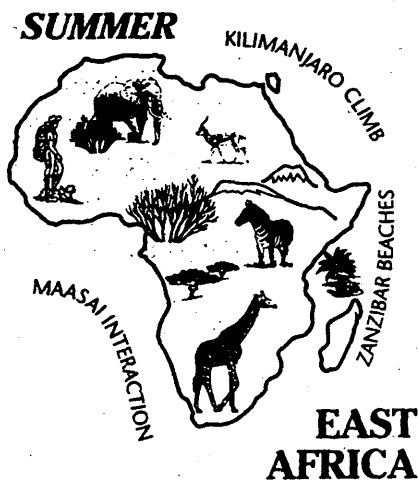
Nick Haney/The Western Front (clockwise from top) The Factory, La Pinata, The Up & Up Tavern and the 3B Tavern all have links on Barstop.com.

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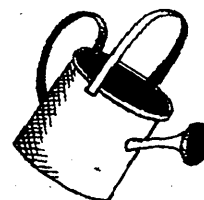
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TWO TURNTABLES

DJs mix it up at DMC DJ Championship



Courtesy of Lori Hamilton

Jason Guerrero, or J-Tyme as he's known in the DJ world, takes to the wheels of steel at last weekends DMC competition in Seattle.

By Corey Lewis
THE WESTERN FRONT

With blazing speed, the record is moved back and forth over and over with one hand as the other instinctively switches the fader from left to right and back again.

Knobs get turned on the mixer in the middle, records get thrown on and taken off both turntables as soon as their sounds are exhausted. Hands fly as a cacophony of strange sounds echo over a steady beat, all the while trying to impress judges — who are the best in the world at DJing.

Sound confusing?

Well this is the constant routine for the DJs at the DMC DJ Championship held in Seattle at RKCNDY last Sunday. For six hours, the best DJs from the Northwest battled it out for a chance to go to perhaps the biggest event in the turntable world — the DMC National Championship.

Among the 24 DJs who competed for the regional title was Bellingham's own Jason Guerrero, or J-Tyme as he's known in the DJ world and on his hip-hop show from 8 p.m. to 10 p.m. every Friday on KUGS 89.3-FM.

J-Tyme, who is also KUGS' specialty show and hip-hop director, has been practicing the art of turntablism for about eight years. He started after high school in 1991 when a DJ friend lent him his turntables.

"I always thought 'Wow, that's cool,' how this guy totally had control of everybody without saying a word, just by music," J-

Tyme said. "One night, he let me borrow his turntables and I was literally up all night. He gave me a crate of records and from that night, I spent all my money on records. I saved up and bought turntables and a mixer, and that's where I am today."

The DMC Championships was J-Tyme's fourth competition — or battle. He has competed since the International Turntablist Federation battle in 1997. He has been in two other local events founded by Seattle-

“When you're up there it's all ad-lib. You know the techniques ... it's just a matter of executing.”

DJ J-Tyme

area DJ, E-Rock.

"E-Rock put together a couple of battles to elevate turntablism as it is in Seattle and bring everyone up to the next level and try to expand on everyone's skills," J-Tyme said.

Although he hasn't won any of the battles he's competed in, J-Tyme feels he can compete with all the DJ's he's fought.

"I hope the next battle I'm in, I can get this first-round monkey off my back," J-Tyme said with a laugh. "Because I've done my thing, but I guess it hasn't been good enough. So I'm hoping; I'm hoping."

At the DMC Championships, J-Tyme said he was excited to perform for the crowd and especially in front of The Beat

Junkies, a famous DJ crew, who were the judges for the contest.

"It was real exciting," he said. "I try not to get too excited for it because I know that would make me nervous."

"Considering it was DMC and it was a real big thing to go represent the northwest," J-Tyme said. "And you have DJ Baboo and Mellow-D from the world famous Beat Junkies watching you and judging you, that even adds to the anxiety tip."

J-Tyme said turntablism is a very complex art. Besides knowing how to operate the turntables and the fader, DJs must know how to manipulate their mixers to make different kinds of scratches, such as the Crab scratch, the Transform scratch and the Hamster scratch.

"It's crazy," he said. "When you're up there, it's all ad-lib. You know the techniques, you know what you need to do, it's just a matter of executing."

Beat juggling is another advanced technique where DJs make their own beats by rearranging the same beat that's playing on both turntables. By moving the fader back and forth while moving the records back and forth on a specific spot, a new beat is created while using the same sounds that were on the original beat.

J-Tyme said his love for the craft stems from his love for hip-hop. He said with the music's rising popularity, the art of turntablism will continue to be taken to a higher level.

"The first record that I heard was Sugar Hill Gang's 'Rapper's Delight,'" he said. "And from then I've just been hooked on it."

Narcotic alert

Dub Narcotic to headline K Records Showcase

By Jen True

THE WESTERN FRONT

Get psyched to bust a move Olympia style when Dub Narcotic Sound System headlines the K Records Showcase. Dub Narcotic Sound System, The Crabs, Gaze and Kicking Giant will perform at 8 p.m. Saturday in Fairhaven Auditorium.

