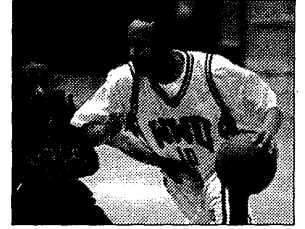




**Feelin' the beat**  
Habib Koite and Bamada bring West African music to the PAC.  
See Story, Page 7.

**Vikes crush Crusaders**  
Palm's double-double gives Vikings edge over Northwest Nazarene.  
See Story, Page 9.



FRIDAY, January 31, 2003

# The Western Front

Western Washington University

Volume 124 Issue 6

Bellingham, Washington

## USA Patriot Act infiltrates Western

By Abiah Weaver  
THE WESTERN FRONT

In the upcoming months, Western students who check out Adolf Hitler's "Mein Kampf" might find the FBI reading over their shoulders, said Béla Foltin Jr., librarian and public records officer.

Under the USA Patriot Act passed shortly after Sept. 11, the federal government could seize students' personal information, including library records to investigate potential terrorist activities.

Last week, librarians throughout the country gathered in Philadelphia for the American Library Association's midwinter meeting. The conference, which ended Wednesday, examined the impact of the act on the nation's libraries.

"Libraries have always been concerned about the confidentiality of patron records," Foltin said. "But patron records have

always been obtainable for well-specified legal reasons. The Patriot Act just lowered the bar. That's what concerns people."

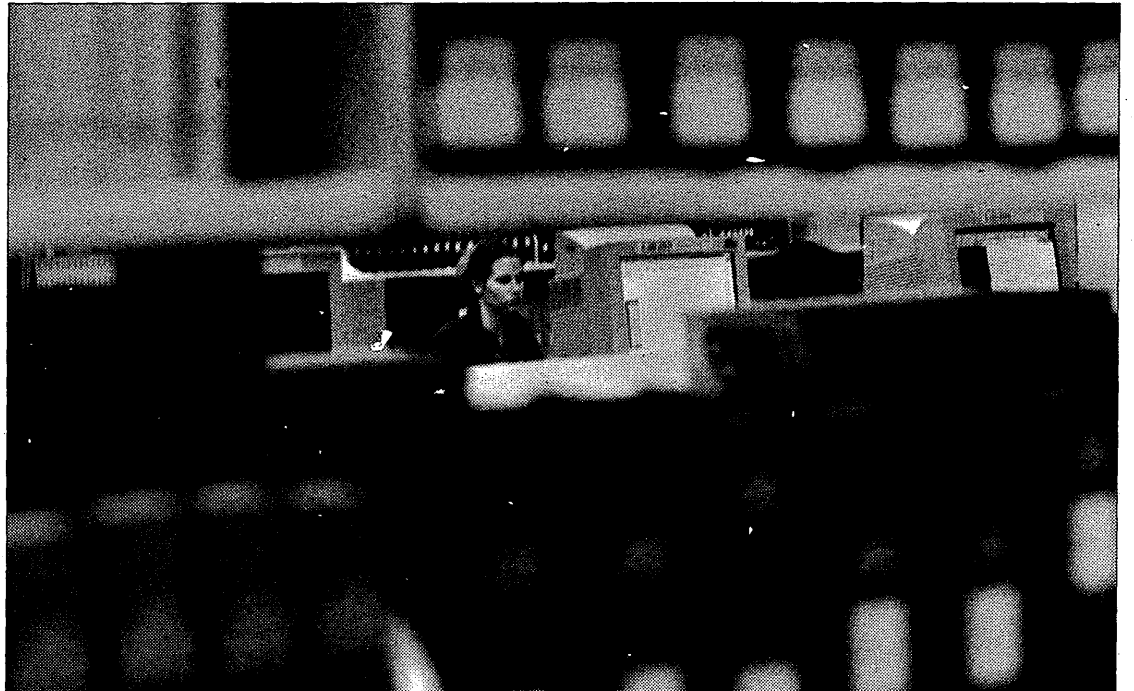
The legislation was designed to help the FBI monitor potential threats to homeland security. The act does not require that students be official suspects or that they be notified if their records are seized.

Tom Byrd, Western junior and political science major, said he understands the need for limited federal surveillance laws, but he is concerned the act will compromise his privacy.

"I am particularly disturbed that they can access this information, and they don't have to notify the suspect," Byrd said. "They notify a person when they search their house, and I expect they would notify me if they were going to search my student records."

Foltin said it is possible that

See LIBRARY, Page 3



Keith Bolling/The Western Front

Western sophomore Brwyn Harris uses a computer in Wilson Library. The USA Patriot Act provides the FBI access to students' personal information, including library records and information saved to Western's server.

## Blaine DEA office considers move to Bellingham

By Jenny Zuvela  
THE WESTERN FRONT

Increased drug trafficking in Washington has forced the Federal Drug Enforcement Administration to hire new employees who may relocate to Bellingham because of overcrowding in the Blaine office.

Trafficking has increased, with drugs arriving in Bellingham

from Canada, but Thomas P. O'Brien, the DEA's Public Information Officer, said a move south would not change operations.

"(The DEA) will be conducting the same mission," O'Brien said. "Agents would just commute. ... We're still dealing with the same problem, but (trafficking) has increased. ... The more people you have, the more drugs you take off

the street."

Robert Cayford, the acting resident agent in charge of the Blaine DEA resident office, declined to comment on his office's possible move to Bellingham.

The DEA will relocate employees to somewhere along the Interstate 5 corridor from Blaine to Bellingham, O'Brien said.

Task force participation and cooperation with federal and

state law enforcement led to the need for additional employees, O'Brien said.

When people quit or are fired, new agents must be hired to keep the number of employees from dropping to ensure that state funding remains constant.

"We can't become stagnant," he said. "We have to increase or at least maintain the number of officers to maintain the amount of

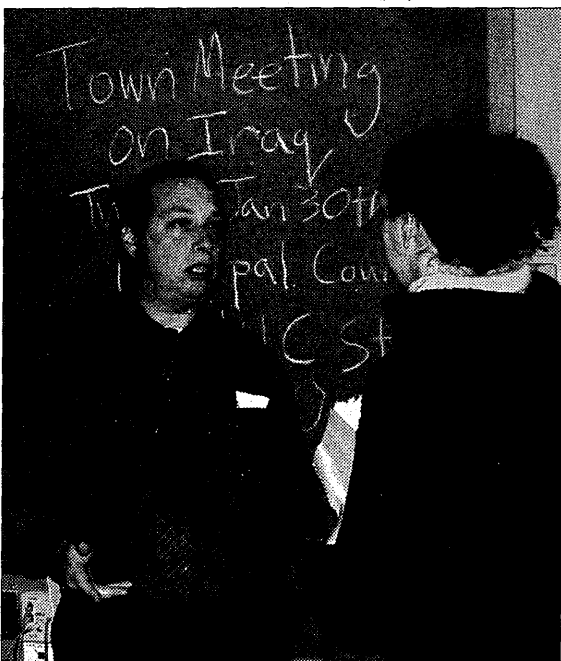
resources we receive."

"The Facilities and Management office is searching for office space to relocate the Blaine office," he said. "Once they identify the new location, it will be made known."

Bellingham Police Lt. Craig Ambrose said he has no information on the possible move, but it probably would not affect police

See MOVE, Page 3

## Prewar training ruins ecology, speaker says



Andrea Boyle/The Western Front  
Speaker Saul Bloom, an anti-war protester and environmentalist, speaks with Western senior Alison Bikerstaff after a seminar Tuesday night.

### Global Actions Local Reactions

By Andrea Boyle  
THE WESTERN FRONT

Photographs of bleeding and burned children, aircrafts exploding in the atmosphere and abandoned nuclear weapons sites flashed quickly before the eyes of an audience waiting to learn about the coming dangers of war in Iraq.

Western students, faculty and members of the community joined with members of the Environmental Center and the AS Peace Resource Center Tuesday night in the Science Lecture Hall to learn about the detrimental effects war has on the environment.

"The most important thing you could be doing is telling your state representatives not to go to war," Executive Director of Arc Ecology Saul Bloom said. "It is a damn foolish thing."

Arc Ecology, based out of San Francisco, is a non-profit organization founded in 1984 to address the environmental and social impacts of military activities.

Bloom, an expert on the effects of war, gave an

See LECTURE, Page 3

## Sociology professor dies

By Andy Aley  
THE WESTERN FRONT

Carl Simpson, Western sociology professor and director of institutional planning and research, died from cancer Jan. 28. He was 58.



