

Businesses aid tsunami victims

BY KARA LUNDBERG
The Western Front

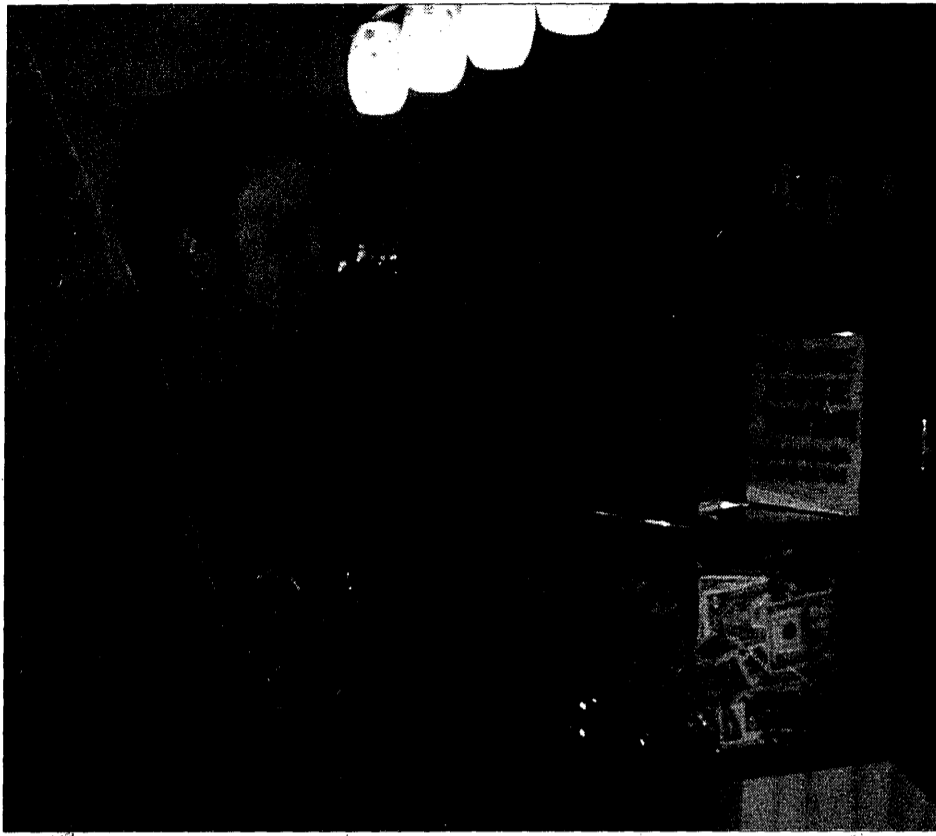
In the wake of the 9.0 magnitude earthquake that unleashed devastating tsunamis on the coastal areas throughout Asia, Bellingham businesses and organizations collected financial donations to fund humanitarian aid for the thousands who are now left homeless.

Several restaurants, such as Avenue Bread and Deli and Tony's Coffee are contacting the Mount Baker chapter of the Red Cross to find out how they can contribute financially to the victims of the disaster.

Lisa Brown, financial development director of the Mount Baker Red Cross, has estimated that approximately \$20,000 has come in to the Mount Baker Red Cross. She said she anticipates that number to climb after receiving \$8,000 of the donations just after the holidays.

"People have now had a chance to focus on the trauma caused (by the tsunami) and donations have been pouring in," Brown said.

see **TSUNAMI**, page 5



KARA LUNDBERG/The Western Front
Bellingham resident Tyler Essex donates money for tsunami relief Wednesday at On Rice Thai Cuisine.

Western faculty step closer to forming union

BY BLAIR WILSON
The Western Front

Talk of unionizing at Western has been circulating for two years; now Western professors are taking action by filing some of the paperwork necessary to form a union, the United Faculty of Western Washington.

The group filed a petition on Dec. 15 and authorization cards were turned in. The next step in the process is for Western to turn in a list to the Public Employee Relations Committee of all faculty members interested in the union. Names on the list will be compared to the authorization cards. If 30 percent of the faculty shows interest, the group will conduct a vote by mail election.

If the vote for a union passes, Western will become unionized, said Marvin Schurke, executive director for the PERC.

In 2002, the state Legislature passed a law enabling faculties of two and four-year colleges and universities to organize unions. Faculties at two of the six Washington state universities have unionized — Eastern and Central. Western is the third university to start the process, Schurke said.

"Prior to this legislation, faculty were prevented from having officially recognized unions," said Steven Garfinkle, assistant history professor and union steering committee member.

A steering committee of nine professors and an organizing committee made up of 50 Western faculty members are working with other faculty members, the administration and the PERC to make Western a unionized university.

PERC, the state agency working with Western, has been involved since Western filed a petition and turned in authorization cards, Schurke said.

see **UNION**, page 3

Tickets for all campus events now sold at PAC

BY STEFANI HARREY
The Western Front

Purchasing tickets for events happening on campus is about to get easier.

In the past, someone who wanted tickets to a sporting event had to buy them at one location, whereas someone wanting to purchase tickets to a Performing Arts Center event had to purchase them at a different location.

Beginning later this month, the athletics department and the PAC will integrate

their ticketing systems so students can buy tickets for any event from one system, said Fred Ramage, facilities operation manager for the PAC.

Most game tickets are sold at the games, and Boles said that system would not change. Fans can still buy tickets on the night of the game at Carver Gym.

The newly named University Box Office, inside the PAC, will pre-sell tickets to all events including sports games, performing arts and Viking Union shows, said Jerry Boles, vice provost of

information technology. He said the vice provost's office, the PAC and the athletics department worked together to create the integrated system.

"We're excited to implement the new system because it gives us contemporary hardware and software," Boles said. "Since the systems we were using before were old and outdated."

Aside from integrating the ticketing

see **TICKETS**, page 3

Court date set for woman charged with disorderly conduct at post-election protest

BY ADRIANA DUNN
The Western Front

Western graduate Karen Ganey made her first appearance Thursday in Bellingham Municipal Court following her arrest on suspicion of disorderly conduct in relation to a Nov. 3 protest after the re-election of President George W. Bush.

"The reason for arrest is that she appeared to be one of the main leaders of a group in which she was directing participants to block traffic," Bellingham Police Lt. Craig Ambrose said. "Blocking pedestrian or vehicular traffic is considered disorderly conduct."

Ganey, however, does not consider herself an organizer. On the day of the protest, she asked Bellingham Police to turn down sirens, said her attorney, Larry Hildes.

The police did not know what to do with the demonstrators and picked her out of an organized group to make an example of her, Hildes said.

"Democracy should not be an inconvenience," Ganey said following the pre-trial.

Police released her, but did not drop her charges. If convicted she faces a maximum penalty of 90

days in jail and a \$1,000 fine. The court date was set for March 7.

At the pre-trial hearing, Hildes said he requested sufficient time to interview all police officers involved. He also requested copies of the video police took of the march that allegedly shows Ganey's involvement. Hildes said he will bring officers to court March 7 to see if they can provide justification for the charges.

Commissioner Pete Smiley, who presided over the pre-trial, approved both the request for additional time and for copies of videotapes with no objection by the city prosecutor.

Hildes said witnesses present at the Nov. 3 rally said there was an agreement between police and protesters. If the protestors cleared the street, they would release Ganey from custody and her charges would be dropped.

Hildes said Ganey's arrest "chills the climate for political free speech." It discourages organization of political rallies, which is a First Amendment-protected activity, he said.

"We need to draw a line in the sand — this is not acceptable — especially in Bellingham, not anywhere," Hildes said.

Snow blankets Western's campus



AMANDA WOOLLEY/The Western Front
Western sophomores Scott Perkins and Anna Rainey play in the snow outside the Communications Facility Monday night. The two named the "snowwoman" Melissa.



LOCAL SOUND

Bellingham band Racetrack talks new record, shows.

ACCENT, PAGE 7

NEW USES FOR E

Ecstasy could help with the trauma of terminally ill patients.

OPINIONS, PAGE 11

NEW STAR

The Viking women add talented Oregon State transfer

SPORTS, PAGE 8



COPS BOX

University Police

Jan. 2, 11:14 p.m.: UP responded to a call from the Bellingham Police department requesting assistance with a possible physical dispute in the Sehome Village Haggen's parking lot.

Jan. 1, 5:57 p.m.: UP responded to a report of a suspicious person in Ridgeway Sigma. Officers found a male student in the TV lounge working on a film project.

