#### **NEWS**

Leadership change as administrators retire

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**ART&LIFE** 

Yoga stretches the stress away

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#### **OPINION**

Foraging for food on south campus

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SPORTS
Softball loses

3 of last 4 games

>> page 13



Friday, May 2, 2008

# THE WESTERN FRONT

AN INDEPENDENT STUDENT NEWSPAPER SERVING

Issue 9 | Vol. 160

WESTERN WASHINGTON UNIVERSITY SINCE 1970.

# Body confirmed as Western track coach



Jeremy Sean Scully

Police investigating the death of pole vault coach Jeremy Sean Scully as homicide

Jordan Green
THE WESTERN FRONT

After three days of delays and countless rumors around the Bellingham area, police confirmed Wednesday morning that the body found on Blanchard Mountain is Jeremy Sean Scully.

The FBI compared fingerprints they had on file of Scully to those sent in by Skagit County Sheriff's Office and the prints were a match, said Chief Criminal Deputy Will Reichardt of the Skagit County Sheriff's Office. Detectives will continue to investigate this as a homicide, he said.

A warrant was served Thursday afternoon and several items were recovered that pertain to the investigation, Reichardt said. He declined to reveal details.

Police have several "peoples of interest" in the investigation but as of yet have not publicly named them. The Skagit County Sheriff's Office is investigating all available leads in this case, Reichardt said.

The Bellingham Police department has handed over the case to Skagit County because the missing person case is now closed, and a criminal investigation will continue on Skagit County's side, said Lt. Steve Felmley

westernfrontonline.net

Scully was last seen April 24, a day before he was reported missing, said Felmley. His car was found on East Lake Samish

see COACH page 7 ▶

# Faculty union, administration reach agreements in state-mediated session

Andrea Davis-Gonzalez

Faculty gathered to discuss the current status of bargaining their contract with the administration during a meeting in Amtzen Hall Thursday. Bill Lyne, faculty union president and English professor, spoke to approximately 40 people and listened to feedback from the audience. Some audience members suggested that faculty members not come to class as a form of protesting the time taken for the administration to settle a contract with faculty.

The faculty union wouldn't advocate professors boycotting their teaching responsibilities because it will directly affect students' learning, said Kyle Crowder, faculty union director of communications

🐫 | nalgene

and sociology professor.

"The students didn't create this problem," Crowder said. "The administration created this problem. So we see no way to make students pay for this."

For the past 16 months, Westem's faculty union and administration bargaining teams have been negotiating Western's first faculty contract since the union was created.

Five main sections of the contract have slowed down the negotiating process because both sides have been continuing to bargain on them. Two of the sections were agreed on during the last bargaining session with state-appointed mediator, Claire Nickleberry, April 24 and April 25, said Eileen Coughlin, vice president

see BARGAINING page 4

# Western junior named finalist in Dell computer competition

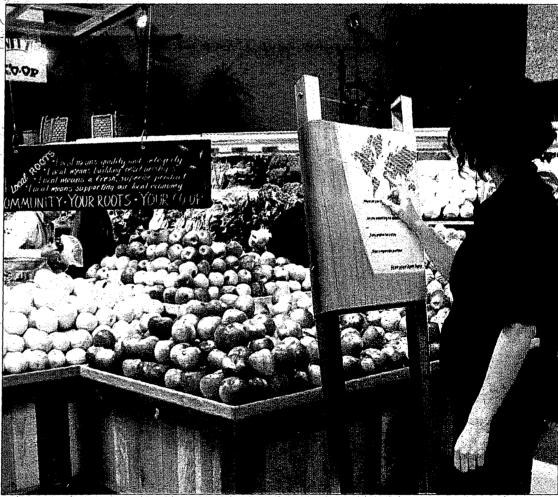


photo illustration courtesy of Kate Richar

Digital rendering shows Western junior Jenny Trygg demonstrating how the 'Sense' computer can be used by consumers to easily determine the environmental and nutritional details of store products.

Student awarded \$10,000 for being one of five finalists out of 500 entries

**Amanda Winters** 

THE WESTERN FRONT

Most Western students, junior Kate Richard included, have at one point or another worked long and hard on a class project. But after working three months on her class project, Richard's hard work is finally paying off: Literally.

Richard said after spending

winter quarter designing a sustainable computer in her industrial design class, she entered her design into Dell's Green Computing Design contest. Richard learned April 22 that she was one of the top five finalists for the competition, which had more than 500 professional and student applicants.

"I got a phone call from Jesse, who is from my class, and he said, 'Kate I think you need to check the computer. I think you won \$10,000," Richard said. "I've never won anything before, so it took me awhile to understand that I won the money because just winning the competition was huge."

For being a finalist, Richard will receive \$10,000 from Dell

see **DELL** page 3 ▶

#### Goodbye, hard-plastic Nalgene

**James Andrews** 

THE WESTERN FRONT

Western junior Paul Yaeger said he used to carry water around in a hard-plastic Nalgene bottle until he noticed a label on a metal water container at REI claiming it

was Bisphenol-A (BPA) free.

"I saw the label and looked [BPA] up on the internet," Yaeger said. "I actually read a Reader's Digest article on it and decided I didn't want a plastic bottle anymore."

In reaction to rising customer concern like Yaeger's, on April 18 the manufacturer of Nalgene water bottles announced plans to cease production of its Outdoor line of hard-plastic bottles that contain BPA, a chemical compound that some studies have labeled as a health risk.

The National Institute of Environmental Health Sciences has cited studies that say high doses of BPA can cause birth defects and infant mortality among preg-

see NALGENE page 4

The Western Front | Friday • May 2, 2008

#### **EVENTS CALENDAR**

#### May 2

#### **Strategic Management Executive Speaking Series**

Western's College of Business and Economics is hosting attorney Marcella Fleming-Reed.

3 p.m., Fraser Hall room 4: Admission is free.

#### Soft-spoken alternative-country

Kate Tucker and the Sons of Sweden with Kristi Nelson performing.

8 p.m., Underground Coffee House. Admission is free.

#### May 3

#### **Social Justice Conference**

**CASCAID Social Justice** Conference is a two-day event seeking to unite the campus and community to discuss ideas and tactics to promote social justice, advocacy and awareness.

10 a.m., Viking Union Multipurpose Room. Admission is free.

#### Whitewater Weekend

Kayak or raft on the local rivers while working on your boating skills. Participants must attend two kayak roll sessions before attending. Sponsored by the Outdoor Center.

The cost is \$75.

#### May 4

#### **Movie viewing**

**Associated Student Productions** 



Western sophomore Alex Mangubat gets some exercise in front of Old Main Wednesday. Mangubat is part of the Western Acrobatics Club.

Films present "Lonesome Jim," starring Casey Affleck and Liv Tyler

7 and 9 p.m. Viking Union room 552. Admission is \$1.

#### **Bike Trip**

Bike to Larabee State Park via the Interurban Trail. Sponsored by the Outdoor Center.

Admission is \$10 for Western students and \$15 for guests.

#### **Western Triathlon**

Triathlon to support Western's national champion cycling team. Prizes for winners in all age groups. Presented by the Associated Students.

8 a.m., Wade King Recreation Center. \$15 for students, \$20 for alumni, \$30 for guests.

#### May 5

#### **Business Forum**

The chairman, president and CEO of The Boeing Co. will be the keynote speaker for the 11th Annual Seattle Business Forum luncheon.

12 p.m., Westin Seattle Grand Ballroom. Admission is \$100 per person. Call 360-650-3629 for more information.

#### May 6 **Guest Speaker**

**Engineers Without Borders** 

(EWB) presents Chris Webb, former EWB representative for Washington State. Webb will give a presentation on EWB and talk about opportunities for international projects. Students of all majors are welcome to come learn how they can help.

6 p.m. Ross Engineering Technology Building, Room 106. Admission is free.

#### **Spring Rolls for Charity**

Vietnamese Student Association is holding a dinner, fundraising for flood victims in Vietnam.

6 p.m., Viking Union (Room to be announced). Admission compiled by Mary O'Connor

#### **COPS BOX**

#### **University Police**

#### April 29

» Police responded to a report of graffiti on an exterior door of the Performing Arts Center. Facilities management was notified to clean up the graffiti.

#### April 28

- » Police responded to a report of a suspicious smell in the Fairhaven dormitories, where they found the odor of marijuana and incense.
- Police responded to an emergency call box dial on south campus but received no answer. When police arrived no one was visible in the area
- » An officer responded to an injury accident on the 1400 block of Ellis Street.

#### **Bellingham Police**

#### April 29

- » A 55-year-old male was arrested on the 100 block of Unity Street on suspicion of urinating in a public place.
- ». A 28-year-old male was arrested on suspicion of obstructing an officer, possession of marijuana, driving with a suspended license and driving under the influence on the 2400 block of Ontario Street.
- Two 17-year-olds were detained on suspicion of shoplifting on the 2900 block of Woburn Street.

compiled by Carolyn Copstead

#### Corrections

An article that appeared on pages 1 and 7 of the April 29 edition of The Western Front misspelled

An article that appeared on page 5 of the April 29 edition of The Western Front misstated Sue Guenter-Schlesinger's title. She is the executive director of Western's Equal Oppurtunity Office.