Courtesy of the Office of University Communications

"Carl was an inspiration because he brought intelligence, honesty and grace to whatever he did," said Ken Hoover, Western political science professor. "He served the university, community, his family and friends with singular commitment and competence."

Simpson worked at Western for 25 years as an administrator in the sociology depart-

ment until December.

"He worked until he was literally unable to," Western sociology professor Karen Bradley said.

Simpson's survey research and policy studies guided Western through several important issues, among them the evaluation of the freshman year and class-scheduling patterns, Hoover said.

"He played a major role as chair in building the sociology department to its current high standing," Hoover said.

Simpson was also a mentor to new faculty members, Bradley said.

"It's difficult to capture in words how great a person he was," Bradley said. "He gave to so many people, all the time."

A memorial service is scheduled for 2 p.m. Sunday, Feb. 2 at the Squalicum Boathouse at Zuanich Point Park.

## COPS BOX

### University Police

**Jan. 30, 5:49 p.m.:** UP locked the wheel of a vehicle in Parking Lot 6 due to outstanding citations.

**Jan. 30, 5:40 p.m.:** UP responded to a 911 call in which the caller hung up. Officers checked Old Main and determined the area was secure.

**Jan. 29, 2:09 p.m.:** UP responded to a vehicle prowling in Parking Lot 4. The car had been broken into and some items were stolen.

**Jan. 29, 10:01 a.m.:** UP responded to a report of a suspicious internet posting originating on campus.

### Bellingham Police

**Jan. 30, 4:30 p.m.:** Officers responded to a report of a neighborhood dispute in the 2800 block of West Maplewood Avenue.

**Jan. 30, 4:33 a.m.:** Officers responded to a prowler report in the 400 block of East McLeod Road. Officers investigated but found no indication of illegal activity.

**Jan. 29, 11:39 p.m.:** Officers responded to a report of a man seeking a mental health evaluation. Officers took him to the hospital where he was checked in for a voluntary evaluation.

**Jan. 29, 9:50 p.m.:** Officers responded to a verbal domestic dispute report in the 1600 block of H Street.

## Viking Voices

Do you think President Bush is more concerned with the well-being of the United States or with protecting oil business interests?

Compiled by Jenny Maag.



**Peter Lovejoy**  
Math education, senior

*'Oil business by far because his policies haven't demonstrated a concern for the well-being of the average citizen.'*



**Kirk Johnson**  
Computer science, junior

*'I think he's most concerned with defending the United States from nuclear or biological attacks.'*



**Rebecca Butler**  
Undeclared, sophomore

*'I think Bush is most concerned with the well-being of his approval ratings.'*

**Online Poll Results: 95.2 percent of voters said Bush is concerned with the well-being of the United States. 3.2 percent said Bush is protecting oil interests. 1.6 percent said both.**

[www.westernfrontonline.com](http://www.westernfrontonline.com)

# AP WIRE NEWS BRIEFS

## STATE NEWS

### Police discover body hung in tree for one year

Olympia police found a partly mummified man's body hanging from a noose in a tree.

Police said a man with outstanding warrants saw the body one year ago but did not report it. The man called authorities Tuesday night after seeing the body was still there, Olympia police Sgt. Paul Johnson said.

Police do not know how the body got in the tree or how long it was there, Thurston County Deputy Coroner Terry Harper said.

### Car crash video saves woman

A videotape of a drunk-driving crash shown Thursday in Auburn Municipal Court to jurors determining whether the accident's only survivor should be found criminally responsible.

After the defense played the video to the jury, Municipal Judge Patrick Burns dismissed two misdemeanor counts, being an accom-

plished and reckless driving and an accomplice to drunken driving, against Teresa Hedlund. The judge agreed with her attorney that she was a victim of the crash.

Hedlund still faces counts of providing alcohol and tobacco to a minor.

## NATIONAL NEWS

### Bomber receives sentence

Richard Reid, the man who hid explosives in his shoes, was sentenced to life in prison Thursday.

The 29-year-old British citizen received the maximum sentence after denouncing U.S. foreign policy toward Islamic countries.

Reid faced 60 years to life for trying to blow up an American Airlines flight from Paris to Miami. Prosecutors said he had enough plastic explosives to blow a hole in the fuselage and kill all 197 people aboard.

### Plant explosion kills three workers, injures dozens

Investigators interviewed ban-

daged and shaken workers Thursday to find the cause of a deadly blast at a medical supply factory in Kingston, N.C.

The explosion, which left three employees dead and injured 37, occurred in a section of the factory where rubber was mixed and formed into sheets. Ten people remain in critical condition.

Approximately 130 people were inside the West Pharmaceutical Services factory when the explosion and a raging fire rocked the building Wednesday afternoon.

## INTERNATIONAL NEWS

### Australian train derails

A commuter train derailed during rush hour Friday morning, killing at least seven people and trapping others in the wreckage near Sydney.

Rescue workers tried to extricate passengers from the cars in the rough terrain of a ravine 20 miles south of downtown Sydney.

Seven bodies have been found so far, said Stephen Leahy, a spokesman for Westpac Lifesaver

Helicopter, a helicopter emergency service. He said at least 16 people were injured.

The train jumped the tracks while passing through the ravine near the village of Waterfall.

### Mad cow disease spreads at high rate in Asia and Europe

Slovakia, Slovenia, the Czech Republic and Japan have reported cases of bovine spongiform encephalopathy, or mad cow disease, said Dr. Maura Ricketts of the World Health Organization.

More than 180,000 cases of mad cow disease were reported in Britain, and the government estimates that at least one million animals were infected. Experts believe tainted animal products transmitted the disease.

Scientists said the consumption of infected products is responsible for variant Creutzfeldt-Jakob disease, a fatal brain disease in humans. Scientists report 129 cases of the disease, the majority in Britain.

AP Wire courtesy KUGS 89.3-FM.

## Get to know your editors

### Josh "Meow" Dumond

**Position:** Sports editor

**Class:** Junior

**Birthday:** July 29, 1981

**Sign:** Leo

**Favorite movie:** "Super Troopers"

**Hobbies:** Singing bad '80s songs at 2 a.m., prone to glaring, squinting and making various caveman-like grunts.

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.

## 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-4343, or brought in person to Commissary 111. DO NOT SEND ANNOUNCEMENTS DIRECTLY TO THE WESTERN FRONT. Phoned announcements will not be accepted. All announcements should be signed by originator.

PLEASE POST

**SUMMER QUARTER DEGREE APPLICANTS:** Students who expect to graduate at the close of summer quarter must have a degree application on file in the registrar's office by March 14. Students planning to graduate fall quarter must have an application on file by June 6. Applications/instructions are available in OM 230.

**THE MATH PLACEMENT TEST** is offered in OM 120 at 9 a.m. Feb. 6, 13, 20, 27, March 6, 13, and 20 and at 3 p.m. Feb. 3, 10, 24, March 3, 10, and 17. Registration is not required. Students must bring photo identification, student number, Social Security number, and a No. 2 pencil. A \$15 is payable in exact amount at test time. Allow 90 minutes.

**THE MATH PLACEMENT (MAT)** schedule and sample problems may be found at [www.ac.wvu.edu/~assess/tc.htm](http://www.ac.wvu.edu/~assess/tc.htm).

**AS PEACE RESOURCE CENTER PRESENTS A FILM, *Shifting Sands: The Truth about Weapons Inspections and the Disarming of Iraq***, tonight at 7 p.m., SL 120. Free and open to the public.

**FIND OUT ABOUT THE HUMAN SERVICES MAJOR** at an information session at 11 a.m. Feb. 5 in BH 227 or call X/7759.

**A DISCUSSION ON ISHMAEL, THE BOOK OF THE QUARTER FOR WINTER**, will be held at 4 p.m. Feb. 12 in the WL Skybridge. The book is on reserve at Wilson Library and copies are also available through the Associated Students Bookstore. For more information, call Christine Kendall, X/7368.

**WEST-B TEST.** Applicants to state-approved educator preparation programs and those from other states applying for a Washington residency teaching certificate must have a minimum passing score on basic skills assessment. Residency teaching certificate applicants who completed an educator preparation program outside Washington and have not passed WEST-B may be granted additional time. Test dates: March 15, May 17, July 19. Western is a test site, however, registration is required through [www.west.nesinc.com](http://www.west.nesinc.com).