Each of the bands has released music with K Records, the label founded in 1982 by Dub Narcotic's Calvin Johnson, formerly of the band Beat Happening.

Johnson, the voice of Dub Narcotic, named the band after his recording studio. The band's home is in Olympia, where it has released several singles and is awaiting the release of its second full-length album — Out of Your Mind.

"One of our goals is to make a record that somebody in Olympia would actually play at a dance party," Johnson said in a 1996 interview.

"Because with most of the bands in Olympia, the music they listen to at parties is different than the music they make. So we thought, 'Why don't we make a song that someone would actual-

ly dance to at one of those parties?' We'll try to make that record at some point."

"It took a live show for me to be a Dub Narcotic convert," said Chris Walla of local band Death Cab for Cutie.

Walla said a Dub Narcotic set is meant for dancing.

"My hope (for the upcoming concert) is that people will dance," Walla said. "If you're not dancing at a Dub Narcotic show, it's not going to be fun. That's what it's about."

"(Johnson) dances unlike any-

“If you're not dancing at a Dub Narcotic show, it's not going to be fun.”

Chris Walla
Death Cab for Cutie

thing you've ever seen. I don't know how to explain it," Walla said. "He's a really charismatic front-man."

Dub Narcotic breaks normal rock music boundaries and does not conform to the grunge wave that brought local bands fame in the late '80s and early '90s.

"It's a brand of funk that has been overlooked the last 15 years," Walla said. He said that their style is more like James Brown than R&B or white-boy funk.

"A little more Al Green than James Brown," Walla said.

"To me Dub Narcotic is about drums and bass guitar," Walla said. Dub Narcotic's musicians include Larry Butler (drums), Brian Weber (guitar and keyboards) and Chris Sutton (bass).

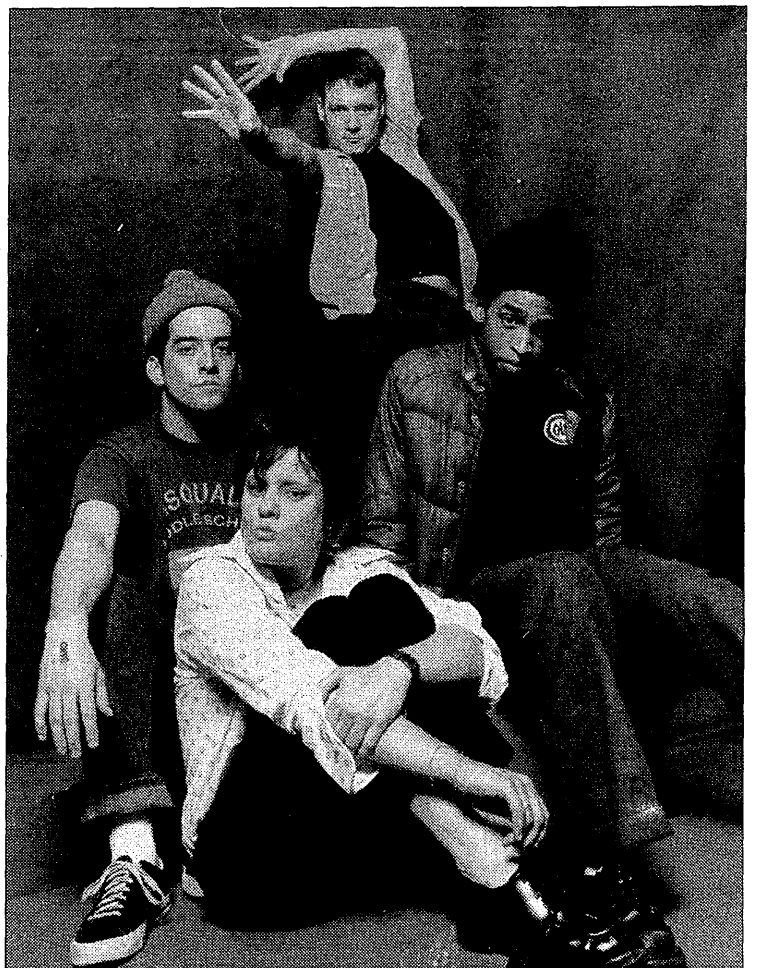
Supporting Dub Narcotic are three more bands from the K Records stable.

Vancouver B.C.'s female trio Gaze sing charming love-rock songs that can be compared with a collection of letters to ex-boyfriends, according to the March '98 issue of College Music Journal Monthly.

The Crabs, an Oregon-based trio, recently released their fourth full-length album, Sand and Sea. The band's sound features Lisa Jackson (drums) and Jonn Lunsford (guitar) singing duets with the signature Farfisa Organ played by Sarah Dougher.

Walla said Kicking Giants are a two-piece group with catchy pop songs.

Tickets are \$7 at the door.



Courtesy of Michael Lavine

Dub Narcotic Sound System will headline the K Records showcase at Fairhaven Auditorium Saturday night.