Jan. 1, 12:40 a.m.: UP arrested a man on the 2500 block of West Street for disorderly conduct and placed him in Whatcom County Jail.

Dec. 31, 9:17 p.m.: UP responded to a request from the Bellingham Police Department for extra assistance in investigating a party on South campus.

Bellingham Police

Jan. 5, 8:09 a.m.: Officers responded to a report of a stolen paintball gun from the 1600 block of Moore Street.

Jan. 4, 10:35 a.m.: Officers responded to a report from a gas station on the 3900 block of Meridian Street that said a black Ford Explorer left the station without paying for gas worth \$15.02.

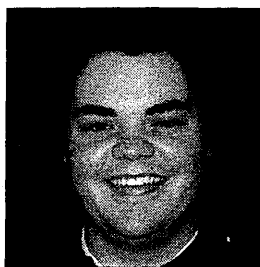
Jan. 4, 5:30 a.m.: Officers responded to a domestic dispute on the 1000 block of North State Street.

Compiled by Courtney Walker

Viking Voices

What did you do for New Year's Eve?

Compiled by Stefani Harrey



Matt Glover
Junior, English

I went to the Space Needle and my friends and I made our resolutions while the fireworks went off.



Jordan Keithley
Freshman, undecided

I got together with all my high-school friends and agreed college is better than high school, and we like each other a lot more now.



Dominique Thomas
Freshman, secondary education

I shot bottle rockets at drunk people.

AP Wire

news briefs

STATE NEWS

State fines Greek shipping company for oil spill

Washington State Department of Ecology has fined a Greek shipping company \$12,000 for an oil spill in the Columbia River.

More than 500 gallons spilled from the oil tanker Rosa Tomasos in August 2003 when a fuel tank overflowed. Some of the oil washed up on beaches near Frenchman's Bar and Caterpillar Island, near Vancouver.

The Tomasos Brothers company has 30 days to appeal.

Secretary of State says primary should change dates

Secretary of State Sam Reed said Thursday that Washington's primary election should move from September to the third Tuesday in June.

He said that would give election

workers more time to address close races and send ballots to and from military and overseas voters.

Moving the primary is part of a package of election reforms Reed is proposing to the Legislature because of the close race for governor.

NATIONAL NEWS

Bush favors crackdown on class-action lawsuits

President George W. Bush spoke during a White House meeting with lawmakers of both parties Wednesday about Congress cracking down on class-action lawsuits.

Bush contends that allowing class-action suits to go through state and local courts tilts the playing field.

He wants Congress to limit them to federal courts.

Bush's meeting occurred between campaign-style stops promoting

two other efforts to crack down on what he calls "junk" lawsuits that he said are costing American businesses billions of dollars.

Wednesday, in Illinois, Bush argued for caps on damage awards in medical malpractice cases.

New York inmates throw fit over no Christmas presents

Three inmates at a jail near Binghamton, N.Y., face felony charges after an outburst that authorities said resulted from a lack of Christmas presents.

An employee at the Broome County Jail charged the men Thursday with criminal mischief and aggravated harassment.

A jail supervisor said the inmates hurled food trays and feces at a jail officer last week.

The supervisor said the inmates were upset because they did not receive gifts.

But he said this outburst was "a little extreme."

INTERNATIONAL NEWS

Lack of resources could kill 150,000 Tsunami victims

Health experts warn that 150,000 people could die from illnesses and infections if basic services are not restored to tsunami-stricken areas by the end of the week.

According to the World Health Organization on Wednesday, dangerous infections are turning up in otherwise superficial wounds sustained by tsunami victims.

Doctors said that without clean water, disease could cause wounds that require amputations.

The organization's director said that of the five million people affected by the tidal waves, 150,000 are at extreme risk — almost as many as who were directly killed by the tsunami.

*Compiled by Erik Peterson
AP Wire courtesy KUGS 89.3-FM*

The Western Front Online



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Advertising inquiries should be directed to the business office in CF 230, 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 – PLEASE POST

MATH PLACEMENT TEST. The Math Placement Test will be given in OM 120 at 3 p.m. Mondays on Jan. 10, 24, 31; Feb 7, 14, 28; Mar 7, 14, and at 9 a.m. Thursdays on Jan. 13, 20, 27; Feb. 3, 10, 17, 24; Mar 3, 10, and 17. Registration is not required. Students must bring: picture identification, student number, Social Security number, and a No. 2 pencil. A \$15 fee is payable in exact amount at test time.

MATH PLACEMENT TEST SCHEDULE AND SAMPLE TOPICS may be found at www.ac.wwu.edu/~assess/tc.htm.

LOT 17G WILL BE RESERVED beginning at 5 p.m. Jan. 13 for Viking permit holders attending the basketball game. A shuttle will run from lot 12A for all others.

SUMMER QUARTER DEGREE APPLICANTS: All students expecting to graduate at the close of summer quarter must have a degree application on file in the Registrar's Office by Friday, March 11. Degree applications and instructions are available in OM 230.

THE MILLER ANALOGIES TEST (MAT) is a computer-based test available by appointment only. Make an appointment in person in Old Main 120 or by calling X/3080. A \$42 fee is payable at test time. Test takes approximately 1½ hours. Preliminary scores available immediately; official results are mailed within 15 days.

WEST-E PRAXIS. Washington requires individuals seeking teacher certification and teachers seeking additional endorsements to pass a subject knowledge assessment in the chosen endorsement area beginning Sept. 1. The state has chosen specific Praxis II series tests to meet this requirement. See www.ets.org/praxis/prxwa.html for a description and online registration information. Registration bulletins are also available in MH 216.

REMAINING WEST-E PRAXIS TEST DATES for the academic year are March 5, April 16, and June 11 (June 11 test not available at Western; see the Praxis Web site for location).

WEST-B TEST. Applicants for admission to state-approved educator preparation programs and those from other states applying for a Washington residency teaching certificate must have a minimum passing score on the basic skills assessment test. Residency teaching certificate applicants who have completed an educator preparation program outside Washington and have not passed WEST-B may be granted additional time. See www.west.nesinc.com to register. Test dates: Jan. 22, March 12, May 14, July 9.

READMISSION. Students who interrupt studies at Western other than for summer quarter must apply for readmission. Students pursuing a first bachelor's degree are generally assured readmission if they follow application instructions and apply by priority deadline (summer, continuing into fall and fall quarter, April 1; spring quarter, Jan. 15). Post-baccalaureate readmission is more stringent. Applications available in OM 200 or call X/3440.

INFORMATION REGARDING NATIONAL TESTING is available at the Testing Center, Old Main 120.

Union: Group hopes unionization will lead to increased salaries

CONTINUED FROM PAGE 1

Faculty members sign authorization cards to indicate a desire to have United Faculty of Western Washington as their agent for collective bargaining, Garfinkle said. A collective bargaining unit makes faculty legal equals with university administration, according to the United Faculty of Western Washington's Web site.

A salary increase is one reason university faculty wants to start a union. According to the United Faculty of Western Washington's Web site, Western faculty's salaries continue to decline compared to other universities.

"According to the Higher Ed Almanac, faculty at unionized universities, on average, make \$4,500 per year more than their colleagues who do not enjoy the benefits of collective bargaining," Garfinkle said. (The National Education Association publishes the Higher Ed Almanac.)

To involve more faculty in the unionization, members of the two

committees are speaking with faculty members and educating them about the benefits of joining a union.

"(The committee) would go around and talk to as many faculty members as possible about where they stand on a union," said Vernon Johnson, Western political science professor and committee member. "We then would record and take a head count of the faculty members who are with us."

In addition to the committees, approximately 600 faculty members are included in the bargaining unit, Johnson said.

After faculty submit the authorization cards, Western must complete a list of all faculty members interested in being a part of the union and turn it into the PERC. Then the committee will compare the signed authorization cards to the list of faculty, Schurke said.

"In order to schedule an election, the Public Employee Relations Committee must see interest in unionization demonstrated by 30 percent of the potential bargaining unit,"

Garfinkle said. "The cards are the Public Employee Relations Committee's means of establishing that such interest exists."

If no disagreements arise, the election should take place in February, Garfinkle said.

"We would like the election to be held as soon as possible so that we can begin enjoying the benefits of unionization," Garfinkle said.

All faculty at Western have the right to choose if they vote, Schurke said.

