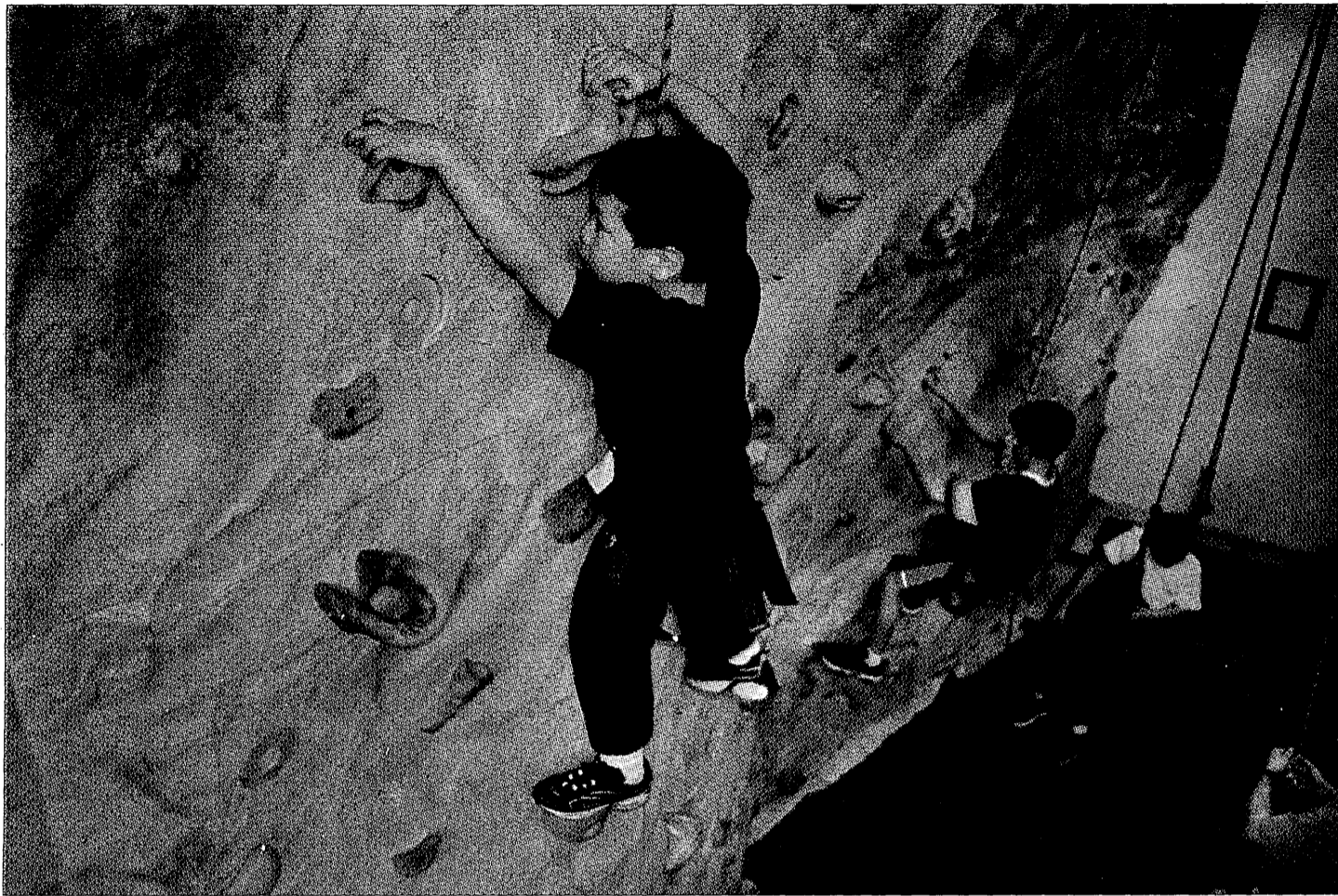


# The Western Front

## 'Buddies' climb high with Western students



Scott A. Keys/ The Western Front

Sean Lawrence scales the rock wall at Bellingham's YMCA during an outing with Western's Campus Buddy program. See story, Page 7.

## Activists, lawmakers talk industry, environment

Local developments fuel national debate on climate change

By Craig Yantis  
THE WESTERN FRONT

Through recent protests, the local community has shown its concern for the impact community-power issues have in Whatcom County and the surrounding area, Marian Beddill said in a meeting Monday evening at the Bellingham Public Library.



*'Governments and industry are headed towards doing whatever they want to do to us and around us in the county in terms of power and energy issues.'*

Marian Beddill  
City of Bellingham  
Watershed Committee

Even though the denial of approval to build Sumas Energy 2 was recently delayed, Beddill, who organized Monday's meeting, met with other concerned citizens for the second time to discuss ways to influence Washington's energy policy.

"Governments and industry are headed towards doing whatever they want to do to us and around us in the county in terms of power and energy issues," she said. "I simply happen to feel that the citizens, whether they are part of

See MEETING, Page 3

## Freed sex offenders may still pose threat

By Mary Flynn  
THE WESTERN FRONT

Ten level three sex offenders live in Bellingham, according to a Bellingham Police Department release. Some of these offenders live as close as a few blocks from campus and according to the police department's rating system, are most likely to offend again.

Gregory Richard Rice is one of those offenders. He lives not far from campus at the Aloha Motel. Rice was convicted of sexual exploitation of a minor, assault, child

*'We believe that these people are dangerous and that they are not rehabilitated, that is why they are under surveillance and on probation.'*

Royce Buckingham  
City Prosecutors Office

pornography and unlawful imprisonment. He has served his time, but according to the department of corrections, he is a dan-

ger to the community and at a high risk for reoffending. When contacted by The Western Front, Rice was unwilling to give a comment on his present condition.

Though it may be surprising to many that criminals convicted of such heinous crimes are out of prison, Lt. Dac Jamison of the Bellingham Police Department explained they have done the time given to them.

"These people have done their maximum sentence," Jamison said. "The worst offenders are in what we call civil commit

See OFFENDERS, Page 4

## Women of Color events begin — abuse key issue

By Stephanie Kosonen  
THE WESTERN FRONT

To honor Women of Color Day in the coming weeks, several events will take place on Western's campus. Four notable women of color from Bellingham will present discussions of their work and activism in the area at 7 p.m. on Women of Color Day, March 1, in Fraser Hall 2.

This year's events will focus on violence prevention and on stopping sexual abuse.

Briana Herman-Brand, a peer adviser at Western, said she will be attending the panel

See COLOR, Page 3

## Western may increase parking fines

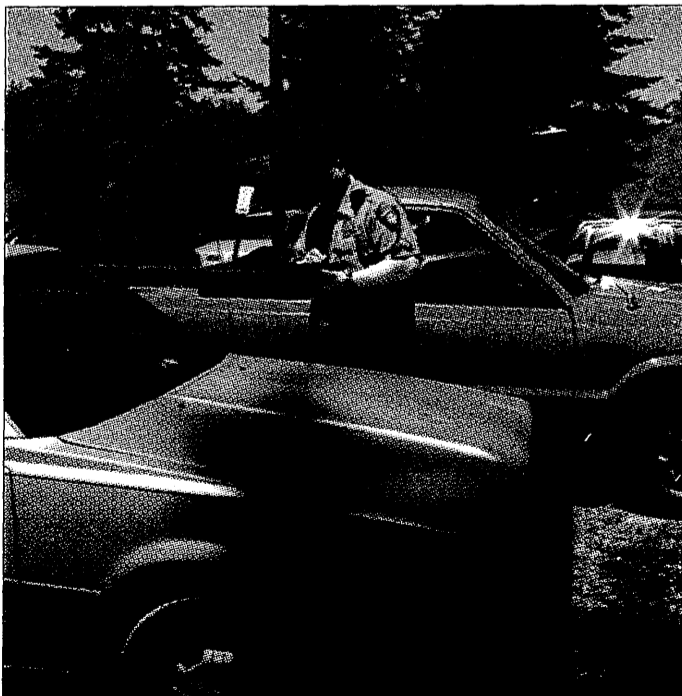
By Jennifer L. Jennings  
THE WESTERN FRONT

Parking rates may increase by as much as 20 percent by next fall, said Stacey Valentin, Associated Students vice president for Legislative & Community Affairs.

