

The Western Front

Western Washington University

Volume 107 Issue 2

Bellingham, Washington

BBC films VRI cars on Chuckanut Drive

By Melissa Miller
THE WESTERN FRONT

An electric car, a solar car and a British film crew caused quite a traffic jam as they blocked South College Drive at 5 p.m. on Wednesday in front of the Visitors Information Booth.

Western's Vehicle Research Institute was setting up the cars to be filmed for a science program that will air on the British Broadcasting Company. "Tomorrow's World," a weekly half-hour science program, filmed the VRI as one of nine

reports it is covering in Western Washington and Vancouver, British Columbia.

The report will air on the program in two weeks to two months from now for about 6 million viewers, said Tanya Kerstiens Rowe, media coordinator for the Public Information Office.

Eileen Seal, grant development specialist for the VRI, said they received a call at 5:30 p.m. on Tuesday to set up for filming at 8 a.m. the next day.

"This whole thing was put

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Photos by Chris Goodenow/ The Western Front



Above: Bronwen Ley, producer, and her cameraman Mike Garner set up a shot. Right: Peter Snow, "Tomorrows World" host, is filmed crawling out of VRI's Viking 29.

A.S. Board votes to increase scholarships in Red Square meeting

By Millissa Macomber
THE WESTERN FRONT

The Associated Students Board, which met for the first time in Red Square, voted unanimously to increase student scholarships from \$500 to \$750 per year at the Sept. 29 meeting.

The new amount will be effective for fall quarter of 2000. The A.S. awards scholarships related to academic achievement, campus activity, diversity, A.S. employment, leadership, political and community involvement, and student life.

This was the first increase since the creation of the scholarships four years ago, A.S. advisor Jack Smith said.

Money for the scholarships comes from ad sales in the "Big Blue Bonus Book" distributed by the Student Co-op Bookstore, Smith said.

The creation of the Transportation Advisory Task

Force was also approved. This task force works on the development, revision of ideas and promotion of an all-campus transportation pass program, according to the task force charter. The pass development process began last year and Vice President of Legislative and Community Affairs Dave Toyer, said he hopes to get the ball rolling again this year.

"I hope to have something relatively concrete by June," Toyer said.

The task force will be chaired by Toyer and include five students and the legislative liaison. The task force is set to disband in the spring of 2000. The hiring of an election coordinator will be considered at the next meeting. The coordinator will help with the planning of a special winter election concerning a new recreation facility. The coordinator will also assist in the usual spring elections.



Matt Jaffe/The Western Front

A.S. Officers meet in Red Square for their first meeting.

Western centennial celebrated on Web

By April Busch
THE WESTERN FRONT

"When the meals became gruesome to some of us, we would invite the president of the college to lunch — unannounced. It was amazing how the lunches subsequently improved," said Rose L. Van Ess in the Edens Hall Memory Book where she lived in 1928.

The food may not have

changed since Rose L. Van Ess lived at Edens Hall, but communication definitely has.

She could never have foreseen being quoted on the World Wide Web, but her words and those of people throughout Western's 100 year history can be found at www.wvu.edu/centennial.

Western's centennial history page, designed by award winning Web designer Chuck Dingee, along his company,

Media Synergy, has quotes and photographs important in Western's history. The site also has an order form for the centennial celebration photo album and a calendar of centennial celebration events and dates.

"I liked the anecdotes. They really brought the school to life," said student Adam Goldstein.

It took Dingee approximately

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Psychology professors receive \$250,000 in grants

By Kim Lincoln
THE WESTERN FRONT

Sixty new top-of-the-line PCs will replace the Psychology Department's existing seven as a result of more than \$250,000 in grants received by two of the department's professors.

Scott Ottaway, assistant professor of psychology, and Dale Dinnel, associate professor of psychology received nearly \$84,000 in funds from Student Technology Fees and from the College of Arts and Sciences and a \$86,276 course, curriculum and laboratory improvement grant from the National Science Foundation, Ottaway said.

Western will match the NSF's funding as part of the grant requirement, he said.

The money will be used to purchase new computers, software and more advanced learn-

ing equipment.

"This will benefit students quite directly by allowing them to learn about psychology using state-of-the-art technology," said Ron Kleinknecht, psychology department head.

In addition to purchasing new computers, one of the goals of the three-year project will be to develop a new psychology curriculum to bring technology into the classroom, Kleinknecht said.

This will include adding three new research courses, assigning computer-aided homework and using new software to help demonstrate psychological principles.

After the new curriculum is developed, it will be distributed to Universities nation-wide by 2001, Ottaway said.

"The department is quite pleased about the new possibili-

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IN THIS ISSUE

Star receiver

Western's Ben Clampitt, football's wide receiver, is tied for the national lead in receiving yards per game.

See story, page 10.

Fall concert gets funky

Bands at Westval please the crowd, despite a chilly evening in Red Square.

See story, page 9.

COPS BOX

Campus Police

Sept. 24, 2:18 p.m.: A resident of a residence hall in the 600 block of High Street reported receiving phone calls of a sexual nature.

Sept. 24, 5:35 p.m.: A student reported their vehicle had been broken into in the 700 block of Indian Street. The faceplate of the student's CD player and a 10-inch sub-woofer were taken. Damage to the vehicle is estimated at \$275 and stolen property at \$365. Police have no suspects at this time.

Sept. 25, 12:22 a.m.: Officers reported drug use in the 2900 block of Bill MacDonald Parkway.

Sept. 28, 12:50 a.m.: A 19-year-old man was cited for driving under the influence in the 400 block of South College Drive. His vehicle was impounded.

Sept. 28, 8:43 p.m.: A resident advisor in the 600 block of High Street gave University Police a marijuana pipe taken from a resident. University Police planned to destroy the drug paraphernalia.

Bellingham Police

Sept. 26, 9:44 a.m.: A man was arrested in the 500 block of 23rd Street for swinging a knife around, causing alarm for the safety of the people in the apartment.

Sept. 27, 11:18 p.m.: Officers responded to a loud party in the 1300 block of Grant Street.

Sept. 28, 1:13 a.m.: An officer responded to a report of a woman screaming in the 1000 block of 22nd Avenue. The woman explained to the officer that she had fallen and could not get up. The officer helped the intoxicated woman who had become stuck between a wall, a chair and her bed.

Compiled by JJ Jenson

STATE NEWS

Numerous bombs found in Moses Lake garage

Authorities say they found 22 homemade bombs in the garage of a Moses Lake man after he was seriously injured when one detonated in his hands.

The bombs were detonated at a Moses Lake firing range by a U.S. Army ordnance team Wednesday night. Thirty-one-year old Don McLane was in stable condition at Seattle's Harborview Medical Center after surgeons reattached three fingers on his right hand.

Sheriff's deputies say the blast destroyed McLane's left hand. Police today were still trying to determine why the heavy equipment operator was making the bombs.

Grant County Sheriff Bill Wiester says McLane could face charges of illegal possession of explosives.

Judge upholds Boeing discrimination settlement

A federal judge in Seattle has upheld the \$15-million settlement in a discrimination lawsuit against Boeing. It had been challenged by some African Americans who said it was inadequate.

Attorney Oscar Desper said the settlement will compensate some individuals and make changes in the way Boeing handles promotions.

The settlement was announced in January by Boeing Chairman Phil Condit and civil rights leader Jesse Jackson. The challenge was heard last week in Seattle's federal court. The settlement covered lawsuits filed last year on behalf of African American employees in Seattle and

Philadelphia. They said they were harassed and faced retaliation if they complained to any wrongdoing.

Boeing does not admit doing anything wrong. The settlement will pay nearly \$4 million to 268 named individuals, nearly \$4 million to others who file claims, nearly \$4 million to the lawyers and nearly \$4 million for diversity programs.

Prosecutors recommend one-year sentence

Prosecutors are recommending a one-year sentence for the mother of a baby she helped cremate in a park.

Laura Mjelde will be sentenced tomorrow in King County Superior Court in Kent. She pleaded guilty to rendering criminal assistance in the death of her son. Her former boyfriend, Stanley Red, was sentenced Friday to 16 years in prison for manslaughter. He says the baby died in a bathtub while he was out buying beer.

The couple did not want to notify authorities last October, so they burned the body in a park trash can and also in an apartment fireplace. The death was discovered after authorities started investigating the baby's disappearance.

Sea-Tac restroom renovation

You won't have to touch a toilet handle or sink faucet at Sea-Tac Airport after it's restroom renovation.

Sixty restrooms will be equipped with fixtures that have electronic sensors that flush and turn on water automatically.

Entrances will be designed without doors so people carrying their luggage can get in and out more

easily.

The work will take five years and cost \$26 million. It's part of a \$500-million upgrade at Sea-Tac. About 26 million people pass through the airport each year.

Buying Bellingham plant

Puget Sound Energy is buying the Encogen Northwest natural-gas power plant in Bellingham for \$164 million. Puget Sound says the acquisition will reduce its power costs.

NATIONAL NEWS

Officials promise probe of Korea charges

At the White House and at the Pentagon, the people in charge are promising to get to the bottom of it. They're responding to an Associated Press report of mass killings of civilians at the start of the Korean War, carried out by U.S. soldiers. Army Secretary Louis Caldera says the reports are "very disturbing."

Bradley gains money edge

Bill Bradley is making gains in the polls and now the Democratic presidential hopeful is outdoing rival Al Gore when it comes to bringing in the campaign cash. Bradley raised about \$6.7 million during the past three months. Gore raised about \$6.5 million.

INTERNATIONAL NEWS

Radiation leaking in Japan

Crews are struggling to stop a nuclear reaction that's spewing radiation into Japan's air. It started by accident Thursday at

a uranium processing plant near Tokyo. The accident has sent three workers to the hospital and may have contaminated dozens of others.

Eight dead in Mexico quake

At least eight people are dead after a strong earthquake in Mexico. The 7.5 quake set buildings swaying in Mexico City and toppled old homes and church towers in Oaxaca.

Kenyan president joins Ugandan counterpart in bashing homosexuals

First, Uganda's president attacked homosexuals, and now, Kenya's president is joining in.

A Kenyan newspaper (the East African Standard) says President Daniel Arap Moi lashed out Wednesday against gays and lesbians. He said their behavior is abnormal and contradicts biblical teachings and African traditions.

The report also says Moi mocked homosexuals, saying they have "a funny way of dressing which included wearing earrings."

Earlier this week, Uganda's president warned he's going to crack down on homosexuals.

Same-sex relations are illegal in both countries. In Uganda, a homosexual act is punishable by life in prison.

Compiled by Devin Finco

Corrections & Clarifications

In the Sept. 28 issue, the story, "I-695 to decrease WTA funding," stated that the contingency plan would be completed and presented to the WTA board on Sept. 30; the presentation is actually scheduled for Oct. 6.