"The ballot has one question: 'Do you want the union? Yes or No,'" he said. "Faculty can choose yes, they would like a union, or no representation."

Some faculty members involved with the unionization process believe the union will not only be beneficial to staff members, but also to the university as a whole.

"A union will put faculty in a better position to accomplish the mission of the University and provide the highest quality education to the students of Washington state," Garfinkle said.

Tickets: Online sales will happen this year

CONTINUED FROM PAGE 1

system at the box office, the Western Ticket Consortium also will begin online sales of tickets this academic year, Boles said.

Boles said they purchased the new technology and software for \$50,000 from Tickets.com, an organization that makes venues and entertainment organizations software to enable an organization to sell fully automated tickets.

The University Box Office may change its hours; Carol Edwards, dean of the College of Fine and Performing Arts, is still reviewing them, said Jill Clark, Media Coordinator for the PAC Series and College of Fine and Performing Arts.

"We are still considering changing the hours—at this point they are under review until they are finalized by the dean," Clark said. "We want the new hours to make sense for our patrons."



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Proposed budget recommends higher salaries, more enrollment at Western

By **MARISSA HARSHMAN**
The Western Front

Gov. Gary Locke's proposed operating budget for Western in '05-'07 may lead to an increase in faculty and staff salary, funding for additional enrollment and more financial aid for Western students.

Locke proposed two operating budgets for the next two-year period; one budget is based on available revenue and the other on statewide tax increases, Western's legislative liaison Judy McNickle said.

Locke's second proposed operating budget, which relies on funds from tax increases, addresses many of Western's concerns for higher education, McNickle said.

The proposed budget would provide funding for an additional 120 full-time-equivalent students each year of the biennium, the two-year period the budget covers, said Diana Scoles, associate director for university planning and budgeting.

It also would provide a salary increase for most faculty and staff at Western, Scoles said. They would receive a 3.2 percent increase in the first year and a 1.6 percent increase in the second year.

Governor-elect, Christine Gregoire, the State House of Representatives and the Senate also will each draft an operating budget proposal within the next couple of months, McNickle said.

"Each (proposal) will put emphasis on different areas," McNickle said. "Governor Locke put emphasis on education; Gregoire talks a lot about health care, so she might put an emphasis on that."

The legislative session to vote on these plans is from Jan. 10 to April 24, McNickle said.

The proposed budget also will provide funding to preserve health care benefits for faculty and staff at Western and will increase financial aid, McNickle said.

If resident undergraduate students' tuition increases up to 5 percent per year, the proposed operating budget would increase the amount of financial aid for students to cover the rise in tuition, said Paula Rustan, executive director for university planning and analysis. If tuition were to rise to 9 percent per year, the institutions would be responsible for providing financial aid to students for the additional 4 percent increase, McNickle said.

"As far as how (the proposal) affects Western, it's too early," Scoles said. "We wait until we get the House and the Senate's budget before we get too excited."

Locke's proposed operating budget would fund the general operations of the college, such as purchasing equipment, paying faculty and staff and paying utility bills, McNickle said.

The institutions had to prioritize the capital budget based on each college's needs, McNickle said. Locke received the list and made some adjustments. He will then submit the plan to the legislature.

The highest priority for Western is the construction of the Academic Instructional Center on the south end of campus, McNickle said. Plans for construction will begin if the legislature approves the capital budget in the spring. If approved, construction will start in December 2005 and end in November 2007, she said.

The building would be the new home for the departments of psychology and communications sciences and disorders, McNickle said. The building would cost an estimated \$51.5 million.

Western also requested funds for renovations to Miller Hall, Carver Complex, College Hall, Wilson Library and the Art Annex, she said.

"The folks on (Capitol Hill) that we've talked to seem very supportive of (the priority list)," she said.

The proposal was part of Locke's budget for Washington State universities.

Eastern Washington University, University of Washington, Washington State University, Central Washington University and The Evergreen State College were also part of Locke's budget.



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Tsunami: Bellingham coffee shops, delis and restaurants all have sent money to disaster relief

CONTINUED FROM PAGE 1

The money these businesses collect goes to the National Red Cross office, who then transfer it to the International Response Fund, a fund designated for the money collected for international disasters, Brown said.

All of the proceeds sent to the International Response Fund are then used to buy blankets, clothes, tents, food and medical supplies, Brown said. This ensures that each specific disaster region receives supplies that will be useful to the victims there, depending on the level of need.

Wendy Defreest, owner of Avenue Bread and Deli on

Railroad Avenue, contacted The Bellingham Herald, which put out a news release letting residents and customers know that the deli was having a day in which people could come in and donate.

"All the tips we received, as well as any other cash from customers, went into a donation jar," Defreest said. "By the end of the day we had collected \$400 for the Red Cross to send for disaster relief."

Defreest said she was pleased with the donations that came into her business this past Saturday.

"It was definitely worth it. It felt good, and we might do it again," Defreest said. "It's also neat to see other businesses step up and do

what they can to contribute."

Three baristas at Tony's Coffee in Fairhaven—27-year-old Jessica Barrow, 21-year-old Tara Bock and 27-year-old Megan Lee—donated all of their tips to tsunami aid on Dec. 30. By combining their tips and donations from customers, Tony's Coffee collected \$748 to give to the Red Cross.

"We don't make a lot of money, but we knew we could give our tips for the day," said Barrow, a manager Tony's Coffee. "It's good to know that we personally could do something about it."

On Rice Thai Cuisine on Samish Way also is collecting donations. Owner Ken Tipasathien said he set

out a box for customers to donate money. In addition to customer donations, Tipasathien said he would donate five cents for every dollar he received and every dollar spent in the restaurant.

Donations made at On Rice Thai Cuisine have been collected since Jan. 1 and will continue to be collected through Jan. 15. All of the proceeds will go to the victims, Tipasathien said.

The Bellingham Salvation Army also is accepting financial donations. Cathy Dearman, social services director for the Bellingham Salvation Army, said all the money received through the mail and walk-in donations is

forwarded to the Salvation Army forces that have mobilized to the tsunami-stricken areas.

"There is limited space to send aid to Asia, and different places need different items, so financial donations are sent directly there," Dearman said.

Brown said that everyone who has a little could donate.

"If each person gave \$5 or \$10, it would add up to millions of dollars fast," Brown said. "It is happening so far away, but one way to not feel disconnected is to contribute your small donations, and hopefully someday the victims will know how much the rest of the world cares."

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Local bands will show off their sound

By ERIC SANFORD
The Western Front

Anyone unaware of the assortment of sounds in the Bellingham local music scene will soon have a chance to witness it first hand.

For the second quarter in a row, Associated Students Pop Music will put on a free local band showcase at 7 p.m. on Jan. 14 at the Viking Union Multipurpose Room. The show will feature Kasey Anderson, The Wastelanders, Everybody's Debbie, Cathoholix and The Fancyladz. The genres of these groups range from folk-influenced country to punk rock and hip-hop.

Musician Kasey Anderson said his music is commonly described as alternative country with a healthy folk influence, one that he said came from Steve Earle, Bruce Springsteen and Paul Westerburg. He said he's ecstatic to have the chance to play a show on campus again.

Last time he played on campus, he said he performed as a solo act, but this time he's bringing his backing band along for a fuller sound.

"My band plays the majority of our shows at bars, with bands of the same ilk," Anderson said. "This show gives us an opportunity to reach a broader audience and share a bill with some bands we wouldn't normally get to."

Anderson said he plans on making new material this year.

"I need to start writing songs again," Anderson said. "We've been focusing so much on the material that's on the record 'Dead Roses.' I haven't really taken time to write any new material. I'd like to have a record written by March and recorded by June."

Rock and blues band The Wastelanders have been playing since October 2001, bass player and vocalist Ryan Roullard said. He said the band's influences are

quite diverse, ranging from punk rock, country, blues and hardcore.

"We're at a point right now where we're just writing what sounds good to us and the influences aren't all that overt," Roullard said.

Roullard said he is looking forward to playing the show with some mutual friends.

"Our band is friends with Kasey Anderson, Everybody's Debbie and The Cathoholix, and we're way overdue for an all-ages show," Roullard said. "All-ages crowds are generally the most enthusiastic and it will be really fun to come out and rock out with our buddies."