The increase would cover Western's financial burden of purchasing Samish Twin Drive-in Theater to use it for extra parking space.

"The estimated 20 percent would be used to cover Western's debt in purchasing the twins theatre," Valentin said. "It has to be presented to the administration [still]. They're the final say."

In early February, Western entered a three year lease-purchase agreement with Samish Twin Drive-in Theater. The lot will open up 750 new parking spots for students and



The Western Front Archive

See PARKING, Page 3

### IN THIS ISSUE

#### Ready for the playoffs

With a victory Saturday, the men's basketball team is riding high for the post-season.

See Story, Page 8.

#### Western's Bone Collector

Geology professor Thor Hansen keeps more than cabbage and leftovers wrapped in tin foil in his freezer.



See Story, Page 6.

## COPS BOX

### University Police

**Feb. 24, 1:09 a.m.:** A male student was arrested for being a minor in possession and for assault near the Ridgeway exterior. He was booked into Whatcom County Jail.

**Feb. 24, 11:53 p.m.:** A student was found incoherent near Ridgeway Gamma. He was transported to St. Joseph Hospital for observation.

**Feb. 25, 1:47 a.m.:** Two males were seen kicking lampposts near the Fairhaven dorms, causing the lights to go out. One of the men was apprehended, questioned and released.

**Feb. 25, 2:25 a.m.:** A Fairhaven Resident Adviser reported a male student threatening a female student. The man was told to go home after police realized he was intoxicated.

### Bellingham Police

**Feb. 23, 11:12 a.m.:** Two witnesses reported a woman was striking her children excessively while in her car in the 3100 block of Meridian Street. The woman was cited and released.

**Feb. 24, 9:34 a.m.:** Officers responded to a call in a building in the 300 block of Prospect Street to speak to a woman who had reported being sexually assaulted. Police have no suspects.

**Feb. 24, 2:22 p.m.:** Bellingham Police contacted a man regarding a harassing phone call complaint. The man denied the charges.

*Compiled by Kevin Bailey*

### STATE NEWS

#### No promises on property tax relief after I-722 struck down

OLYMPIA — State legislators said there may not be any property tax relief this year after a Thurston County Superior Court judge struck down I-722 on Friday.

The initiative would have limited property tax growth to 2 percent or the current rate of inflation, whichever was less.

House Co-Speaker Clyde Ballard of East Wenatchee, the top Republican in the legislature, said the property tax cuts are unlikely this year because of a tight budget. He also said voters may take matters into their own hands by passing another tax-cut initiative next fall.

#### Washington Federation of State Employees put strike to vote

OLYMPIA — State employees will vote within the next few weeks on whether to authorize a strike.

Tim Welch, spokesman for Washington Federation of State Employees, said employees are upset over proposed budget cuts,

rising health care costs and relatively flat wages.

If members approve the strike action, it could include a state-wide walkout or smaller, local actions.

The federation represents 19,000 state employees, including workers at mental hospitals and workers at the Department of Transportation, among others.

### NATIONAL NEWS

#### Second person refuses to testify on Clinton pardon controversy

WASHINGTON, D.C. — Beth Dozoretz, a former Democratic National Committee official, refused to testify yesterday at a Congressional hearing on the Clinton pardon controversy.

Dozoretz, a friend of Denise Rich, told the House Government Reform Committee that she is invoking Fifth Amendment protections against self-incrimination.

Committee chairman Dan Burton (R-Ind.), said it appears "the reason people aren't answering questions is because they are hiding something."

#### UC Santa Barbara freshman drives car into crowd, kills four

SANTA BARBARA, Calif. — David Attias, a college freshman accused of driving his car into a crowd of people Friday in Santa Barbara, is in jail without bail on vehicular homicide and drunken driving charges.

Four people were killed and one remains in critical condition.

Videotaped footage of Attias allegedly struggling with fellow students after the crash was nationally televised. The video shows bodies in the street and police hitting Attias on the legs with batons.

Attias' arraignment is scheduled for Monday.

### INTERNATIONAL NEWS

#### Bush, Schwarzkopf help Kuwait celebrate Gulf War anniversary

KUWAIT — Former President Bush and retired Gen. Norman Schwarzkopf attended a celebration in Kuwait marking the 10th anniversary of the Gulf War and the end of Iraqi occupation.

Kuwatis raised their national

flag and performed a traditional victory dance as Allied war jets flew overhead.

One civil servant called it "a glorious day," but said "one thing is missing - our POWs."

Kuwait accuses Baghdad of holding some 600 people captive. Iraq denies the claim, insisting all war prisoners were released.

#### Iraq wants end of sanctions, removal of weapons of mass destruction from Israel

BAGHDAD, Iraq — Tariq Aziz, Iraq's deputy prime minister, said Iraq will ask the United Nations this week to lift economic sanctions against his country.

Iraq also will ask that weapons of mass destruction be removed from the area, including Israel.

Aziz said the United Nations should impose the same standards on Israel as Iraq.

It has been assumed that Israel manufactures nuclear weapons, but Israel has never acknowledged it. Also, Israel does not allow international inspections of any of its nuclear facilities.

*Compiled by Brendan Manning*

### STRANGE DAYS

#### Jet fighter accidentally shoots tower.

AMSTERDAM — A German Tornado jet fighter accidentally opened fire on a Dutch military flight tower during a routine training mission, the Dutch defense ministry said.

No one was injured in the incident at the North Sea island of Vlieland, although three people were inside the tower when it was hit by seven 27-millimeter rounds fired by the Tornado's wing cannons, a spokesman for the defense ministry said.

The cause of the accidental shooting was not immediately clear, the spokesman said Thursday.

#### Ex-spy must pay for selling bogus secrets.

MUNICH, Germany — A German court told an ex-spy to return \$138,000 that he earned for selling a German intelligence agency information taken from the agency's own files.

The 51-year-old former bank manager code-named "Source Albert" sold around 1,000 documents to the German Federal Intelligence Service that he said were previously unreported secrets about the former Soviet Union.

The defendant already has been sen-

tenced to two and a half years in prison and assessed a fine of \$9,200. His accomplice is serving a four and a half year sentence after being found guilty of fraud and espionage.

#### Hairy-faced woman gets doctor banned

HONG KONG — A doctor in Hong Kong was stripped of his license for a year after prescribing a drug, dexamethasone, that caused a female patient to grow excessive facial hair on her forehead.

*Compiled by Kevin Bailey*

## THE WESTERN FRONT ONLINE

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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/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

**INTERNATIONAL PROGRAMS AND EXCHANGES** seeks qualified students to be peer advisers for its office. Contact Student Employment in OM 285 for and application or more information.

**THE TUTORIAL CENTER IS ACCEPTING APPLICATIONS** for a study skills tutor for spring quarter and continuing through the 2001-2002 academic year. Applications are available at the Tutorial Center, Old Main 387, X/3855, or online at [www.ac.wvu.edu/~tutorctr](http://www.ac.wvu.edu/~tutorctr). Application deadline is today, Feb. 27.