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

THE MATH PLACEMENT TEST is offered at 9 a.m. Mondays on Oct. 4, 11, 18, 25, Nov. 1, 8, 15, 22, 29 and Dec. 6 and at 3 p.m. Thursdays on Oct. 7, 14, 21, 28, Nov. 4, 11, 18 and Dec. 2 and 9. Sample problems may be found at <http://www.washington.edu/oea/aptp.htm>. Test registration is not required but students must bring photo ID and a No. 2 pencil. A \$10 fee is payable in exact amount at time of testing. Allow 90 minutes.

THE TEST FOR ENTRANCE INTO TEACHER PREPARATION (TETEP) may be taken at 2 p.m. Oct. 13 in OM 587, Nov. 16 in FR 4 or Dec. 1 in OM 587. Registration is required in OM 120. A \$25 fee is payable in exact amount at time of registration. TETEP is not administered on an individual basis; testing takes about 2½ hours. Admission deadline is Oct. 31 for winter quarter and Jan. 31 for spring quarter.

MILLER ANALOGIES TEST: Registration is required in OM 120 or by calling X/3080. A \$35 fee is payable at time of testing. Testing takes approximately 1½ hours. Testing will be at 2 p.m. on Oct. 19, FR 4; Nov. 19, OM 482; Dec. 13, OM 482.

ATUS FACULTY/STAFF AND COMPUTER HELP DESKS have moved to HH 145. This move includes Teri Blow and Laurie Yeager. Telephone numbers remain the same for all. Other ATUS services continue in their usual locations. If unsure where to go for assistance, call X/3333.

THE ASIA UNIVERSITY AMERICA PROGRAM SEEKS students to be "campus friends" to Japanese students. Campus friends volunteer one hour a week during fall quarter to share conversation. To sign up, call Shaun Stone, X/3297, or stop by OM 530 by Oct. 6.

THE VETERANS EDUCATIONAL OUTREACH PROGRAMS office has moved to 3800 Byron St., Suite 124, in the Lincoln Business Center, next to the Samish Drive-In. Resources are available to help veterans with all of their special needs. Interested in a work-study job? Call Jeff Kissick, 676-4856.

On-campus recruiting

Knight, Vale & Gregory. No campus interviews. Accepting résumés for preselect interviews for accountant positions in Tacoma. Submit résumé to Career Services, OM 280, by Oct. 7.

Larson Gross. Preselect interviews Oct. 12. Requires bachelors degree in accounting by August 2000. See company information in employer library, OM 280. Submit to Career Services, OM 280, by Oct. 4 a cover letter, résumé and an unofficial transcript.

Microsoft Corp. Presentation, 6 to 8 p.m. Oct. 13, Library Presentation Room. Submit résumé for preselect interviews on Oct. 25-26 to Career Services, OM 280, by Oct. 13.

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.

Center first of its kind: Internet help, services



Chris Fuller/The Western Front

George Mobus assists computer science graduate student Dennis Johnson with a program.

By Laura Mecca
THE WESTERN FRONT

Coming soon to Western is a new Internet Studies Center geared to prepare students from all majors for a technologically developing work force.

Assistant professor of computer science George Mobus is optimistic for the new project, which is expected to be complete within the next two years.

The center will help prepare students for the growing job market of Internet operation and programming.

"Students who have Web development skills are in high demand," Mobus said.

Associate professor of the computer science department, James Hearne worked with Mobus and said he believes the center will be a good service for students.

The program is designed to accommodate students from all majors who seek to develop skills for an Internet-based economy.

Dean of the Arts and Sciences College Peter Elich is very supportive of the new center.

"I applaud the initiative taken by the faculty — in particular George Mobus," Elich said.

He said he believes the program is consistent with a mission to provide trained students to supplement the work force in Washington.

The Internet Studies Center will allow students to focus on a non-computer, science-based major and still attain the skills necessary for an Internet-oriented career.

"As the Internet evolves, these people will be better prepared to evolve with it," Mobus said. "We will give them the capacity to learn as they go."

The center will have three concentrations. The first, content development, is geared toward students interested in the creative aspects of a Web page, such as writing and drawing.

Students from journalism, English, graphic design, communications, marketing and computer science can use these skills in this concentration.

Content deliverers are responsible for the technical knowledge of the Web site. They are the programmers who will incorporate the developers work into the Web page.

These courses teach programming languages, as well as how to work with servers.

Lastly, a concentration for Web site managers will give instruction on how to maintain and manage a Web site.

"All of these different talents will be coming together, and they all have to speak the same language," Mobus said, "This new center will provide this for them."

He said this program will help students from all different departments work together on a project as a team.

The new center will be funded by three main contributors. US West, Microsoft and Wall Data all showed interest in donating to the new center. The donations are expected to total \$274,000.

The Higher Education Council has matched the \$274,000, bringing the total funding of the center to more than \$500,000.

"Students who have Web development skills are in high demand."

George Mobus
Assistant professor of computer science

return for their funding of the center, the companies hope to receive interns and employees sufficiently trained in Web technology from Western.

Three new faculty members will be hired to accommodate the expected increase of 50 to 200 students, Mobus said.

"With this new program, everyone comes out a winner," Mobus said.



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CAMPUS CALENDAR

Oct. 2:

Western's football team plays its homecoming game at 1 p.m. Saturday against the University of Western New Mexico. The Viking Pep Band, made up of students, alumni and community members, will also perform.

Oct. 8:

Kelly Joe Phelps will perform at 8 p.m. Oct. 8 at the Viking Union Main Lounge as part of the fall concert series. Tickets are available at the PAC box office, and prices are \$6 for students and \$8 for general admission.

Oct. 11:

Flu shots will be offered through the SHAIC from 10 a.m. to 2 p.m. at Oct. 11 to Nov. 24 High Street Hall. The shots are available to all Western students, staff and faculty members aged 13 and older.

For more information, contact the SHAIC at 650-2961.

Western one of 265 to get grant

GRANT, from page 1

ties we will be able to offer undergraduates and graduates," he said.

Ottaway and Dinnel submitted the grant proposal to the NSF nine months ago. After an extensive review of 1,056 proposals, the NSF selected Western to be one of 265 schools in the nation to receive the grant, Ottaway said.

"The NSF is the most competitive funding agency in the United States and we were rated excellent by all reviews," he said.

Climbing out of debt — safely

By Rachel Dooley
THE WESTERN FRONT

To many college students who are in desperate need of extra money, applying for a credit card seems to be a good choice.

But, unlike an ATM card where the money is automatically taken from a checking account without any extra fees, a student with a credit card who takes a cash advance out will be charged for doing so.

Many students don't realize what they are getting themselves into until they receive the first bill in the mail.

Knowing how to handle a credit card responsibly, however, will save a lot of headaches in the future.

Jody Burpee, 22, said she sometimes feels she can get out of control with her three credit cards, especially when she is faced with buying books and paying for parking permits at the beginning of each quarter.

"I work two jobs and save money by living at home," Burpee said about her attempts to stay out of debt.

The good news is, according to U.S. News and World Report's annual survey, Western students graduate with the least amount of debt.

The survey ranked Western No. 1 among public universities on the West Coast. Forty-nine percent of Western students average \$5,332 in debt after they graduate — \$488 less than students at California State University-Stanislaus, who rated

“*I work two jobs and save money by living at home.*”

Jody Burpee
Western Student

second in the survey.

Many students, however, are still in credit card debt once they graduate.

Dennis Meunier, vice president of United College Marketing Services said his company focuses on teaching students proactive credit card tips.

The tips help students use their credit card as a financial tool.

He also offers tips to students to help them save money and build a good credit card history. He said he advises students to get a credit card in their own name as opposed to a card in their parent's name to help build credit.

Then, once students get a card they should make a small purchase every month such as going out to dinner or buying a new CD.

As soon as the bill comes they should pay it off immediately. That way, Meunier said, students can build a history of responsible payments.

Many employers, real estate companies and banks check credit histories to see if students are responsible. If students have good credit, then it will be easier to negotiate low interest rates, Meunier said.

"Banks hate that we give this



Chris Fuller/ The Western Front

A.S. Bookstore cashier Lainey Jameson checks the student number of a customer.

information out," he said.

If students are charged a late fee, they can try and get out of it by calling their cardholder and explaining why their bill was late.

If a student is a good cardholder, they can usually get the late fee waived. Meunier also said to shop around for credit cards that give cash back on purchases, have no annual fee and have a 15- to 17- percent interest rate.

Students can access free online credit management at <http://www.credithealth.com>, which offers personalized help from a credit counselor.

“*Many employers, real estate companies and banks check credit histories to see if students are responsible.*”

Dennis Meunier
Vice president of United College Marketing Services

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Bellingham ATHLETIC Club

VRI considered to be one of the most unique programs in North America

VRI, from page 1

together on the spur of the moment," Seal said.

The BBC program filmed the VRI's electric car, Viking 29, along Chuckanut Drive.

The car was driven by VRI research engineer Orion Morrison.

Morrison may have enjoyed the scenery as the car cruised Chuckanut; however, the program's host enjoyed the surroundings from a more sedentary standpoint.

"I sat on the bonnet of the

green car overlooking a lovely view of the sound," said Peter Snow, "Tomorrow's World" host.

They filmed the solar race car, Viking 20, driven by Rob Giovenale, senior industrial technology major, along South College Drive.

Snow also conducted an interview with VRI Director Dr. Michael Seal.

"It's worldwide attention that will help the program survive," Giovenale said. "(VRI) is the most unique program in North

America for undergraduates to be this creative."

"The international exposure could help recruit more students from overseas, especially England," said Brian Bressler, senior engineering technology major.

Snow said the filming crew is going back to London this weekend.

Some of the other reports the film crew covered were folding houses in Vancouver, British Columbia and an automatic

salmon tagging machine on the Columbia River.

Snow said they came to Western because they heard it had a wonderful vehicle research program.

"I think Bellingham is a wonderful place with a lovely campus," he said.

This quarter the VRI is starting construction on a new car that it plans to take to compete in Detroit and Birmingham, England.

Western's four phases on Web

HISTORY, from page 2

40 hours to build the site. Dinee won Council for the Advancement and Support of Education awards for Western's alumni and foundation sites.

The site contains a "gallery" of 88 photos covering a range of important events in Western's history.

The main page has four buttons that when clicked display photos and quotes from each of Western's four phases: New Whatcom State Normal School, 1899 to 1937, Western Washington State College of Education, 1937 to 1961, Western Washington State College, 1961 to 1977 and Western Washington University, 1977 to present.

Jo Collinge, assistant director of the Public Information Office and centennial events coordinator, said the Web site is just one of the events planned throughout campus to celebrate Western's centennial.