LORNA LIBERT

Bringing the ruins to life



Sara Ballenger/The Western Front
(Above) Lorna Libert poses in front of "Super Farmhouse."
(Right) "The Fabulous Four," a 1999 piece, one of Libert's paintings on display at Boundary Bay Brewery & Bistro.

By Sabrina Johnson
THE WESTERN FRONT

"When I was really small, I never did anything but draw," local painter Lorna Libert said. "Like since I could pick up a pencil, I was drawing pictures. I was never a TV kid or anything. I just drew — laid on the floor and drew."

As she sits, Libert talks about her career as a painter. Using broad gestures, she describes her work. She recalls the time that goes into finding the right subject, and making it come to life on her canvas.

"My paintings and drawings are inspired by the subjects of abandoned structures such as houses and boats," Libert said. "The fading wood, peeling paint and broken windows provide each with a personality and history."

Libert became serious about her career at age 15 when she received a scholarship from Huntington, a fine-arts workshop in Chicago.

"That's really where I got my start. I worked with a sculptor and a painter there nine hours a week after school," Libert said. "It was the turning point that made me want to be an artist."

Libert received her bachelor's degree in 1989 from Long Island University. After college, Libert worked as a scientific illustrator and taught art classes in New York for two years.

In 1992, Libert moved to Washington state, where she earned her master's degree at Central Washington University.

After teaching art classes at Central, Libert decided to stop teaching and make painting her full-time career.

"I decided to give that up and just go for it as a painter," Libert said.

Libert said she finds broken down, abandoned structures that attract her attention. On-site visits are required before Libert starts the actual painting process, she said.

"I find these places, these

"
"I was never a TV kid or anything. I just drew — laid on the floor and drew."

Lorna Libert

abandoned places, and I go trespassing. I take lots of photos and do some sketches, and I'll sometimes write down notes about how it feels," Libert said. "Then I go into the studio and I squeeze out big piles of paint. I just start laying it on there. They change a lot through the process."

Libert says her paintings are an attempt to open people's eyes, to draw their attention to the human side of life and to remind them of the humanity these 20th century ruins represent.

"Utilization of these structures imparts cultural metaphors relating to time, society, man and nature," Libert said. "Nature may take them

over with shrubs and vines or they may be brutally torn down, paved and parked on by Wal-Mart shoppers."

Libert's style has changed with time. She has created realistic pictures as a scientific illustrator. She has also stretched reality by exaggerating linear and atmospheric perspective while using multiple viewpoints to emphasize space.

"I was really realistic," Libert said. "It was kind of hard to break into a painterly, more expressive phase. I sort of went the opposite where it was super expressive. Now I think I'm finding a happy medium between the realistic, yet keeping it painterly."

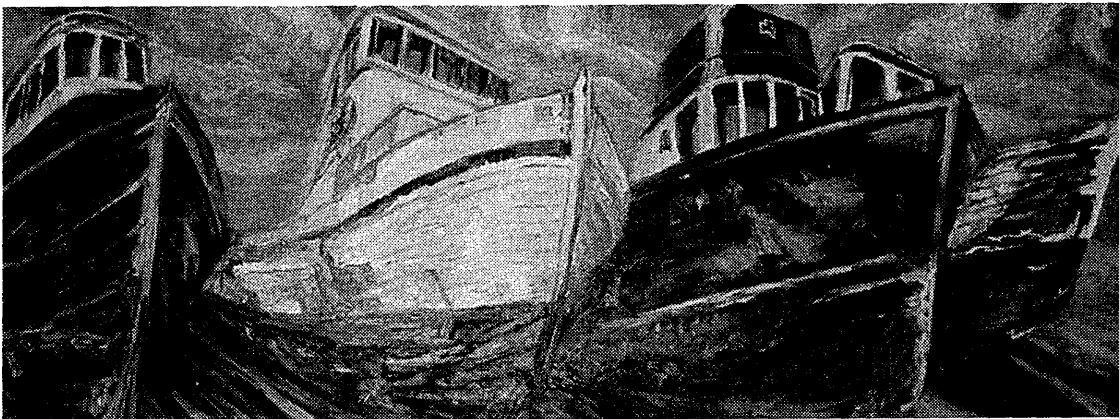
Havilah Rand, a local musician, used Libert's painting, "Super Farmhouse," on her upcoming CD cover.

"She is extremely emotional and passionate about her art and that is how I am about my music," Rand said. "She is an incredible painter."

Libert's work is exhibited at the Boundary Bay Brewery & Bistro in Bellingham, where she rotates different paintings. Until this week, Libert's work was displayed in the Cookie Cafe. Libert is taking her paintings to New York to prepare for a May exhibit

Libert describes her paintings as monstrosities; they are many different shapes and sizes, she said. The majority of the paintings stand feet taller than Libert herself.

"I have to borrow a truck if I want to move them," she said.