**THE MATH PLACEMENT IS OFFERED** in OM 120 at 3 p.m. Mondays on Feb. March 5, 12, and 19, and at 9 a.m. Thursdays on March 1, 8, 15, 22 and 29. Registration is not required. Students must bring picture identification, student identification, student number, Social Security number, and a No. 2 pencil. A \$10 fee must be paid in the exact amount at time of testing. Allow 90 minutes. Sample problems may be found at [www.washington.edu/oea/aptp.htm](http://www.washington.edu/oea/aptp.htm).

**AN INFORMATIONAL MEETING ABOUT TEACHING ENGLISH AS A SECOND LANGUAGE** will be held at 5 p.m. today, Feb. 27, in OM 585. For more information, call X/4949.

**ASIA UNIVERSITY AMERICA PROGRAM** students will be greeted by Western representatives and introduced by the AUAP staff at 4 p.m. March 1 in the OM Theatre. A reception will follow. Both are open to the entire University community.

**INTERESTED IN MAJORING IN HUMAN SERVICES?** Attend an information meeting at 4 p.m. March 6 in BH 108. Find out about the bachelor of arts degree in human services offered through Woodring College. For more information, call X/7759.

**THE MILLER ANALOGIES TEST** will be given in FR 4 at 2 p.m. March 8. Registration is required in Old Main 120 or by calling X/3080. Not administered on an individual basis. A \$35 fee is payable at test time. Approximately 1½ hours.

**THE TEST FOR ENTRANCE INTO TEACHER EDUCATION (TETEP)** is offered in FR 4 at 2 p.m. March 15. Registration is required in OM 120. A \$25 is payable in the exact amount at time of registration. Test takes about 2½ hours. Not administered on an individual basis.

**SUMMER QUARTER 2001 DEGREE APPLICATIONS** must be on file in the registrar's office by March 16. Fall degree applicants must have applications on file by June 8. Winter 2002 application deadline is Aug. 24; spring evaluation is encouraged since many major advisers are unavailable summer quarter. See OM 230 for applications/instructions.

### On-campus recruiting

**Fortis Investors**, Thursday, March 1. Submit résumé at signup in OM 280.

**Wells Fargo Financial**, Thursday, March 1. Submit résumé at signup in OM 280.

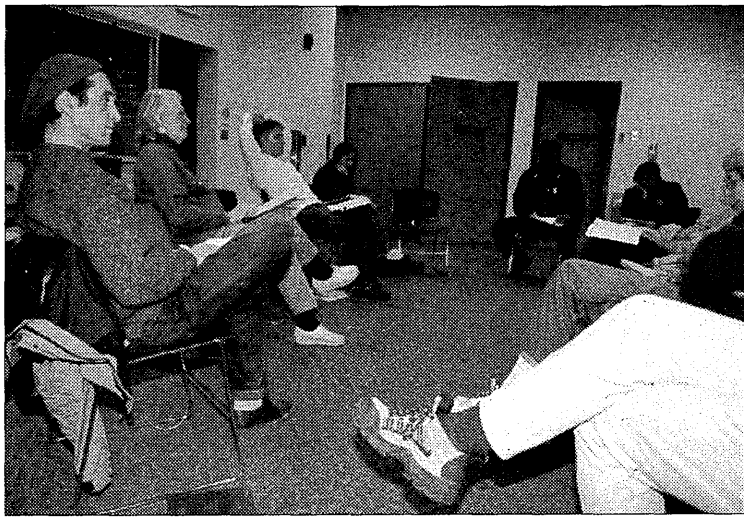
**Mervyn's (retail management)**, Tuesday, March 6. Submit résumé at signup in OM 280. Attend information session in OM 280 at 7 p.m. March 5. Enter Old Main after hours using the front door on the north end of the building.

**Onsite Companies**, Tuesday, March 6. Submit résumé at signup in OM 280.

**Everett School District**, Wednesday, March 7. Submit résumé at signup in OM 280.

**Washington Public Interest Research Group**, Thursday, March 8. See job descriptions in signup folder. Submit résumé at signup in OM 280. Evening session, 6 p.m. March 7, OM 280.

## Global warming, local industry discussed at Monday meeting



Craig Yantis/ The Western Front

**Jeffrey M. Utter from the River Farm Renewable Energy Project discussed ways to influence energy policy.**

From MEETING, Page 1

any such group agency, whether they are pre-organized or not, have a significant stake in this."

Beddill said she looks forward to finding or creating a coalition of citizens who will take a strong stand relating to power generation management and transmission, including pipelines.

During the discussion, one audience member asked whether a way exists to consider new findings by the U.N. Commission on Climate Change, which predict more severe effects of global warming.

"It's not just about our problems here," Sumas resident Bo Bumford said. "It's about the continuation of the status quo that's wrecking havoc, I believe."

Most of the emissions from SE2, if the plant were built, would affect the lower Fraser River Valley in Canada.

Marion Robinson, regional coordinator of the Fraser Basin Council in Canada, said at the meeting that there is a need to bring together the views of the grassroots community and the views of decision-makers.

"Were all in this together, we've got to live here," Robinson said. "I think that there is a real opportunity here for some real positive and (effective) cross border dialogue."

Ken Wilcox, a Bellingham resident and political player, said he would like to see the group move toward a vision for energy and renewable resources.

"It's not just Whatcom County or north west Washington regionally," Wilcox said. "Before we can get to that point though, I think there's a lot of education that has to happen ... I think that educational process has to be a high priority."

## Women of Color Week begins

From COLOR, Page 1

discussion March 1 because she is interested in the differing backgrounds and experiences of the women.

"I'm sure they'll have great ideas for political organizing in a multi-cultural way," Herman-Brand said.

Due to a large volume of response to the planned activities, some events have been moved to Fraser Hall, including a speech on Wednesday from Andrea Smith, a University of California - Santa Cruz professor who will talk about encouraging communication about sexual and domestic violence. She was honored by the city of Chicago as one of 100 outstanding women activists.

Feb. 28, which marks the first day of Women's History Month, was founded in 1986 after an Ohio University administrator suggested the idea to the National Institute for Women of Color. It has been celebrated in eight states to honor the contributions and achievements of women of color.

The purpose of the day is to give visibility to the perspectives of women of color, and to add their voices into the cultural dialogue.

The events are sponsored by Associated Students Presentations - Social Issues, the Ethnic Student Center, the Women's Center, Brown Pride, the Native American Student Union, the Environmental Center, the Peace Resource Center, the Diversity Fund, Prevention and Wellness and Western's U.S. Department of Justice Grant for Ending Violence Against Women.

## WOMEN OF COLOR EVENTS

Feb. 28, 7 p.m.

Fraser Hall 2 — Andrea Smith, a UC- Santa Cruz professor and co-founder of the Chicago chapter of Women of All Red Nations, will discuss ending the silence surrounding domestic violence.

March 1, 7 p.m.

Fraser Hall 2 — Panel of local women of color: Becky Diaz, Dian Million, Leah Henry-Slaney and Cora Hill. The panel members are leaders and activists in the Bellingham community and will discuss their organizations and work, in hopes of stimulating activities in the Bellingham area.

March 6, 7 p.m.

Fraser Hall 2 — Loretta Ross, founder and executive director of the Atlanta-based Center for Human Rights Education, will speak about her book on reproductive rights, titled "Black Abortion."

March 8, 7 p.m.

Fraser Hall 2 — Haunani-Kay Trask, an indigenous Hawaiian nationalist, poet, author and professor, will address the struggles around sovereignty, and will be accompanied by a response panel of local tribal people.

March 13, noon

Old Main 435 — a brown-bag lunch to share insights and continue the dialogue about speakers, their issues and their presentations.

March 13, 6 p.m.-8 p.m.