Using his own discretion for the design and purpose of the Web site, Dinee sifted through hundreds of photos and quotes the PIO sent him from Special Collections at Wilson Library.

"They sent me a hell of a lot of photos," Dinee said. "There are 88 pictures in the gallery. That's only about a third of what I was sent. I knew I couldn't use them all."

The PIO and Dinee's goal was to provide a place for students to order the centennial photo album and to access a comprehensive calendar of centennial events.

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Melody With A Twist

Cory Chagami

THE WESTERN FRONT

Patrons at the 3B Tavern got their Martinis rocked instead of shaken or stirred Saturday night.

Los Angeles-based band, the Martinis, showcased its style of indy-pop-rock to the small but enthusiastic crowd.

Known for loud and energetic style, the Martinis played a five-song set that had the dimly lit, low-key tavern rocking until about 1 a.m.

Eureka Farm opened for the Martinis with wailing lyrics and

“You could totally feel the energy coming from (the Martinis)...”

Chris Wormley
Western student

loud instruments.

When the Martinis took the stage and got into the first song, “Sunshine,” it made even the “older” guys in the back of the club stop their conversations and turn around to watch the band on stage.

Singer Linda Mallari, guitarist Joey Santiago, bassist Miko Watanabe and drummer Adam Topol showed their energy in the form of fists pumping in the air and heads rocking side to side.

“Every time on stage — every time I play — it’s to have fun,” Topol said.

“You could totally feel energy coming from them,” Western student Chris Wormley said. “They sounded great.”

The Martinis, enhanced by Mallari’s strong vocals and Santiago’s guitar, lived up to the band’s reputation for playing

really loud. The 3B’s brick walls made sure that the only way sound escaped was through the little entrance door opening onto Holly Street.

“The music was just bouncing off the walls — the 3B room certainly helps too,” Western student Jeff Fernandes said.

Songs, such as “Sunshine,” “BBQ,” and “Free drew some comparisons between the Martinis and Santiago’s former band.

“They were pretty good, not too bad,” Bellingham resident Chris Manson said. “They do sound suspiciously like the Pixies though.”

Santiago, best known as the former lead guitarist of the late 80’s and early 90’s band The Pixies, said that’s the kind of reaction he doesn’t want.

“I can understand how people can compare us to the Pixies, but that’s not fair,” he said. “It’s not fair to Linda because she has her own style and writes the songs we play.”

As the centerpiece of the band, Mallari looked at the crowd with beatific smiles and almost suggestive winks.

She showed a sense of humor while taking off her sweater between songs, saying, “No, this isn’t the part where I strip for you!”

Mallari’s melodious voice fit the band’s sound, adjusting perfectly between the constant tempo changes.

In the song “Paper Doll,” Mallari sang the first verse slow and picked up the beat as the song progressed to the second verse with a little kick of her foot.

From there the song rocked until the last verse, which came back around to the swaying rhythm of the first.

The Martinis seemed very comfortable on the small stage — barely large enough to keep

them from bumping into each other. Still, smaller clubs are what the band is looking to play in now.

“I like the small clubs — way more intimate — feels like we’re just hanging out,” drummer Adam Topol said.

“Right now, the music is more for us,” Santiago said. “Everyone has to start somewhere, and I feel this is where we need to be now.”

“Up and down the coast was fun,” Topol added. “All I want is for the people in the audience to be bobbing their heads and hav-

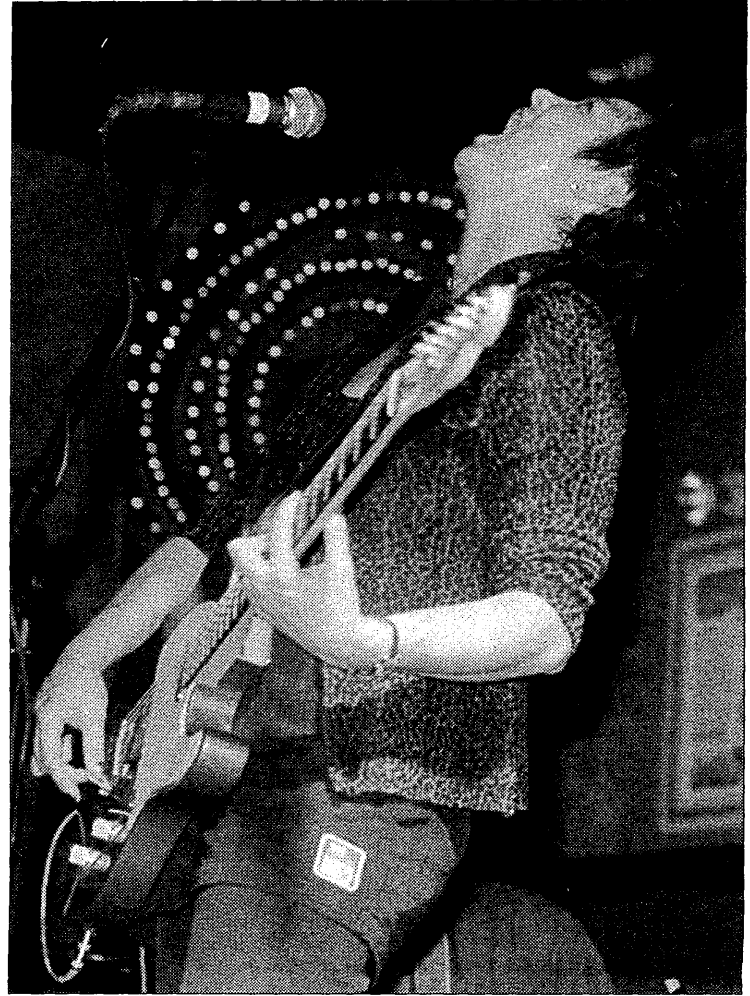
“I can understand how people can compare us to the Pixies, but that’s not fair.”

Joey Santiago
Martinis guitarist

ing fun.”

Bellingham was the last stop on the Martinis’ swing of the west coast. From here they go back down to Los Angeles and play more clubs there and in the San Francisco area.

Patrons of the 3B
drink in heady sounds
of the Martinis



Hear her roar: Linda Mallari, of the Martinis, at the 3B.



Chris Fuller/The Western Front

Joey Santiago, formerly of The Pixies, smoothly changes up the tempo as smoothly as he changed his groove from Martinis to The Pixies.

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Prose Praised and Prodded

Steve Leslie
THE WESTERN FRONT

Monday night marked a revival in literary consciousness as local artists awaited their chance to participate in the Bellingham Slam.

The Slam, organized by Whatcom County poets Wesley Fullerton and Kam Farris, is a competitive, open-mic poetry reading where anyone who is so inclined can throw out original verse in hopes of winning the various gift certificate prizes.

"There are a lot of poets in this town," Fullerton said. "We want to provide a place where poets can come out of the woodwork — a forum where writers

have a chance to get up and perform."

Fullerton explained that adding a competitive element to a traditional poetry reading makes it more of an entertainment event.

"The sense of one-up-manship promotes a performance aspect to the poetry that requires direct communication with the audience," Fullerton said.

Communication with the audience is indeed important, because it is three randomly picked audience members who judge the competition.

The audience was very active Monday night, clapping or snapping their fingers with approval and booing and heckling when a judge would give a questionable

score.

Scott Seitz, a participant in Monday night's readings, happened to have a very humorous spin on things, and perhaps the question of what is poetry could be best answered in an original poem he performed at Monday night's slam: "Poetry is like the laughing of little children, that chase after the ice cream man as he careens off of a cliff and bursts into flames, and all of the ice cream melts. No ice cream for you my little children. Now you are crying. But just a moment ago you were laughing. Why do you cry? Is it because all of the ice cream has melted, or do you cry because the ice cream man is now as dead and as crispy as BBQ'ed.

Signs of the Times



Chris Goodenow/The Western Front
Heather Hadfield and daughter Hannah strike a symbolic pose at the Viking Union Gallery art exhibit.

Craig Yantis
THE WESTERN FRONT

Captivated by vigorously working hands on a video screen, a guest in the Viking Union Gallery watches as a baby's bottle is filled with ground beef. A TV screen appears on this curious bottle and the camera scrolls slowly along. Eventually revealed are the familiar golden arches of a McDonald's restaurant sign.

"Psychoanalytical Beef" by Western student Gideon D. Breazeal, is a part of the "Icons" exhibit sponsored by the Associated Students. Along with works by other local and regional artists, it is on display from 11 a.m. to 4 p.m. Monday through Friday, Sept. 20 through Oct. 15 in the VU Gallery.

Breazeal said he included the baby's bottle as a symbol of maternal comfort.

"It's kind of like you talk a psychologist's coach and splice it with fast food," Breazeal said.

A lot of people are obese and use fast food as a cover-up, he said.

"People going through asking for their order is really like people saying, 'I'm thinking of changing my life, what should I do?' And McDonald's responding, 'Do what you want, have a Big Mac, some extra fries?'"

Breazeal said his first artistic works were in the more traditional media of paintings and drawings, and that he later found video to be a favorable medium.

"I realized that certain ideas of mine couldn't exist as a static image, they really have to go through a narrative sequence," he said.

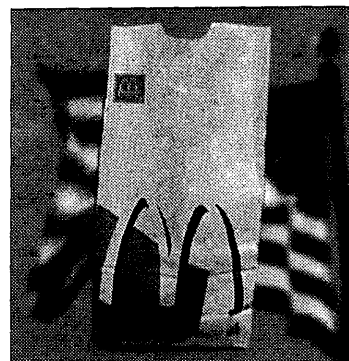
Breazeal had to buy his own camera and provided most of the equipment required for production of his piece, since the School of Fine Arts does not currently focus on video as a medium.

DeoSoliDeo Pattison, a regional artist from Sumas, saw the Icons theme as an opportunity to display his block paintings depicting Jesus Christ.

Using traditional images of Christ as a foundation, Pattison said he took liberties to express his personal beliefs. His work titled "Christ the Pilgrim" presents an image of Christ with a straw hat, a symbol not typically associated with Christ.

"Classic medieval pilgrims wore straw hats and carried a staff, obviously centuries after Christ," Pattison said. "But in the tradition that he was a stranger and he kind of wandered through, I put him in as a pilgrim and used the hat as a traditional halo."