Barney Benedictson/The Western Front

Live 'Cabaret'

Broadway classic at Western

By Scott LaMont
THE WESTERN FRONT

The Western theater arts and music departments take a trip back to the murky streets and seedy dance clubs of 1929 Berlin as they present the Tony award-winning musical "Cabaret."

Co-directed by faculty members Jim Lortz and Jack Morris, "Cabaret" shows at 7:30 p.m. April 21-24 with additional performances April 28-May 1 and a 2 p.m. matinee Sunday, May 2.

The story of "Cabaret" follows Cliff Bradshaw (played by Western grad Chris Sheets), a fledgling British novelist who moves to pre-World War II Nazi Germany. There he meets a cabaret dancer — Sally Bowles (senior Billie Wildrick) — at the infamous Kit Kat Klub.

"The Kit Kat Klub represents how crazy everything was at

that time," said freshman Lucia Ahrens, 18, who plays Helga, one of the lead Kit Kat dancers. "There are these relationships, bisexual, homosexual, straight. Everybody drinks and has fun. It's a crazy time to have no morals in your life."

The story follows Cliff and Sally's relationship as well as others, always returning to the Kit Kat Klub and plenty of song and dance numbers.

"Berlin in the '30s was just like the roaring '20s here — everything was crazy," Ahrens said, explaining the show's dark, nightclub atmosphere. "Nobody cared who you had sex with or what you did or how much you drank."

While the setting of "Cabaret" may be out-of-control, Ahrens said working in this production is very organized.

"It's an incredible show. (Jim

Lorenz) has a vision and he helps us do whatever we can to get there," Ahrens said. "He gives us the freedom to experiment on our own and I really appreciated that."

Although Ahrens said she is thankful for the talent guiding her, she admits there were some times when she felt intimidated.

"The rehearsals were draining," Ahrens said. "Dancing takes a lot out of you. You need to have flexibility; you need to be working your body as well as dancing all the time and thinking clearly. It takes a lot of concentration and memorization."

For details call the Performing Arts Center box office at 650-6146.

"Cabaret" can be seen in the PAC Mainstage. Tickets are \$15 for adults, \$13 for senior citizens and \$9 for children and students.



Courtesy of Western Theater Arts
"Cabaret" cast members: (l-r) Brandon Kuwada, Gabrielle Tracy and Trina Mills are set to take the stage next week.

Kemper: team player in a solo sport



Chris Goodenow/The Western Front
Western runner Devin Kemper, a four-event standout in track and field, set a school record this year in the mile.

By Siobhan Millhouse
THE WESTERN FRONT

It's springtime and junior Devin Kemper is out to set new personal records as a member of Western's track and field team.

A management information systems major, 20-year-old Kemper came across track and field by chance.

When he was a freshman in high school, Kemper said he needed to find another sport to keep him busy after soccer season ended in the spring.

At first, track was just something to fill an open sports season, he said.

"My parents convinced me to just try it," he said.

Although track and field started out as a way to stay active throughout the year, Kemper has turned it into something more.

Kemper's events include the 800-meter, 1,500-meter, the mile and the 1600-meter relay. His personal goals include making the automatic qualifying time for nationals in the 800-meter and the 1,500-meter.

"I haven't accomplished either yet, though," Kemper said.

Kemper said he didn't plan on setting a school record in the men's mile with a time of 4-min-

utes, 11.5 seconds.

"The mile just happened. We only run it once a year," Kemper said.

He also made the provisional qualifying time in the 800-meter, which is his favorite race.

"I feel that the 800 is the hardest race, hands down," he said. "There's just something about that particular race that I love. When I'm getting ready for an eight, my state of mind changes completely. It's an insane feeling."

"I guess you'd probably have to witness it for yourself to even partially understand what I'm talking about," he said.

Kemper said his mind is blank when he runs the 800-meter.

"You don't have time to think; it's only two laps and it's basically a sprint the whole time," he said.

Though track and field is often viewed as an individual competition, Kemper approaches it as a team event.

"He is a very valuable team member; he is curious of how everyone else is doing," coach Pee Wee Halsell said. "The way he competes, he sets a good example for everyone."

Kemper can be found hard at work outside with the track team.

"It's always my goal to improve," he said.

Women capture eighth at Idaho spring invitational

By Jaime Martin
THE WESTERN FRONT

The women's golf team placed eighth Monday at the Vandal Spring Invitational in Idaho.

The Vikings had a team score of 1,077 compared to Idaho's winning score of 943. Western was one of two teams at the tournament that were not NCAA Division I members.

"This was a lot more difficult competition than we're used to and we'll need to get used to that in NCAA Division II," coach Noreen Chrysler said.

Freshman Rebecca Barton tied for 26th place with an overall score of 251. Senior Ginger Welfringer had the best team final-day round of 82.