Haggard Hall 153 — Film: "Watermelon Woman" — a movie hosted by Brown Pride about an African American lesbian making a documentary about an actress who is cast as a slave in silent movies.

## Parking fine increases on horizon for Western drivers

From PARKING, Page 1

will help alleviate the problem of limited parking spaces available on campus. The first year of the lease-purchase is estimated to cost Western \$120,000.

University Police Chief Jim Shaw said the transportation task force, a committee that discusses parking issues at Western, advises President Karen Morse. Faculty, staff and students make up the committee.

*"We will be discussing future rates for parking, though nothing has yet been decided."*

Jim Shaw

University Police Chief

The next meeting to discuss how much parking rates will rise, among other parking issues, is scheduled for Wednesday. A follow up meeting will take place March 15.

"We will be discussing future rates for parking, though nothing has yet been decided," Shaw said.

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# Lifestyle advisors show pride about their bodies

By Emily Garrigues  
THE WESTERN FRONT

Relax with a free massage and celebrate the body at the Body Fair from noon to 3 p.m. Wednesday in Viking Union 565.

"It's a chance for us all to come together, especially in the high stress period of the quarter and realize we do have something to celebrate," said counseling center psychologist Candy Wiggum.

**“**  
*'A lot of people get so caught up in school and trying to look good. It's not about that.'*

**Shelly Dayton**  
Lifestyle Advisor

The event is part of "Body Pride Week," sponsored by the Positive Body Image Lifestyle Advisors, the Counseling Center, Residence Life, Whatcom County Eating Disorders Coalition and the Body Pride Club.

Featuring free massages and belly dancers, the Body Fair will include activities ranging from aromatherapy to colon awareness.

Residence halls will be represented with individual booths providing information and an activity.

"All of us have known people who struggle with this issue," Wiggum said. "This week is a

chance to learn and take some time out to discover how this issue affects you."

The event also is designed to be fun, Lifestyle Advisor Shelly Dayton said.

"It's a fun celebration of the body, mind and spirit," she said.

"A lot of people get so caught up in school and trying to look good. It's not about that. It's about loving who we are. Everyone needs to be reminded of that."

For more information about the Body Pride Week and its events, contact Wiggum at 650-3164.

## Week's events

### Wednesday

"Nutrition: Trends and Fads" 7 - 9 p.m. at St. Luke's Health Education Center, room C. The nutritionists from St. Joseph hospital will share the latest information in nutritional research about weight management, high protein diets and special diets.

### Thursday

"Paths to Recovery: The Road Back from Anorexia, Bulimia and other eating disorders" 7 to 9 p.m. at St. Luke's Health Education Center, room C.

### Friday

"The Eat-In Celebration and Demonstration" 11:30 a.m. to 1 p.m. in Red Square.

Celebrate the diversity of bodies with free food, drawings, information and other surprises.

# Bellingham home to 10 level 3 sex offenders

From OFFENDERS, Page 1  
ment on McNeil Island and won't be let out."

Not only can these predators live minutes from campus but they can go to school here without anyone knowing.

"We would never know they were here unless they tried to live in one of the residence halls," Karen Copetas, director of undergraduate admissions said. "Our application for admission doesn't ask that question."

**“**  
*'Last year, there was a sex offender that was enrolled at Western, but as far as we know, he is not back this year.'*

**John Browne**  
University Police

"Last year, there was a sex offender that was enrolled at Western, but as far as we know, he is not back this year," Sgt. John Browne of the university police said.

Level three sex offenders are likely to repeat offend. An example is the case of Bellingham's I Street standoff where alleged sex offender Philip Lee Roberts



The Aloha Motel, on Samish Way, advertises "family suites" is also home to Gregory Richard Rice, a level three sex offender convicted of numerous sex crimes against children.

Levi Pulkkinen/  
The Western Front

initiated a standoff with police.

Roberts was wanted on 12 counts of child molestation in California.

Another recent incident was the death of Jennie M. Osborn in Shelton, whose killer is suspected to be Joseph Rosenow, a level three sex offender.

Sex offenders are closely monitored and kept under surveillance.

They are required to check in more often depending on their crimes.

"We believe that these people are dangerous, and that they are not rehabilitated," Royce Buckingham of the City Prosecutors Office said.

"That is why they are under surveillance and on probation. Sex offenders are very hard to rehabilitate. I believe in the liberty of the individuals and the safety of women and children."

Even if the offender doesn't have an official place to live, the Bellingham Police still keep track of where they are and what they are doing.

If they are living in the woods or in a car, they are still monitored.

"If they say they are going to be living under a bridge or in a wooded area and it's not illegal for them to be there then they better be there when we come to check on them," Jamison said.

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# FEATURES

Campus & Community

February 27, 2001

The Western Front • 5

## FAT

### Police expect mellow Mardi Gras celebration

By Keri Cooper  
THE WESTERN FRONT



Tonight, the streets of New Orleans will overflow with thousands of people partaking in what has been called the "Greatest Free Show on Earth." Alcohol will stream out of bottles and into party-goers' mouths. In the tradition of Mardi Gras, people will tear off articles of clothing, one by one, in an attempt to claim as many plastic beads and trinkets as possible.

In Bellingham, The Royal and The Wild Buffalo will celebrate Fat Tuesday, which can be translated to mean a carnival marking "farewell to the flesh" at midnight the night before Lent.

Mardi Gras started out as a Catholic holiday celebrating the custom of parading a fat ox through town. It is based on the pagan tradition of celebration which includes excessive eating, drinking and rowdiness before a period of fasting.

Today, people of many different religions all over the world honor this tradition. Parades, block parties, carnivals, masked balls and the presence of "throws," or plastic beads, help party-goers feast before the fast.

In past years protests have occurred in Bellingham on Fat Tuesday, but such events are rare, Bellingham Police Lt. Dac Jamison said.

"There is really a slim chance of anything out of the ordinary happening," Jamison said.

He said Mardi Gras will have no significant impact on the city. He expects Fat Tuesday to be just as intense as a normal Friday night.

He said he believes the true rowdiness will be confined to bigger cities.

Sunday evening, four Seattle Police officers were injured in a chaos of pepper spray, stinger bullets, airborne objects and alcohol-induced violence.

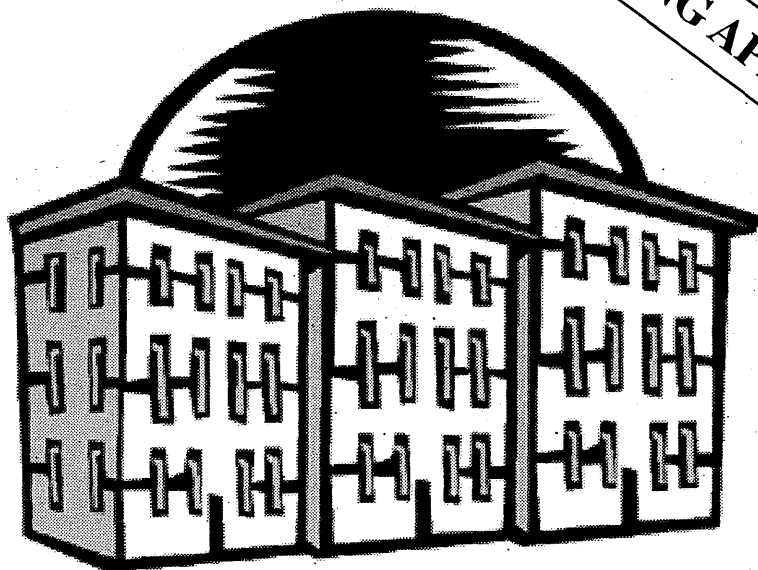
Seattle's Pioneer Square revelers have celebrated Mardi Gras peacefully for 23 years, Seattle police officers said in a Feb. 26. Seattle Times article. The squad is increasing its patrol to 200 officers tonight.