**THE MILLER ANALOGIES TEST (MAT)** will be given at 2 p.m. Feb. 11 and March 11 in OM 120. Registration is required in OM 120 or by calling X/3080. A \$42 fee is payable at test time. The MAT is not administered on an individual basis. Allow 1½ hours. Registration limited to 16.

**STUDENTS WHO INTERRUPT THEIR STUDIES AT WESTERN**, other than for a summer quarter, must complete an application for readmission by the appropriate priority deadline. Applications are available in OM 200. Priority deadline is April 1 for summer continuing into fall quarter and for fall quarter.

**A PHOTO EXHIBIT, "UNSEEN AMERICA,"** will be on display through Feb. 14 on the third floor of Wilson Library. The exhibit is sponsored by the AS Peace Resource Center and the Ethnic Student Center. For more information, call X/6125.

**CHECK THE TESTING** Web site, [www.ac.wvu.edu/~assess/tc.htm](http://www.ac.wvu.edu/~assess/tc.htm), for testing schedules.

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

**WINTER QUARTER OFFERINGS THROUGH THE COUNSELING CENTER** include • Relaxation Training, 3 p.m. Tuesdays, OM 540; • Women's Self-Esteem Group, 5:30 to 7 p.m. Tuesdays and 5:30 to 7 p.m. Wednesdays; • Arts-as-Exploration, 2:20 to 4 p.m. Thursdays. To register or for more information, stop by OM 540 or call X/3164.

## Move: DEA recruits more agents

*Continued from Page 1*

and DEA interaction in the area. "Agents from Blaine can be in Bellingham in 15 minutes," he said. "I don't think it matters much where their office is. ... When our paths cross, it's probably specifically for drug investigations on the federal level."

Blaine DEA agents currently patrol Whatcom County. Recruiting new agents is a national effort that is not focused on only this area, O'Brien said.

The Bellingham Police Department cooperates with the border patrol, U.S. Customs and the DEA on the Northwest Regional Drug Task Force, which operates in Whatcom County, said Joe Giuliano, assistant chief patrol agent for the Blaine border patrol.

One border patrol agent works full time for the task force.

"It pools the best of all resources into one," he said.

The number of drug seizures coming from Canada has increased in the last two years, especially at border crossings, Giuliano said.

"Smugglers typically go to

the ports (via) plane and boat, but now there is significant movement between ports," he said. "We continue seizing, letting them know the pressure is still there. That's our definition of success — they're compelled to come to us, as opposed to us simply responding to them."

Giuliano said the border patrol works closely with the DEA.

"The DEA's primary mission is to enforce drug laws," he said. "Border patrol's primary mission is detecting people who illegally cross the border. When we encounter drug smuggling scenarios, we make arrests. ... We call them; they send out one or two agents; they take the seized contraband and the smugglers and put them through the court system."

The amount of interaction between the DEA and border patrol varies from three to four times per week to twice a month.

"It depends what's going on in the world of crime," Giuliano said.

*Additional reporting by Abiah Weaver*

## Library: USA Patriot Act allows FBI access to records, provokes invasion of privacy fears

*Continued from Page 1*

the FBI is investigating Western students' library records.

"The fact that we are so close to Canada, coupled with the fact that Bellingham has been in the news lately with the snipers, makes Western a likely target," he said.

It would not be uncommon for library records to be investigated, Foltin said, because the men involved in planning the Sept. 11 attacks used computers at public libraries.

"My general assumption is

that people are using the library appropriately, but you never know," he said.

In addition to students, faculty and staff, Western libraries are open to Bellingham community members.

"We don't take IDs at the door," Foltin said. "It is a public place, so we don't know who comes and uses the library."

Earlier this month, Foltin gathered the library staff to develop a policy for requests. He said he is concerned about the impact of the act on Western's

*Continued from Page 1*

interactive speech on the environmental impacts of prewar preparation in the United States.

He discussed the Persian Gulf War and the force it had on the earth, as well as how a war in Iraq will also ultimately affect the earth.

The seminar focused on many of the prewar practices that are damaging to the environment.

Testing and refining military machinery and weapons has impacted the soil and animal and human populations, Bloom said.

"Everything gets tested, not just nuclear weapons," Bloom said. "Nothing in war gets used that hasn't been tested."

Industrial complexes and nuclear testing sites such as the one in Hanford, or the development and production of weapons in a shipyard in Bremerton, are capable of wiping out the major cities in Russia with one explosion, Bloom said.

"Nonconventional war tactics, including biological, chemical, radiological and nuclear weapons, greatly expand the destruction of war," Bloom said.

campus.

"Personally, I am for anything that will protect (Americans), but we have to be very careful so we don't destroy the basic principles of democracy," Foltin said. "If the result of the Patriot Act is a severe impact on the principles of freedom, then we are marching toward something that I escaped — communism."

In 1956, Foltin said he left communist Hungary.

Foltin said prior to the act, he never received any requests from the federal government to release students' records.

Western has released students' personal information to local courts in response to court orders. After Western released this information, it was used as evidence in trials.

The Patriot Act restricts Foltin from confirming whether any records were released to the FBI since Sept. 11, he said.

The Washington State Assistant Attorney General, Wendy Bohlke, reviews all requests for student records, Foltin said.

"Flashing a badge is one thing, but flashing a court order is another thing," Foltin said. "We don't just give out informa-

"It is literally possible to destroy the world in several different ways."

The aftermath of war is just as harmful, Bloom said. Nondetonated bombs, uranium depletion, human health, nuclear winter and the destruction of ecosystems are only a few of the consequences.

Some of the solutions Bloom offered instead of war were pursuing social and environmental justice, respecting weapons inspectors and having a greater appreciation for indigenous cultures.

"We are going to learn firsthand what war is going to do to our bodies as a species and to our natural environment," Bloom said.

Awareness is the center's main purpose, said Kristine Newman, the Environmental Center's coordinator.

"This event is so relevant to what is going on right now,"

Newman said. "Environmental issues are so intertwined with social issues."

Information regarding environmental consequences on the United States from storing weapons and machinery along with prewar training worried audience members.

"I had never thought about what the prewar effects on the environment were before this," Western freshman Ashley Beckett said.

Western freshman Emily Waters said she was frustrated that Bloom's message did not reach a broader audience.

"It was informative," Waters said. "I wish that more people could have heard about it. Many of the people here are already at least somewhat aware of the effects of the war, but it is those that don't know anything that need to hear this message."

*'It is literally possible to destroy the world in several different ways.'*

**Saul Bloom**  
Executive Director  
of Arc Ecology

## WESTERN WASHINGTON UNIVERSITY EXCELLENCE IN TEACHING AWARDS Nominations Due March 3, 2003

President Karen W. Morse has announced that two "Excellence in Teaching" awards have again been made possible by The Western Foundation.

A faculty member from the College of Arts and Sciences will be chosen to receive the Peter J. Elich Excellence in Teaching Award, and a faculty member from one of the other Colleges: Business and Economics, Fairhaven, Fine and Performing Arts, Huxley, and Woodring College of Education will be chosen to receive an Excellence in Teaching Award. Nominations are solicited from alumni, students, or faculty members by completing the attached ballot. Letters of recommendation may be attached.

The following criteria and policies are used for selection:

- No person shall receive this award more than once.
- Only winners will be announced: candidates names will not be published either during or after the process
- Tenure is not a requirement, but candidates must be full-time faculty members. Visiting faculty are not eligible.
- If a nominee wishes to be considered, he/she will be asked to submit supporting materials to the committee.
- The award is a teaching award, not a research award. Submitted materials should relate to teaching.
- During the consideration process, evaluations of current and previous classes may be sought; recommendations from students and colleagues may be sought, and a class visitation may be conducted. The committee may devise additional or alternative criteria upon the announcement. The committee will evaluate all material and make selections according to their best judgment.

### Excellence in Teaching Awards Ballot

Letter of recommendation or evaluation may be attached to this ballot.  
Ballots must be received by March 3, 2003

Faculty Nominee/Dept: \_\_\_\_\_


Nominator/Address: \_\_\_\_\_

Signature of Nominator: \_\_\_\_\_

Nominator (circle one):  Alumni  Student  Faculty

Faculty nominees of the College of Arts and Science may be sent to: Ron Kleinknecht, Dean, College of the Arts and Sciences, MS9099. Other college nominations may be sent to: Stephanie Salzman, Dean, Woodring College of Education, MS9088.