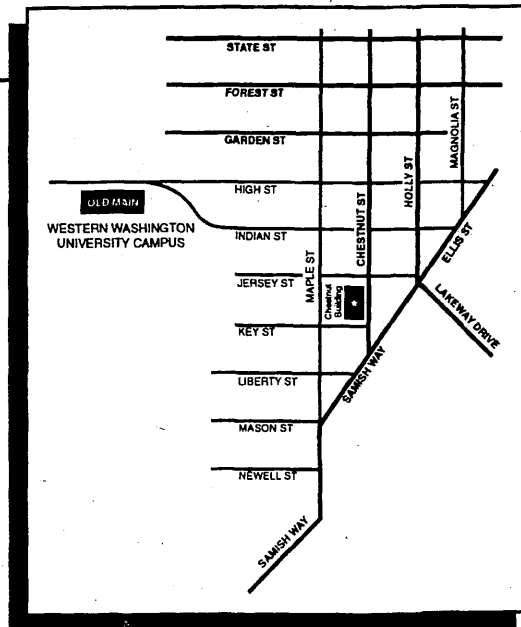
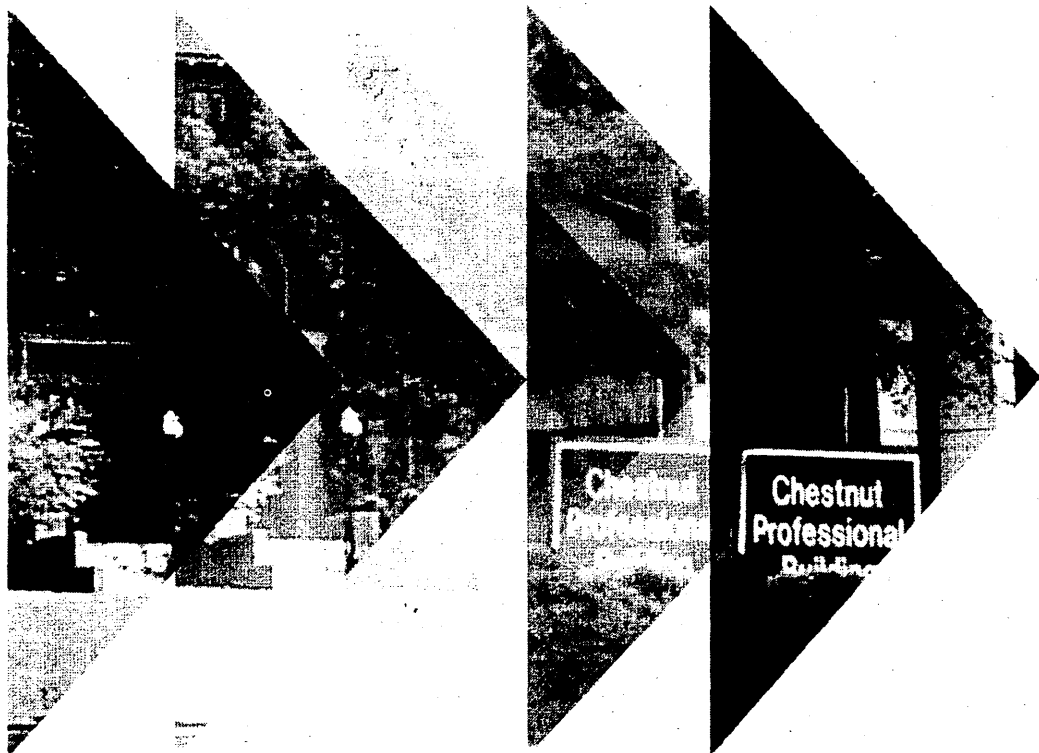
"A couple girls showed they could step up and play at this level," Chrysler said. "A couple others need more time to adjust."

Chrysler said she expects the team to place first at the Viking Invitational April 19-20 at the North Bellingham Golf Course.

"I see the whole team playing really well for the tournament," Chrysler said. "I've seen they're already starting to improve."

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Men primed for regional tournament

THE WESTERN FRONT

Western's men's golf team shot one of the best rounds in school history Tuesday — a 4-under-par 284 — finishing sixth at the Grand Canyon University Thunderbird Invitational Tournament in Goodyear, Ariz.

The Vikings were 10th in the 18-team field after the first two rounds, but finished with 892 in 54 holes. Grand Canyon won the tournament scoring an 869.

Western's Craig Welty shot a final-round 73 to tie for 14th place with a 221 total.

Bo Stephan tied for 16th at 222 with a final-round par 72.

Jamie Kim shot a 1-under-par 71 to tie for 22nd with a total of 224.

Joel Skarbo shot below 70 for the sixth time this season, shooting a 4-under-par 68 to tie for 36th with a 227.

The Vikings will host the second of two district eight qualifying tournaments — they placed fifth in the first qualifying meet — Monday and Tuesday at the Bellingham Golf and Country Club. The tournament will serve as the annual Western Invitational.

The top four teams from the district will advance to regionals.

HIT IT! Making waves on Samish

By Aaron Snel
THE WESTERN FRONT

Nick and Rion Ithomitis, brothers and Western students, have parlayed a childhood love for watersports into leadership positions on Western's water-ski team.

"I've loved it since day one," Nick, a senior and team president, said. "I remember holding on to my dad's forearms before I could get up by myself."