The Western Front regrets this and any other errors. Errors should be reported to the managing editor at managing@westernfrontonline.net.

THE WESTERN FRONT Communications Building 251
Bellingham, WA 98225

SEND PRESS RELEASES TO: press@westernfrontonline.net

#### EDITORIAL DEPARTMENT (360) 650-3162

Editor in chief: Jeff Richards, editor@westernfrontonline.net
Managing editor: Shana Keen, managing@westernfrontonline.net
Photo editor: Kathryn Bachen, photo@westernfrontonline.net
Online editor: Mary Truman, online@westernfrontonline.net
Copy editors: Casey Gainor • Rebecca Rayner, copy@westernfrontonline.net
News editors: Garbielle Nomura • Brett Williams, news@westernfrontonline.net
Art editor: Kaleb Gubernick, artandlife@westernfrontonline.net
Life editor: Rebecca Rice, artandlife@westernfrontonline.net
Sports editor: Kennedy White, sports@westernfrontonline.net
Opinion editor:Lisa Hust, opinion@westernfrontonline.net
Faculty adviser: Carolyn Nielsen, carolyn.nielsen@wwu.edu

#### ADVERTISING DEPARTMENT (360) 650-3161

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The Western Front is published twice weekly in the fall, winter, and spring quarters and once a week in the summer session. 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. Members of the Western com are entitled to a single free copy of each issue of The Western Front.

#### **WWU Official Announcements - PLEASE POST**

otherwise noted. Announcements should be limited to 50 words and be typewritten or legibly printed. Announcements may be sent to FAST@www.edu—in the subject line include a one-word topic and clearly note that the item is for Official Announce be sent to "Official Announcements," MS 9011, faxed to ext. 6817, or brought to Old Main Room 300. DO NOT SEND ANNOUNCEMENTS DIRECTLY TO THE WESTERN FRONT. Phoned announcements will not be accepted.

WEST-B TEST. Anyone applying for admission to state-approved teacher education programs must meet the minimum passing score on the basic skills assessment by the application deadline. Remaining test dates for 2008 are May 10 and July 12. Registration deadlines are several weeks in advance. Visit www.west.nesinc.com for registration information and a study guide with sample test questions.

WEST-E PRAXIS. Washington state requires anyone seeking teacher certification and teachers seeking additional endorsements to pass a subject knowledge assessment in the chosen endorsement area. The state has chosen specific Praxis II series tests to meet this requirement, now referred to as the WEST-E Praxis, Visit www.ets.org/praxis/prxwa.html for description and online

NEW WEST-ETESTS administered by National Evaluation Systems will be implemented in two phases beginning fall 2008. Canviewing the Woodring College of Education's WEST-E Test Resource Site to determine which WEST-E tests will be applicable.

WEST-E (PRAXIS) TEST DATES for 2008 are June 14 and July 26. Register online at www.ets.org/praxis/prxwa.html. Although WWU is a WEST-E test site, refer to the Woodring College of Education's WEST-E Test Resource Site for current registration and testing information. On test day, report to the Fraser Hall lobby for room assignment.

MATH PLACEMENT TEST DATES for spring 2008 are given twice a week during the remainder of the quarter at 3 p.m. on Mondays (May 5, 12, 19; June 2, 9) and Thursdays at 9 a.m. (May 8, 15, 22, 29; June 5, 12). All tests take place in the Testing Center, Old Main Room 120, unless otherwise posted.

MILLER ANALOGIES TEST (MAT)—To arrange an appointment to take the MAT at the WWU Testing Center, contact the Testing Center in person at Old Main Room 120 or by phone at ext. 3080. The test takes approximately an hour and a half to complete. The testing fee is \$60, payable at the time of the test. Preliminary scores will be available immediately; official results will be

BIOLOGY GRADUATE THESIS SEMINAR—"Identification of a Doublesex Homolog in the Parasitoid Wasp Nasonia vitripennis," by Megan Riddle, a graduate student in the WWU Biology Dept. Noon May 8, Biology Building Room 234. All are welcome.

WESTERN LIBRARIES BOOK SALES—Book sales open to the Western community and the general public will be held from 9 a.m. to 4 p.m. in Wilson Library on May 7 and 8. Access to the book sale area is from the High Street side of Wilson Library. The Music Library sale will be held on May 7 only, from 10 a.m. to 4 p.m. in the PAC main lobby. Proceeds from these book sales assist in the purchase of new materials for the Libraries.

GEOLOGY GUEST SPEAKER SERIES—Two presentations remain in the spring 2008 Geology guest speakers series: 4 p.m. May 13, Environmental Studies Room 100: Beth Pratt-Sitaula from Central Washington University will present a lecture titled "Glaciers, Climate and Topography." 4 p.m. May 27, ES Room 100: Eric Cheney from the University of Washington will present a lecture titled "Multiple Myths (Public Misconceptions) about Mineral Resources." All are welcome to attend these presentations.

STEAM WHISTLE TEST—WWU plans to test the "Big Ole" steam whistle it has installed on campus between 1 and 3 p.m. on Sunday, May 4. During the test, the steam whistle - which emits a loud piercing noise -- will be sounded a number of times to ensure it is functioning properly and to measure where it can be heard. It will probably be heard throughout campus and in nearby neighborhoods.

#### DELL: 'Sense' designed to give consumers environmental product information

from 1

and if she wins, she'll get an additional \$15,000 from Dell, who will also give \$15,000 to Western.

Richard said when Western industrial design professor Jason Morris first told the students about the contest, she had no idea what she would design.

"What the heck is a sustainable computer?" Richard said. "It seems like an oxymoron because almost everything in a computer is harmful to the environment."

Richard said the research phase of the project was eyeopening because she and her fellow students discovered what happens to computers when they're no longer used.

Richard said when people break a computer monitor, for, example, they expose themselves to harmful chemicals and lead.

"There are piles of [old computers] in villages in China and Africa, and they don't know the dangers of breaking them," Richard said. "That's when I came up with the idea that we need to make awareness of waste available to the average consumer."

Richard said she thought if consumers could find out

how environmentally friendly a product was, they could make a better, more informed decision about their purchase.

"Money is something I think about a lot as a student because I don't have a lot of it," she said. "If I knew what I was really spending my money on, I think I'd feel better about spending it."

Morris said the computer system, called "Sense," would

when you're done."

Based on these four points, Richard said she hopes the consumer will make the decision to buy the more eco-friendly product and change the way manufacturers and businesses operate.

The name "Sense" came to her when she was looking for a word that encompassed the whole project.

"I kept saying, 'It just make's

"I kept saying, 'It just makes sense that we have these in our retail locations. It just makes sense that you would buy this product over that product. It just makes sense."

> -Kate Richard, Western junior Designer of the 'Sense' computer

be placed in stores, similar to the way price-checking computers are in stores such as Macy's. The consumer would scan the barcode of the item, and the computer would show them how environmentally-friendly the product was.

"There are four main things that I focused on," Richard said. "I felt sustainability is overwhelming as it is now, so I cut it down to four main points: the health aspect or nutritional value, where the product is coming from, how much packaging was involved and what happens to it

sense that we have these in our retail locations," Richard said. "It just makes sense that you would buy this product over that product. It just makes sense."

The computer is made of steel, glass and wood, so when it needs to be thrown away, it can easily be recycled, she

Morris said designing for a competition is difficult because there's no way to know what the judges are looking for. But in Richard's case, they saw something they liked.

Morris said his goal was

for the 12 students in his class to enter a large-scale competition and see if they could win.

Western junior Jenny Trygg designed a digital pocket book for the contest. The pocket book was a credit card-sized computer that would replace cards like driver licenses and bank cards and would track your spending and the environmental-friend-liness of your purchases, she said.

"The depth that we went into with it was way more than any other project we've ever done," Trygg said. "Going beyond just the product and looking at systems and sustainability and the systems that go with that was interesting."

Western junior Jon Takao was also in the class with Richard. The most important thing he learned from the project was the negative impact of human behavior on the environment, he said.

"To make any sort of difference, we have to change human behavior," he said. "Human behavior is the thing that put us in this mess in the first place, so that is what has to change."

The recognition Western's industrial design program received because of the contest will help get Western's name out in the industrial design



**Kate Richard** 

field, he said.

"Our program is recognized in the Northwest, but I don't think it gets the recognition it should nationwide," Morris said. "I'm looking to improve the reputation of the program and encourage an even higher talent level to go to school here."

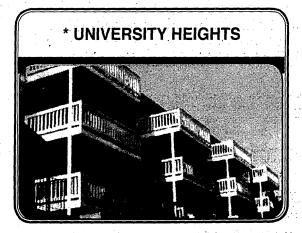
Morris said having a student chosen as a finalist in a national competition is exciting because it makes him feel like a coach.

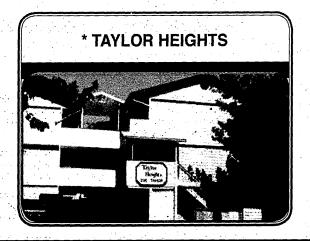
"I wanted my team to go to the championship," he said. "And they did."