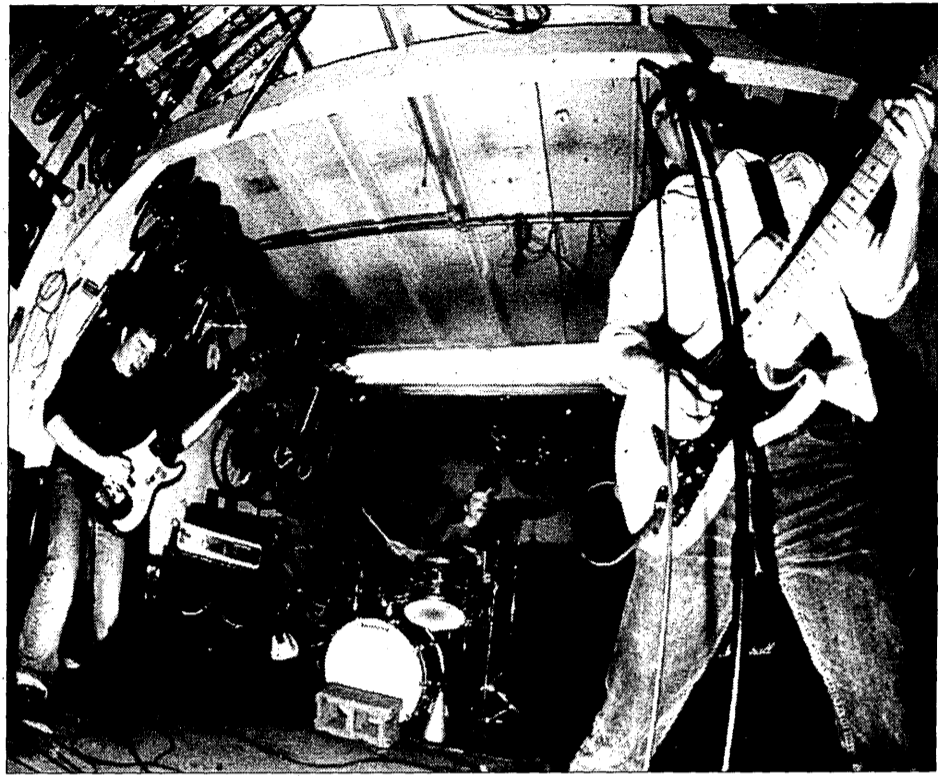
The other bands playing include the all-girl punk band Everybody's Debbie, the new hip-hop duo Fancyladz and the thrash-punk band Cathoholix.

Western senior Kelly Aiken and sophomore David Westbrook, who work together as the AS Pop coordinators, organized the show.

"The local showcase that we did this last fall quarter was exceptionally successful, so we decided to make it a quarterly thing," Aiken said.

Aiken said the variety of the lineup is important to him.

"We tried to stick with bands that have been very active in the local scene in our eyes," Aiken said. "I think we got a



Courtesy of The Wastelanders

The Wastelanders is one of five local bands performing, Jan. 14 in the Viking Union Multipurpose Room.

pretty good cross section of bands."

Aiken said he is eager to see all the bands for different reasons.

"I'm very excited to see Everybody's Debbie because they do not play many all-ages shows," Aiken said. "I also haven't seen Kasey Anderson with his backing band yet. I'm excited for all the bands, really."

MARS studio open for recording

By KARA LUNDBERG
The Western Front

Jan. 1 brought not only a new year to Western students and the Bellingham community, but new sounds as well.

Bellingham residents Ryan Anderson and John Memolo have partnered up and opened a new recording studio near downtown Bellingham.

Anderson started the Memolo Anderson Recording Studio, MARS for short, after splitting from Lab Partner Studios in Bellingham. Anderson said he planned to make the new studio a partnership and knew that Memolo and his wife Linda were looking to start another business. The Memolos are the owners of Musician Center, located on West Holly Street in downtown Bellingham.

Memolo said he knew it would be a good idea to join with Anderson because the two share the same interests and ideas in sounds, records and production.

"We are not going to focus on any one type of music," Anderson said. "I don't like one type of music, so I'm not going to record one type."

The rates for Anderson's services and the studio are \$20 per hour. Anderson expects prices to increase when he and Memolo buy a new space for their studio somewhere in Bellingham in a year.

The facility is a large main room with a 14-foot sloping ceiling, a large control room and two isolation booths, Anderson said.

"My goal is to make the best recordings that I can and making the bands feel comfortable in the studio," Anderson said. "Most importantly, my goal is to have a good time."

Josh Holland, lead vocalist of Future City Fear, worked with Anderson on three different projects. He said the reason the band kept coming back to his studio is because of Anderson's completely laid-back attitude and his persistence to be patient and get everything done right with no pressure.

"When I first met him at the studio, he was ready to get down to business — he knew exactly how he wanted to get the job done," Holland said. "He knew the technical side of the studio back to front, which allowed us to focus on making the music and not whether the equipment was working or not."

Anderson said he has an experienced background recording for 10 years. He has worked with musicians in New York City and Austin, Texas, where he owned his own studio and did some freelance work in other studios.

"I have recorded The Hard Feelings, Sympathy for the Record Industry and Sound Filthy," Anderson said. "Locally, I have recorded the DT's, Future City Fear and Flat Broke."

Holland said Anderson's relaxed atmosphere is what pulls the recording together.

"He was always suggesting that we just come back into the control room and have a glass of wine, or noodle around the studio," Holland said. "Knowing you can be there and be able to take your time was so important to us and him."

Holland said that Anderson does not want things getting stressful and tense inside the studio. He never charged Holland for the time spent just sitting around — he actually encouraged it.

The studio is capable of recording two different ways.

"Right now we are mostly an analog studio — however, we can also do digital recordings," he said.

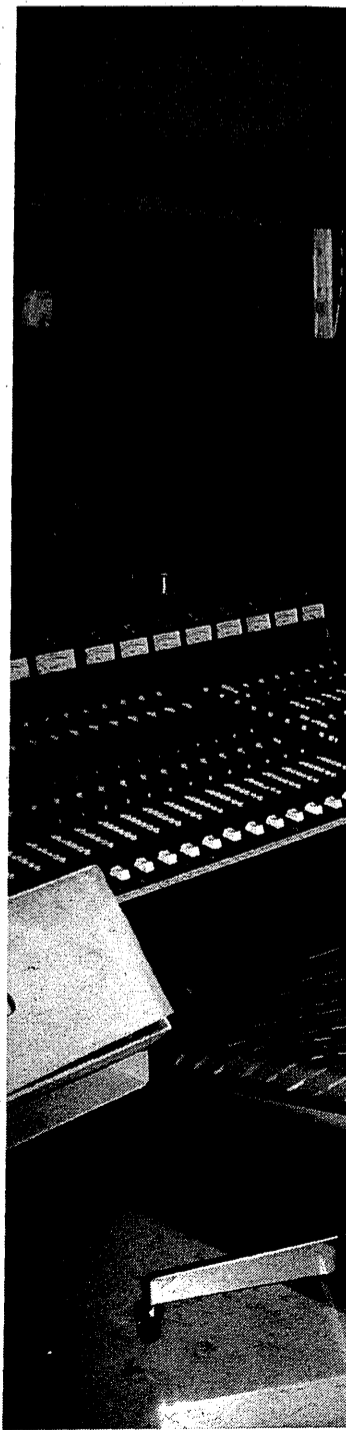
Analog is an older style of recording onto a magnetic tape and not using computers, Anderson said.

"We have a lot of outboard gear, effects equipment, microphones and almost any amplifier you can think of," he said.

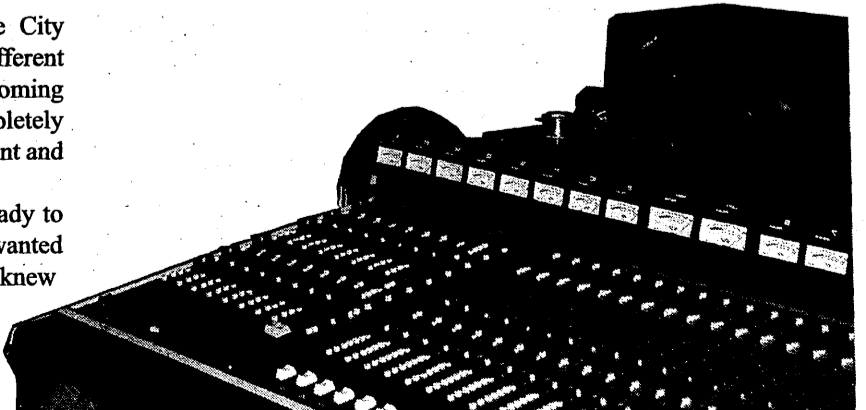
Holland said he plans to continue working with Anderson and Memolo in the new studio.