Most of the 20-member team's contests are against teams from California, such as Sacramento University, Stanford University and University of California.

The team returned from a tournament at Chico State Sunday, where Rion said the team had a good showing. Eleven members of the team competed in three events: slalom, trick and jump.

In the slalom event, skiers weave between buoys. They are judged on boat speed, which is usually 36 mph, and rope length. The shorter the rope, the more difficult the skiing.

The trick ski event involves doing as many tricks possible on a single ski in 20 seconds. Skiers jump off a five-foot ramp to obtain distance.

"Jumping is my favorite event, but it's brutal," Rion said. "It's a rush when you're



Bobby Stone/The Western Front

Western's Eric Crawford practices the slalom on Lake Samish Thursday morning.

coming off" that ramp and you can just feel the adrenaline pumping."

To prepare for this season, the team started training on Lake Samish at the end of February. The water and air were so cold the team had to wear dry suits, much like what deep-sea divers wear. The team hopes it will soon have to wear only wet suits or shorts.

"Your hands, feet and face get really cold because of the biting

wind," Rion said. "It's hard to get motivated when there's snow on the banks of the lake, but it's still fun."

The team leases a ski boat from a Western alumni who water-skis professionally. Team members pay \$120 each quarter to cover the cost of the boat, fuel, course repair and boat repair. The water-ski team will compete in five tournaments during spring quarter.

Western's next tournament is

April 24 and 25 at Bow Hill Lake near Bellingham. Events start at 8 a.m. and will include wake-boarding.

Nick said he has seen improvement in the water-ski team every year, and thinks the team is very competitive with all the teams in its league.

"I love the atmosphere," Rion said. "Hanging out at the lake, going down to California and just being on the water are a lot of fun. It's a great time."



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Frontline

Protest lacks teeth

Wednesday afternoon, students and "dead people" took to the bricks of Red Square to sunbathe and socialize. That's right — the bodies of the dead. The idea, as we understand it, was to protest violence in Yugoslavia and Iraq. Animal testing, violence against women and lack of diversity on campus were also issues some activists presented for student consumption.

The causes and concerns are noble. But is anyone paying attention?

At first appearance it looked as though 200 students attended the 1 p.m. rally in Red Square, but how many were supporters and how many were curious on-lookers?

If Western's activists plan to get anywhere with their rallies, they must first look at their method of spreading the message. Whether it's a matter of students being tired of seeing protests or just not caring enough to get involved — the bottom line is the message is getting lost.

The problem with Wednesday's rally was that there was too much to take in.

Tombstones, people lying in Red Square, loud, eerie music on a cheap PA system, chalk everywhere — what are people getting out of this?

Having a rally for five causes at once is probably economical in time and resources, but it cheapens what is being said. Do all the activists support all the causes? It seems like we see the same faces over and over again at these rallies.

Are these activists camping and protesting through Red Square because they believe so strongly in their cause, or because it's chic? They take the time to address the serious issues in our society and for that they should be commended. But these activists must question if their message is being communicated. Do the majority of Western students listen to what is being said or do they merely think "looks like another protest today."

The protest, no matter how noble the causes, slipped to the level of a sideshow. The issues these students are trying to bring attention to are being diluted because we see so many of these protests on campus.

Fall quarter's Initiative 200 protests got people to realize what was happening at Western and in the state. It appeared to be well organized and effective (although the initiative passed). But why camp out? What does camping have to do with affirmative action? The campout showed the activists' dedication to their cause even though the number of campers wasn't too impressive.

If student turnout is a way of measuring the success of a protest then most have failed miserably. Two-hundred people at a rally on a sunny day in Red Square is only a fraction of the student population (about 1.6 percent).

A memo describing the issues that were to be addressed Wednesday referred to past animal-testing protests as "massive." That's pretty optimistic.

The rally seemed like one of convenience: It's a nice day, people will be outside and hey, we don't have anything else to do.

Wednesday's shenanigan seemed built for our society of mass consumption. It was the fast-food of protests. Take a three-minute walk through campus and get a dose of social enlightenment.

Frontlines are the opinion of The Western Front editorial board: John Bankston, Erin Becker, Karl Horeis, Jenni Odekirk, Alyssa Pfau, Steven Uhles, Todd Wanke and Tyler Watson.

The Western Front

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And we quote:

"My worst fear is that another generation will grow up with nightmares... they are not going to forget this."

Katrina Taylor, 48, a Bellingham resident with friends and family in Kosovo. Source: April 8 Bellingham Herald, A7.



Who is this "Karen Morse" lady?



Christie Shepard

COMMENTARY

Western President Karen Morse remains an enigma to many. How disappointing that she feels it necessary to hide from the students she supposedly represents. A stigma surrounds her. Morse does not fulfill her position as president.

In a presidential letter written to students by Morse concerning Initiative 200, she said, "I am likewise genuinely disappointed that some feel that the only way to gain the university's attention is through a rally."