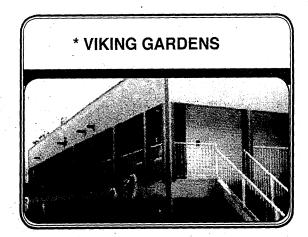
Anyone can vote online for their favorite finalist in Dell's Green Computing Design Competition at www.regeneration. org. Voting will continue until May 7.

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#### NALGENE: Popular water bottle will be phased out of production

▶ from 1

nant women, as well as unspecified hormonal complications among adults.

Caroline Budney, spokeswoman for Nalgene, said toxicology reports from the U.S. Food and Drug Administration have determined the BPA levels in water of hard-plastic containers to be far below established safety standards.

Dr. George Kriz, professor of chemistry at Western, said when health concerns arise relating to food and water, the public generally overreacts to the studies and pays less attention to the facts.

"The only reported effects [of BPA] are in high doses, which

you're not going to get in a water bottle," Kriz said. "You probably run a greater risk of having a piano fall on your head."

Western senior Justin Lawlis has used hard-plastic Nalgene water bottles for approximately four years and has never noticed any adverse effects. He said Nalgene's announcement to discontinue their BPA-based products won't inspire him to buy a new water bottle immediately.

"I'm terribly lazy and cheap," Lawlis said. "I suppose after I lose this one I'll probably purchase a non-plastic bottle."

Lawlis said if studies showed evidence that the bottles directly harmed drinkers, he'd be more inclined to switch out his hard-plastic one, but he remained cynical about frequent contradictions related to consumer health studies.

"On the contrary, if they linked using plastic water bottles to the ability to fly, I'd buy a few more," demand, according to a statement on its Web site. The company has not issued a recall of the products or suggested customers replace their existing bottles.

But Yaeger said he's happy he switched to using metal containers

"The only reported effects [of BPA] are in high doses, which you're not going to get in a water bottle. You probably run a greater risk of having a piano fall on your head."

-Dr. George Kriz, Western chemistry professor

for the advantages beyond simply avoiding health risks.

"This one holds more water than the plastic bottles," he said. "And if I want to heat it up, I can just throw it on a campfire."

Aside from its presence in water bottles, BPA is found in the inner-lining of nearly every canned food product on the market, according to the Environmental Working Group. It's also found in CDs, eyeglasses, various sporting good, and a multitude of household products.

Kriz reinforced the notion that the levels of exposure to BPA from these products are safe.

"[BPA] is combined with other substances in the plastic bottles," he said. "Even if you had it as a pure substance, it's not especially harmful. The chances [of water bottle users feeling adverse effects] are extremely low."

## BARGAINING: Administration unsure of capped workloads for faculty

duction of its BPA-based water bot-

tles solely in response to consumer

Nalgene will phase out pro-

he said.

▶ from 1

for student affairs and academic support services. Although the progress is slow, progress is still being made, said Matt Roelofs, faculty bargaining team member and economics profes-

The five main terms were: faculty salary; whether the faculty senate's status should be contractually guaranteed; whether limited-term faculty should be given hiring and appointment priority; whether faculty's workload needs to be contractually protected; and whether grievance and arbitration policies should continue to exist.

The teams agreed on preservation of the faculty senate within the faculty contract, Roelofs said. The senate controls student curriculum, including class requirements.

They also agreed on limitedterm faculty priority in hiring, Lyne said.

Limited-term faculty have a one-year contract with Western, but are able to renew their contract, Lyne said. Limited-term faculty should be able to continue working at Western without being replaced by someone who will work for less pay, he said.

The conditions that both teams are continuing to discuss are faculty salaries; faculty workload and grievance and arbitration policies, which give faculty the ability to confront the administration when it has violated the faculty contract, Lyne said.

The administration wants to ensure enough classes are available for students, said Buff Schoenfeld, administration's bargaining team member and executive assistant to the president.

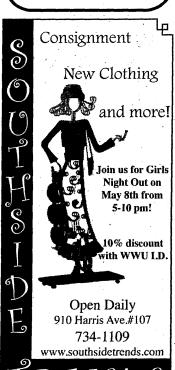
"[The administration has] concems about [the faculty's] desire to put a cap on workloads because it could make it difficult to serve students in the future," Schoenfeld said.

Crowder said if the faculty bargaining team can't agree on faculty salaries it would be difficult for Western to hire quality faculty, when they could work at other universities that pay higher wages.

Coughlin said the administration's bargaining team is trying to find different methods to reach an agreement with the faculty bargaining team. Since the faculty contract is new to Western, negotiating is an important process that might take a long time to complete, Coughlin said. Both sides need to agree on a contract that can be used in the future, she said.

"We've certainly made progress," Coughlin said. "It wasn't as much progress as either side had hoped. But I remain optimistic that we have to continue to work at it and figure out how to get through the last pieces."







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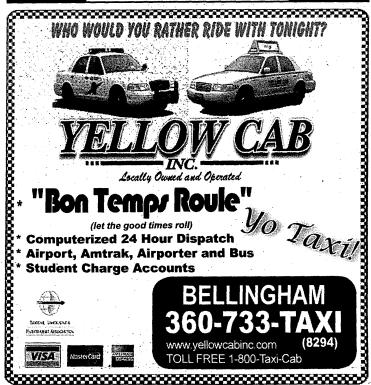
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AA FO Institution





# Administration shakeup continues for Western

Jesse Amorratanasuchad

THE WESTERN FRONT

Leadership changes at Western will continue at the end of spring quarter as seasoned veterans of the faculty and administration bring their careers to a close.

Ron Kleinknecht, College of Humanities and Social Sciences dean, has worked at Western since 1970. He announced his retirement in a meeting of the department chairs April 11.

Kris Bulcroft, vice provost of undergraduate education, and Registrar Joseph St. Hilaire also announced departures from their respective positions at Western.

Rick Bulcroft, director of the Office of Survey Research will be temporarily leaving Western

"We haven't had so many changes in leadership for quite some time" Kris Bulcroft said. "It opens the door for really helping re-envision what Western can do even better,"

With a number of administrative changes and employee retirements occurring at the same time, Ann Carlson, special assistant to Kris Bulcroft, said she believes these changes will ultimately be healthy for the university.

"We're all connected," Carlson said. "It's like pulling a thread. When one [administrator] leaves and top administra-



Ron Kleinknecht

tors put a team in place, it does make people re-evaluate their own positions. Transition times are hard. We have new people. There is a lot of change."

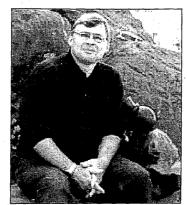
As vice provost of undergraduate education, Kris Bulcroft has been responsible for programs that are part of Western's undergraduate experience.

She created the general education reform six years ago.

The reform included lowering the credits in the General University Requirements.

She started the Freshmen Interest Groups in 2000 to make the transition from high school senior to college freshman easier

"When you try to envision all these new people in these seats, I think the possibilities are fantastic because you have a fresh team of people who will want to make their mark on the institution," Kris Bulcroft said.



**Rick Bulcroft** 

"I think there's an opportunity to build on our strengths and see some things that those of us who've been here a long time couldn't see or didn't see."

St. Hilaire has been the Western registrar for 30 years.

Because he is responsible for handling everything from registration to graduation, students will visit his office at least once during their time at Western

Major declarations, transcript requests and schedule changes are all part of what he does

"Growth in enrollment is affecting the way we operate," St. Hilaire said. "When I first came here, it was real easy for a student to be admitted to Western. We've become more selective, necessarily because of the great number of applications we have, and consequently we have a higher caliber student [body]."

Think Local



Kris Bulcroft

Before coming to Western in 1978, St. Hilaire worked at Washington State University for four years.

He then moved to the University of Wisconsin, where he taught journalism and worked with the registrar and administration.

Kris Bulcroft said she will be leaving after 20 years at Western.

Kris and Rick Bulcroft will be moving to Lugano, Switzerland in summer 2008.

Kris Bulcroft will begin work as provost and vice president of academic affairs at Franklin College.

Franklin College is a small liberal arts institution, similar to Western, Kris Bulcroft said.

"They have students from all over the world, and that's very exciting to me," Kris Bulcroft said. "It's fascinating to think about being on a campus where you can take the expertise of your students and incorporate it into an international curriculum."

Rick Bulcroft will be taking a one-year leave of absence as director of the Office of Survey Research and associate professor of sociology.

The surveys administered to students online by his office have helped create strong data that highlight the successes of Western as a public institution, Rick Bulcroft said.