Bellingham officers are aware of the chaos in Seattle, but regard Bellingham residents as "more reserved and calm," Jamison said.



## SOUTHGATE APTS

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# BONE COLLECTOR

By Craig Yantis

THE WESTERN FRONT

It is Sunday morning. Western geology professor Thor Hansen hears his wife Penny rummage through the contents of their freezer looking for the makings of a sausage breakfast.

"Uhhh," Hansen hears Penny moan over the sound of crinkling tin foil.

He hears sounds of more rummaging followed by more crinkling foil.

"Oh!" Penny finally says in disgust.

"I heard the freezer door close, and I heard her footsteps coming upstairs," Hansen said. "She walks in and she's got this real controlled kind of voice, which is sort of a dangerous signal, and she says, 'Thor, would you stop putting dead bodies in the freezer?'"

Hansen has gathered dead animals for about five years. An Indian antelope, cougar, gazelle, wolf, Rocky Mountain goat, Barbary sheep, mouflon sheep and a raccoon are some specimens found in his rapidly expanding collection of skulls and bones.

"Skulls are just really cool things," Hansen said. "They're beautiful and they are interesting — how they differ between animals."

Teachers bring their classes to Western to see the collection, and Hansen occasionally makes classroom visits. He sometimes gets phone calls from people who want to identify a bone. He can use the collection to find a match.

"It's really quite a nice collection," Hansen said. "And I sort of view it as a resource not just for teaching in my classes, but as a community resource."

Some of Hansen's specimens were donated from various sources through his university contacts, but many specimens he finds and cleans himself.

Once, while taking his daughter Laura on a home-school field trip, the two brought home an emu that died a week before and was lying in a farmer's yard.

He finds cleaning the carcasses can be a gruesome task.

Initially, he tried burying them in the yard, but found that it takes too long and the bones get dirty and are sometimes lost.

Hansen has found three successful techniques to prepare his skulls and bones.

Boiling is the quickest method.

"You boil it until all the meat falls off, and just clean it up like you would a turkey," Hansen said. "After you boil it up, you've got this cooked head, and you've got to pull the eyeballs out, pull out the tongue and tear the face off. It can be hard for the squeamish."

But boiled bones get greasy, which is not ideal for showing and handling.

Hansen said the nicest bones come from soaking the specimen in a trash can full of water for a year. He occasionally changes

the water and the end result is a nice, clean, white specimen, but Hansen said he usually can't wait that long.

The third method, and one he is currently using to prepare two horse heads and a bullfrog skeleton, is his rot-box method.

To keep his dog, coyotes and other scavengers away from his decaying critters, Hansen has put up a 4-foot by 4-foot tall cyclone-fenced cube in his backyard. He first leaves the dead animals in the box exposed to the elements, allowing flies to gather and lay eggs. Two days later, he covers the specimen with a plastic bag to keep the remains moist and lets maggots hatch and feast on the rotting carcass.

After a few weeks, Hansen wears rubber gloves to take the specimen out of the bag and bleach it. Like the soaking method, this process also leaves clean-looking bones.

Hansen usually reserves the rot-box method for summer, but since horse heads won't fit in his freezer and he doesn't want to leave them in a bucket of water all year, he's trying it in mid-February.

"It's gonna freeze and get kinda moldy, but it's not gonna dry out because it's in the bag," he said. "It's close enough to spring, I think, that the flies will be out before too long and they can get in there and clean it up for me."

Penny said the rot box is just an extension of a long history of having dead things dragged into the house by their animals and other family members.

"One time Laura and I found a fresh possum on the road," Hansen said. "We were pretty excited about that, so we brought it home and dissected it on the kitchen counter while my wife was making dinner."

Penny was gracious about cooking next to the ongoing possum dissection, Hansen said. She was tolerant and kept dinner separate from the possum work.

"Thor's a fun guy, but he's definitely a challenge sometimes," Penny said. "If he didn't have such a great sense of humor, I would have killed him years ago."

Once while making a trip downstairs, Penny came across an awful smell coming from behind the closed door to their guest bathroom.

She bravely opened the door to find the utility sink full of water with an unidentifiable brown carcass floating in it. The odor nearly made her gag.

"I walked out and said, 'Thor, what's in the sink?'"

"What sink?" Hansen replied.



Photos by Craig Yantis / The Western Front

**Geology department Professor Thor Hansen has built a collection of skeletons and bones not only through donations and purchases, but by cleaning dead animals he finds himself. The emu above rode home with Hansen and his daughter, Laura, after a field trip. Hansen purchased the alligator carcass below from a Florida alligator farm. The farm sent the body UPS second-day air.**

"The sink down here," she said "There's something that smells bad."

"Oh, Oh! That must be the beaver butt. That's right, I forgot about it!" Hansen replied.

"There's something very charming about that and disgusting at the same time," Penny said. "It's like having a little kid. The more

gruesome my son was when he was about 6 and 8, the better he liked it. I think Thor has that part of his personality totally intact."

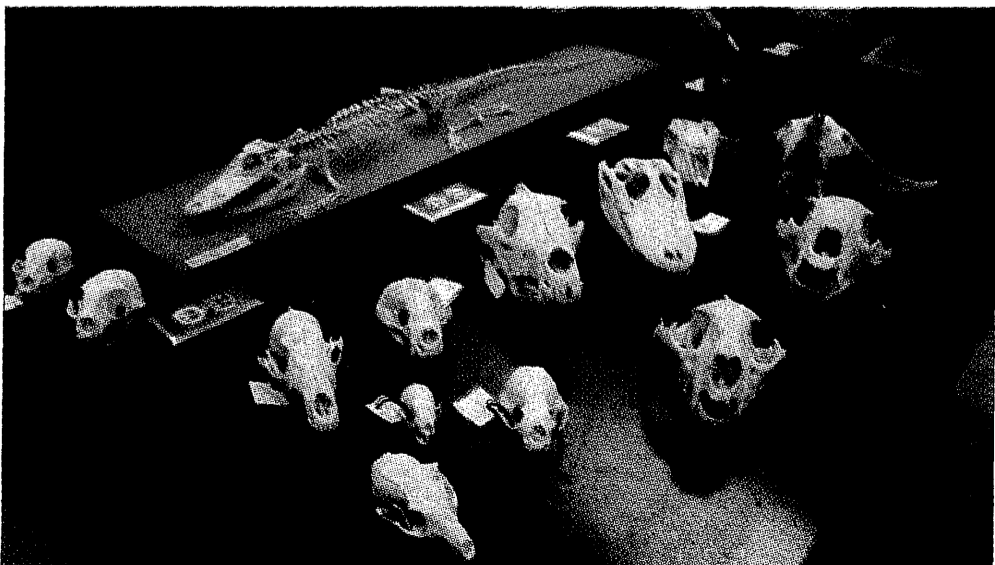
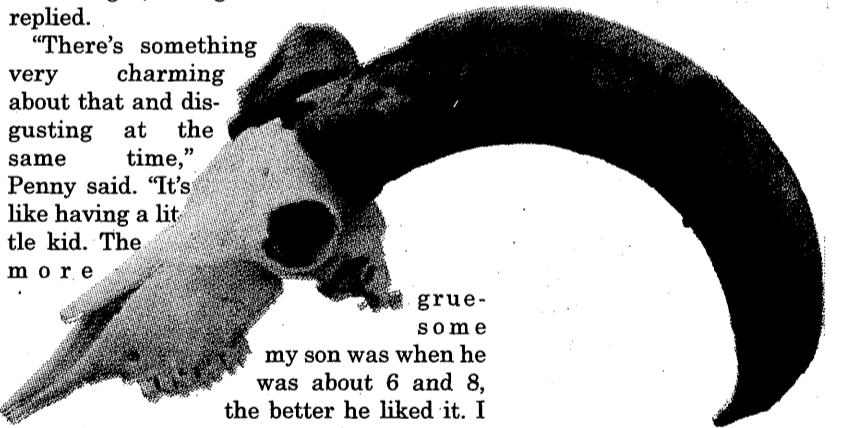
Even though her husband's cleaning practices have brought some disgusting things into her home, Penny said she enjoys having the collection. She uses some of the specimens for her school.