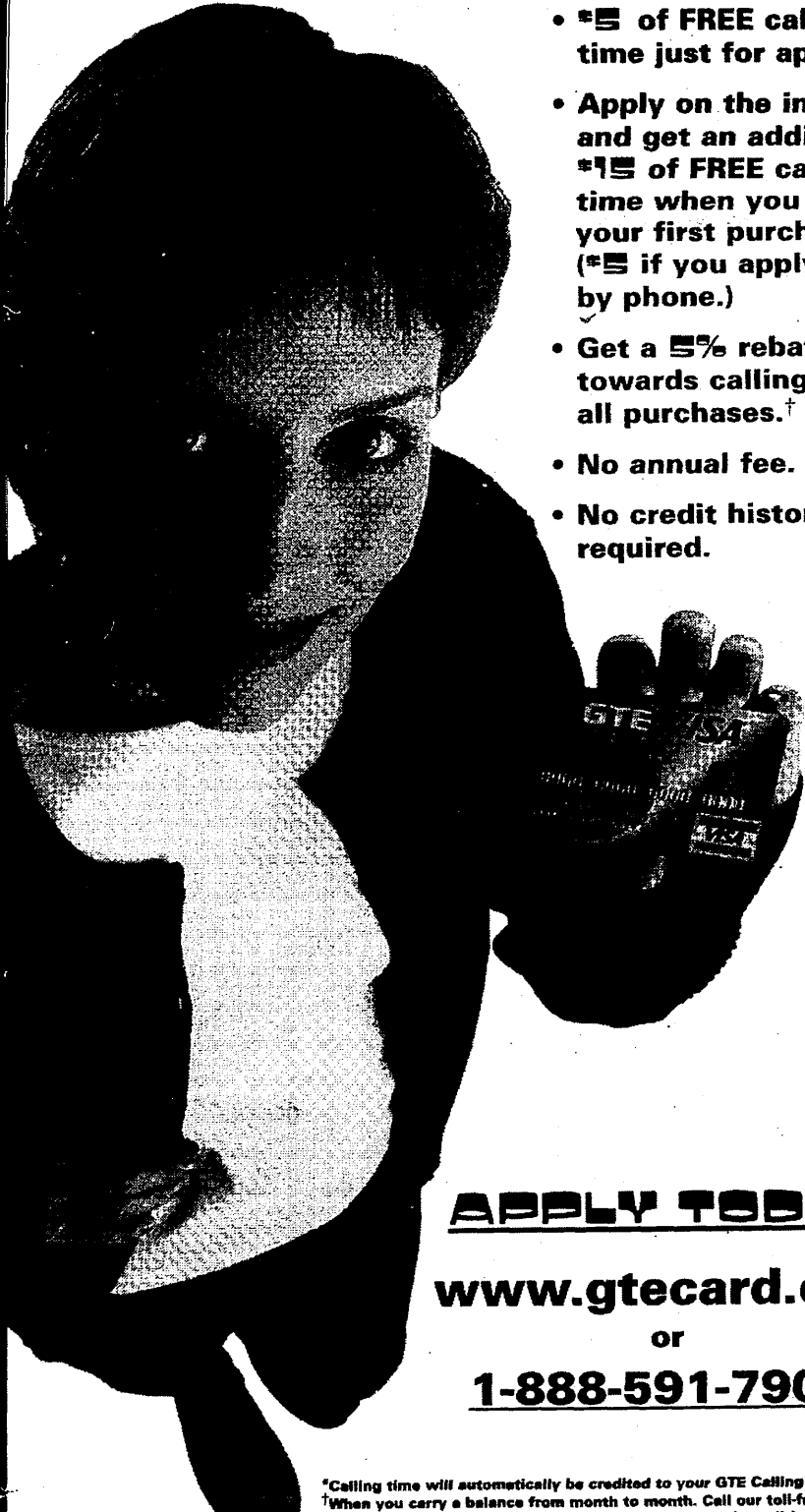
The exhibit includes works using various media — a paper collage, acrylic on canvas and three block paintings to name a few examples.



Courtesy of Gideon Breazeal
Still frame of "Psychoanalytical Beef"

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DANGER in Skagit County

Ken Brierly

THE WESTERN FRONT

Pop rock superstars Harvey Danger sat in a Ford Econoline van, parked next to a Third World-quality stage set in the middle of a remote cornfield in Skagit County.

Another Seattle rock band, Nevada Bachelors, was on the stage, nearing the end of its set as about 100 people, mostly teenagers in the crowd, milled around unenthusiastically. They were hopelessly waiting for Harvey Danger to take the stage, and their spirits were drenched by rain.

On Sept. 24, the Bachelors, Pavlov Jones and Harvey Danger played a benefit show at the Corn Maze to raise money for the Leukemia Society.

HD front man Sean Nelson could be seen sitting in the van's front passenger seat, craning his neck around to talk to the passengers behind him, who were hidden by tinted windows. The side door opened, revealing HD bassist Aaron Huffman and drummer Evan Sult.

They stepped out of the van and into the rain. While Sult began unpacking his drum kit, Huffman talked about the band's new songs to be released on their yet-to-be-named upcoming album.

"I think tonight you'll most-

soft drink cup half-filled with hoppy beer.

The "first one" Huffman referred to was the group's 1997 debut release, "Where Have All the Merrymakers Gone?"

The indie label album went gold, anchored by singles "Private Helicopter" and, of course, the bouncy and neurotic "Flagpole Sitta," which had a MTV video and a spot on the movie soundtrack, "EdTV."

"We never figured we'd sell that first thousand (albums)," Huffman said. "I hope something like that happens with this one, too. We're really super proud of it."

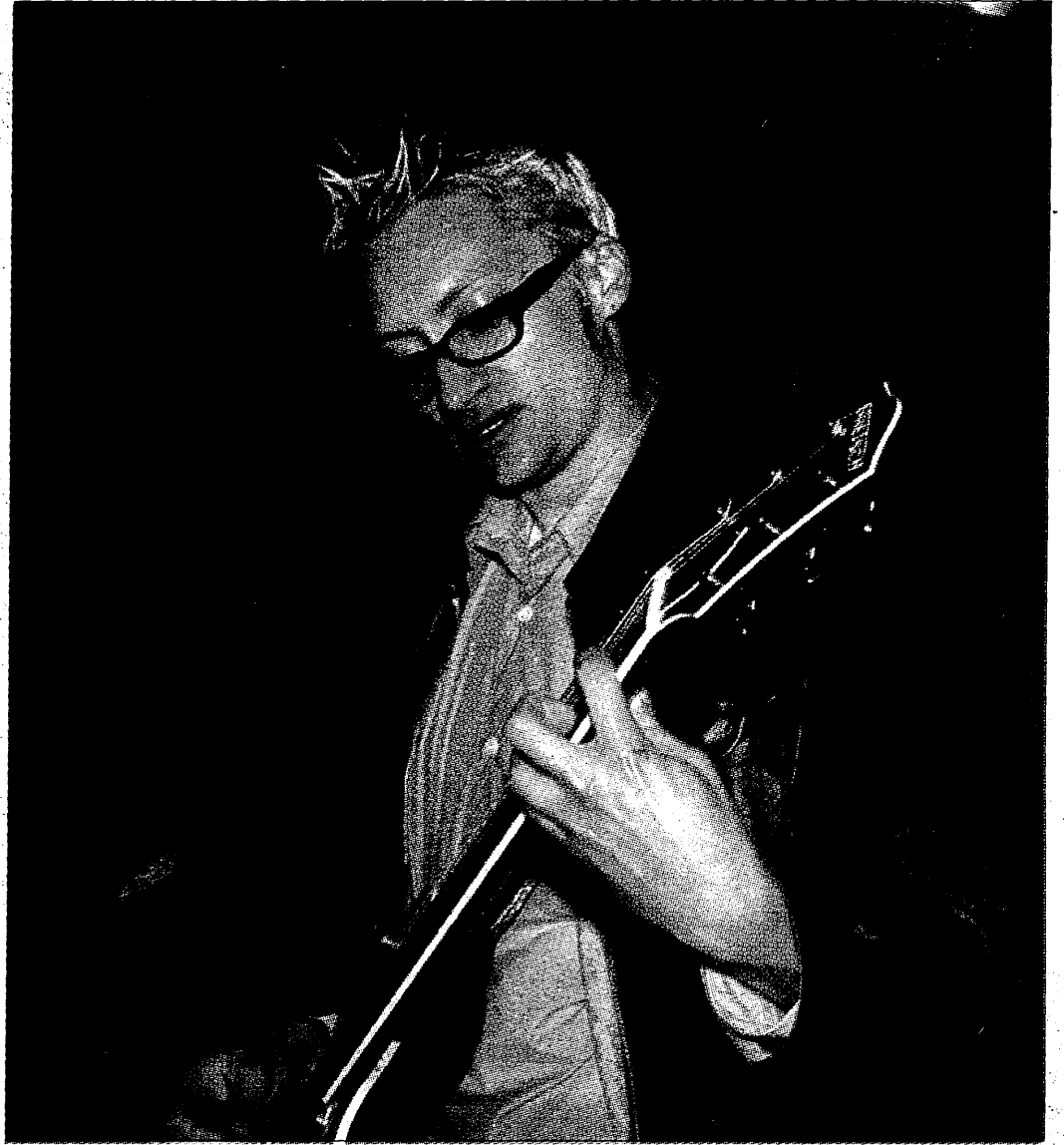
Harvey Danger's new tracks are recorded and were supposed to be mixed and released by now, but due to snags resulting from the band's label, Slash, merging with London, the new release will likely be sometime in December or January.

"Maybe we'll get it out sooner if we ever get finished here," Sult quipped, holding his palms open toward the rain-spitting sky after a skater kid with a broken forearm asked Sult if he'd sign his purple cast.

If the later release date has a bright side, it would be the possibility of HD adding a couple more songs to the album.

"We're working on them, trying them out at shows and seeing how well they work," Huffman said. "That being said, I really do think our new music is better in every way. We've been together for a few more years now and have learned a lot more about writing songs."

"Our songs have become more sophisticated," he added. "We can now play the music we hear in our heads, so we're constantly writing new songs. We could never get too far away from our pop



Nick Haney/The Western Front
Aaron Huffman, bassist for Harvey Danger, stands back from the mic and displays his prowess while performing in Conley in Skagit Valley during an especially rain-soaked evening.

sound, but our stuff is like, half-upbeat like what's on 'Merrymakers' and half of the songs are mellow."

Near the back of the van, a middle school-aged boy talked with Sult, a native of Bellingham, about his drumming aspirations, and they discussed favorite crash symbols.

Shortly after, The Bachelors move offstage, and HD set up under the tarp covering it. Soon, the band was ready.

It was raining sideways by the time Sean Nelson approached the mic and greeted the crowd.

"Arise, children of the corn," he said. Sult hammered the four-beat count on his sticks and Harvey Danger dove into the first song, a new one called "Spinning in my grave."

The combination of hard wind, heavy rain and a major rock band performing in the middle of a remote corn field has a surreal effect — in the

same way dreams are filled with ironies, and piercing points of clarity despite the dream's general haziness.