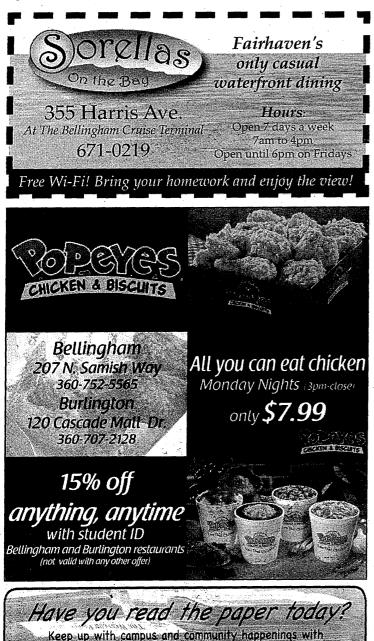
With so many faculty members spending a majority of their careers at Western, he said the resignations that are occurring this year are all part of the process.

"They've given a lot of their careers [to the university]," Rick Bulcroft said. "They've taken a lot of time to do something else for the institution. After awhile they're just saying, 'I think I'll do something for me."

With President Shepard starting his first term in September, more new faculty and administration will be on the way as Shepard begins to find people to fulfill the positions left by Kris Bulcroft and her colleagues.

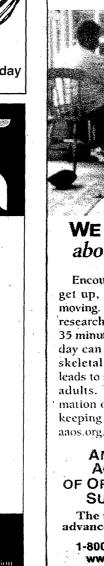
In the meantime, members of the administration and faculty will serve as replacements for the positions.

National searches will be conducted in fall 2008 to find permanent replacements.



The Western Front or online at westernfrontonline.net







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## Conference to address modern-day social justice

Women's empowerment, conflict management, the national healthcare crisis to be discussed at Community Advocacy Support Center's event

#### **Charlotte Wilson-Murphy**

THE WESTERN FRONT

Western junior Sarah Blackadar wants students to be more passionate and informed about social justice.

She has been putting up handbills and posters for weeks to let the campus and Bellingham community know about a conference where they can do just that.

Blackadar is a student volunteer in the Community Advocacy Support Center, which will be hosting its fifth annual Community Advocacy Support Center Aid (CASCAID) Social Justice Conference this week. She said in an e-mail she is hoping her work will help students find resources to become more involved with organizations in the greater community.

The CASCAID Social Justice Conference will take place May 2 and 3 in the Communications Facility building. Events will begin at 4 p.m.

The Community Advocacy Support Center is a community service project of the Western Washington Debate Union.

The emphasis of the conference is to help people become more aware of social justice issues on a world-wide scale. Some of the topics that will be covered are modernday slavery, conflict management, women's empowerment, the national healthcare crisis, diversity training and the military's "Don't Ask Don't Tell" policy.

"The goal is to bring together the campus

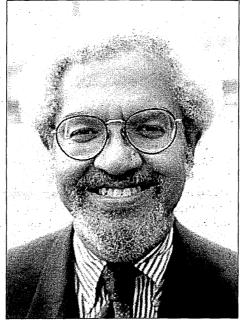


photo courtesy of Columbia.

Manning Marable from Columbia University will give the keynote address at the fifth annual CASCAID conference.

community, faculty, staff, students and wider Bellingham community as well as interested people from academic communities," said Paul Bingham, co-director of the Community Advocacy Support Center and Western debate coach. "It is a space for community activists to share their ideas for change."

Manning Marable, of Columbia University, will give the keynote address called "Race, Crime and Justice," at 7 p.m., May 2

in the Viking Union Multipurpose Room.

Marable is a historian, journalist, human rights activist and African-American studies expert. His keynote address is sponsored by the Associated Students Civil Controversy Series.

He will also be leading a discussion on affirmative action in higher education May 3

Fairhaven professor Daniel Larner will be presenting a workshop May 3 titled "Out from Under: Getting Back Our Civil Liberties and Restoring the Rule of Law."

"It is designed to give a general picture of what has happened to civil liberties since 9/11 and with the Bush administration," Larner said. "It is part historical, theoretical and practical."

Larner has been a board member for the American Civil Liberties Washington Chapter since 1969. He said one of his goals is to elicit student participation.

The conference will close May 2 with a documentary film titled "Right to Risk," brought by Associated Students Films. "Right to Risk" is about the individual's right to pursue their dreams.

Sponsors of the conference are the Associated Students Civil Controversy Series, Whatcom Human Rights Task Force, and the Wheels of Life School. Support also comes from Western's Ethnic Student Center and the Center for Educational Pluralism.

The conference and parking are free and open to all.

# Fifth annual CASCAID Conference

#### What:

Conference addressing social justice issues on a world-wide scale.

#### Where:

Communication Facility

#### When:

May 2 and 3

#### Cost:

Free



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## Spring Study Night to highlight library services

Temporary discussion forum about library to be launched as part of the quarterly study session

**Brandon Henry** THE WESTERN FRONT

Whether students come for study tips, writing help or just for the free food, they can have it all from 7-8:30 p.m. May 7 at the Wilson Library skybridge.

Spring Study Night will aim to help students learn study skills and serve as a reminder of the available library services, Circulation Services Manager Kim Marsicek said.

Last quarter, the study session brought more than 300 people, and this one is expected to bring in even more students, Marsicek said. A healthy selection of fruit. crackers and granola bars will be served.

Several student support organizations, such as The Writing Center, The Student Technology Center and Prevention and Wellness Services will attend the event.

The Writing Center will have a booth where students can get handouts with helpful writing information and set up appointments for one-on-one meetings with assistants.

There will also be two writing assistants available to help edit papers and answer questions.

The night will end with a drawing for a \$50 gift certificate to the Associated Student Bookstore. Entries will be made with names and e-mail addresses, and the winner will be notified that night via e-

The library staff is using the night as an opportunity to launch a temporary blog called "14 Days to Have Your Say."

It is intended to provide an interactive discussion forum for complaints, ideas and observations about the library and its services, said Frank Haulgren, Interlibrary Loan and Collection Services man-

The two week-long blog was Haulgren's idea. He decided it would work well for the library after reading about a similar event held by Starbucks that proved to be wildly successful, Haulgren said.

The results of this "virtual brain storming session," as Haulgren calls it, will be compiled by library staffers and provided to the new Dean of Libraries, Christopher Cox, when he takes office June 1.

Cox is currently the assistant director and head of Circulation and Reference for the University of Wisconsin-Eau Claire McIntyre Library.

The blog will be moderated by library staff to keep it civil and focused and will most likely require students' Universal Login to access, Haulgren said.

#### Shooting suspect turns himself in

**Paul Suarez** THE WESTERN FRONT

Cody Mitchell Brock surrendered himself to authorities at the Bellingham Police Department Monday.

Brock was suspected of fleeing after shooting one man and pointing a gun at another during a confrontation that took place April 6 on the 800 block of 20th Street. His surrender ended a three-week police search that started after the

Brock was booked into Whatcom County Jail with two counts of assault and two unrelated felony warrants, according to Bellingham Police Lt Steve Felmley.

#### COACH: Track and field team dedicates remainder of season to Scully

from 1

Road off of Interstate-5 with the car door ajar and the keys in the ignition. Detectives found no sign of foul play.

On Sunday hikers found a body on Blanchard Mountain and reported it to a Whatcom County Sheriff's deputy. The deputy checked the body and then called

fice, Reichardt said. Der field in die de an Lucke. Teally fres et flatte

A medical examination died from a gunshot wound to the head, Reichardt said. d harati

sistant pole-vaulting coach for the fear has decided to relate each other in this difficult time, Western's track and field team. member Scully by wearing black He was passionate about what he did and who he coached, said

the Skagit County Sheriff's of- Western senior pole-vaulter Bry-

Lucke said Scully was al-Monday revealed that the victim ways concerned not only for how his athletes were doing athletically but academically and

> bracelets with Scully's name on them for the rest of the season.

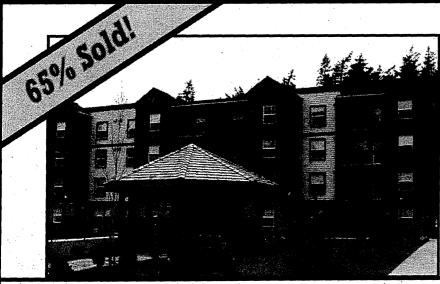
"We wanted to vault for Scully," Lucke said. "We talked to [head coach Kelven 'Pee Wee' Halsell] and he said he wanted 80 bracelets for the whole team."

Scully's death has drawn confesScully was a voluntéer las est socially as well-connected amage a chief team étogether to support Lucke said. In particular, the pole-vaulting team is relying on each other more than ever

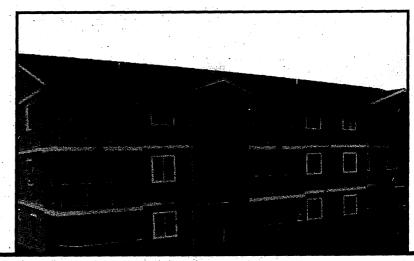
for support as they have begun having team gatherings and dinners, he said.

"I am extremely frustrated with [the media] publicizing his personal life; we all have skeletons in our closets," said Lucke. "I knew Scully, and it doesn't change my view of him in light of what's being said. He was a close friend."