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# Stock market fails to meet expectations for 2003

By Marc Dunaway  
THE WESTERN FRONT

Recent stock market changes dashed hopes for the economy to climb out of recession.

Since Jan. 14, the Dow Jones Industrial Average has lost 800 points on 8 of 10 negative trading days.

Stock market investors were optimistic at the beginning of 2003 because a market recovery that began in October seemed to be carrying into the new year. The Dow had went from an October low of 7,200 points to 8,900.

The "January Effect," a concept stating that the first day of trading in January sets

the tone for the coming year, indicated the United States' economy was headed for recovery.

Sept. 17, 2001 marked a negative turning point in many investors' portfolios as the Dow lost 684 points in the largest dollar loss in its 109-year history.

Many new Western students watched the value of their college funds plummet. The dot-com boom was officially finished, and the Sept. 11 attacks shocked the American people and the stock market.

"My mom had to liquidate a mutual fund right after the September attacks, and part of that money was to help me with college," Western senior Stephen Moshay said.

Many major corporations and private investors are keeping large portions of their assets in cash, said Dennis Murphy, Western's dean of the College of Business and Economics.

Political insecurity, the prospect of war and lackluster earnings reports continue to weigh on investor confidence.

"We can't disregard war as a bad thing," Murphy said, pointing out that the threat of war brings a lot of uncertainty to the market. "And we're also by no means recovered from the Internet bust."

The confidence of some Western students has remained unshaken despite the market's recent losses.

Western senior Sean Krier said most of

his college funds are invested in the stock of Abbott Laboratories.

"I'm not worried whatsoever," Krier said. "I have faith in the market and I have faith in the company."

He keeps up on the progress of the company by reading the Wall Street Journal and online sources.

"The dot-com boom misled people," Western finance graduate Edward MacPherson said.

MacPherson said he invests in mutual funds to limit his risk in investing.

"I'm a long-term investor," he said. "The market goes up and down, but history has shown that over the long term it always goes up."

# AS pushes for faculty evaluations posted on Internet

By Shauna Bakkensen  
THE WESTERN FRONT

Students may never have to slap themselves, consume bags of coffee beans or pop caffeine pills to sit through another boring lecture.

Soon students will be able to peruse online teacher evaluations and select only the ones who fit their vision of a quality instructor.

Allison Smith, president of associated students, and Julie Krom, vice president for academic affairs, will speak to the faculty senate Feb. 10 to suggest appointing two faculty members to form an online faculty evaluation task force.

The faculty senate passed a motion in May 2000 allowing a modified version of in-class evaluations to be posted online with instructors' permission, Krom said.

The Committee on the Assessment of Teaching and

Learning passed and forwarded the motion to the Senate, but due to certain stipulations, no one followed through on the measure, she said.

"It wasn't a priority for anyone, so we are going to try another avenue," Krom said.

Once the task force is formed, members will address how to keep posted information current, how students would log on, how censorship would be applied and how to avoid libel and slander.

"I understand faculty concerns, but students need to know which professors to take, depending on learning styles and course load," Krom said.

The online evaluations would help students make better course decisions based on professors' effectiveness, she said.

Task force members will report the most feasible way to post relevant information to the board of directors. The faculty evaluations might then be linked to the AS

Web site, she said.

"Students are the ultimate consumer," Krom said. "For the price, (students) should receive service that is above satisfactory."

Instructors are not required to have in-class evaluations performed and are allowed to select which comments are sent for review, Western philosophy professor Thomas Downing said.

"(Evaluations) play a big role in promotion and tenure," Downing said.

Instructors are intimidated by unpleasant remarks, but an evaluation system should identify an instructor's perceived shortcomings and convince others of his or her qualifications, Downing said.

Phillip Montague, chair of Western's philosophy department, said too much weight is placed on in-class student evaluations.

"Student evaluations are the only mechanism we accept at face value," he said. "We don't

ask if a student was in class, angry over a grade or what rationale was used for a low or high number."

Faculty pays attention to the quality of classroom instruction, including lecture pace and content. Faculty then review fellow professors, he said.

Montague said he would like to see a system that eliminates vague questions.

"If we could establish a system that would require reasoned evaluation on the part of the stu-

dent, that student could not assign value merely on (the instructor) being an easy grader," he said.

Although the online assessment would be available to Western students, it would be expected to contribute helpful feedback to the faculty, Krom said.

"I see this as a reciprocal trust agreement between students and faculty," she said. "Students should give insightful, respectful comments and faculty should take them into consideration."

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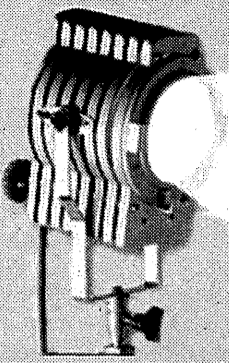
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# In the spotlight

## January 31

### Museum exhibit closing

American Museum of Radio; 1312 Bay St.; free; 738-3886

Today is the last chance to see the museum's feature exhibit of 1,200 radios, televisions, and more from the beginning of the century. The museum opens at 11 a.m. and closes at 5 p.m.

### Frisbee

Civic Field; free

The ultimate frisbee winter league plays games every Friday from 7 p.m. to 9 p.m.

### Singles' dinner

Marina Restaurant; 985 Thomas J. Glenn Drive; 671-4331

The Northwest Singles Club is having a dinner at 6:30 p.m. at the Marina Restaurant.

## February 1

### Auction

Whatcom Day Academy; 5217 Northwest Dr.; Tickets cost \$35 per person; 312-1103

The Whatcom Day Academy is having an auction. It is both a silent and live auction. The all-day event begins at 9 a.m.

## February 2

### Live music

Wild Buffalo House of Music; 208 W. Holly; \$5 at the door; 752-0848

Starting at 7 p.m. the Saltwater Octet featuring The Sweetwater Sisters plays Swing Night at the Wild Buffalo.

## February 4

### Drag workshop

Viking Union 565; free; 650-6120

"Is your drag a drag?" This drag makeover workshop teaches everyone how to be kings and queens.

### Live blues music

Wild Buffalo House of Music; 208 W. Holly; free; 752-0848

It is Bluesday Tuesday at the Wild Buffalo with the band Texas Jimmy & Friends. The Wild Buffalo is a 21-and-over, non-smoking club.

## February 5

### Music

Wild Buffalo House of Music; 208 W. Holly; free; 752-0848

It is the Acoustic Oasis Open Mic this Wednesday at the Wild Buffalo featuring the band Sea Bass & Bucketz. Patrons must be 21 and older.

## February 7

### Drag show

PAC Concert Hall; \$8 for students and \$10 for general admission; 650-6120

The LGBTA presents the 11th annual HIV/AIDS Charity Drag Show. The ticket price is reduced 50 cents for each piece of non-perishable food, up to four pieces. The LGBTA will donate all funds raised to Sean Humphrey House and Evergreen AIDS Foundation.

## February 7-9

### Snowboarding competition

Mt. Baker; free; 734-6771

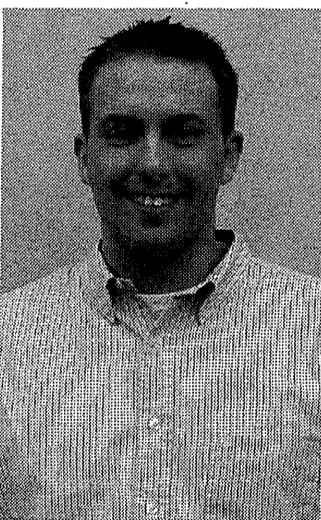
The 19th annual Legendary Banked Slalom Snowboarding competition is at Mt. Baker. It takes place all three days, all day long.

Compiled by Matt McDonald.