How ironic considering this is coming from a woman who once told Western Student Karyn Whitacre and her family in Red Square during parents weekend, "I don't have time to talk to you right now," and simply walked away.

Morse is surprised students feel they have to rally in order to have their voices heard. Is it

any wonder, when she doesn't appear on campus or mingle among students?

Morse is at the university because the students are at the university. Without the students, the university wouldn't exist. Now that there are some beautiful, sunny days in Bellingham, it would be nice to

'A stigma surrounds her. Morse does not fulfill her position as president.'

see Morse occasionally walking through campus.

Even if Morse just talks with students about what they think of the education they receive at Western and the improvements that need to be made, it would be beneficial to all.

Morse's salary in 1998 was \$124,428 according to a study conducted by The Western Front. An article printed in The Front in 1998 said Morse is one of the lowest paid college presidents.

In the same article, Morse was quoted from an e-mail statement saying that she works in public service, not for the monetary reward but for another kind of compensation.

In this time of teachers being horribly underpaid, \$124,428 hardly seems like a small monetary reward. Professors work with students on a daily basis and put in countless hours at home grading papers and tests. I doubt many professors are being paid the same amount as President Morse.

In order for a president to fulfill students needs, they first need to be aware of them. Morse is not a very public figure. Few students may be able to pick her out of a photo line up and I bet even fewer would be able to recognize her voice.

Morse does preside over a large institution and has many responsibilities. Western's campus is small compared to many schools and has a homier feel. The president doesn't need to be on the same level as the students but it would be a benefit for students to feel as if the woman who supposedly represents them is hearing their voice.

letters

A sample of readers' letters and e-mails

Officials' hypocrisy flabbergasting

To the editor,

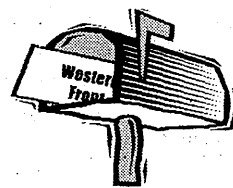
The United States can't claim to be bombing Yugoslavia to prevent ethnic cleansing in Kosovo, while simultaneously providing helicopter gunships, jet fighters and military intelligence to Turkey in its campaign of ethnic cleansing against the Kurds.

Also, where was the concern of the U.S. government for ethnic cleansing when the U.S. mil-

itary was supporting Guatemala's brutal genocide against the Mayan Indians?

I have been watching all the cable news channels for days now, and the points I have just made are never mentioned. Propaganda doesn't have to be outright lies. It can be just the ignoring of very important, pertinent arguments.

Gary Sudborough
Bellflower, Calif.



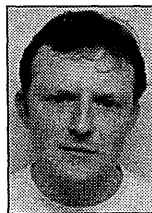
Media must be critical to help public filter lies

To the editor:

In regards to the Frontline article from April 9. I think you are wrong when you assert the government's best source for swaying the public, the media, has been lost. I think the current atmosphere wherein the public is apathetic and confused about the military action being taken is desirable to officials. The more we listen to repetitive soundbites, the less we think for ourselves and if all goes as planned, we will get bored and switch channels entirely.

See LETTERS, page 11

Rape is a community reality



Dave Shepherd

COMMENTARY

Tuesday's Call to Community meeting, despite the rhetoric, served its purpose.

From out of the rubble of shattered illusions, despite the tangible vibrations of fear, mistrust, anger, sadness and frustration that shuddered through the crowd like aftershocks, those in attendance found some hope in their unity.

Perhaps a bit tarnished, but hope nonetheless.

Yet, as uplifting as that might be, the event was marred by one glaring detail. A pitifully small percentage of the crowd was male.

This is a blatantly rhetorical

question for the men of this campus: Is violence against women your problem?

Of course it is.

Was that fact acknowledged on Tuesday?

Again, a rhetorical question.

The people who came to Tuesday's meeting are the choir; they've heard the sermon. The people who needed to be there are those saying things such as, "Hell, she knew the guy. She was probably asking for it," or equally terrible, remaining silent when silence is the last thing this campus needs to hear.

The crime that occurred did not take place thousands of miles away in some unimaginable war. Apathy, in that case, might be grudgingly understood. This took place in the basement of Miller Hall at 8:30 a.m. with students checking their e-mail right next door! The perpetrators of this act were counting on apathy to make them invisible.

Men of this campus, your voice needs to be heard. Like Pat Fabiano, associate director of Prevention and Wellness Services said at Tuesday's rally, go out on a limb and show some care. Challenge on a daily basis the attitudes and statements that perpetuate sexual assault.

Take opportunities such as Western's Women's Center's "Take Back the Night" next month to show your support (650-6114). Get involved in programs such as the Lifestyle Adviser's Men Against Rape (650-7557).

Unity is the key to fighting these crimes. Unity means everybody. Fear should exist on this campus, but it should not be felt by a woman walking alone at night or working alone in some basement.

It should be fear of 12,000 unified students, brought together by the belief that all people have the right to be safe — and that not one among us will stand for it!