"From what (Anderson) tells me, they have a new mixing board, new microphones and a new attitude," Holland said.

Holland said he cannot imagine Anderson and Memolo not being successful and said he is looking forward to getting to work in the new space.



KARA LUNDBERG/The Western Front
John Memolo, co-owner of MARS, repairs wires in the control room of the MARS studio.





*A look into
the career of
a local band*

BY MOLLY JENSEN
The Western Front

Since Racetrack recently released "City Lights," its first full-length album, the Bellingham band has stayed busy playing shows for its growing fan base.

Vocalist and guitarist Meghan Kessinger, drummer Jackson Long and bassist Chris Rasmussen have been touring the Puget Sound area and recently teamed up with Harvey Danger for two December shows at the Crocodile Café in Seattle.

Local shows are scheduled for Jan. 8 at the 3B Tavern with Ms. Led and The Mark and Jan. 21 in the Viking Union Multipurpose Room with Smoosh and Tennis Pro.

Racetrack recorded "City Lights" with guitarist Christopher Walla of Death Cab for Cutie. Long said Walla is both a friend of the band and a creative partner.

"It's the first record that's fully representative of how we sound live," Long said.

Kessinger said recording with Walla made for a comfortable working environment.

Racetrack got to record "City Lights" under ideal circumstances, Long said.

"It was like being able to hang out with a friend for seven days and then having a documentation of that week you spent together," Kessinger said.

"City Lights" was released by Seattle's Skrocki Records, which Long said has given Racetrack more exposure than they had previously because of its access to record stores, college radio stations and magazines.

Kessinger is a senior at Western. She grew up in Seattle and lived in the Twin Cities region of Minnesota for a couple of years, but said she never has felt included in a music scene the way she does in Bellingham.

"I haven't seen the same level of support anywhere else we've toured," Kessinger said.

While some bands prefer large music scenes, Kessinger said Bellingham's small size suits Racetrack.

Rasmussen said USS Horsewhip, The Wastelanders,

The Mark and Black Eyes and Neckties are some of his favorite bands to play with. He said the 3B Tavern and a house on D Street that often has shows are his favorite venues in Bellingham.

"It's great to be able to play with your friends," Rasmussen said. "People are really supportive in this town."

Rasmussen and Long both graduated from Western this past spring. They met in an audio recording class at Fairhaven College in which Long was the teacher's assistant. Long is now the professor of all of the audio recording classes at Fairhaven.

"Bellingham has been just great to Racetrack," Long said. "People are pretty accepting of new bands, and even as we've continued to grow, being from Bellingham is a distinction."

Long and Rasmussen said the one disadvantage of Bellingham's music scene is its lack of a permanent all-ages venue. This makes it difficult for high school students and those who have just come to Western to get involved in the music scene, Rasmussen said.

"The all-ages scene is unstable, but at the same time, that forces people to do things like have shows in their basements," Long said. "You pretty much have to make it happen for yourself."

During the past two summers, the band has gone on tours, playing venues as far east as Detroit and Kentucky. Long said that this year he would like to tour the East Coast.

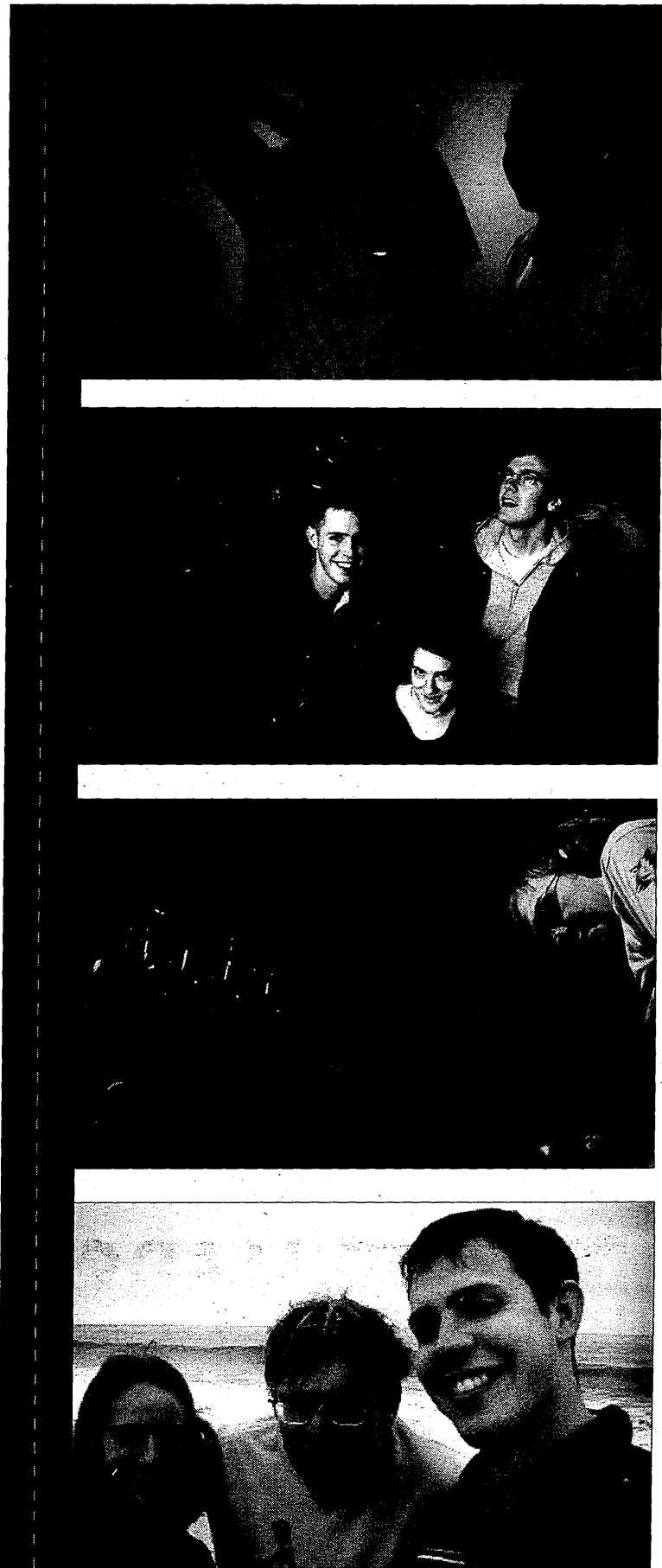
Rather than plotting a detailed course for the band's future, Kessinger said the three musicians are doing what makes them happy — writing music and touring.

"Everything's just really about playing music," Long said. "If we just kept doing that, I'd be perfectly happy."

Upcoming Local Shows

Jan. 8, 10 p.m. — 3B Tavern with Ms. Led, The Mark — \$5

Jan. 21, 6:30 p.m. — Viking Union Multipurpose Room with Smoosh, Tennis Pro — Free



Photos courtesy of Racetrack
Photo illustration by Aaron Apple

 In the spotlight 

Friday, Jan. 7

Reggae concert

Wild Buffalo House of Music; 752-0848; \$10
Clinton Fearon and Boogie Brown Band will perform at 9 p.m.

Cat art exhibit

3rd Floor Gallery, 115 Unity St.; 738-0432; Free
Artist Matt French will exhibit his series of cat paintings at 5 p.m.

Rock concert

Underground Coffeeshouse; 650-3263; Free
Gabe Archet of the Pale is headlining a concert with Jon Parkison and Luke Bradley at 8 p.m.

Multimedia performance

Old Main Theatre; 650-6146; \$4
"On The Rocks" is a presentation that uses multimedia to take a sobering look at alcoholism, recovery and addiction. Another performance will happen Jan. 8. Both shows start at 7:30 p.m.

Saturday, Jan. 8

Blues concert

Wild Buffalo House of Music; 752-0848; \$8
Polly O'Keary and The Rhythm Method will perform at 9 p.m.

Sunday, Jan. 9

Swing and jazz concert with dance lessons

Wild Buffalo House of Music; 752-0848; \$5
Goldtooth Delux will perform at 7:30 p.m. and swing dance lessons will be provided.

Monday, Jan. 10

Modern art exhibit

Western Gallery; 650-3900; Free
"Birds of All Feathers" will open and feature three simultaneous exhibitions that will depict the visual and poetic power of birds. The exhibit will remain open until March 12.