A steady eastern wind battered the cornstalks' fuzzy tops, and Nelson's curly chunks of hair patterned their direction as he wailed out a very personal version of "Problems and bigger ones."

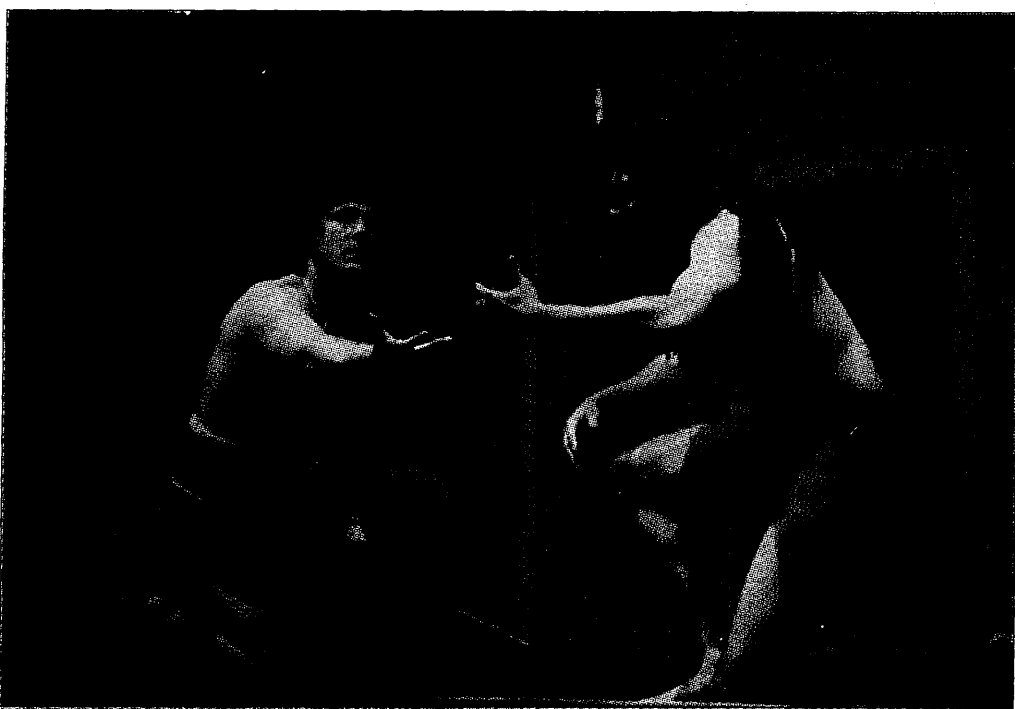
The torrent of wind is seemingly orchestrated by the strain in his voice — Mother Nature, in lieu of lights and smoke.

"We never figured we'd sell that first thousand (albums)."

Aaron Huffman

Bassist

ly hear some of our new songs — only a few off our first ones," Huffman said softly from behind his horn-rimmed glasses, while gripping a huge



Chris Goodenow/The Western Front
Actor Rob Olson portrays Gilgamesh in a retelling of the classic epic.

Historical epic

Kristin Bigsby

THE WESTERN FRONT

From the first time he discovered the "Epic of Gilgamesh," David Mason envisioned its transformation into a drama.

His vision materialized after six successfully attended productions last month at the Fairhaven Auditorium, sponsored by the Friends of Fairhaven College.

"Because Fairhaven has got a small auditorium, you don't have to have a huge voice to make yourself heard," he said.

Work began in May in Mason's living room, with informal readings of the script.

The now 68-year-old retired professor has spent years of his life getting to know the 4,600-year-old text of Gilgamesh, mostly through his teachings at Fairhaven College.

"I taught the first sexual class at Western in 1968," Mason said during an interview Sunday, just before the final performance of the teaching sexual minorities, always looking for examples of relationships, and found them: Enkidu and Jonathan in the Epic of Gilgamesh, which is deeply based on a loving relationship between two men. Mason's "Gilgamesh," which was noted as the first effort to unambiguously run it as a homosexual production, was taken from John Gardner's translation of stone-carved tablets from the Middle East.

"It was based on real Sumerian life," Mason said. "In our classes, we talked about how change among cultures, and we apparently were perfectly happy having two men running the city. That they slept together and

Red Square Rocks

Soren Velice

THE WESTERN FRONT

Although the crowd started out small, those drawn to Westival were rewarded with four hours of tight funk, smooth hip-hop and the best make-out music since Barry White.

First on the roster was Fat Albert Rotunda, a local funk outfit with nine members. Much of the band's set was tight, horn-driven funk in the style popularized by Earth, Wind and Fire two decades ago.

Vocalist Rachel de la Torre was ably backed by Gabe Glennde on bass, Tim Friedman on guitar, Cameron McGlophen on drums and Reese Marshburn playing the keyboards.

The band's sound was filled out by its horn section, with Paul Chandler on trumpet, Dave Knirk playing tenor sax and two alto saxes played by Lopez Ricks and Tim Holford.

Although the stage was packed with the other bands'

equipment, Fat Albert made the best of the situation, with members crouching down to allow the audience to see McGlophen's subdued drum solo.

Between sets, the Paradigm (aka 3-Way) jumped on stage to freestyle a few verses while the next band was setting up.

Seattle hip-hop band Source of Labor played next, bringing its live-band hip-hop to the growing crowd, which had amassed about 200 onlookers.

Wordsayer, the band's M.C., was on a mission to educate the crowd about "true" hip-hop culture.

"You can't buy hip-hop at Tower or Sam Goody," he said between songs. "You don't hear it at the mall."

Backed by live drummer Allen Matthews, keyboardist Darrius Willich, DJ Topspin and Loren Davis on bass, the message came through for Westival attendees.

Lots of slapping by Davis and fast, heavy beats by Matthews kept the crowd interested while Wordsayer rapped his way through views on everything from Seattle weather to major record labels' influence on hip-hop culture.

The tight, funky grooves and lightning-quick scratching finally got the crowd moving when the band broke into the Sugarhill Gang's "Rapper's Delight."

Matthews said he enjoyed playing for the Western crowd, adding that he hadn't been here since he was in high school jazz band.

"It was fantabulous," he said. "People was dancin"—they were hypin", they were energetic."

The nostalgic feel of the night's entertainment was exemplified by the show's headliner, Maktub.

Maktub's sound ranged from Motown-style soul to spacey, almost disco-sounding grooves a la Jamiroquai, but with more raw energy.



Chris Fuller/The Western Front

Fat Albert Rotunda dazzles the Red Square audience with the band's tight mix of sizzling hip-hop and intoxicating funk during Saturday festivities that included music, dance and sumo wrestling.

Vocalist Reggie Watts exuded Al Green, Curtis Mayfield, and Isaac Hayes all in one, while keyboardist Alex Veeley created swimming melodies with an electric piano and a clavinet, which sounds like a guitar with a wah effect.

At the same time, drummer Davis Martin and bass player Kevin Goldman held down the bottom end with some of the tightest grooves ever produced by mere humans; the audience, which had grown to about 300, showed its appreciation by sticking around to dance through the cold, windy night.

Watts often gave the songs a scratchy intimacy afforded by singing through an old telephone (soulfully exuding the longing he sang about).

At several points during the band's set, Watts broke into rapid-fire scatting that exemplified the primal energy of Watts' vocal style.

More than a few audience members were impressed by the show. Ben Davis, a senior majoring in biochemistry, was impressed with his vocal style.

"I'm pretty impressed with Maktub," he said. "I haven't heard so much soul since Marvin Gaye died."

Roger Hoffman, a friend of Davis' from Lake Stevens, echoed Davis' sentiment, adding that Source of Labor was a pleasant surprise.

"The whole show was pretty cool," he said. "Especially Source of Labor. That was a pretty cool take on the whole

rap thing—I kind of expected more of the guns 'n' ho's stuff."

Westival, which was funded by the Associated Students and the Alumni House this year, is Western's way of welcoming incoming freshmen and returning students.

"This is the welcome back party," John Tosh of A.S. Pop Music said. "It's a great way to get it started off, get the freshmen into the music on campus."

Tosh also said he wanted to expose the audience to unique music at Westival.

"We wanted something a little bit different, but pleasing to everybody," he said. Judging by the size of the crowd that braved the cold and wind, Tosh seemed successful.



Chris Fuller/The Western Front
Reggie Watts of Maktub croons at Westival

receives controversial interpretation

each other's bodies seemed to be OK."

There are a number of versions of this epic that have been dug up several different times in ancient history, Mason

“...Gardner may be the first person to translate this and stand by the racy idea that it's a homosexual epic.”

Kamalla Rose
Co-director and actress

said, who also suggests there is an overabundance of material to analyze. Gardner's translation.

"We chose this version because it's word for word, a very accurate source," said Kamalla Rose, co-director and actress. "The other thing that's very dif-

ferent about this particular translation is that Gardner may be the first person to translate this and stand by the racy idea that it's a homosexual epic."

The cast of Mason's Gilgamesh all claim to have experienced ideal chemistry throughout the course of preparing for and performing the play. Mason claims that workability came through the actors' understanding of the text.

"The principal actor, Gilgamesh, is a gay man who admits that fact openly," Mason said. "That represents for him a tremendous investment of time and self into identifying with the character...it's really all about him."

Rob Olson, who played the role of Gilgamesh, said the defining moment came when Gilgamesh dismissed a seductress.

"It's not really until he empowers himself to spite Ishtar saying, 'No, you're not good enough. Enkidu's good

enough,' that he accepts how he feels about other people. That's the moment," Olson said.

Previous to Gilgamesh, Mason has had many years of experience in theater, which began in high school with chorus parts in Gilbert and Sullivan musicals.

"Practically everywhere I've gone I've sort of gotten that reputation for doing things out of line," Mason said.

"His experience is quite overwhelming," Olson said. "Working with David Mason, you have to be on your toes. You have to be clever enough to hear what he's saying."

What's left of Mason's Gilgamesh is a screenplay transformation of the script.

"Now we still have to turn it into a real play," Rose said. "We'll start with Gardner's estate. He did that translation as the last thing in his life. Our first step is to go back to him."



Chris Goodenow/The Western Front
Veronica Traveler as Ninsun glances at crowd.

Catching fire, receiving accolades

After spending his summers on a fishing boat, this Viking gives Western someone to cheer for

By Kim Lincoln
THE WESTERN FRONT

After enduring the blistering winds and pelting rains of the Bering Sea, Viking receiver Ben Clampitt returns to Western each fall to get tackled and crushed by the opposing team.

Clampitt, 22, said he has spent every summer since he was 15 fishing off the coast of Alaska with his father, Paul, a commercial fisherman.

"Ever since I can remember, I was doing something on a fishing boat," he said.