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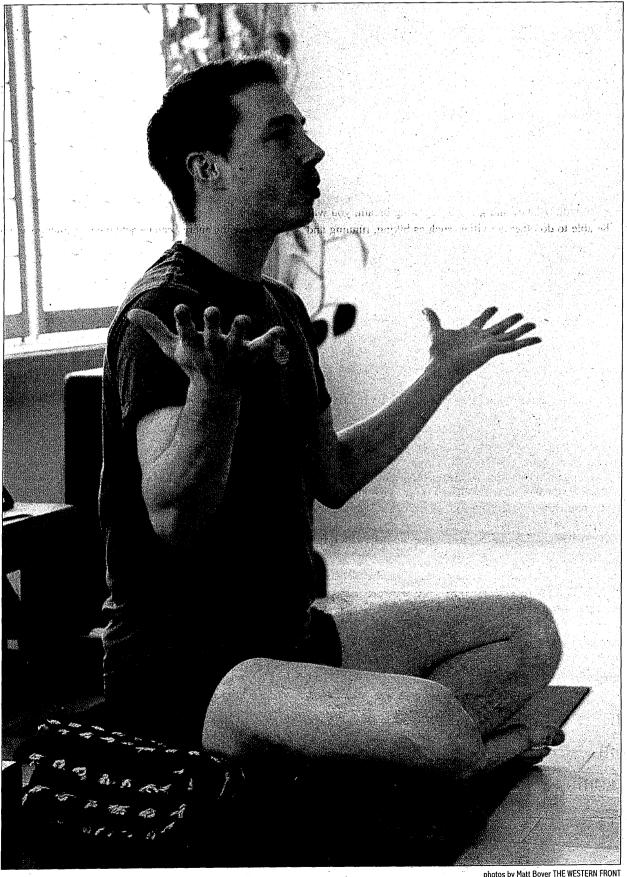
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# ARTAN





photos by Matt Boyer THE WESTERN FRONT

TOP LEFT: The dynamic yoga I class performs a group exercise Wednesday evening. BOTTOM LEFT: Yoga Northwest instructor Lauron Ray talks to his dynamic yoga I class Wednesday evening. BOTTOM RIGHT: Jim Atkinson, a student in the dynamic yoga I class, follows the instruction of Lauron Ray.

# Stress

Farah Hirji THE WESTERN FRONT

The lives of students, professors, workers and athlete can strain, tire and drain the body. Crouching over desk pulling all-nighters, staring at computer screens, writing 10-page research papers, creating Power Point present tions or studying for exams causes the posture to suffe This puts stress on the spine, which decreases our breat ing and affects the body as a whole.

Breathing more freely increases brain function, hel ing with digestion, circulation, the immune system, and t nervous system, said Ingela Abbott, director and found of Yoga Northwest in Fairhaven and a certified senior I engar yoga instructor.

Any style of yoga promotes breathing and works strengthen the core, the deep inner abdominal and spin muscles, Abbott said.

"The body is approximately 75 percent water," Abba said. "Therefore, we are like big bags of water, so whe you turn upside down you recharge your body, increa circulation and achieve internal rejuvenation."

Yoga Northwest follows the teachings of B.K.S. Iye gar, a yoga guru from India. Abbott said she has traveled

Bellingham Fitness — 360-7 Beyond Limits Yoga — 360-6 Bikram's Yoga College — 360

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Yoga Northwest — 360- 647

# 

# 27 Trystretching

India to study with Iyengar five times.

Iyengar yoga focuses on body alignment, balance, strength, stamina building, flexibility and reflection, said Denise Weeks, a senior Iyengar instructor at Northwest

Iyengar style has three main ideas: use of props, sequencing and timing, Weeks said. Props, such as blocks, pillows or blankets, allow every body to achieve maximum balance, alignment and openness.

If people cannot reach the floor when bending forward, they would use a block to stretch forward without bending the knees which maintains the integrity of the pose. Weeks said.

Sequencing is practicing different poses over a 10week course, she said. Each week, a different pose is introduced and as the course progresses, the poses become more challenging, and requires more stamina, flexibility and strength, Weeks said.

Timing is simply the length of time a pose is held for,

Yoga poses help physically, in areas such as bones and muscles, as well as physiological, psychological and emotional aspects, which bring the mind into concentration and relaxation, Weeks said.

"Yoga harmonizes all layers of the body and takes you into your soul," Abbott said. "When you learn to use your body with balance and grace, integrating breath, you will be able to do other activities, such as biking, running and hiking, very well."

Most athletes don't gain the type of balance that yoga offers, Abbott said.

Running compresses muscles whereas yoga keeps all parts of the body open, stretches and strengthens the body, while also giving length and balance, Abbott said.

Western freshmen Maeve Sayres and Lauren Breihof are enrolled in one of Abbott's classes. Breihof said she and Sayres run track and find yoga helpful for increasing flexibility.

Sayres and Breihof said yoga is a great way to relieve stress and relax.

"My favorite part [of class] is the end - relaxation," Sayres said. "We lie down and close our eyes and feel at peace with ourselves."

Yoga is also a form of preventative care, Abbott said. Practicing yoga can boost energy levels, give mental clarity, remove stress and tension, and revitalize the nervous system and the mind.

Different yoga poses are designed to help with differ-

ent problems, such as depression, lower back pain, tightness/stiffness in the muscles or joints and building abdominal strength.

Increasing energy can be achieved through inversions. better known as head and shoulder stands, Abbott said. Inversions are advanced poses learned in class in a healthy and safe way because if they are done wrong, a person can strain or hurt their body.

The head and shoulder balances are referred to as the king and queen of all yoga poses, Abbott said. The poses bring health and balance to the inner body and increase circulation, just as each style of yoga brings emphasis to a different aspect.

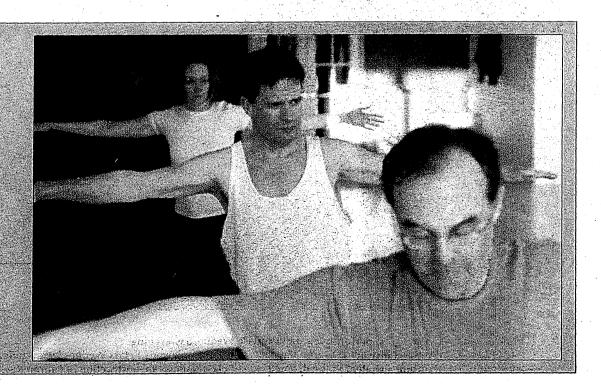
"There is more than one way to do things," Abbott said. "What I love about [Iyengar yoga] is it's precision on poses and a lot of emphasis on alignment."

Abbott said she has studied yoga for more than 40 years and continues to share her passion with her employees and students.

"The goal of Yoga is to quiet the mind," Weeks said. "Students especially who are so busy with classes and activities can benefit from a practice that allows them to stretch the body, relax and become centered, so they can go back to their busy lives with that calm center."

## am Yoga Facilities

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Western activities fashion is ways. We fashion in Vendors I

Western a shirts out of t designs grace The Reid rented house o clothing comparation of the rented house of the rented house

Courtney Harris models her T-shirt design for Western's Hip-Hop Showcase Round 2.

Danielle Koagel
THE WESTERN FRONT

Western may be known for its outdoor activities and sculpture park, but student fashion is brightening up campus in big ways. Western designers are spreading their fashion influence and have moved up from Vendors Row to the racks of Nordstrom.

#### CASUAL INDUSTREES

Western alumni Brendan and Dan Reid used to sell their T-shirts out of the back of their car on Vendors Row. Now their designs grace the shelves of Nordstrom and Zumiez.

The Reid brothers began designing clothes one winter in a rented house off Mount Baker Highway. Inspired by snowboard clothing companies, the Reids decided to create something a little more original than what they saw on sales racks.

"Our designs are art-centered," Dan said. "We thought it was pretty Jame to wear a big logo and walk around looking like a human billboard."

Dan said they like to think of Casual Industrees as a lifestyle adjective; their designs are casual but also built for the active outdoor style of the Northwest.

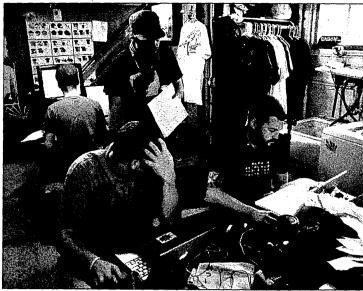


photo courtesy of Brendan Reid

Brendan Reid, co-creator of Casual Industrees, works with interns and an employee in the basement on Alki Beach where they operate the business Reid calls a "multi-hundred dollar company."

"We try to design clothes that reflect the lifestyle of skiing, snow-boarding and surfing," Dan said. "They reflect the art, music and the street life of the snow, ski, and surf culture."

Brendan said Casual Industrees tries to capture a sense of state pride and represent the outdoor diversity of Washington in their designs. To do this they incorporated an outline of Washington state into their logo and lovingly named it the "WA Brah."

Brendan said he feels a lot of their business comes from people who want to support the lifestyle vision of the company.