Tuesday, Jan. 11

Rock concert

1801 D St.; Free
Local band USS Horsewhip will headline a concert with Catholic Boys and Snake Run at 7 p.m.

Thursday, Jan. 13

Rock concert

Wild Buffalo House of Music; 752-0848; \$5
Fanny Alger and Fortune 500 will perform a concert at 9 p.m.

Friday, Jan. 14

Acrobats

Mount Baker Theatre; 734-6080; \$25-\$35
The National Acrobats of Taiwan presents dramatic acrobatics that blend with roots of Chinese civilization. The group will perform at 8 p.m.

Transfer to join Western women

By KARA LUNDBERG
The Western Front

The Western women's basketball team is getting a new set of legs on the court.

A transfer student from NCAA Division I Oregon State University, Western freshman Claire Pallansch will be eligible for team play next season.

The 6-foot-2-inch 19-year-old forward began practicing with the Vikings on Monday.

Pallansch said that as a junior at Redmond High School she signed a national letter of intent to play women's basketball for Oregon State. After attending summer school at Oregon State, and after

starting in the fall, she left the basketball program and the school four weeks later.

"There was just no balance for me there," Pallansch said. "Between academics, social events and basketball, there was not enough stability for me."

When Western received news of Pallansch's possible release from her letter of intent, Western coaches contacted her summer coach, who then contacted Pallansch to let her know that Western was interested in having her join the Vikings, she said.

Pallansch, a Seattle Times honorable mention all-state pick and a McDonald's All-American nominee as a senior in 2004, led

the Redmond Mustangs to a 21-4 record and the championship game of the district playoffs, averaging 12.8 points, 11.4 rebounds and 2.3 blocks a game.

She earned first-team Seattle Post-Intelligencer all-area, King County Journal all-Eastside and all-King County 4A League recognition and participated in the Northwest Shootout All-Star Game against the University of Washington.

Pallansch has now joined her older sister, Western senior Mariah Pallansch, in Bellingham.

"She loves basketball, but Oregon was just not for her," Mariah Pallansch said. "The intense four-hour practices and team events each night was just too much."

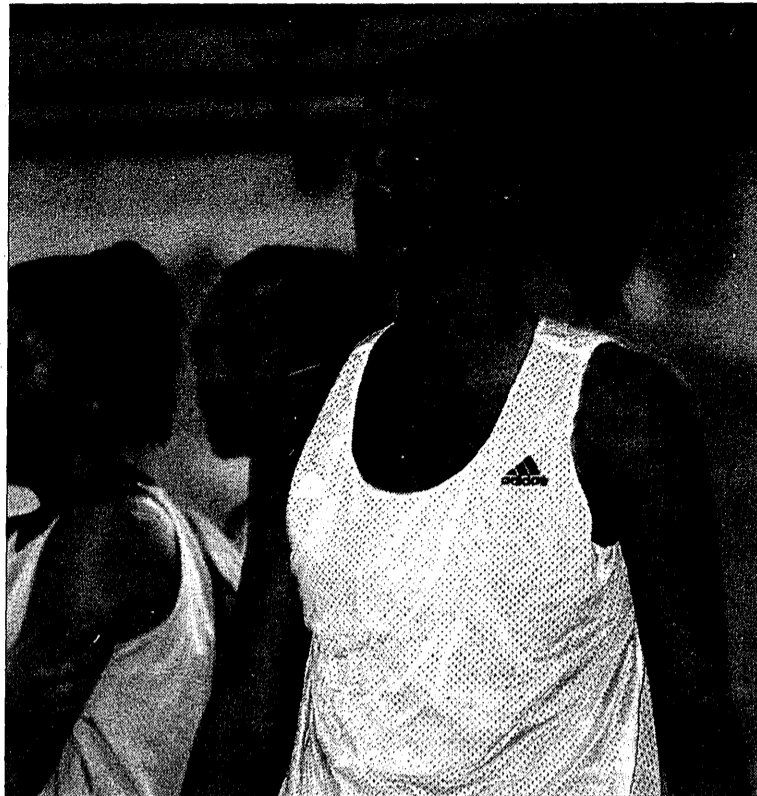
Mariah Pallansch said that over the course of her education at Western, Pallansch had come to visit several times and had learned about the school and the basketball program.

"I could never look at Claire and not see basketball," Mariah Pallansch said. "It has always been a part of her daily life, her daily routine."

Besides basketball, being together with her sister was a primary reason that Pallansch said she chose Western.

"My sister has helped me find out what I want and what makes me happy, and Western makes me happy," she said. "And I am pretty lucky to have such a great group of teammates and coaches."

On Pallansch's first day



PHOTOS BY CHRIS HUBER/The Western Front

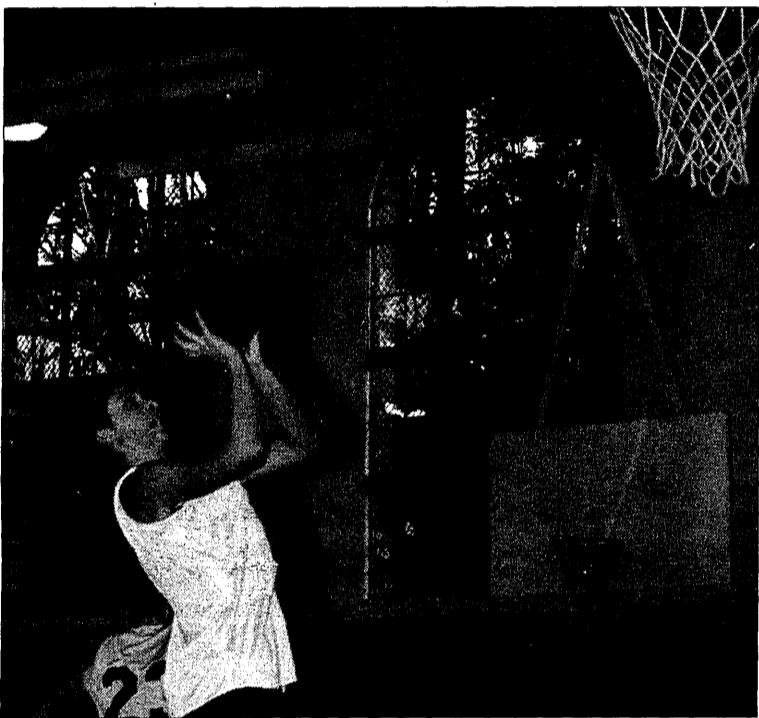
Claire Pallansch transferred from Oregon State University and will practice with Vikings for the remainder of the year with intentions of playing next season.

practicing with the team, she said it was obvious that this was a team held together by an enormous amount of leadership.

"I've never been on a team that I feel that everyone on the team is

supporting everyone else and the team 100 percent," she said.

Pallansch said she will finish out this year practicing with the team, and intends to play for the Vikings next season.



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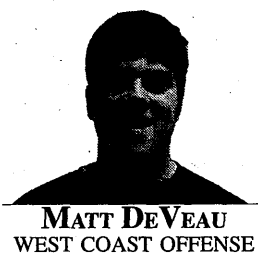
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Use of football pads used during basketball practice raises concern



pads and dive and scrap for loose rebounds because he thought his team was "soft." But Self's attempt to turn his Jayhawks into a "grind-it-out" team by having them dress like football players raises some questions.

First, why would a team seeking an edge want to emulate the 4-7 Kansas football team?

Second, but more importantly, what the hell is going on in the basketball universe?

Somewhere between the end of the "Magic-Bird era" and November's "Malice at the Palace," basketball lost its grace. Many teams seem to think they don't need to play good basketball to win, they just need to beat the crap out of their opponent.

This is a problem on all levels of basketball, but a moment in December's Gonzaga-Oklahoma State game reveals how thuggish-ruggish the sport has become.

With both teams jostling to collect a rebound, several Oklahoma State players — who also have practiced in football pads — began thrashing about and sending bodies — one of which belonged to Zags star Ronny Turiaf — to the floor. He was writhing in pain for several seconds until teammate Erroll Knight fell on Turiaf and further aggravated his ankle injury. At that point the referees finally called a foul — on Knight.

The whole sequence looked more like an audition for Ron Artest's posse than a basketball game.

Basketball is at a crossroads. Those who govern the sport need to either curtail physical play or go

all the way and encourage it.