As a child, he would do odd jobs like painting and cleaning, but now he said he spends weeks on end in rough seas to earn money for tuition.

"We're not like the other guys out there who fish for one day and come back in, we're out at sea for two to three weeks working 18-hour days ... it's rough," Clampitt said.

He said he enjoys the freedom and independence of fishing and that it is a good job to have because it only requires him to work during the summer.

After fishing in Alaska, Clampitt returns to Western as a starting receiver for the football team.

Clampitt transferred to Western winter quarter of his sophomore year from the University of Puget Sound, where he played wide receiver for the Loggers.

"My dad went to school here, and he really wanted me to go here too," he said.

Clampitt showed up for spring practice in 1997 and was invited to play ball for the Vikings that fall. Last season alone he had 71 catches for 1,288 yards and 10 touchdowns.

"He's one of the guys you know you can count on," said Scott Mitchell, Viking quarter-

back. "If I need a first down I know I can throw the ball to him."

Clampitt said he really enjoys football because it gives him a chance to be part of a team.

"When the team needs a big play, he's the one they can look to," said former Viking receiver Joey Smith. "He's what you call a game-breaker, he can change the game with just one play."

Clampitt said he also plays football because his family enjoys it. Clampitt said his dad flies down from Alaska for almost every game, even away games. When he can't make it, he calls from sea to get the final score.

Clampitt attended high school in The Dalles, Ore., where he won several awards for football and also acquired injuries that continue to haunt him today. While running track his junior year, Clampitt tore the hamstrings in both of his legs. These injuries caused him to sit out his first season at Western.

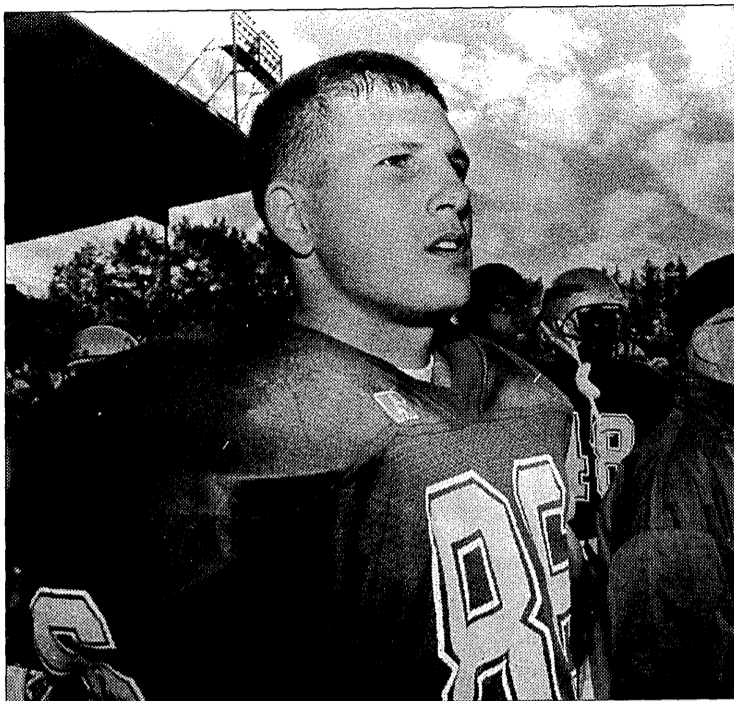
"It's nothing I can't deal with, I just have to take some more time with it and make sure I stretch it out well," he said.

After graduating in June, Clampitt wants to coach his little brother Miles' football team in The Dalles. Other than that, he said he may consider fishing or traveling.

"There is so much out there, and I have so many opportunities," he said. "I don't really know exactly what I want to do."

Clampitt said he's learned more about football during his three years at Western than the previous eight years he's played the sport.

He said he owes his success to his coaches and fellow teammates who have given him the confidence and strength he needs to do anything.



Chris Goodenow/The Western Front

Western receiver Ben Clampitt gears up for Saturday's homecoming game against the University of Western New Mexico.

Vikings ranked nationally in poll

Western wideout Ben Clampitt is tied for the national lead in receiving yards per game, and the Vikings are ranked 10th in the latest NCAA Division II poll.

Clampitt, is averaging 126.7 yards per game, with 16 catches for 380 yards in three games. His six touchdowns, an average of 12 points per game, rank him 11th nationally in scoring.

The Vikings' defense is fourth-best in the nation against the run, allowing only 50 yards per game.

Quarterback Scott Mitchell is 22nd in passing offense and 27th in total offense. He has thrown for 527 yards and six touchdowns, with no interceptions, and rushed for 133 yards and two scores.

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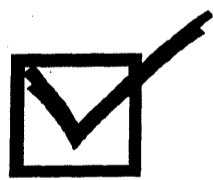


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Viking netters 'flat' against SPU, lose second straight

By Andrea Abney
THE WESTERN FRONT

The women's volleyball team lost to Seattle Pacific University Tuesday, three games to one. The loss drops the Vikings to 5-5 overall and 2-2 in Pac-West Conference play.

The Vikings have won four of their last six matches after a 1-3 start.

"Both teams played well," captain Jessica Jones said. "They just outplayed us in a couple of rallies and that was the difference."

Western lost the first game 3-15. The team had only 10 kills in the game, compared with the Falcons' 22. The Vikings were also called for six net violations, all on points.

"Our defense was horrible in game one," outside hitter Donja Walker said. "We weren't disciplined at all."

"We came out flat and dug a hole for ourselves," coach Michael DiMarco said about the

tone of the game. "It's the second match in a row against two tough opponents that we've come out flat."

Western came out strong in the second game, winning 15-11. The team was down 4-8 when DiMarco called time out. Western went on to score three

"
'Both teams played well. They just outplayed us in a couple of rallies, and that was the difference.'

Jessica Jones
Viking captain

straight points and later tie the score at 10-10. The victory came on a service ace by Michelle Parker.

"We didn't execute in game one," Jones said. "We talked about that between games and our execution was the key to the

second game." Western lost the third game 11-15.

The Vikings jumped to an early 4-0 lead but couldn't hold on as the Falcons led by as much as five. Western had a late-game rally, but it wasn't enough to win.

"We just let the third game get away," DiMarco said.

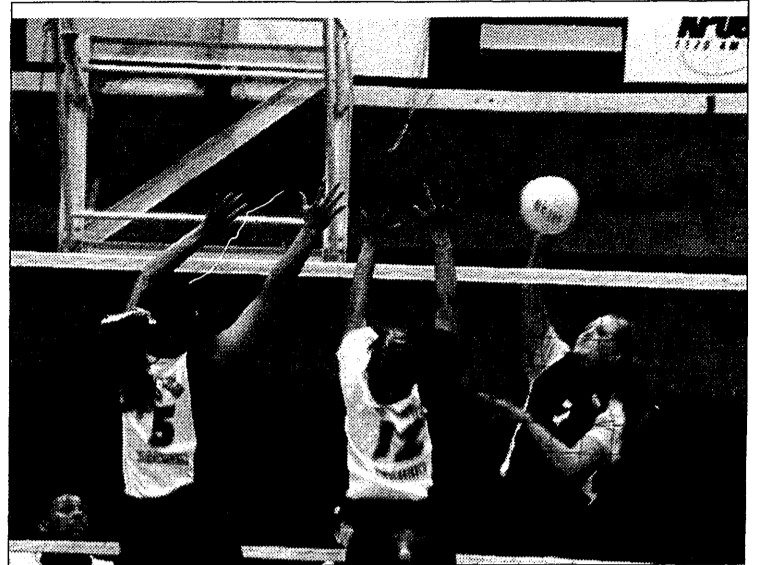
Western lost the fourth game 15-17. After being down by six, Western battled back to tie the score at 13-13 and later 15-15.

The crowd roared as game points were exchanged between the teams, but SPU pulled it out in the end.

"We showed a lot of heart in the fourth game," DiMarco said. "It was an exciting match for the fans."

Walker led the Vikings in kills with 13, while Parker had 12. Jill Dean led in both assists, with 42, and defensive digs with 18. Kristen Mann led in blocks with 3.

"Shannon Rowland did a nice



Chris Goodenow/The Western Front

Viking captain Jessica Jones goes up against SPU.

job coming off the bench for Kim Formo," DiMarco said. "She's a true freshman and it's the most she's played all season."

"As long as we beat the teams that SPU beat, then we'll be fine," Walker said about the impact of Tuesday's loss.

Western will play five home games in a row, the next one tonight against St. Martin's.

The Vikings host Central Washington University on Saturday.

Both games are at 7:30 p.m. in Carver Gymnasium.

Homecoming festivities

By Andrea Abney
THE WESTERN FRONT

Western celebrates homecoming today and Saturday. The theme is "Rock Around the Clock."

Festivities will begin with fireworks and a bonfire tonight.

Saturday the football team will take on the Western New Mexico Mustangs and the homecoming celebration will end with the Homecoming Dance Saturday night.

The homecoming bonfire and fireworks show will begin at 7 p.m. Friday on field D, across from Fairhaven College.

The Chrome Dinettes, a '50s band featuring psychology professor Lou Lippman, will perform.

Free beverages, snacks and the famous Homecoming raspberry brownies will be available for everyone.

"I bet 700 people came out last year," said Alumni events coordinator Kristie Lundstrom of

last year's bonfire. "This year the grounds staff has a huge cow that they're going to make into a mustang to put on the bonfire."

There will be a 5K Homecoming Fun Run/Walk at 9 a.m. Saturday on the all-weather track. Registration begins at 8 a.m. Food and prizes will be available to all participants.

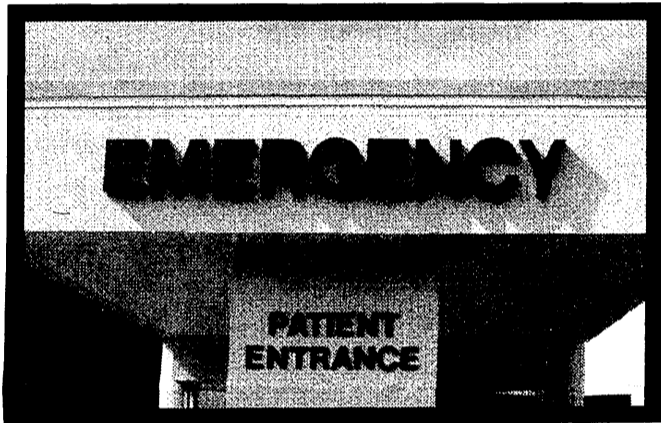
A homecoming tailgate party will take place from 11:30 a.m. to 1:30 p.m. Saturday at Civic Field. The cost is \$3 per person for a tasty lunch of bratwursts, potato salad, beverages and more homecoming brownies.