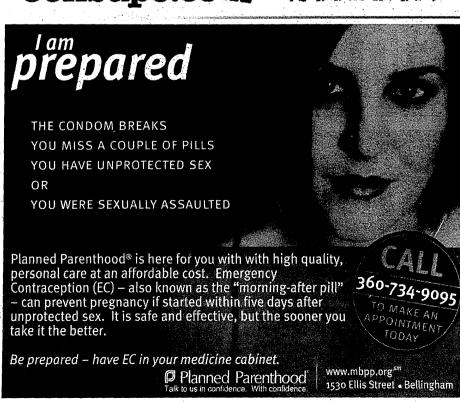
"We're basically the garage band equivalent of a clothing company," Brendan said. "We operate out of our basement on Alki Beach, and we may be broke but we're living the lifestyle."

Brendan said they plan to expand to worldwide sales but couldn't have made it without the support received in Bellingham.

"We got our start by selling our clothes on Vendors Row and the parking lot of the Mount Baker Ski Area," Brendan said. "Without their help we wouldn't be where we are now."



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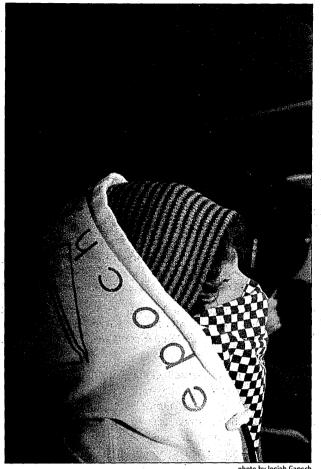
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Co-creator of Epoch Apparel Kyle MacDonald models a bandito, a modified sweatshirt designed by MacDonald and Western sophomore John Goetz.

#### EPOCH APPAREL

The concept for Epoch Apparel began in a Nash Hall dorm room. Western sophomore John Goetz and former student Kyle MacDonald came up with the idea for a snowboarding-geared clothing company during their freshman year at Western.

Goetz and MacDonald started designing clothes in the cramped room with help from their friend, Western sophomore Katie Haynes. Goetz and MacDonald wanted to sew their own designs, so they had Haynes patiently teach them how to use her sewing machine.

All of their merchandise starts out as a plain swéatshirt or T-shirt, and they hand sew designs and accessories onto the merchandise.

The company began with their original idea to modify a standard hoodie sweatshirt by cutting out a triangleshaped piece of fabric and connecting it to the hood to keep the face well-covered while snowboarding, Goetz said. They called their design a bandito.

"We want to create something really original," Goetz said. "The bandito really caught on and pretty soon I started seeing our designs on campus."

The company's popularity grew within Goetz and MacDonald's circle of friends, and soon they were getting orders from people who had seen their designs around campus.

He said they concentrate on adding bright colors and new elements to their clothing, such as T-shirts with sweatshirt pockets and the original bandito. They also add accessory elements such as thumb-holders and the Epoch

Goetz said most business and publicity they get is through word of mouth. He said the company has been expanding, which has required them to get a business license and manage their own Web site.

Despite the company's growth, Goetz said he and MacDonald continue to run the entire operation, down to the last stitch.

"We like doing it ourselves," Goetz said. "It's cool to see how happy people are wearing our clothes."

#### COURTNEY HARRIS

"I like to work in all kinds of art," Western senior

Courtney Harris said. "My clothes are just another medium for expressing my art."

Harris screen-prints original art designs on T-shirts. A screen-printing class she took through the Western art department inspired her first line - "New World Order."

Harris' designs are graffiti-inspired, and she said she likes to mix and match bold colors. She described her designs as attention getting. Her T-shirts are centered around

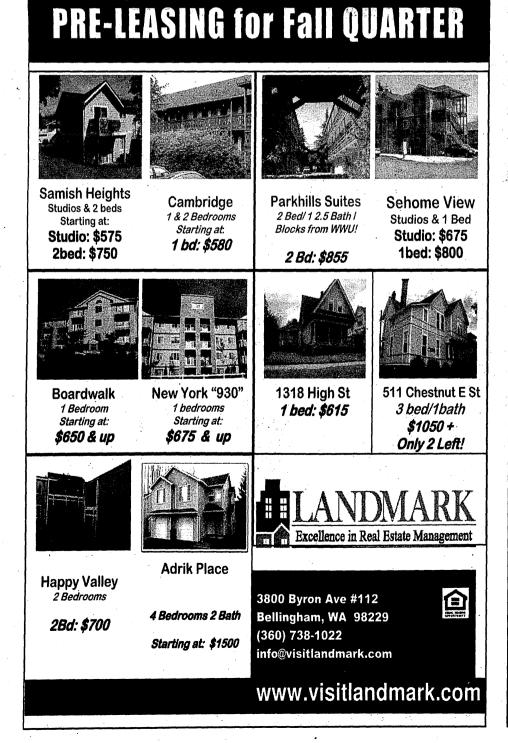
Harris said she mostly sells her designs to friends. She has also sold her designs at the Western Hip Hop Showcase. This year she is planning a special design specifically for the showcase — a man holding a boom box to represent music and art.

Harris said she has always been interested in fashion and saw an untapped market for her designs.

"I just never saw what I was looking for in the selection of women's clothes," Harris said. "I wanted to design something that was a little edgier for women."

Harris said she plans to introduce a new line, "Washd," by the end of the quarter. She said the new designs will introduce different fabrics and play with the bold contrast









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# OPINION\_

# Tired of violent games? Play Mario Kart! VIKING VOICES

The buzz among the gaming world right now is the recent release of Grand Theft Auto IV. The game is filled with visual spectacles, incredible graphics and voice talents. The game allows its players to become a criminal mastermind and rise to the highest ranks in the crime world.

Players no longer have to follow the linear route of many action video games and can choose their own missions. Players can also choose their own weapons, freely navigate their environment, kill police officers and abuse

Many college students probably feel exempt from the messages associated with this video game or think the game is not promoting violence. However, the game is a reflection of what we think is acceptable in society.

Angry men who commit violent acts are socially acceptable in our society. A woman as a victim is a socially accepted idea.

If these weren't acceptable ideas or notions, wouldn't there be an uproar against these images?

For side missions, players can be pimps, hit their women if they do not obey and receive lap dances for points. Not only is this obviously disgusting and demoralizing for women, but what kind of message is this sending to the video game players?

No wonder college-age students playing this game don't think twice about the sexualized images of women, how degrading the images are and how horribly violent the game is.

Only men can compete in the crime world and only women are prostitutes which are victims to player violence. The player can also kill police officers, help hide bodies and run drug deals.

What is even more upsetting than the violent nature of the game is that it is breaking records left and right. Currently, the game has a rating of 99 percent on the review Web site metacritic.com, a Web site that gathers reviews from all over the Internet and averages them to create one rating.

The open-ended gameplay and realistic world of the Grand Theft Auto series may be groundbreaking, but the messages, whether they are consciously absorbed or not, are seriously disturbing and should make people think twice about buying such violent video games.

By buying this game, students are supporting the violent images which will only encourage more violent games to be made and sold.

Grand Theft Auto allows players to be put into a roleplaying situation where they are making decisions to act out the violence and take on certain mis-

Unlike watching a movie where a person is more removed from the experience, the gamer is involved with the game on a more intimate level.

Separating themselves from the violent images would be hard for youths or even teenagers.

Video games are not solely responsible for a violent society but are simply a product of it.

We are not saying what someone should and should not do. However, addressing how acceptable these disturbingly violent themes are in this video game are important.

A wholesome game, filled with adventure, thrill and loving characters is just as entertaining.

So, why can't we all just play some Mario Kart? Let's go race Rainbow Road with Luigi and Peach and have a laugh.

The editorial board is comprised of Editor in Chief Jeff Richards, Managing Editor Shana Keen, Opinion Editor Lisa Hust and member of the AS Transportation Advisory Committee A.J. Garcia.

## Battling on south campus for epic meals



anywhere else.

Jon Sayer COLUMNIST

I spend most of my time in the Communication Facility these days. Seeing as I'm a senior and nearly all of my classes are in my major now, I have little need to go

That is, except for lunch.

I wish I didn't have to eat on campus. Heck, it would make paying my bills and losing weight a lot easier if I didn't have to eat at all, but I am afraid this is not an option.

Being on south campus all the time, I go to the Atrium in Arntzen Hall a lot. Not that there's anything wrong with the Atrium. The food is good and the people are nice, but sometimes I don't feel like pizza, subs or ice cream, and the food isn't exactly cheap either.

The quest a south campus student faces to find variety and affordability in on-campus food is long, legendary and fit for an episode of the old Nickelodeon show "Legends of the Hidden Temple."

You could start by going south to the Rock's Edge. There you will find smoothies and paninis (panini is the Italian word for "overpriced grilled cheese sandwich"). Or you could head north, past the Atrium, past the Shrine of the Silver Monkey, to Red Square where you must face the relentless calls of the Associated Student election candidates and people handing out handbills.



Instead you could head past the Haunted Library (people really think it is haunted. I'm super serial. Ask anyone who works there) to the Viking Union, where you will find hot dogs, Chinese food, bake sales, hamburgers, wraps, pizza, soups, chili and sandwich-

(If you didn't read the previous paragraph in the voice of Olmec from "Legends of the Hidden Temple," you need to go back and try again.)