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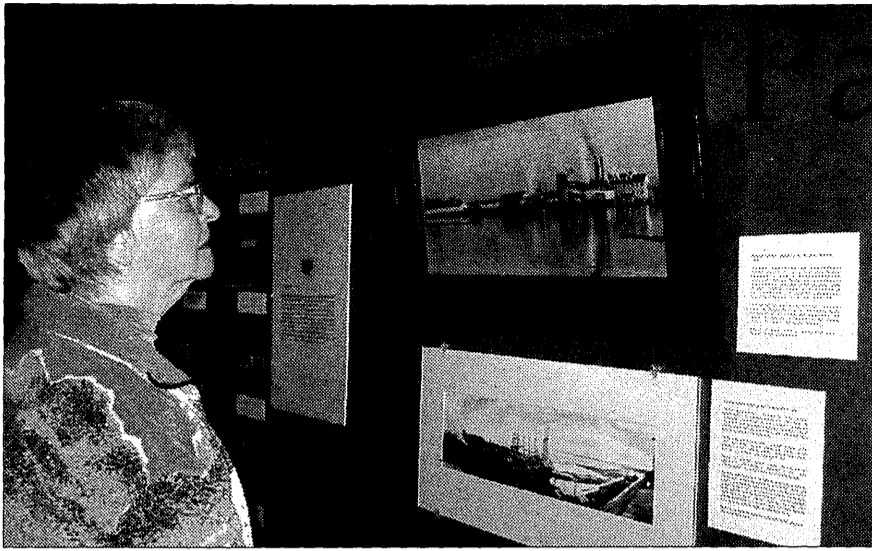
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Jacob Block/The Western Front  
Bellingham resident Dorothy Gonsalves gazes at historic photographs of Bellingham and Whatcom County from the Sandison collection at the Whatcom Museum's ARCO Building on Sunday.

By Jacob Block  
The Western Front

As Bellingham continues to grow and change, J.W. Sandison's panoramic photography serves as a permanent reminder of a time when the streets of Bellingham were paved with brick and bustled with Model-T Fords and horse-drawn carts.

The Whatcom Museum of History and Art's ARCO Exhibits Building, at 207 Prospect St., will be showing Sandison's work until Feb. 23 in its exhibition of "Taking the Wider View: J.W. Sandison's Panoramic Photographs of Bellingham."

Jeff Jewell, photo archivist for the Whatcom Museum of History and Art, co-curated the exhibit with Richard Vanderway.

"There has been a focus lately on the redevelopment of downtown Bellingham and the fate of historical buildings," Jewell said. "I wanted to show these incredible photos of old Bellingham that people rarely get to see."

Sandison took his photographs of Bellingham between 1904 and 1962. Sandison's is one of the only surviving collections of panoramic photographs taken in Bellingham during that era, Jewell said.

"We tend to think of cameras as static, but exhibits like this show the artistry of photography," said Kelly McCarty, a Bellingham resident who has experimented with many types of photography. "Not all cameras take the same shots — just as different brushes leave different marks on a canvas."

The exhibition includes a No. 8 Cirkut panoramic camera, which belongs to Tacoma photographer Ron

Karabaich. The model number refers to the height of the film in inches. He gave a demonstration of a near mint-condition 1931 No. 10 Cirkut at the ARCO building Jan. 26.

The majority of Sandison's photographs on display at the museum were taken on a No. 6, Jewell said.

Vanderway said Karabaich is one of the only active panoramic photographers in the state.

Karabaich belongs to the International Association of Panoramic Photographers. He said he has been taking photographs for approximately 30 years.

After customers began asking him for reprints of old photographs, Karabaich started to collect old photography equipment, he said. Karabaich now has a large collection of old cameras and uses them frequently.

"I bought three truckloads of old equipment for \$1,500," he said. "Through a lot of trial and error, I was able to get them to work."

At his demonstration, Karabaich showed dozens of panoramic photographs from his collection including a sweeping view of the first pitch ever thrown at Safeco Field in Seattle.

"How could you take a 270-degree photograph of a ballpark with any other camera?" he said.

Karabaich also demonstrated the level of detail that can be captured with a Cirkut camera.

"With a magnifying glass, you can actually recognize people (in the photo) the size of a pinhead," he said.

According to biographical information provided at the exhibition, Sandison bought his Cirkut in 1909. Many of his group photographs on display at the museum feature the students and faculty of Western's former incarnation, the Bellingham State Normal School.

# panning across the past

The Whatcom Museum of History and Art presents panoramic photos of Bellingham circa 1904

Taken between 1909 and 1914, the campus then consisted of only Old Main and the first Eden's dormitory, making for a sparse, but strangely, familiar backdrop.

Sandison never left Bellingham after his arrival in 1904 and spent the remainder of his life here as a well-respected commercial photographer working out of a studio on Holly Street.

He never retired, and following the death of his wife Harriet in 1947, he continued to work out of his Holly Street studio until his own death in his darkroom in 1962; he was 89.

The museum is open to the public 12 p.m. to 5 p.m., Tuesday to Sunday and offers tours by appointment.



Jacob Block/The Western Front  
Tacoma photographer Ron Karabaich shows a photograph he took at a motorcycle convention with his Cirkut No. 10 panoramic camera.

# Wilson Library features sexually



Jacob Block/The Western Front  
Director Mark Kuntz looks on as Western professor Dennis Catrell and Western sophomore Claire Ryman rehearse a sexually-charged scene from "Oleanna" on Monday.

By Jacob Block  
The Western Front

Those who want to see foul-mouthed teachers harass vulnerable students need go no farther than Wilson Library.

The north wing of the library will look more like an academic office than a reading room since Western theater professor Mark Kuntz's production of David Mamet's controversial play "Oleanna," opened Jan. 29.

The play, written as a reaction to the Clarence Thomas hearings of 1991, centers on the power struggle that ensues after a student accuses a professor of sexual misconduct, threatening to ruin the professor's career and personal life.

"One of the reasons for doing the play is to generate some discussion about power, specifically within the student/professor relationship," Kuntz said.

Another central theme is the role of convention in speech and the educational system.

"The play is largely about political correctness; how you use it and how it can use you," Western student and actress Jessica Kline said.

Eric Reidman, another cast member, said this is an important play for Western students to see.

"It breaks down the boundaries between the pedestals professors are put on and the ways in which they are human," he said.

Mamet is known for his candid portrayals of human situations and his mastery of creating hard-hitting, lifelike dialogues, Kuntz said.

Though it was originally written as a two-character play, Kuntz modeled this production on a version of "Oleanna" he saw a few

years earlier in which each character.

Kuntz decided to diversify in his adaptation.

Five different cast and five faculty members.

Kuntz also decided to cast the Johns as a woman student/professor relationship.

Kuntz said he hoped to draw attention to the issue by having five characters.

Every few minutes yells "Freeze!" and then other's places on stage.

The play opened Tuesday. Many members of the class. The play was not told before.

ferent approach to the play. "I like the character," Kuntz said. "I like the different ways they interact with each other."

Western junior Ian Kuntz said he liked the script or seeing the play.

"Each individual person has a role," Kuntz said. "When one or two characters interact with them."

Sandra Paetkau, theater manager, appreciated his multi-

# West African rhythms



*Habib Koite and Bamada perform a mix of Malian and world music at the Performing Arts Center Mainstage*

Nicole Russo/The Western Front

**Habib Koite and Bamada bring their original guitar style to Western's Performing Arts Center Mainstage to play in front of more than 500 people.**

By Nicole Russo  
The Western Front

Fans from around the world come to see Habib Koite and his band Bamada.

"Some tell me I give them hope," said Koite, a composer, singer and guitarist. "Others tell me they do yoga to my music."

Koite and Bamada performed on Western's Performing Arts Center Mainstage Thursday evening.

The band came to the Northwest after releasing its new album, "Baro," in the United States.

"Out of all the world and all the people that follow him, he's right here in our little spot," Bellingham resident Cheri Nunamaker said.

Koite's music is rooted in Malian tradition but it integrates modern world music. The latest of the band's three albums adds a Latino beat to the traditional sound of Malian music.

The entire album attracts the ear to the sounds created by the Malian instruments. The hypnotic sound created by Koite as his fingers slide down the strings of his guitar set the mood.

"I've never seen anything before like that, live," Western sophomore Aaron Apple said. "They should have more shows like that at Western."

The band's sound is a guitar style some compare to guitar legends around the world, including Jimi Hendrix.

Koite's technique merges the musical harmonies of the Malian kora, a harp that produces a ripping sound, with an acoustic guitar.

"It's music that is becoming more integrated into our culture," PAC series coordinator Tamara McDonald said.

The live performance allows the artists to interact with the audience and set the atmosphere for the evening. The show addressed many themes, including motherhood.

"I sing about women because women can give birth," Koite said. "The lesson between mother and baby is strong. The people must take this as an example."

Bamada's U.S. tour, promoting its new album, began in New York City on Jan. 11.

When Western was planning this year's series to bring artists from around the world to campus, Koite and Bamada came to mind, McDonald said.

"I've seen him at a couple festivals," McDonald said. "I knew that he had a big following."

Western managed to book Bamada for the PAC series because its current tour brings the band to Washington on its way from Oregon. The band is not stopping in Seattle during the tour this year even though it has built a fan base in the city.