Back in the days of short-shorts and teams that could crack 100 points every night, fighting seemed to be tolerated in the NBA, and this could translate well elsewhere.

Teams could take a hint from hockey and employ "enforcers," goons who have no other purpose but to pick fights and protect their teammates.

Imagine this concept applied to the Seattle Sonics' Wednesday game in Orlando. When Magic forward Tony Battie committed a hard foul that sent Sonics star Ray Allen to the floor, Seattle's Danny Fortson would retaliate as if he were trying to beat up a horse.

Such a move may be positive for

the Sonics; Fortson, by the looks of him, would not lose many fights.

But going in the direction of more rough play wouldn't be positive for basketball. The game is at its best when style meets substance.

Team sports almost always involve contact; attempting to eliminate rough play entirely would be foolish and impossible.

Maybe Kansas should take a hint from its former coach, Roy Williams. In 2000, when the NCAA supposedly set out to crack down on "rough play," Williams said, "Basketball has reached a critical stage. Physical play and illegal contact have inhibited the game of skill that (basketball creator) James Naismith envisioned."

Sadly, Williams' successor at Kansas hasn't heard his plea. But how could he?

His ears are filled with the cracks of helmets on shoulder pads.

The University of Kansas football team hasn't played a game in more than a month, but the pops and cracks of helmets recently filled Allen Fieldhouse, the school's gymnasium.

No, Kansas wasn't trying to save money on an indoor practice facility by having its football players scrimmage on a basketball court. In fact, NCAA compliance offers can relax — the event was a basketball practice.

According to Andy Katz's Jan. 1 article on ESPN.com, Kansas coach Bill Self had his players don

Western men and women keep on winning through the holidays

BY HOUSTON FLORES
The Western Front

The men had their first game on Dec. 11 against University of California Santa Cruz. Western shot 69.4 percent from the field in the second half to defeat the UCSC Banana Slugs, 110-60.

They traveled to Las Vegas on Dec. 18 to compete in the two-game High Desert Classic tournament.

In the first game, the men suffered their first loss of the season to the University of South Dakota, 95-77.

The men bounced back the next day and beat California State

University, San Bernardino, 73-69.

The men's final game during the break was against Division III opponent Whitman College. Western advanced quickly and won, 108-76.

On Thursday night, the men defeated Saint Martin's College, 102-91.

The men's team is ranked first in the NCAA Division II West Region Poll.

The women fared even better than the men, winning every game they played by double digits. Their closest game was an 11-point victory over Sonoma State University.

In the first game, the women's team defeated San Francisco State University by a score of 85-55. Western junior starting point guard Samantha Hubbard came up big in this game scoring 13 points to go along with four assists.

In the team's next game, Western junior center Courtney Clapp played a pivotal role in the 80-69 victory over Sonoma State University, scoring 30 points on 10-for-12 shooting.

Next, the Vikings traveled home to face The Evergreen State



CHRIS HUBER/The Western Front
The women's basketball team members huddle up to end their practice Monday in Carver gymnasium.

College. The Vikings shot a school record 71.9 percent from the field to take out Evergreen, 98-71.

Western played its final two games of the break in Seattle. The first game was against the highly touted, 12th-ranked, Cal Poly Pomona. CPP led the game 59-58 with eight minutes to go, but Western finished the game strong to win by a score of 78-64.

Western then completed a 79-51 victory over California State University, Los Angeles. Western played stingy defense, grabbing 14 steals and holding CSLA to 26 percent shooting.

The women beat University of Alaska Fairbanks on Thursday, 78-74.

The women play at University of Alaska Anchorage on Jan. 8.

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United States should not rely on donations from private sector

South Asia could have called President George W. Bush "President Scrooge" after his initial pledge of \$15 million in tsunami relief.

Although the U.S. government's pledge is now as much as \$350 million, it will soon be superceded by individual donations, which have reached more than \$200 million, according to a Jan. 5 Associated Press article.

Looking at this administration's tendency to deflect responsibility of government into the private sector, it should come as no surprise that it would take advantage of the willingness of private individuals to donate money to an area in such critical need. The fact that individual citizens and non-government corporations have made those contributions, however, should not be used as an excuse to shirk its responsibility to the nation and the world.

The United States is a leader to rest of the world and thus should lead by example. Every country in the world watches the actions of the United States and some use it as a blueprint for their own actions. The U.S. government has a history of philanthropy, so this cheapskate debacle is a simple tarnish on a recently rusty foreign policy.

In addition, as the world becomes more integrated both culturally and economically, the need for multilateral collaboration is increasing.

The Muslim population throughout the world especially has had mixed feelings about the United States' actions in the Middle East. And because Indonesia has the largest concentration of Muslims in the world, this could be a good opportunity to repair the relationship — even if marginally. Secretary of State Colin Powell said on Wednesday the money could help Muslims see the United States in a better light, according to the AP.

But because Scrooge has set the bar so low in Middle Eastern affairs — excluding Saudi Arabia — the United States' donation is being met with Muslim and Arab skepticism, according to the AP's Nadia Abou El-Magd.

Congress allocated \$8.5 billion to the Federal Emergency Management Agency for American hurricane relief, according to the Saint Petersburg Times. And while it makes sense that the United States would spend more in Florida than Asia because U.S. citizens come first, Americans must realize that \$350 million pales in comparison. A real relief effort would be to spend at least half the amount of money on those people impacted by the tsunami as was spent in Florida. But then again, there are no Republican voters in Indonesia.

Bush's experiments using the forces of the private sector should not be tested in a time of critical need. The areas hit by the tsunami need help now and the U.S. government must act quickly before the chance is lost.

Frontlines are the opinion of The Western Front editorial board: Matthew Anderson, Lauren Miller, David Wray, Anastasia Tietje, Elana Bean, Amanda Woolley, Caleb Heeringa, Laura McVicker, Aaron Apple, Michael Murray, Krissy Gochmour, Tara Nelson, Nick Schmidt, Kenna Hodgson and Chris Huber.

The Western Front

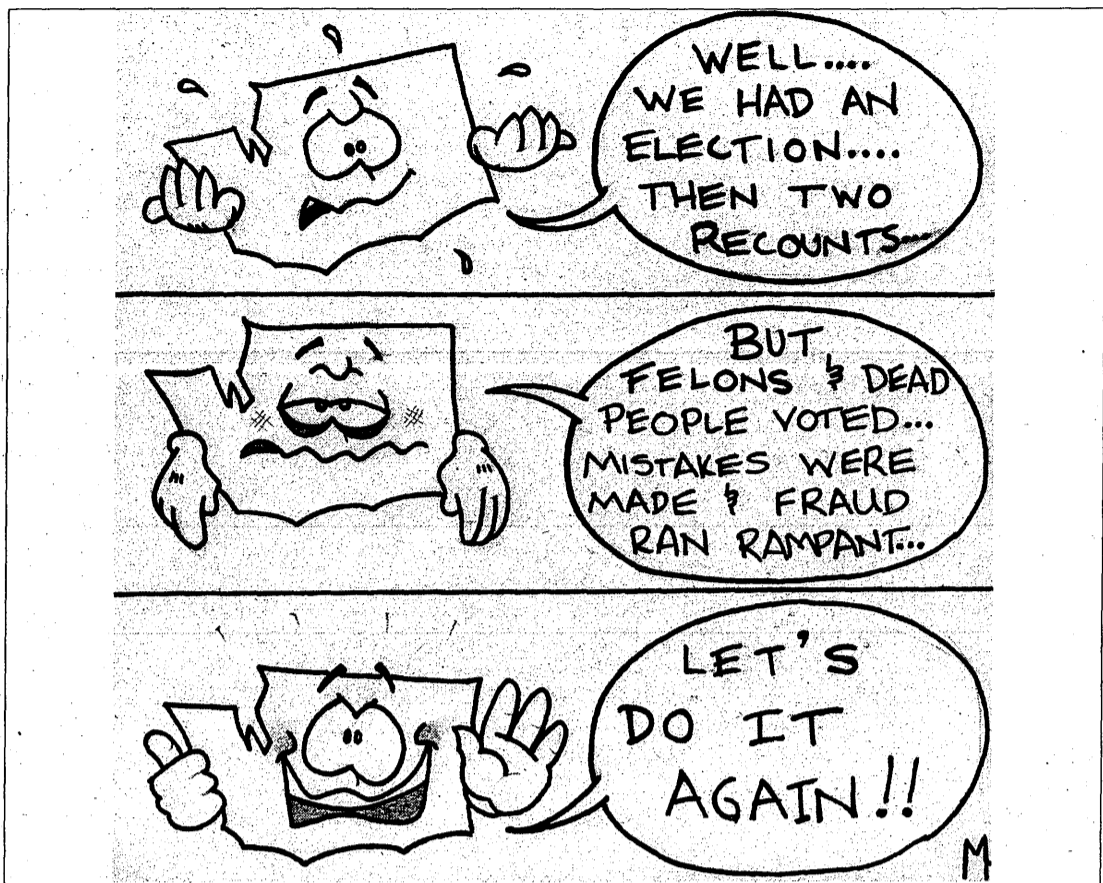
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Editor's note: The views expressed on The Western Front opinion pages are the views of the authors or cartoonists and are not necessarily the views of The Western Front staff, managers or adviser.