"I don't know if you have ever smelled an animal with its hide and brains cooking," Penny said. "I can't describe how awful it smells."

They couldn't get rid of the odor, she said. Turning the kitchen fan on simply spread the smell upstairs and through the house.

In the winter when the rot box is not effective, and without the ability to boil rescued carcasses in his kitchen, Hansen has become a little more discrete about storing the bodies he needs to preserve until summer.

Stay away from the "frozen cabbage" wrapped in tin foil and a freezer bag in the Hansen family's freezer.



# The little ways of being big

Western students mentor local children through Campus Buddies program

By Emily Christianson  
THE WESTERN FRONT

Two by two they walked into the meeting room, one big, one little.

They timidly approached the supply table covered with red, pink and white paper, scissors, crayons, markers and glue.

The task – to create Valentines' cards for the local senior center.

The card creators – Campus Buddies.

"Bigs" and "Littles" are familiar terms at Campus Buddy meetings.

They refer to "Bigs" like Sean, who has volunteered his time for the past three years to work with his 10-year-old "Little" Bobby, a child from the Bellingham area.

Campus Buddies is a way for Western students to work as mentors for local kids in the community.

The program began three years ago through Big Brothers/Big Sisters of Whatcom County.

Due to the growing need for male mentors, BBBS turned to Western for help.

They reduced the "Bigs" commitment time from 12 months to nine months so Western students would be able to participate during fall, winter and spring quarters.

"Being a Campus Buddy is a great way to get involved and make a difference in the Bellingham community," said Brian Gilmore, Campus Buddy coordinator. "It's also a great way to connect with a child and be a kid again yourself, playing games, being silly, and just having lots of fun, while being a role model and giving a child who wants a 'Big' someone to look up to."

Sean's and Bobby's friendship has grown through the many activities they have done during the past three years.

"We sometimes go hang out at his (Sean's) house and play video games, and sometimes we go to the mall," Bobby said. One time we went to the movies, and we try to go to as many Campus Buddy meetings as possible. We ride scooters together, and we've gone kayaking."

Sean and Bobby remember their favorite experience together as a two-day camping trip near Mount Baker with the BBBS organization.

"We told scary stories and played games in the

dark and we went fishing and boating," Bobby said.

"It was just a really good way to get to know your 'Little,'" Sean said.

Ben, a Western student, was just matched up with his "Little," Joe two weeks ago and already has been touched by the Campus Buddy experience.

"You think about it all the time," Ben said. "We talk on the phone every other day. He's a character, he's the smartest 11-year-old I know. I help him with his homework, and he helps me with mine."

Diane Cook, a mother of two boys involved with Campus Buddies, is impressed with the impact the program has had in her family.

"They are getting to see the process adults go through when they're going to school," Cook said. "By seeing students at Western, I think they will have different goals than maybe I would have had. Their big brothers do things with them, like making rockets and learning music."

"They are learning to do things with their hands. As a mother, the kids are learning things I may not have thought of. It's been a really good program. The boys look forward to these visits."

Campus Buddies provides many opportunities for "Bigs" and "Littles" to get together to participate in activities such as rock climbing, community service projects, pottery making, photo scavenger hunts, bowling, tube time, trips to see the Mariners play, hiking and Drop-in nights.

"Wednesday was our second Drop-in night," Nathan, a "Big," said. "They try to organize at least one per month. We made Valentine cards for a local senior center, which was a lot of fun. Creativity was a must. Classic board games were available, along with refreshments. In addition, they played the 'Princess Bride,' just perfect for the holiday coming up."

Campus Buddies currently has 85 matches, but many boys have to wait up to five months to receive a mentor.

The application process for next fall will begin during spring quarter.

Interested Western students will need to complete applications, interviews, background checks, home visits and training sessions.

Gilmore urges anyone interested in the program to contact him at 671-6400, extension 314.



Scott A. Keys/  
The Western Front

Little Buddy Sean Lawrence practices climbing methods at the Bellingham YMCA Feb. 10.



Craig Yantis/The Western Front

Megan Brinkley works on her project, a heart-shaped stool, Feb. 10 at a Home Depot workshop.

## Hammer in hand

Home Depot workshop teaches carpentry to kids

By Bryn Johnson  
THE WESTERN FRONT

With giant eyes and clenched teeth, a 6-year-old boy possesses a look of unbreakable concentration. His hands tremble as he cautiously raises his arms. Reaching as far back as his tiny arms allow, he drops a hammer with a loud bang. It's not quite a perfect job; the nail remains untouched, but the determined carpenter refuses to give up.

After numerous tries and a little help from Mommy, the hammer finally hits the nail, and a stool begins to take form. The boy continues working, seemingly unphased by the chaos that surrounds him.

Home Depot's lumber aisle is filled with the sounds of encouraging words, laughter and lots of banging. Nearly 30 children surround 3-foot-high tables covered with packaged stools and a plentiful supply of hammers, screwdrivers, sandpaper and glue. Parents lend a hand and get a chance to catch up with other parents.

Every other Saturday morning, Bellingham's Home Depot puts on a Kids Workshop. The workshops are recommended for children between the ages of 6 and 12, but children of all ages enjoy the projects. Kids are assigned a project, given all the needed supplies, an orange Home Depot apron and a pin of completion for each finished

project.

"How is everybody doing down here?" clinic coordinator Melena Hill, 32, asks.

Turning just in time to welcome the next future contractor, she puts him or her to work with yet another little orange apron and stool kit.

Without missing a beat, Hill turns back to the masses. She surveys the 30 pairs of busy hands, making sure they know she is there and is ready to help.

Matching the children's energy with her own enthusiasm, Hill appears right at home with the kids.

"We are teaching the next generation of do-it-yourselfers," Hill said.

Parent participation is mandatory for children to attend the workshops. Dozens of parents crouch on their knees around the miniature tables.

Holding miniature stools as their children hammer dangerously close to their fingers, parents willingly risk injury.

Laughing, 6-year-old Megan Brinkley, proudly recalls the last workshop her family attended.

"I hammered Mommy's thumb," she said.

Often more excited than their children, some parents appear to have difficulty letting their children work on their own. Others, however, restrain themselves and watch patiently as nails go in crooked and glue goobers the stool legs.

## Vikings in the driver's seat

By James Lyon  
THE WESTERN FRONT

With a 100-85 win against Humboldt State University in the final home game of the season, Western's men's basketball team might have extended its home schedule.

The Vikings' Saturday win, coupled with West Region No. 1 Cal State San Bernardino's Friday loss to the University of California-Davis, put the West Region No. 2 Vikings in position to reclaim the No. 1 ranking in the West and the right to host the West Regional tournament.

The Vikings also moved up to No. 15 in the national poll.

"This was a must-win for us if we wanted any chance of hosting the regional tournament," head coach Brad Jackson said.

Guard Jacob Stevenson and center Mike Palm each scored 22 points to lead a balanced attack that featured four Viking players scoring in double figures as the Vikings won their 10th straight game.