Basically what I am getting at is people on north campus are pretty spoiled when it comes to having a wide variety of food close by, a lot of which is pretty cheap.

This made sense about 25 years ago, when the only build-

If you succeed in that battle, ings on south campus were Arnyou can eat at the Miller Market tzen Hall and Environmental Scior Tony's Coffee in Haggard Hall. ence. Then the university built just about every other building between the Art Building and Fairhaven without adding any

There was the Sub Connection in Carver Gym for a while, but it moved when the Atrium was renovated in 2005. The current Atrium is much larger than it used to be (they took out two or three classrooms to build the eating area) but it still isn't large enough for south campus. I usually can't find a seat when I go in at lunchtime.

South campus is still growing, too. The new Academic Instructional Center is set to open next year, bringing the entire psychology department down here with it. I've been following The Western Front coverage of the

Illustration by Andrew Frazier THE WESTERN FRONT construction since the beginning, and there has been no mention of including more food.

It wouldn't take much to add some variety down here. Perhaps a second Vendors Row is in order. More small, independent food stands like Q. Q. Li and El Capitan's would not only add a variety of tastes but a variety of price points as well.

I could just start bringing food from home, but that would require some level of planning, of which I am completely incapable.

Western really is a polarized campus. People on the opposite ends of the school rarely have a need to go to the other side. Services the university provides students should reflect this.

Olmec commands it. You don't want to anger a giant stone face that gives away trips to space camp.

compiled by Harte Onewein

#### What kind of volunteer activities have you been involved in?



loel Hedrick

"I volunteered in a nursing home for two years. It was a great way to see my grandfather who was a resident there.



Ashleigh Baumbardner

"I do trail maintenance with the Washignton Trail Association. I make sure things are safe, so hikers stay safe on the trails."



Julie Creager

"I tutored children who were recent immigrants from Sudan, Somalia, Chad and Guatemala. I was there to teach them, but in many ways they taught me."



Stephanie Gilbert

"I fasted for 30 hours while we packed 250 sack lunches for homeless people in Seattle and then walked around and handed them out."

#### Want to write a guest column?

The Western Front is looking for staff, faculty members, club leaders or other community members who want to write a 400- to 500-word column about an issue at Western.

Send your column ideas to pinion@westernfrontonline.net

The Western Front | Friday • May 2, 2008

# Softball loses three of last four games

Three solid pitching performances by sophomore Sarah McEnroe go unsupported by offense

Jeremy Perry THE WESTERN FRONT

The Western softball team lost their last two home games of the season in a doubleheader against Seattle University Tuesday. They lost the first game 1-0 and the second game 10-0.

On Thursday, things turned around for the team during the first game of a doubleheader against Saint Martin's University, which Western won 2-1. Saint Martin's offense dominated the second game Thursday in an 8-3 win against Western.

Western sophomore Sarah McEnroe only gave up one unearned run during the first game Tuesday, but the Vikings were unable to score any runs to support her, losing 1-0.

Seattle scored the only run of the game in the top of the eighth inning, when a baserunner scored from second on a wild pitch followed by the catcher's throw to third bouncing off the runner's helmet and away from the infield.

After Seattle scored five runs in each of the first two innings of the second game, head coach Lonnie Hicks decided to bring McEnroe back into the game.

McEnroe prevented Seattle from scoring again, but the damage was already done.

Holding Western to just four hits, Seattle won the second game in the fifth inning in accordance with the NCAA eightrun rule, which awards a win to a team leading by eight runs or more after five or more innings have been completed.

On Thursday, Western travelled to Lacey, Wash. in an effort to turn around their losing skid in a doubleheader against Saint



Western redshirt sophomore Jen Jorgensen slides as sophomore Hannah Becker waits for an incoming throw at practice Wednesday.

The first game Thursday went into extra-innings after Saint Martin's junior Lisa Holombo hit a solo home run to tie the score at 1-1. Prior to Holombo's at-bat, pitcher Sarah McEnroe had retired 13 batters

In the eighth, Western sophomore Meghan Flem drove in the winning run with a two-out single, lifting Western to a 2-1 victory.

Without McEnroe starting the second game Thursday, Saint Martin's scored five times in the first inning on their way to a 8-3 victory over Western.

Even though Western scored three runs in the second game, two of those were unearned due to errors and passed balls. Western only managed three hits against Saint Martin's freshman Brandi Klemm, who retired the last 11 Western batters in order.

Western's biggest problem throughout the week was their inability to adapt to the opponent's pitching, Hicks said.

Hicks said despite the team being comprised of a number of talented under-classmen, they have been struggling all season to mold the players into a consistent offense.

Before the four games this

week, Hicks said he was concerned about the team's pitching for the doubleheader because the team's ace, junior Jessica Rosencrants, is out for the rest of the season with mononucleosis.

However, McEnroe's performance in both games proved she was up to the task of leading the team's pitching staff to the end of the season.

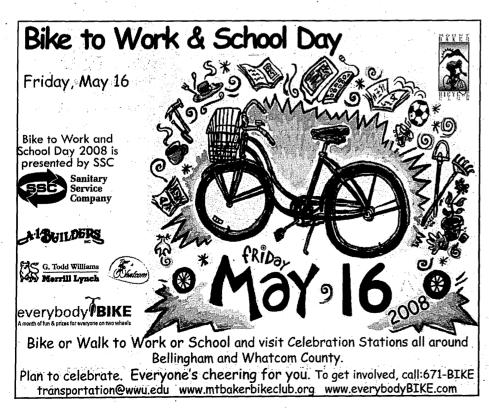
"She was hitting her spots, keeping the ball down and that's what makes her extremely effective," Hicks said. "For her to only give up one unearned run against [Seattle] is an outstanding job."

Senior catcher Liza Teichler

said the most important thing for the team is to end their season on a positive note, regardless of the outcome.

Teichler said she is looking forward to the team's last four games of the season, and that the younger players will take the lessons learned from the season to heart and come back as a stronger team next year.

With this week's losses, Western is 24-22 overall and 11-11 in conference games. Their last games of the season will be another doubleheader against division-leader Western Oregon University May 3 in Monmouth,





# Men's rugby club recruiting new members

Nearing end of season, men's rugby club practices for upcoming alumni game and summer season

Marie Biondolillo

THE WESTERN FRONT

Two ragged lines of men — some barefoot — face off in the muddy Lower Fairhaven Field. Slipping and yelling with ripped shirts, the players scramble after an oddly-shaped white ovoid — it looks something like a dinosaur egg.

Welcome to a Western men's rugby club practice. The club, known as "the Warthogs," is one of more than twenty student-run and organized sports clubs at Western.

Coached by veteran rugby player Bart Higgins, the Warthogs currently play in the Pacific Northwest Division II Collegiate Men's League.

#### "No padding - just short shorts and cleats."

-Marc Staiger, team captain

The team plays by rugby union rules, meaning teams of 15 square off for two 40-minute halves.

"I love it way more than football," team captain Marc Staiger said. "As a sport, I like it because it's the essence of what I think sports are — no pads, the game never stops. The goal for the referee is to keep the game going."

The Warthogs' season is winding down, and the team finished fourth in their league at the Pacific Coast Championships this year playing school clubs such as Gonzaga University, Seattle University, and Western Oregon University.

The team also had the biggest fall turnout ever this year, Staiger said. He credits this year's success to sound tactical decisions as well as a tight-knit team with many senior players.

"When I was president last year, I re-organized the club so that we're a little more successful," Holmes said. "We found new coaching staff and switched from division I to division II."

Staiger said they play a simplified version of rugby at practices, and the rules are easy to pick up.

"It's not as much about

memorizing plays as it is about reacting and adapting to each situation as it happens," Wheaton said. "I love hanging out with the guys on the team; it gives me an outlet when I'm tired of school — it's awesome."

Rugby is similar to American football in that points are scored by advancing the ball to the opponent's endzone. The big difference is how the ball gets there.

In rugby, players can advance by kicking or running with the ball. There are no downs, play books, or protective gear.

"No padding — just short shorts and cleats," Staiger said.

Rugby has a history of being played in places such as upperclass private schools in England and Scotland.

However, beyond a five-to-10 minute break between the halves, contemporary rugby can be physically grueling because it requires the player to move constantly, Staiger said.