Also at Civic Field, beginning at 1 p.m., watch the Vikings' football team take on the Western New Mexico Mustangs.

Admission at the gate is \$6 general and \$5 for Western students.

Homecoming events wrap up with a dance from 9 p.m. to midnight in the Viking Union Main Lounge — admission is \$4.

"The whole weekend will really be a lot of fun," Lundstrom said.



One trip here and your health plan could pay for itself.

If you or a member of your family has a medical emergency this quarter, how can you be sure your finances will survive?

The Student Emergency Health Plan

This plan provides for treatment of

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Eligibility Students, visiting professors and dependents are eligible. You may enroll at the time you register for classes, provided you are currently carrying six or more credits. Your coverage is effective for the month in which a quarter begins and

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Individual \$64
Family \$118

continues through the month in which a quarter ends.

Enrollment Applications for enrollment are available at the WWU Cashier's Office, Student Health Center, or at NWMB.

You may enroll in the plan for the 1999 fall quarter through October 8, 1999.

Premium The quarterly premium is \$64 for an individual and \$118 for a family.

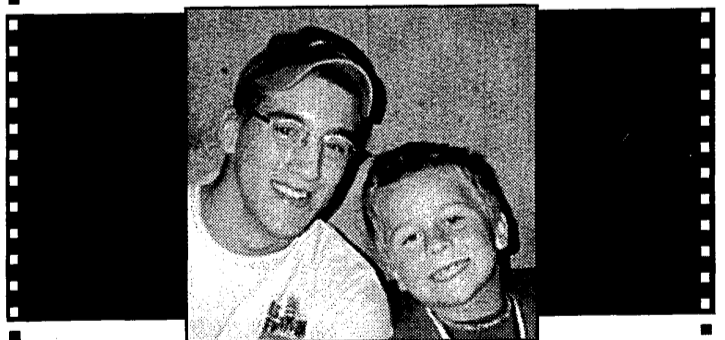
Questions Contact the Student Health Center at 650-7352 or Northwest Washington Medical Bureau at 734-8000. NWMB office hours are Monday through Friday from 8am to 5pm, except holidays. Northwest Washington Medical Bureau is located at 3000 Northwest Avenue in Bellingham.



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We've got spirit, Blue yes we do ... Crew

By Jeff Hoffman
THE WESTERN FRONT

Any Western coach will say that a relentless crowd can help take the opposing team out of the game and establish a huge home-field advantage. The deafening noise as Central Washington University brings the ball down the court in the final minutes of a close game can make it impossible to execute its offense. With this in mind, Western has embarked on a new program to help bring out the students in force. Welcome the Blue Crew.

The Blue Crew was designed to help bring more school spirit to Western and to try to make the athletic contests more fun for the students to attend.

"We are trying to create an event that people enjoy," said Blue Crew member Ryan Shawhan. "It's not just people playing basketball or volleyball or whatever the sport is. We want people to come to an event — to enjoy coming to the event."

"I can remember back in high school, going to your high school's football game," said Blue Crew member Jen Brandolini. "That was Friday night. That is all that you wanted to do was go to your football game. That's what we want to do here. We want to make it an exciting place to bring your friends and have a good time."

There are two levels of Blue Crew participants: the basic student participants and a wilder bunch called the Extremists.

"The Extremists are creating an atmosphere that is fun and vibrant and alive," Shawhan said. "We want the people to want to come back and bring their friends and support Viking athletics."

Students who are involved in the Blue Crew not only help support their school, but also can receive free perks for attending Western sporting events.

"Any student coming to any one game gets a T-shirt," Bob Hofstetter, Blue Crew coordina-

tor. "If you come to two events, you get a coupon for \$1 off an espresso or latte at Marriott, and the incentives keep on growing."

Universities nationwide have seen a significant decline in student support and general school spirit during the past two decades. The Blue Crew is just one of the ways Western is trying to boost spirit and bring students back to the games.

The concept for the Blue Crew came from the University of California-Davis' Aggie Pack. In 1991, a group of approximately 50 students formed the Scream Team. They attended the games wearing special T-shirts. Slowly the Scream Team developed into the present-day Aggie Pack — the largest student spirit organization in the United States.

Scott Brayton was one of the early founders of the Aggie Pack.

"Basically, our purpose is to generate school spirit and generate excitement for the athletic event," he said. "We do skits, pass out and throw out stuff to the crowd. During an average game, we will throw out between 300 and 400 different items."

"For me, it's a way for students of all backgrounds to come together under one blanket: UC-Davis athletics," Aggie Pack member Ryan Richmond said.

The Aggies have seen their winning percentage at home grow from approximately 50 percent in the late '80s and early '90s to more than 75 percent in the past six years.

UC-Davis has also been awarded the Sears Director's Cup twice as the top athletic program in the nation.

"The more students get involved with athletics, the more people we get to support the teams here at Western," said Brandolini, also a former Western softball player.

"It's really hard to play well when you are playing here and there aren't very many people at the games," Brandolini said.

"Sports are fun. We're trying to make it fun for students to

Western walloped by SFU Clan scores three goals in 10 minutes

By Jaime Martin
THE WESTERN FRONT

The Western women's soccer team lost 4-1 to Simon Fraser University Wednesday.

Forward Christine Avakian scored her fifth goal of the season — Western's only goal — on a breakaway an hour into the game.

The team is now 6-4 overall and 1-2 in the PacWest.

"I don't think there was a highlight in that game," coach Derrek Falor said. "I don't want to beat around the bush, but I don't think we were prepared to give 100 percent intensity."

The Clan took control of the game late in the first half, scor-

ing three of its four goals in a 10-minute span.

The first was scored by forward Sara Maglio, who also played for the Canadian team in the Women's World Cup last summer.

Simon Fraser players Alix Ius and Randee Hermus scored two more goals to complete the 10-minute rally.

"We have a certain style of play and we didn't bring it to the game," Viking Stacy Schilter said. "We weren't playing with heart and intensity."

Western is ranked sixth in the NCAA Division II West ratings.

Western plays Western Oregon University noon Saturday at the soccer field.

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<http://westernfront.wvu.edu>

PARKING & TRANSPORTATION NEWS

Campus Express

The Express schedule has been aligned to make a reasonable commute from Civic Field, the York Neighborhood, and Lincoln Street to the campus and back again. These two routes are a contract service with the entire cost paid for by WWU Parking & Transportation Services through collections of parking fees. Some individual runs experience greater volumes than others and may require some schedule adjustment on the riders' part. At present, parking permits are available in the C Lots for those who desire this option.

Schedules are available through Parking & Transportation Services or by looking up Route 20 in WTA's Transit Guide.

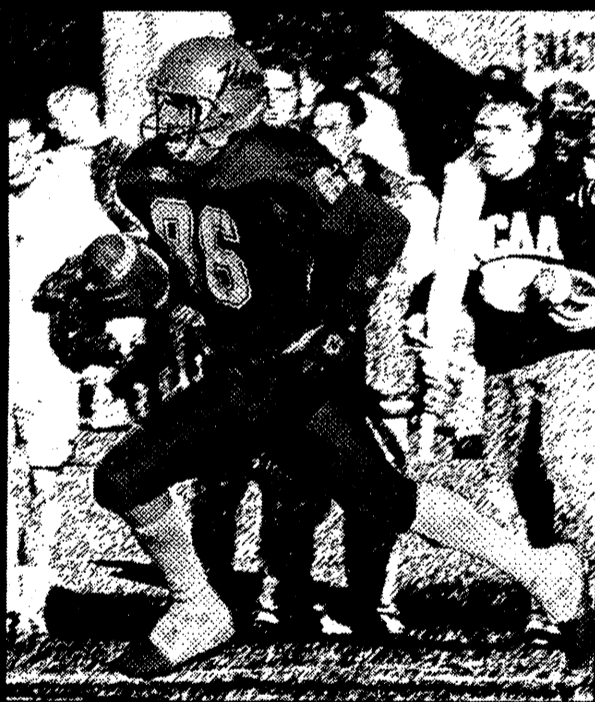
Parking Permits

Some users have found the 1999-2000 permits difficult to secure to the rear window. This can be eased by following these steps:

- 1) Ensure that the lower driver's side area of the rear window is clean.
- 2) Peel the backing off of the permit and affix any stickers enclosed.
- 3) Press the *whole* permit firmly onto the rear window, lower, driver's side.
- 4) If necessary, you may "re-static" the permit by rubbing it on upholstery or clothing.
- 5) If you will be regularly transferring the permit, you may wish to purchase a clear hangtag from Parking & Transportation Services for \$1.

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WWU v.s. Saint Martin's
Carver Gym, 7:30

Saturday, Oct. 2nd
WWU v.s. Central
Carver Gym, 7:30

Homecoming
Saturday

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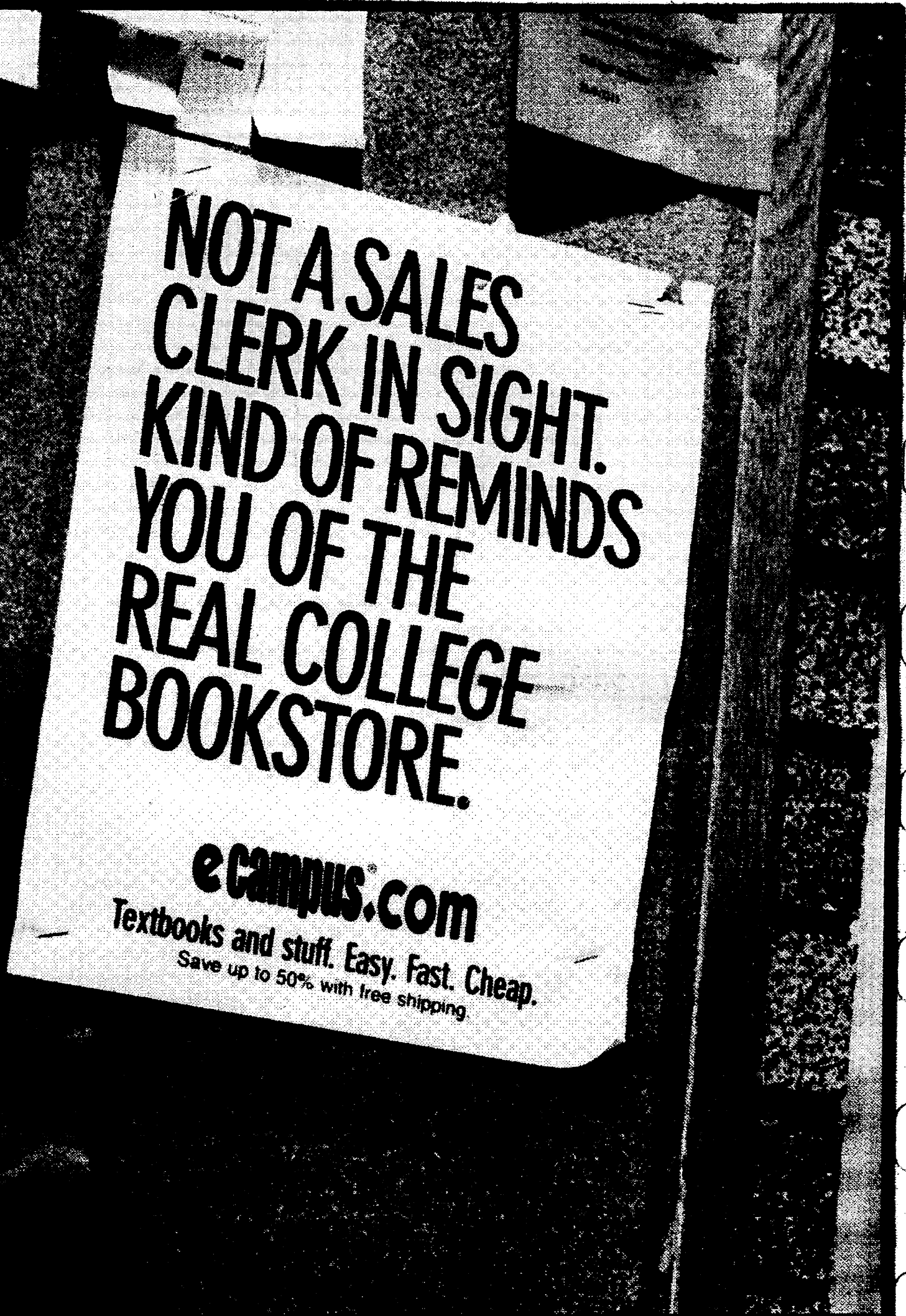
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on Western New Mexico