"We brought them into the university because we see the talent and the potential," McDonald said.

Koite was born in 1958 at Thies in Senegal. He is Malian and comes from a noble line of Khassonke Griots, a hereditary caste of musicians, according to his Web site.

Koite taught himself how to play the guitar at a young age while traveling with his mother, according to his Web site.

He was accepted to the National Institute of Arts in Bamako, Mali when he was 20 years old. In 1978, after six months at the NIA, Koite became conductor of Ina Star, the school orchestra.

He continued to teach guitar at the NIA after graduation and formed Bamada in 1988. The name Bamada traditionally means Bamako, which is the capital of Mali. However, music circles founded in 1988 dubbed Bamada "in the mouth of the crocodile," a nickname for the residents of Bamako.

After years of playing in clubs, Koite and Bamada won first prize at the Perpignan Voxpole Festival in France in 1991, allowing the band to record its first single.

"I think they're the best band in the world right now," Bellingham resident Tanya Kitterman said.

The single, "Cigarette A Bana," (No More Cigarettes) addresses the peer pressures associated with smoking and one boy's choice to not smoke.

"I'm not sure (I'm a role model), but I try," Koite said. "It's good for young people to have an example."

## ense drama

Multiple actors of different races played

sexual diversity rather than racial

acters play the role of Carol, the student, play the role of John, the professor. one of the Carols as a man and one of an attempt to show as many different nips as possible.

nts will be able to see themselves in e versions of her in the same drama.

g the two-hour play, a Carol or a John ion halts while characters take each

ell-out audience on Wednesday night. l were students in Kuntz's Theatre 101

reading for the quarter. The students y the play that Kuntz had taken a dif-

ges," Western freshman Jeremy Swazo pints of view and how (the characters)

elder said it was not at all like reading

s a dynamic that's all their own," he

f them changes, the dynamic changes

cher's aid for Kuntz's class, said she

acter adaptation.

"I like the innovation of switching up the cast members," she said. "It shows probably a more honest approach to the play than the original."

The audience seating is in a formation known as "theater in the round" in which the audience surrounds the stage on all sides, much like a boxing ring. When the cast members are not on stage, they sit with the audience.

Though he modified the original script only slightly, each Carol and each John are discrete emotional beings, Kuntz said.

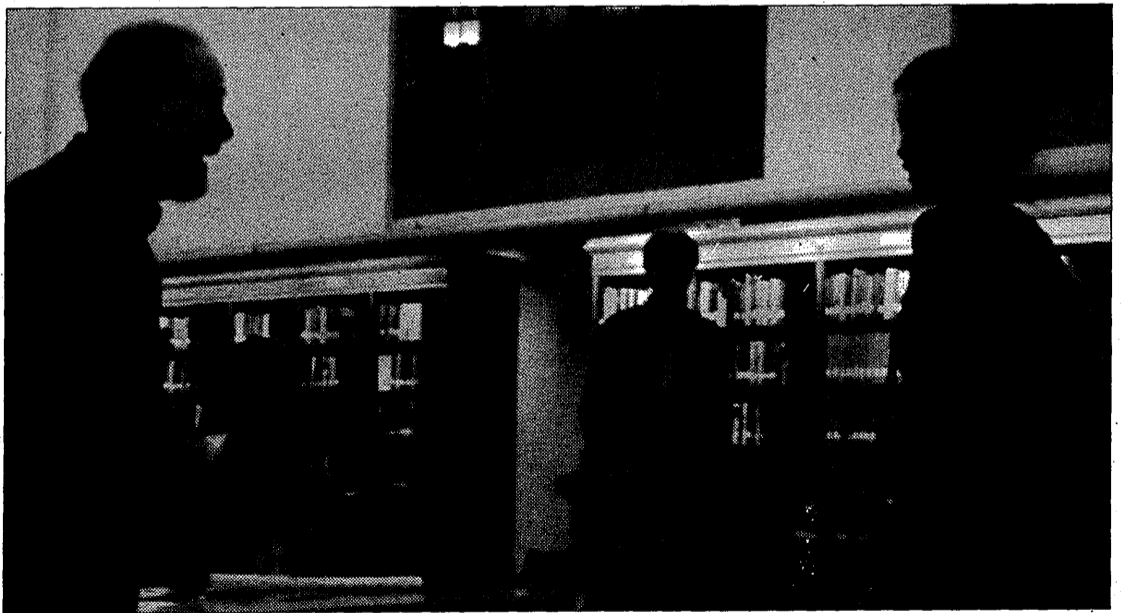
One Carol is vulnerable, one is seductive, one is controlling and one is cocky. Kuntz said he designed the characters partly on the natural rhythms of the cast members. They act in their own clothes, and all the props come from Kuntz's own office.

The cast is divided on the issue of which character Mamet intended to be the protagonist.

"The audience has a tendency to root for the professor," Kuntz said. "I think it's clear that (John) was a jerk, but I want to leave it to them to decide."

Kline, who describes her Carol as "the activist," said her character is difficult to sympathize with.

"The script is biased; the odds are stacked against us," she said. "We're trying to find the humanity in Carol to even out the play-



Jacob Block/The Western Front

**Western professor Doug Waldo and Western student Heidi Krilanovich rehearse a difficult scene from "Oleanna" Monday.**

ing field."

Western sophomore and theater student Katie Zaitz said Kuntz's production changed her mind about who to root for.

"Before, I thought Carol was the bad guy," she said. "Now I think it's John."

Actress and theater faculty member Deborah Greer said she wants people to think about the issues the play raises.

"I think the perfect outcome of this would be for the audience to feel compelled to be vocal and discuss this," she said.

After each Saturday night performance, Kuntz will allow the audience to do just that in a post-performance discussion.

Oleanna will be running January 29-31, February 1 and February 5-8. Tickets are available for \$6 at the PAC box office.

## Head to head: Should Title IX be reformed?

### Commission needs to work on enforcing Title IX, not revising it



**Annie Johnson**

COMMENTARY

Next week, a national commission studying reform of Title IX will vote on recommendations to forward to U.S. Secretary of Education Rod Paige. Before Paige thinks about reforming Title IX, perhaps he should think about enforcing it.

Few other pieces of legislation in the past 50 years have had a more profound effect on American society than Title IX, which guarantees equal opportunities for women in all levels of sports. The argument is not about spending

an equal amount of money on men's and women's sports. The focus is on the necessity for women to have the same opportunities as men.

The Department of Education fields numerous phone calls about non-compliance with Title IX every year and often threatens schools with penalties. No school has ever been denied federal funding for non-compliance according to a Jan. 30 Washington Post article.

Last June, the National Women's Law Center cited 30 schools for non-compliance including the University of Notre Dame, the University of Miami and Kansas State University. None of these schools were denied federal funding or even threatened with having their funding cut.

The law states that schools receiving federal funding cannot discriminate on the basis of gender, meaning athletic scholarships must be awarded equally based on the makeup of the student body.

One of the commission's recommendations is that the number of scholarships awarded to women should be based on interest in sports, not on the makeup of a school's student body. Curt A. Levey, director of legal and public affairs for the Center for Individual Rights, a conservative public interest law firm, contends that current Title IX policy interpretation is a quota that should be revised on the basis of women's interest in sports.

"I don't think it's too much to say that people who are interested should say they're interested,"

Levey said in the Washington Post article. "I don't think you should tell women they're interested when they're not."

What Levey fails to realize is that women are interested in sports. The increase in female athletic participation since Title IX was enacted shows that females are involved. In 1972 only one in 27 high school girls participated in a varsity sport, according to the Women's Sports Foundation. Now, 31 years later, nearly one in two does.

College athletics have also had increased interest and participation among women. According to the foundation, in 1972 fewer than 30,000 women participated in college athletics. Today, more than 151,000 women are NCAA athletes.

Modifications to Title IX would

limit future opportunities for women in favor of expanded chances for men and would violate gender equity.

Implementing Title IX's policies at every level of education is necessary to ensure equal opportunity. The responsibility of the federal government is to ensure equal opportunity, not to add, discontinue or maintain sports teams.

Title IX is not a law that favors a minority. It is a law designed to make sure women get basic rights in the classroom and on the playing field. No legal challenge to the law has succeeded according to the Washington Post article, and a committee comprised of male athletic directors and conference chairmen has no chance of being any more effective.