"It's pretty much 80 minutes straight playing, so it's like foot-

see RUGBY page 16 ▶

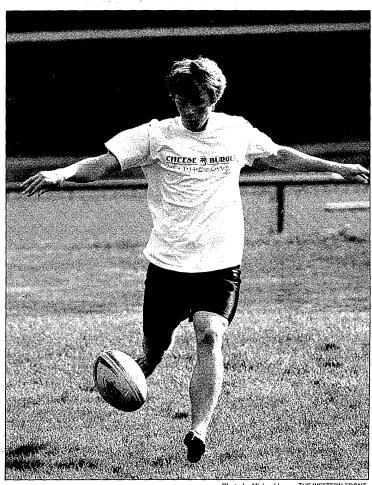
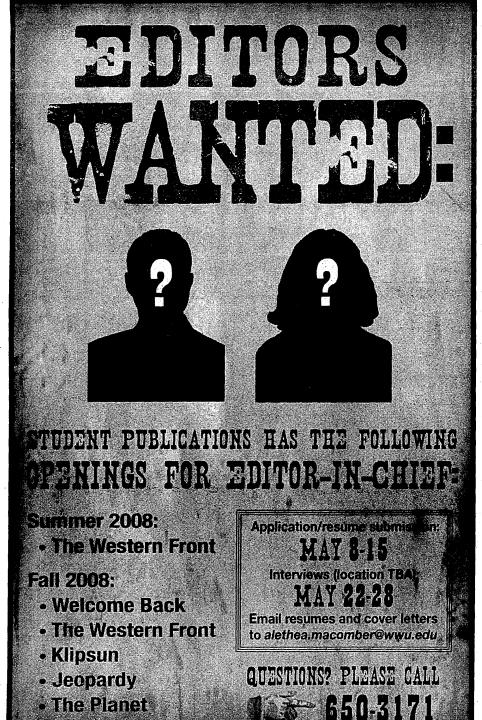
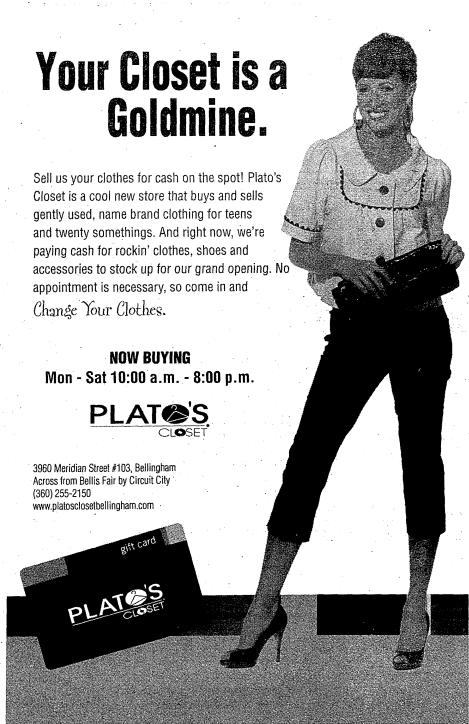


Photo by Michael Leese THE WESTERN FRONT

Freshman Matt Colleen kicks during Western men's rugby practice Thursday.





# Randall Eldridge runs over competition

Western junior running back Randall Eldridge enjoys life on football team after transferring to Western in October

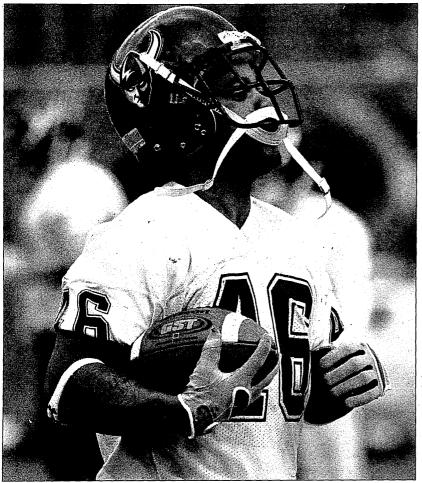


Photo by Alex Roberts THE WESTERN FRONT

Western junior Randall Eldridge practices with the team May 1.

Megan Harmon

THE WESTERN FRONT

Western running back Randall Eldridge has known ever since he played Pee Wee football at age 9 that he's wanted to play in the NFL.

Now, in his junior year, Eldridge is working hard to get there and is impressing coaches in early season scrimmages.

"If I ever got the chance, I would take it as soon as I could," Eldridge said. "But wherever I go, I just want to keep playing football."

Last year's leading rusher junior Craig Garner, who ran for 989 yards and averaged 4.2 yards per carry, left the team due to academic reasons.

As a result, the team has been auditioning two running backs for the starting position — Eldridge and redshirt freshman Kevin Sampson of Seattle.

Eldridge transferred to Western last fall from Chabot College in Hayward, Calif., where he had a league-leading 1,277 rushing yards and averaged 5.6 yards per carry during the 2006 season.

Last season, opponents o. Western 321-174 and trounced the Vikings in every offensive rushing category except for the number of rushing attempts per game.

Although Western rushers ran for 1,241 yards last fall, they only averaged 3.2 yards per carry, compared to their opponents' average of 4.9 yards per carry.

Western head coach Robin Ross said Eldridge has all the characteristics of a good running back, including size, vision for seeing the field and balance.

"He brings real stability to his position," Ross said. "He is solid and a good receiver, and once he has the ball, he does a nice job of getting it up the field to make positive yards."

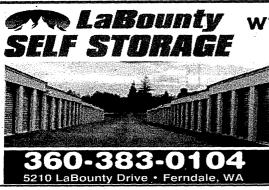
In the middle of the 2007 football season, Eldridge transferred to Western, which is closer to his home in Lynnwood, Wash.

However, because he transferred in the middle of football camp and wouldn't get enough playing time, Eldridge redshirted during the fall season and has been competing for the starting spot ever since.

Although the 2008 season hasn't started yet, Eldridge has been racking up team-high numbers. During the first intrasquad scrimmage, Eldridge ran for 142 yards on 13 carries while scoring four touchdowns — three rushing and one receiving. During the second scrimmage, Eldridge ran for 78 yards with two touchdowns.

"Eldridge came to the team and has done everything we have asked," Western running backs coach Antwian Davis said. "He is improving every day and he understands the game."

Coming up this weekend, the Vikings will host their annual Blue-Silver Game 12:00 p.m. at Civic Stadium. It is the third and final scrimmage of the spring.



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# RUGBY: No pads, no problem for footballers

▶ from **14** 

ball and soccer combined," said Western senior club vice president Matt Holmes.

Western sophomore Will Wheaton said he has heard differing theories about the origins of rugby.

"There's one story from the late 1800s about a soccer player that picked up a soccer ball and started running at the opposing team," Wheaton said.

Regardless of its origins, rugby enjoys worldwide popularity. While Americans tend not to be as familiar with the sport as Canadians, the British, Australians, or South Africans, it is gaining momentum on the West and East Coasts, Staiger said.

"Bellingham's frugby presence] is pretty big because Vancouver is just over the border," Staiger said. "It's getting pretty big, and it's growing every

Besides the Warthogs, Bellingham also boasts the Chuckanut Bay Rugby Club, established in 1973.

The Warthogs sometimes practice with the Chuckanut Bay Club and assist in their youth program. The teams don't of-

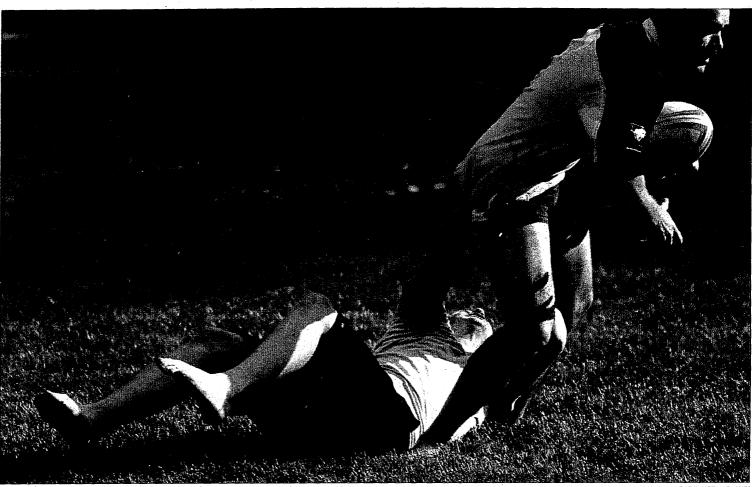


Photo by Michael Leese THE WESTERN FRONT

Freshman Garrett Johnson tries to tackle junior Will Wheaton during Western men's rugby practice Thursday.

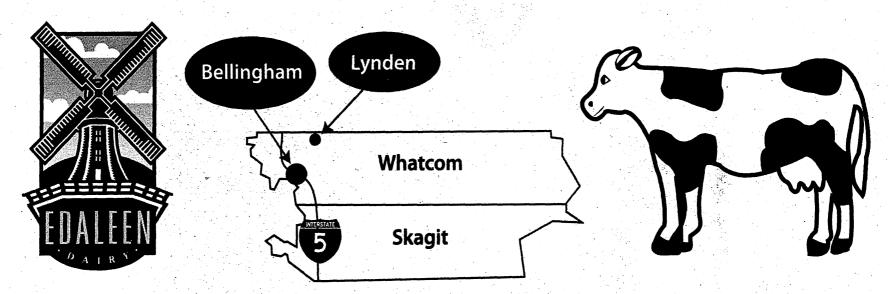
ten compete with each other, but both use the Bellingham Polo Grounds in Ferndale as a home

field.

Although their season is almost over, the team will con-

tinue to play together over the summer. Their Tuesday and Thursday night practices, from 5-6:30 p.m., are open to players of any skill level who would like to participate.

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