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Frontline

Tax burden not worth sacrificing government

This November, voters will make a decision that could forever change the landscape of Washington state politics and government.

At first glance, Initiative 695 seems to be the ultimate in populist politics. It would reduce the tax burden of the sixth-highest taxed state in the union, keeping taxpayer's money out of the hands of the omnipotent and inefficient government as well as give voters a direct say on important tax issues.

But a closer look at I-695 reveals that the anti-tax initiative is shortsighted and dangerous to the state economy and system of representative democracy.

The initiative fails in three ways: it will provide the biggest cut to those who need it the least, while throwing crumbs to those who need tax relief the most. It will strip the state of funds vital to keeping roads and public services in good shape and, most importantly, it will strip the state legislature of its ability to do its job.

The worst thing about I-695 is that despite its populist shell, at its core it is inherently unfair to everyone but the rich. For example, a 1999 Mercedes Benz ML 320 retails for about \$41,000 and costs about \$834 to license. I-695 would save the owner about \$750. A 1995 Honda Civic, which retails for about \$10,000 and costs about \$180 to license. The owner would save only \$150.

The well-heeled owner of a \$40,000 car saves four times more than the lower-income owner of a \$10,000 car. Ask yourself, is that fair?

According to a recent Seattle Times article, I-695 would also strip the state of \$750 million, or 7.5 percent of the state's operating budget. Most importantly, it would cut the Department of Transportation and public transit budgets in half. I-695 doesn't sound like a good deal for students, the elderly and the poor — those who rely most on public transportation.

I-695 supporters say this can be handled by spending the state's \$1-billion budget surplus. But it is impossible to spend that much money under spending limits imposed by 1994's I-601. Even without I-601 restrictions, this idea is preposterous; what happens when the state's economy goes downhill and the surplus dries up?

The worst part of I-695 is the devastating blow it would give to representative government. It would require voters to go to the polls for every public fee or tax increase. Sounds like a good idea until, as required under the language of I-695, voters have to approve a 5-cent raise in school lunch prices because the cost of broccoli went up.

Supporters say this provision will send a message to do-nothing legislators. Whatever happened to "throw the bums out?"

The so-called "tabs initiative" is an ill-conceived, reactionary and dangerous piece of legislation buried underneath a populist covering. Tax relief is much needed, but not at the cost of destroying the state's infrastructure, services and government.

Frontlines are the opinion of The Western Front editorial board: John Bankston, Erin Becker, Lisa Curdy, Corey Lewis and Greg Tyson.

The Western Front

Editor: Erin Becker; **Managing Editor:** Corey Lewis; **Copy Editors:** Bryta Alvensleben, Julie Graham, Remy Kissel; **Photo Editors:** Chris Goodenow; Chris Fuller; **News Editors:** Lisa Curdy, Tiffany White; **Accent Editors:** Angela Smith, Greg Tyson; **Features Editors:** Alyssa Pfau, Steven Uhles; **Sports Editors:** Jenni Long, Curt Woodward; **Opinions Editor:** John Bankston; **Cartoonist/Graphics:** Kevin Furr; **Adviser:** Lyle Harris; **Business Manager:** Carol Brach; **Advertising Manager:** Joel Hall.

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And we quote:

"Historical fiction ... can instruct. Fiction larded into a work purporting to be history is just fakery."

George Will, on Edmund Morris' "Dutch," a controversial memoir of Ronald Regan. Seattle P.I., Sept. 30, 1999.



I-695: A DREAM COMES TRUE

I-695 may sever licensing taxes, but voters will still pay other ways



Tami L. Olsen

COMMENTARY

Initiative 695 appears to be a dream come true. In a nutshell, the initiative will lower the Motor Vehicle Excise Tax from the current 2.2 percent of the value of the vehicle to a flat tax of \$30. The initiative also requires a voter approval of a tax increase. For those who pay hundreds of dollars to keep their cars on the road every year, I-695 appears to be the answer to all our financial woes. Guess again.

It's clear to see that the state will lose billions in revenue generated by the MVET if I-695 passes. It's so simple that the average voter can figure it out using their fingers and toes.

If it costs \$250 per year to renew vehicle tabs, and that sum is reduced to \$30, simple math reveals this action results in a \$220 reduction in motor vehicle tax. It is clear, even to the simple-minded individual, \$220 is a lot of beans. The typical government-fearing individ-

ual can recognize the state will always get its beans one way or the other.

A report by the state's Office of Financial Management issued last August state I-695 will cut an estimated \$1.1 billion in revenue. That figure is expected to increase to \$1.7 billion by 2003.

So where does all this money go? The report also states the estimated \$1.5 billion generated this year will be distributed between state transportation programs, local transit districts and local governments to be used in a variety of ways including local transportation and criminal justice. A casual drive through Seattle on a weekday afternoon is a testament of how critical these dollars are to our state.

If I-695 passes, where is the state going to get its beans? The report also states some of the potential fall outs if I-695 passes. One will adjust property taxes to include motor vehicles. The painful reality is the state will not let the mother of all tax breaks take place without finding another way to get your money, particularly when we're talking about billions of dollars in lost revenue.

The second absurdity in I-695

is mandatory voter-approval for all state tax and fee increases.

Now let's be reasonable, who out there in la-la land will vote yes on a tax increase?

I-695 has a loophole. Section 6 of I-695 states an "emergency measure" does not require voter approval in the event of a tax hike. Conveniently enough, "emergency measure" is not defined. Safeco Field represents in the minds of many baseball fans the future of the American pastime in Seattle.

To Washington voters, it is a \$500 million "emergency measure."

The head-shaking truth is I-695 is not the answer to motor-vehicle salvation. Certainly, the tremendous tax break will make our wallets a little heavier, but for how long?

Deal with it Washington! When a state has no income tax, the money must come from other sources.

The amount of revenue that will be lost at the hand of this initiative is staggering, and it is foolish to think that our state will function without the aid of our pocketbooks.

As for the voter approval tax increase — WELCOME TO SAFECO FIELD!

LETTERS

A sample of reader opinions

I-695 struggles to make sense

To the editor:

Nov. 2, Washington state voters will have the chance to change something a lot of people do not like — the car-licensing tax.

Not only would I-695 change the way that a lot of public funds are spent, but it would make money that is available to some really good causes unavailable.

Sure, spending \$30 a year on your license sounds really good, but does paying huge increases on Washington state ferries sound good?

The other major problem that I see with I-695 is that when a person buys a big SUV or a luxury sports car, if they can afford to pay for the car then they can

afford to pay for the tax.

When I start to look for a new car in a year I am not going to be able to spend \$30,000. There is no way that a person who buys a \$30,000 new car should be paying the same amount that a recent college graduate is paying for a used car at the cost of about \$10,000.

As for the budget surplus we have, it would only last about a year-and-a-half if the law passes.

Dave Kearns
Western senior

Western parking woes solved with two wheels



Kristen Hawley

COMMENTARY

The morning ritual of finding a parking space at Western frequently resembles the frustration of a search for an open spot at Safeco Field during a Mariners game.

Drivers circle the lots endlessly, all seeking that magical empty space, only to find it occupied by the car whose driver woke up earlier or drove to campus faster.

While students complain

about the lack of open parking spots on and around Western's campus, the most obvious solution falls by the wayside: Find another mode of transportation.

Even with the limited number of on-campus parking spaces available to students — 2,146 to be exact — more and more people drive to school every year, said Greg Lawrence, manager of Western's Parking and Transportation Services.

More than 11,700 students are enrolled at Western this year, Registrar Joseph St. Hillaire said. Do the math — we can't all drive to school and expect to find a parking space.

For \$15 per month, students can purchase a bus pass from

“*Maybe Western should create more parking. The Sehome Hill Arboretum sure takes up a lot of room where a parking garage could go.*”

Whatcom Transit Authority, which is a cost comparable to one tank of gas. Economical benefits aside, WTA offers campus routes from most parts of town as frequently as every 10 to 15 minutes.

While many drivers have noticed the renovation of the

Samish Way overpass because of the traffic congestion, most probably have not paid attention to one of the new features of the bridge: bike lanes on both sides of the road.

Bicycling is not only economically and environmentally sound, but also an excellent cardiovascular workout. Rather than driving to campus to run on a treadmill, why not hop on a bike and enjoy Bellingham's fall colors?

As cars increasingly clog roads leading to campus, the simple activity of walking is forgotten.

Students complain about walking all the way from the 16CR lot to campus, which is a distance of about half-a-mile —

two laps around a track.

Maybe Western should create more parking. The Sehome Hill Arboretum sure takes up a lot of room where a parking garage could go.

What about that patch of trees where frolicking deer are often spotted? A gravel lot could go there.

Rather than complaining about how Western is not accommodating enough to drivers, students should learn to appreciate not only the several alternative modes of transportation Bellingham provides, but also the fact that our campus is surrounded by natural beauty instead of concrete parking lots.

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