### Reforming Title IX is necessary to abolish its present quota system



**Matt DeVeau**

COMMENTARY

Although a well-intentioned law, Title IX has many flaws that need revision. When the 15-member Commission on Opportunity in Athletics meets next week, they should revise the regulations so Title IX continues to promote women's athletics but not at the expense of men's teams.

Title IX was designed to eliminate gender discrimination in all areas of colleges and high schools, but it is most widely known for its effect on athletics. It has greatly

increased athletic opportunities for women, but it has also turned into a quota system.

The current rules require colleges to distribute athletic scholarships to male and female athletes equally, based on the institution's enrollment. At Western, this means men's baseball, a club team, cannot compete at the varsity level without the university adding another women's team.

Rather than adding women's teams, colleges often eliminate men's programs in order to balance out the proportions of men's and women's sports. The National Association of Wrestling Coaches said Title IX eliminated 355 men's wrestling programs, leaving 22,000 athletes without a sport to play at the college level in the past 10

years. Other representatives from men's sports such as tennis, gymnastics and swimming have raised similar complaints.

The NAWC has filed a lawsuit against the Department of Education claiming discrimination. Supporters of Title IX often claim such programs are dropped because of overspending on football and men's basketball teams, but this is not always the case.

Marquette University in Milwaukee, Wis. eliminated its wrestling program despite the fact the team was financed by a nonprofit organization according to a Mar. 18, 2002 article in the U.S. News and World Report. So, even though the program was not costing the university a dime, it was eliminated

to satisfy a Title IX quota.

Another method of meeting quotas is artificially inflating the number of athletes on women's teams, particularly crew.

Women's crew is a fine sport, but because they can be so large, some crew teams have been offering athletic scholarships to women who have never even competed in the sport in order to keep proportionality in the athletic department.

San Diego State University's women's crew Web site proudly proclaims: "You do not need to have prior rowing experience to

join the team!"

Methods like this do not help women gain equality in athletics. They simply favor women who have never tried crew by giving them scholarships over wrestlers who have been working long and hard for those same scholarships and rapidly disappearing roster spots.

Title IX was designed to advance opportunities for women and promote equality. It has accomplished the former but failed miserably at the latter and should be changed by the commission.

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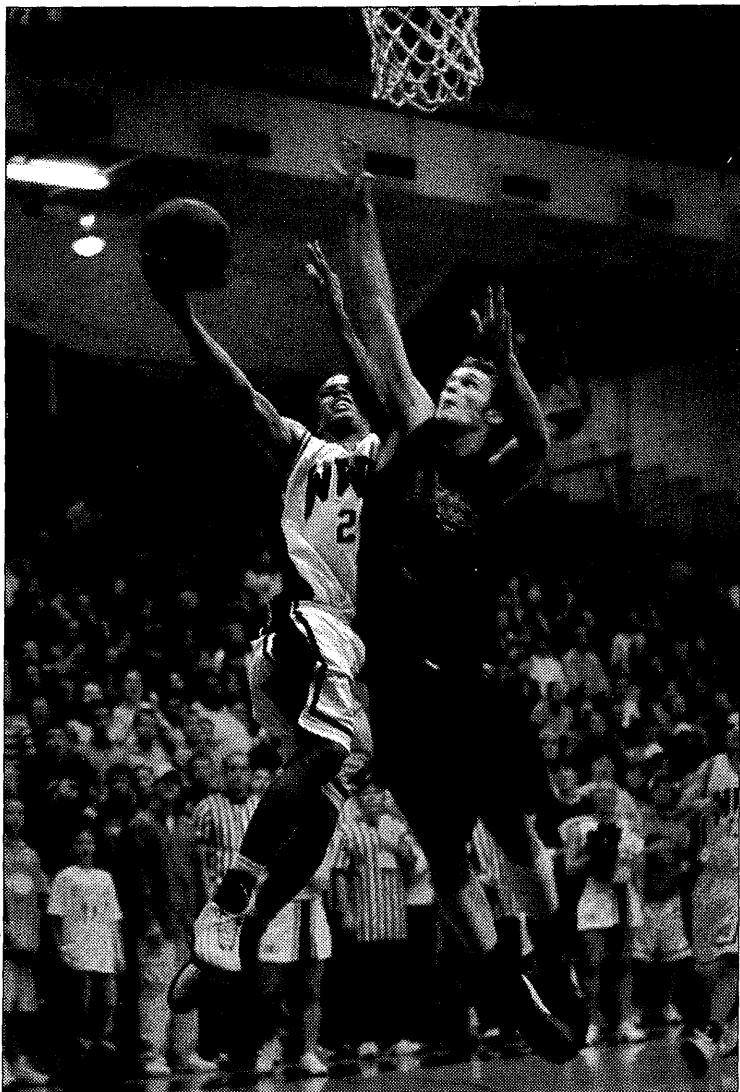
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# Palm leads Western men's winning crusade



Peter Louras/The Western Front

Western freshman guard Ryan Diggs leaps toward the hoop past a Crusader defender in the Vikings' win against Northwest Nazarene University Thursday night.

By Joshua Fejeran  
THE WESTERN FRONT

After splitting two away games, the Western men's basketball team arrived home to defeat Northwest Nazarene University on the shoulders of Western senior center Mike Palm's double-double.

Palm scored a game-high 19 points, pulled down 12 rebounds, and contributed his eighth double-double of the season, giving the Vikings a 80-61 victory Thursday night at Carver Gym.

"I was trying to get a few outside shots, expand my game a little bit," Palm said. "We didn't play like we can today. We had a couple moments where we played really well, but we can play a lot better."

Palm, who scored the Vikings' first 11 points, ignited Western to a 25-9 lead late in the first half.

The fifth place Vikings won their second straight game and improved to 11-6 overall and 5-3 in the Great Northwest Athletic Conference.

"It feels good to come back home," Western junior guard Jason Burrell said. "With our offense we're not a selfish team, so it's easy to get into a flow and just make smart passes, make smart cuts and just trust your teammates and everything should work out."

Burrell finished the game with 10 points, 7 rebounds and 6 assists.

The Western men, who shot less than 50 percent for the game, relied on their overpowering defense to hold the Crusaders to 25 points in the first half. The Vikings led by 15 at halftime.

The Vikings continued to play aggressive defense in the second half and extended their lead to 29 with seven minutes left in the game.

"The defensive end of the floor is where we hope that we can be playing at a high level all the time," Western head coach Brad Jackson said.

Western freshman guard Ryan Diggs made his presence known offensively, shooting 5-6 from the field and 2-2 from the three-point line for 14 points in the first half. Diggs had some foul trouble in the second half and ended the game with 16 points and 5 rebounds.

"I'm just coming in trying to score and provide some offense for my team," Diggs said. "I didn't think they were fouls, but I guess I got a little too aggressive."

Western junior guard Stefan Dickason scored 11 points coming off the bench.

"I'm really enjoying it," Dickason said. "I'm just taking what I can get and trying to make the most of my opportuni-

ties. I'm just doing what it takes to be a team player."

Western freshman Darrell Visser, who got his first start filling in for ill Western senior forward Maurice Tyree, had a disappointing night missing all four of his shots from the field and two free-throws.

"We had to make an adjustment early with Maurice being out," Jackson said. "By and large we did a pretty good job. We shot the ball pretty well and held them to 28

percent (shooting) for the game. When you come out on the plus side, you have to feel good about it."

The Crusaders fell to 3-13 overall and 1-7 in the GNAC.

"They have struggled this year, but they've got some guys that can do some things and they're a very well-coached team," Jackson said.

Western plays another big conference game at 7 p.m. Saturday at Carver Gym against Seattle University. The Redhawks are 12-4 overall and 5-2 in the GNAC.

"We're going to have a challenge on Saturday night," Jackson said. "Seattle University is a good ballclub. I think it's going to be a battle. They're one notch ahead of us in the regional standings, so it's a big game."

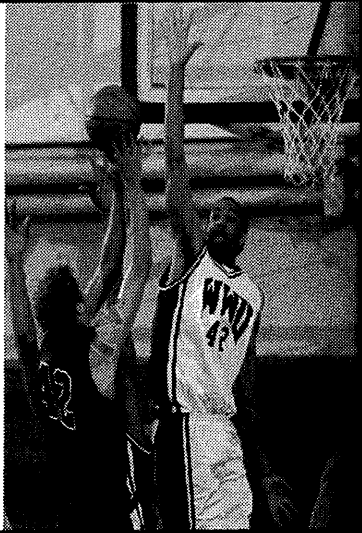
**“**  
*The defensive end of the floor is where we hope that we can be playing at a high level all the time.*  
**”**

**Brad Jackson**  
Western head coach

## VIKING BASKETBALL

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## Frontline

### USA Patriot Act jeopardizes students' liberties

Western students are still feeling the aftermath of Sept. 11 through the slumping economy and tighter border security. Potentially they could feel a total intrusion into their personal records and documents.