"We've got a ton of guys that can contribute," captain Ryan

Kettman said. "Any team can't concentrate on just one guy, and that makes us tough to beat."

Kettman, in possibly his final home game, was lights out from 3-point range, hitting four of five attempts, finishing with 16 points.

"Kett has been the heart and soul of this ball club," Jackson said of his captain.

"His attitude and leadership has been awesome."

The Lumberjacks jumped to a 21-11 lead with 13:26 left in the first half, but Western responded with a 17-2 run to take a 28-23 lead with 8:50 remaining.

The Vikings finished the half by scoring eight straight points to take a five-point halftime lead.

"We started slowly," guard Jason Burrell said. "I think we were nervous."

"But as the game progressed our defense kicked in, and we took over."

The Vikings opened the second half with a 12-2 run in the first 2:45 to take a 59-44 lead. The Lumberjacks later used a seven-point run to pull within

five, at 77-72, but got no closer as the Vikings scored eight of the next 10 points.

After being held to only two points in the first half, Palm took over late and scored 12 of his 20 second-half points in the last six minutes, including two three-point plays. He also grabbed 10 rebounds.

"I was pretty frustrated in the first half," Palm said. "But it's just how the game goes. I just took what I could get."

The Vikings improved to 22-3 overall and 15-2 in the conference with a one game lead over Seattle Pacific University.

The Vikings travel to SPU Saturday to take on the Falcons in a game that will determine the conference champion.

"They (SPU) don't lose very often on their home court," Jackson said. "It's going to be an all-out war."

## Women defeat Saint Martin's

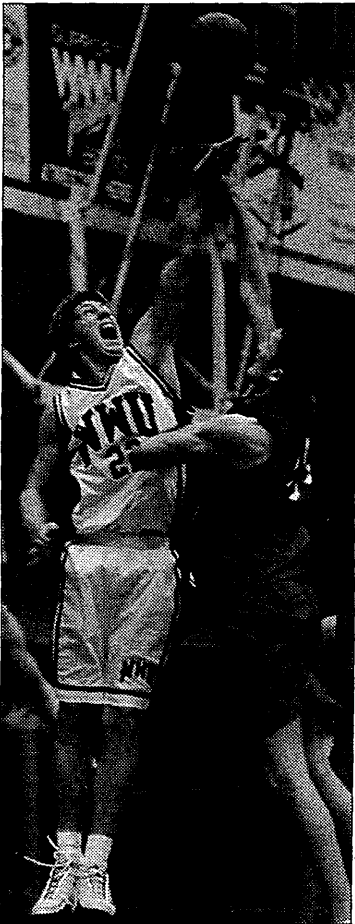
THE WESTERN FRONT

Trailing by one point with two minutes remaining, Western's women's basketball team scored the last six points as it defeated Saint Martin's College 69-64 in a PacWest game.

Forward Pamela Lovely and reserve center Jenn McGillivray each scored 13 points for the Vikings as Western improved to 18-7 overall and 14-6 in the PacWest.

Guard Briana Abrahamsen added 12 points off the bench and center Ruth Taylor had 10 points and eight rebounds, including the go-ahead layup with 1:37 left in the game.

The Vikings will host Western Oregon University at 7 p.m. Thursday.



Daniel J. Peters/The Western Front  
Jacob Stevenson earned PacWest Player of the Week honors for the week of Feb. 18 to 24 leading the Vikings with 48 points in both wins.

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# Lacrosse team picks up first win



Kevin Bailey/The Western Front

A Western lacrosse player slashes a Utah Valley State College player in Saturday's game at Western. The 10-5 victory for the Vikings earned them their first win of the season and improved the Vikings' record to 1-2 on the season.

## Western's men's lacrosse team erases an early 3-1 deficit to defeat Utah Valley State College

By Kevin Bailey  
THE WESTERN FRONT

Western's men's lacrosse team won its first game of the season Saturday with a well-balanced performance, sticking it to Utah Valley State College, 10-5.

UVSC rushed out to an early 3-1 lead, but could not withstand the powerful Western offense as the Vikings settled down and scored five consecutive goals to take a 6-3 lead.

The Vikings then found the net four more times in the second half while stuffing UVSC's offense after the Wolverines' quick start.

After a loss to Simon Fraser University last week, the Vikings improved to 1-2 on the season.

Western's Mike Morgan and Myles Magnuson had strong performances, each scoring three goals to stomp out UVSC's chances of escaping with a road win.

"We played really defensive in the first half," Morgan said. "We're used to a fast-paced game, and they slowed the tempo down early."

Mike Person played aggressively on offense and defense as he added two goals for the Vikings.

"We started the game pretty slow," Person said. "We all seemed to have the butterflies out there."

"All we need to do is play our game and we'll have no problem competing in all of our games," Person said.

"We are too good of a team to let our opponents control the tempo of the game."

Freshman Jeff Haines netted his first collegiate goal in Saturday's game.

Haines and Kjell Ridsen each scored to round out the Vikings' scoring.

Kyle Griffith and Ryan Tate both scored two goals to lead the Wolverines.

"We just sped things up and got into the flow of the game," Morgan said. "After that, the goals started coming."

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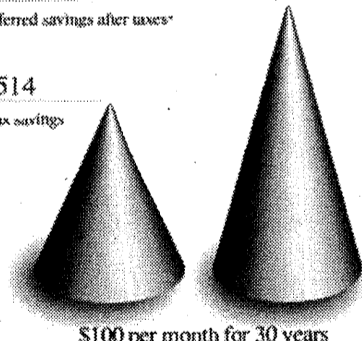
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## Frontline

### University Police should be solving more serious crimes

Students have an instant fear of the University Police, afraid they will be pulled over or given a parking ticket.

Horror tales about the UP can be heard in students' everyday conversations, tales from being pulled over for speeding on Bill McDonald Parkway to being suspected of car prowling.

Many students consider the UP a meter maid service for Western. The UP does a great job of giving students parking and speeding tickets. However, the UP has yet to solve a real crime on campus.

According to crime statistics given to the Office of Post Secondary Education, Western's crime is comparable to other four-year institutions in the state. In 1999, Western had three forcible sex offenses compared.

The UP has yet to solve any of them.

Aggravated assault is also low on campuses. The UW is the highest with seven reported cases.

Criminal offenses are low on all these campuses, however, Western parts ways with other colleges in the area of liquor-law violations.

The UP busted 159 students in 1999 for violating liquor laws, which includes minors in possession. Of those students, 108 were in residence halls.

One can look at these numbers and say that Western is a party school, but what they really show is that the UP is doing its job, which is busting people who break the law.

Some students, however, gripe that lately the UP have gotten arrest happy. Students feel they are being preyed upon by the police and that they are out to get them.

As well as being arrest happy, the UP is getting a rap for not solving crimes. There are few crimes to solve on campus. For example, one cannot blame the UP for not catching the assailant in last quarter's attack near the Ridgeway complex. There was little information the UP could go on — a vague physical description.

It is hard for any police agency to solve crimes with little to no evidence or clues to lead them in a direction.

But when a serious crime does take place does the UP respond in an appropriate manner?

A Western student reported that a bullet was shot through her dorm window. She called the UP and they inspected the window, put a caution sticker over the hole and never called her back with updates.

The UP should inform victims about their cases and the measures they are doing to ensure their safety.

Giving tickets to students and catching drunk drivers is one way to keep the campus safe but, the UP should make an effort to solve serious crimes and show students that they are really cracking down on crime.

*Frontlines are the opinion of The Western Front editorial board: Andrea Abney, Heather Baker, J.R. Cook, Alex P. Hennessy, Jessica Keller, Levi Pulkkinen and Matt Williams.*

## The Western Front

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### And we quote:

"I've never seen government touch religion where it didn't either trivialize it or politicize it."