From LETTERS, page 10

I hope you will work to provide more in-depth coverage of the issue in the Balkans and not simply media commentary. The bombs are expensive, ineffective and dangerous to the people — all the people in the area. I urge you to be critical of the military action, not just the television coverage. Please provide more information than just what you can pull off the A.P. wire. There

is so much homework that needs to be done to get a well-balanced analysis of this situation. People depend on newspapers to do some of that fact finding for them. I hope that as a student paper you willing challenge the established viewpoints and probe this issue.

I support peace.

Libby Chenault
Western Student

Miracle of life deserves special care

To the editor:

I am writing concerning the recent letter to the editor discussing the issue of animal experimentation on Western's campus.

Western student Eric Flora compares using more humane, animal-free research methods with asking a painter to paint on a computer because using oil paints would deplete natural resources.

This strikes me as a rather illogical comparison, because to the best of my knowledge, oil paints are inanimate, lifeless substances.

The monkeys, rats and rabbits being used in Miller Hall are living, breathing, feeling creatures.

Who are we to take away their life and freedom and subject them to study for our own gain? Such anthropocentric practices

can only lead to trouble.

It is certainly true that almost every one of us has benefited in some way from medical research performed on animals. However, this is not the issue we are focusing on. We are focusing on the animals in Miller Hall, who are being used for psychological research, not as a means for medical breakthroughs.

Flora talks about academic freedom, a noble and precious idea. But, my tuition dollars are being spent in part on this business taking place in the basement of Miller Hall, and I should have a say in that. Every student on this campus should have a say in that!

This controversy isn't going to disappear or fade into the background. Active communication and education needs to occur so that a viable and humane solution is reached.

Ann Koepke
Western student

Rape can no longer be ignored



Julie Hemphill

COMMENTARY

Rape. Why is this the one word that everyone seems to be afraid to discuss? Rape is exactly the issue that needs to be addressed seriously.

Rape is the worst kind of attack that a female can endure. Not just because of the physical aspect, but the traumatizing emotional effects as well. The damage done in a matter of minutes is impossible to judge.

Why are there no warning

signs posted regarding last week's rape in Miller Hall? Ignoring rape will not make it go away.

Western is obligated to put more notices throughout campus about the recent assaults. Awareness needs to be raised.

Why not require or encourage the teaching staff to warn students about the rape? How many students knew about Tuesday's "Call to the Community" meeting?

Why wasn't President Morse at the meeting? It is imperative for Morse to show regard for our university's safety — not as the president, but as a concerned citizen.

Actions are being taken by our university, but they are not enough to make the student

body, especially females, feel safe.

Obviously, the three assaults on campus this year have proven that silence is ineffective. It is frustrating, as a female, to feel like this situation is not being taken seriously. Why did it take this many assaults to recognize the seriousness in the first place? One assault should have been sufficient to make effective changes on campus.

Tuesday's turnout was a step in the right direction, but it was minute in comparison to the size of our campus' population.

I am not ignoring the fact that violence is inevitable in today's society, but there are precautions that lead to prevention.

Letters to the editor must be no longer than 250 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. Please include a phone number for verification

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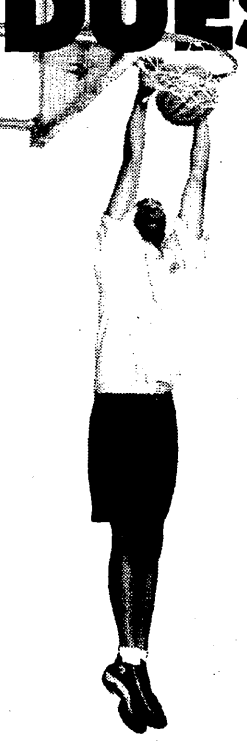
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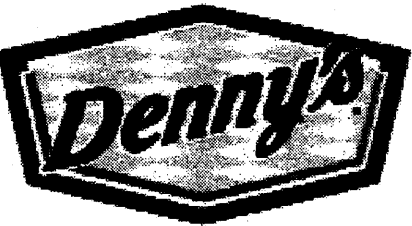
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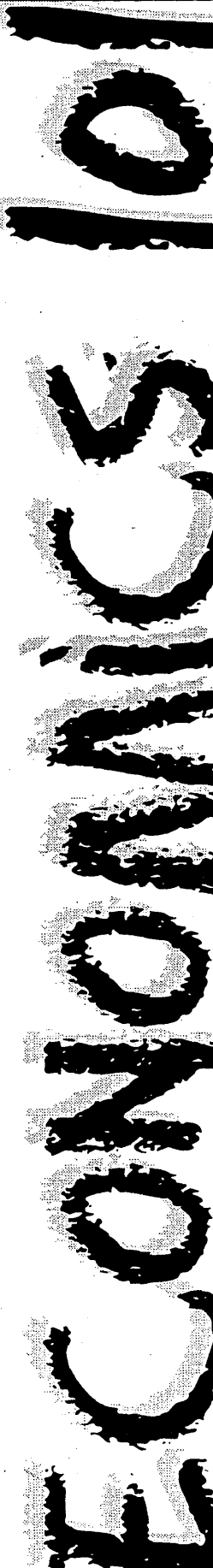
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