University libraries, under the provisions of the USA Patriot Act, are required to allow the federal government to search students' personal information including, but not limited to, library, personnel, admissions and computer records. The act does not require federal agents to notify the student, nor does it require the student to be a suspect of a federal investigation.

This blatant violation of the Fourth Amendment, which protects against unreasonable searches and seizures, without even considering the students it violates, is wrong. The Patriot Act can only be validated if those affected are notified in the event of an investigation.

The public has no way of knowing if the act has had any impact on national security. The Patriot Act prohibits institutions from releasing information from records which have been seized. Students will never know if the FBI has been mulling over their academic activities, including Web sites they have visited and books they have checked out. Records of student transcripts, class schedules and financial information are a mere stepping stone to more personal things such as medical records.

A policy similar to the Patriot Act has been used in the past, but the power-hungry leader was not George W. Bush — it was Adolf Hitler. In 1933 Hitler blamed the burning of the Reichstag building on the Communists, creating an environment of paranoia that allowed him to issue the Enabling Act, undermining the constitution and destroying basic civil liberties. While comparing Bush to Hitler is somewhat of a stretch, the principles of both acts are the same: compromising civil liberties because of a traumatic national event.

Supporters of the Patriot Act claim that desperate times call for desperate measures. If this means monitoring all potential avenues for terrorism, right down to university libraries, so be it. The act is intended to aid in the "uniting and strengthening (of) America by providing (the) appropriate tools required to intercept and obstruct terrorism," according to Section 1 of the act. Obtaining the personal records of students is not an "appropriate tool." It is instead a gross intrusion of privacy that students should not have to accept without their notification.

It is now more important than ever that students educate themselves about the Patriot Act and other issues of national security. What once seemed like an issue of little concern to Western's campus community is now one that must be dealt with immediately. Students must know their rights and be aware of the violation that could potentially take place. It is crucial to the constitutionality of the Patriot Act that students be notified before their records are searched or seized. Failure to do so may send our country's leaders spiraling into the same anti-civil liberty mindset that Hitler reveled in 70 years ago.

*Frontlines are the opinion of The Western Front editorial board: Helen Hollister, Ailey Kato, Paul Nicholas Carlson, Andrea Jasinek, Brandon Rosage, Peter Malcolm, Katie James and Jeremy Edwards.*

## The Western Front

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### And we quote:

"So where ya gonna turn when there's no weed to burn? No money to earn and no knowledge to learn?"

*-Louie Shadowz, co-founder of the late '90s underground hip-hop trio The Untouchables, in the song "We Untouchable."*



## Overthrow of Iraqi government up to its citizens



Marc Dunaway

COMMENTARY

The reasons for avoiding war with Iraq go beyond mere anti-war sentimentalism. Americans must be aware that establishing a new government in Iraq would create dangerous and unacceptable risks to the United States.

Building a foreign government is contrary to the principles of freedom and self-determination our nation is built upon. Our own Declaration of Independence states, "Prudence, indeed, will dictate that governments long established should not be changed for light and transient causes. ..." The United States must recognize this and defer to the Iraqi people the responsibility of instituting change within their government. The United States must respect the sovereignty not of Saddam Hussein, but of the Iraqi people.

Continued aggression by the United States toward Iraq will fuel anti-American sentiment in the Muslim world to a fever pitch.

The American people will suffer more from an increase in ter-

rorism than they will gain from replacing Hussein. The additional risk of drawing Israel into the conflict creates an even bigger risk. If Israel is attacked with chemical or biological weapons, the whole region could explode in violence.

The United States should also avoid conquering Iraq because of the long-term consequences. Iraq is an ethnically divided country, and Hussein's repressive government is the only thing holding it together.

Kurdish separatists in the north have been waging a war for independence for 30 years, and the Shiite population in the south shares sentiments with Iran.

The only way the United States can keep Iraq from fracturing is to install another totalitarian regime to repress the Kurds and Shiites, or maintain a military presence willing to do it.

The Bush administration argues that Hussein poses a significant threat to regional stability. By removing Hussein, the United States could theoretically aid in constructing a democratized society free of the repression and tyranny of the Hussein regime.

This naïve and seemingly altruistic reason for the United States' action is nothing more than folly. The Arab world is a

conflicted region far beyond repair by the United States. Assuming the Iraqi people want to be conquered by the United States is blatant cultural imperialism.

A policy of containment toward Iraq minimizes risks to the United States, while preventing it from being drawn into a prolonged foreign conflict. By aiding opposition groups within Iraq, the United States can encourage reform without imposing it.

As citizens responsible for the actions of elected representatives, the people of the United States need to work within the political system to create positive change. By writing or calling elected leaders people can ensure their voices are heard.

With the steam engine of American industry and mass media marching off to war, the ballot box remains the only option for a concerned citizenry.

If evil must be done for the sake of good, then it should only be done when all other options are exhausted.

Attacking Iraq without clear evidence showing it poses a direct threat to the people of the United States is wrong. Without such evidence, the risks to the United States, both now and in the future, are unacceptable and intolerable.

## B-I-N-G-O, B-I-N-G-O, and bingo was his name-o



Mike Baab

ACT YOUR AGE

On Monday night I learned a valuable lesson: Disappointment, which for me is usually free and abundant, actually costs \$6.

Monday was the night I played bingo for the first time. When I walked in, I wasn't aware that I was paying the equivalent of a video rental and two HoHos for an evening of ink-dabbing impotence.

I decided to play bingo because I was getting tired of, well, renting videos and eating HoHos, to be honest. I scooped up two friends and headed to the bingo parlor, which is somewhere in Ferndale.

If Seattle is the heart of the

Pacific Northwest and Vancouver, British Columbia, is its soul, Ferndale is definitely its anus.

When we walked in, the first thing I noticed was the smell, which was what I imagine the smoking section of an IHOP would smell like if the P stood for "pestilence." Most of the players were sucking on their cigarettes like they were trying to take the first sip of a very thick milkshake.

The patrons were dressed like members of some sort of retired lumberjack club. Cowboy boots were in full effect, and one woman appeared to be wearing a tablecloth.

No one was talking. Everybody was staring at their cards and listening to the caller, who was sitting at a microphone near the back.

"I-22!" he said, and the room immediately erupted in a semi-automatic cacophony of taps as the 80 or so players marked

their cards with their enormous, perhaps intentionally phallic, "daubers."

The three of us walked past the scowling players to the uninhabited cash register like refugees. We waited for a few minutes until a sour-faced woman came to help us.

We bought our \$6 cards and tried to explain to the clerk that we were bingo virgins, and it would be great if she could explain to us how it worked. She made a dismissive "mrrm-rpht" sound, as if opening her mouth and making vowel sounds was too much work to put out for the city folk in front of her.

We turned around, cards in hand, and tried to find somewhere to sit. The bingo parlor was remarkably crowded, and we scanned all the cafeteria tables for an area with three seats together. I could feel my

See BINGO, Page 11

# Bingo: Speed round is too much for columnist as veterans dominate with daubers

*Continued from Page 10*

clothes absorbing the smell as we stood there, scanning the mummified patrons for a friendly face.

We found seats next to a woman who appeared to have spent the last 85 years in a pickle jar.

When the next game started, we were ready.

"G-56!" The caller announced.

We leisurely scanned our cards, daubing every now and again. When I was only halfway through my cards, I heard "I-31!" from the front. What the hell? Why is he going so fast? "O-65!" the caller declared.

I sped up, frantically trying to stab my cards with the dauber. The caller seemed to pick up momentum, too, and by the time someone exclaimed "bingo!" I

was sweating and panting like a labrador.

I got faster in the hour I was there, but I never came close to winning. After six games, and one ill-advised round of "speed bingo," I never felt even a spark of hope. My friends didn't come close to winning either.

When it was time to leave, we all admitted that bingo made us

its bitch. We felt fatigued and defeated. None of us had anything to show for our frustrating and possibly carcinogenic evening.

Bingo was not the bold new recreation activity I was looking for. Next Monday, I'll just call up a girl from one of my classes and ask her out. I will inevitably be disappointed, but at least it will be free.

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