Barry Lynn of Americans United for Separation of Church and State and a leading critic of Bush's proposed religious funding legislation, as quoted in the Seattle Times.



## Parents: quit blaming music



**Karlee Rochon**

COMMENTARY

Where there's Eminem, there's controversy. Since Eminem's music first appeared, critics have attacked his lyrics and his character, blaming him for spreading hate and for creating a new generation of bigots, homophobes and misogynists.

Recently, protesters took it a step farther, saying it's wrong for the National Academy of Recording Arts and Sciences to recognize or to honor his work.

Free speech and expression are topics that surround the music industry and the entertainment industry in general. Artists always push the limits.

Eminem is no different. Other artists have been granted these rights. They have been upheld and Eminem should have them as well.

As for forming the next generation's values, that responsibility is in the hands of parents and should not be pawned off on entertainment figures.

*"As for forming the next generation's values, that responsibility is in the hands of parents and should not be pawned off on entertainment figures."*

Accompanying Eminem in the Best Album of the Year category was old-timer Steely Dan. Its album "Two Against Nature" contains a song about a man who

is pressuring his underage lover to have a threesome and a song about a man who pursues his own cousin.

Steely Dan took home the award for best album, minus the controversy and ridicule.

Among other artists recognized at the Grammys are Kid Rock, Mystical and Jay Z, whose songs are about booties and sex, songs in which people are pimps, and women are referred to as "ho's" and "bitches." Where are their protesters? Aren't they promoting misogyny, sex and hate?

Entertainment is meant for recreational purposes, not to be taken literally. Eminem himself makes this point on his controversial album in the song "Stan," about a deranged fan who took Eminem's lyrics too literally.

Eminem's fans seem to understand this concept. Why don't

See EMINEM, Page 11

## Little Lisa, a dining hall virgin gets her first taste of 'Marriott Fever'



**Lisa Curdy**

CURD'S WAY

Every girl and boy at Western has experienced it: that tingling "down below," a longing — even a desire, some may say — to be filled up with something warm and good and satisfying. Yes, all Vikings get hungry, even me.

I've gone to Western for three years and, until last week, hadn't experienced the painful pleasure of an on-campus dining experience: Sodexo-Marriott's soul-food lovin'.

My friend and editor of Klipsun magazine rewarded me for a day of hard work on the publication by "treating" me to a "tasty" meal at Fairhaven Commons.

To me, this was exotic — a new

place on campus, previously unexplored — and I was giddy with anticipation as I dreamily envisioned milk fountains and mounds upon sumptuous mounds of mass-produced vittles. Oh yes, I was going to have myself a little feast.

A fattie fat feast was consumed,

*"To me, this was exotic — a new place on campus, previously unexplored — and I was giddy with anticipation"*

and I never want to have such a food fest again.

We walked into FC and were greeted by an unexcited student wearing assorted tropical attire. Apparently, we'd stumbled upon a little Hawaiian hoedown,

Sodexo-Marriott style.

The only thing missing was real food.

Pineapples and mangoes were piled generously onto any edible surface. We're talking Hawaiian pizza, mango-covered pork, pineapple upside-down cake and more.

It was a downright equatorial-fruit laden taste sensation, but the only sensation I experienced was nausea and hunger, for I detest pineapples, mangoes and pork in any form.

The only "safe" food left consisted of salads, deep-fried stuff and milk — God, I love milk — and somehow, somehow, I ended up gorging myself to the point of needing to be rolled out, like Violet in the movie "Charlie and the Chocolate Factory."

I was one obese little Lisa Lumpa by the time I left that joint.

See CURD'S WAY, Page 11

## Eminem's art may be offensive, but it's still art and deserves recognition

From **EMINEM**, Page 10  
protesters?

In the words of Eminem, "I think protesters just need something to bitch about, and they got sick of Marilyn Manson."

Gay and women's rights activists protested outside the Grammy ceremony. One banner read "Where are Eminem and the Grammys leading our children? Tell the Recording Academy to drop Eminem."

To where is Eminem leading children? He shouldn't be leading them anywhere. That's the parents' responsibility.

If protesters are so worried about where entertainment is leading children, then where are the Britney Spears protesters? Her lyrics may not be controversial, but her outfits (or lack thereof) certainly are.

Where is she leading her 8- and 9-year-old fans? Children are walking around wearing halter tops, skin-tight clothing and make-up, dressing sexy before they know what sexy is.

Children are wearing these clothes because their parents have bought them. Parents — not entertainment — are leading our children.

Music containing explicit lyrics comes with a "Parental Advisory" sticker these days. Parents who don't want their children listening to music containing explicit lyrics shouldn't buy it for them. By the time children are at an age to purchase these albums on their own, parents should have instilled in them morals, values and the ability to determine right from wrong.

Parents have a duty in society to teach their children these things.

If they are instilled in children, then when they hear these lyrics, they will take them for what they are, purely entertainment.

As Jim Carrey said of Eminem's music, "I think his lyrics are a little socially unacceptable, but if we just spend a little time with our kids, we'll be okay."

## 13 glasses of milk probably wasn't a very good idea

From **CURD'S WAY**, Page 10

It's funny, having an expanse full of food in front of a hungry face.

Soon I understood the ass-widening potential of dining hall food and had a new-found respect for the "Freshmen 15" — the tidal waves of new flesh left in the wake of a sea of food.

I consumed a salad large enough to merit a proud smile

from a brontosaurus, ate some really interesting vegan pizza (where's the protest?), drank nearly 13 gut-wrenching glasses of milk and gained nine pounds.

I hadn't had an opportunity to drink milk in a while, and decided to stock up. But my body had other plans.

The seemingly docile lettuce and peaceful pizza dough decided to go head-to-head with my milk

— a virtual dairy-laden jousting match.

I don't know which food product won, but I know I lost.

After requesting a complementary wheelchair to assist in my departure from the dining hall, I made a decision: Sodexo-Marriott food hurt me, and they can't make me eat it again — not even if I get "leied" when I walk in.

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# Western campus safety commission forming, looking for student input

By Emily Garrigues  
THE WESTERN FRONT

Student members are needed for a newly formed campus safety committee.

"The main objective of this committee is to give students a venue to voice concerns and advocate for change," said Corey Eichner, Associated Students vice president of Student Life and committee chair.

Currently, student representation on the issue of campus safety is very low, consisting of

one student on the Central Health and Safety Committee, said Nova Gattman, manager intern for University Residences.

"Right now there's no avenue for students to express concern," she said.

Gattman was inspired to form this committee from her experiences living on campus in Birnam Wood for two years.

"I constantly noticed that walking to school got kind of scary sometimes," Gattman said. "I knew about Greencoats and alternate paths, but when

you're in a hurry, you go the fastest way possible, even if it's not the safest."

**“I knew about Greencoats and alternate paths, but when you're in a hurry you go the fastest way possible, even if it's not the safest.”**

Nova Gattman  
University Residences

Gattman hopes to make it

safer for students to walk through campus at night with increased lighting and Greencoat patrols. Other issues the committee will address are increasing the number of crosswalks and bike safety.

"Specific concerns will help give this committee a good foundation, instead of being dormant," Eichner said. "We don't want to just be symbolic of student representation in this issue."

Eichner stressed that this committee is open to all issues of student concern.

So far the committee has received great support from the administration, Gattman said.

"They've been nothing but excited that there are students wanting to get involved in this," Gattman said.

"This committee is good because students need to be involved in all aspects of the community," Kay Rich, director of University Residences, said.

The committee is looking for members "with genuine interest and concern in campus life," Eichner said.


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