And we quote:

"In my country we have a saying, 'Bullshit!'"
— Wanambisi Wesakania,
Huxley student from Kenya



Rossi should abandon governor's race



BRADLEY THAYER

No revote will be necessary in the Washington state gubernatorial race, thanks. The first three recounts were necessary to correct problems with the voting process, but a whole new election would be costly and make an already drawn-out process look ridiculous.

The final results from the third recount are in, and more than 2.8 million Washingtonians have spoken. By 129 votes, Democrat Christine Gregoire has won and is now certified as Washington's second female governor. The state should now focus on something other than this election.

It already has resulted in two full months of litigation and finger-pointing. Republican candidate Dino Rossi seemed to have

prevailed after the first and second counts. There were, however, clear problems with the first two totals because the first two counts did not include all the ballots.

"I saw serious mistakes being made. I saw them being corrected. That's part of the process," Secretary of State Sam Reed, a Republican, "The system itself has worked well."

Despite Reed's obviously candid and impartial statement, the Republican party will not concede and Rossi will not listen to Reed's comments. Instead, he wants a revote that would cost the taxpayers \$4 million. This money could be spent on more practical things like Washington's public school system, the homeless, and those who cannot afford insurance.

According to the Office of Washington Superintendent of Public Instruction, studies on students who drop out of Washington's public school system found a 6.7 percent overall dropout rate during the 2003-2004 school

year. The study found the two biggest reasons students were dropping out were their poor grades and the feeling that school wasn't for them. The \$4 million Washington taxpayers would spend on a revote would be better used on making school a little more interesting. It also could enable the state to raise teacher salaries to a reasonable amount so they might be more willing to spend the additional time necessary to help struggling students.

The \$4 million also might help combat Washington's increasing number of people living in poverty which has reached 11.4 percent of the population, according to Reinvest in America, a group that focuses on job re-training.

Also, the number of people without health insurance in Washington has increased to 14.3 percent. As a state, Washington has work to do — now the state just needs to know who will roll up

see REVOTE, page 11

Road rage: Do it right or not at all



TRAVIS SHERER
LOOKING UP

So there you are, cruising at a nice 65 mph on Interstate 5 during your trek back to Western for winter quarter, still asking yourself why your sexually confused uncle bought you a NAMBLA hat for Christmas. All of the sudden, an '89 Dodge Shadow that has been riding your tail for the past 10 miles breaks your concentration by swerving uncontrollably and passing you on the right. The short, blond driver, who resembles a 15-year-old kid, just cut you off and is now slowing down to 35 and won't let you pass — and now we've met.

That's right, your failure to give me a courtesy wave for letting you in my lane 10 minutes ago now has slowed your trip by 20 minutes. Of course you didn't know exactly how rude you were, but that's not why

I'm pissed. I'm pissed because if you're going to be an asshole on the road, you might as well know how to do it right and go all-out.

To do it right means to get as many people pissed off as possible without any repercussions, and to go all-out means taking any means necessary. Since I'm slowing you and the 15 other cars behind you down, I'd say you did it wrong. So think of this as lesson one: You have to be careful not to get that guy who will irrationally chase you down.

This is the most vital part: How do you tell who will violently freak out or who will just think of you as a crazy kid? Use my easy rules.

Any age group that qualifies for a discount at Denny's is the easiest of targets. Anybody with children in the car is guaranteed not to start something. I mean, no parent is going to want to explain why daddy blackjacked the guy resembling Dennis the Menace for cutting him off. And if you have trouble profiling people, just start attacking people with more expensive cars than you, because you know you have less to lose if something goes down — and usually the

see PROFILING, page 11

Ecstasy: Not just for recreational use anymore



CRYSTAL OBERHOLTZER

A drug that allows dying people to better connect with their loved ones would be invaluable. That drug exists, it's just illegal.

It's called Ecstasy and it should be made available to those it can benefit.

Although Ecstasy is known mainly as a club drug, its emotion-enhancing and anxiety-lifting characteristics make it an ideal therapy for people struggling with the acute emotional trauma that comes with knowing they will die soon.

The Food and Drug Administration's approval of studies involving Ecstasy as therapy, despite social stigma surrounding the drug, is a much-needed step toward compassion.

The controversial drug's use as a catalyst of emotional therapy for various diseases prompted a clinical study that may prove Ecstasy as a ground-breaking therapy for chronically ill patients. In December 2004, the FDA approved a study that uses Ecstasy, scientifically known as methylenedioxyam-

phetamine, as emotional therapy for 20 cancer patients, according to a Dec. 27 Washington Post article.

Dr. John Halpern, the Harvard research psychiatrist in charge of the study, said he hopes the popular club drug will help chronically ill cancer patients cope with the emotional trauma associated with dying, according to a Dec. 29 Associated Press article.

The study will attempt to help 20 patients with fewer than 12 months to live come to terms with death and better communicate their emotions to friends and loved ones through Ecstasy use, according to the Post article. Doctors will provide patients with a moderate dose of Ecstasy and monitor their responses to the drug through psychological tests and counseling. If the treatment is effective, it could provide chronically ill patients with reduced emotional suffering in what may be the most emotionally painful days of their lives.

Clinical Ecstasy use will not make the drug freely available to anybody who wants it. Halpern told the AP Ecstasy is not for everyone, but evidence suggests that it could help some patients cope with death when little else seems to.

The FDA's approval of the Ecstasy study has set a precedent for Ecstasy use as a legal emotional therapy. This is something the association suggests should have been done long ago.

According to the Web site, one man who suffered severe depression his entire life took Ecstasy once and it helped him interact socially — his other therapies, including pills and electric-shock therapy, did not. He was no longer fearful of interacting with family members or reserved. His family wrote the account and claims the man would take Ecstasy more often and live a more peaceful life if he had legal access to the drug.

Psychiatric doctors have used Ecstasy as a therapeutic tool as early as 1977, when its inventor, Alexander Shulgin, gave the drug to a psychiatrist friend, according to Ecstasy.org. Shulgin said he did not intend for the drug to take on a following in the club scene, according to the site. Therapists openly worked to determine the benefits Ecstasy had for traumatized patients through self-experimentation and clinical observance until 1985, when the drug was made illegal, according to Ecstasy.org.

Therapists who experimented with ecstasy report that it allowed patients to speak about subjects that were difficult without the drug, and to maintain a more serene outlook about their traumas, according to Ecstasy.org.

In the United States, however, illegal drugs carry a certain stigma; they are deemed morally wrong and inherently bad because the government termed them illegal.

Most illegal drugs, however, are illegal because they have long-term negative health affects or addictive qualities. But that is also the case with any prescription drug on the market. Using Ecstasy as a beneficial treatment for people struggling with death negates these effects because the patient will likely not live long enough for the side effects to become a problem. The immediate side effects Ecstasy has on patients, including a decrease in appetite and the need to sleep, are by far outweighed by the benefit of communicating hard to approach topics to loved ones in a patient's dying days.

Ecstasy is not just a recreational drug anymore. Researchers at the Harvard University Medical School are providing much needed credibility to what many people already know as a valuable emotional therapy. If the study is successful, it could lead to Ecstasy being used as a prescription drug, a use that should have been professionally examined much earlier.

'Most illegal drugs are illegal because they have long-term negative health effects or addictive qualities, but that is also the case with any prescription drug on the market.'

Profiling: Avoid vehicles with Confederate flags and NRA stickers

CONTINUED FROM PAGE 10

other people do too. Nobody with a BMW is going to risk a dent to prove a point — especially if your car already has 10 dents. Also, remember to avoid any sort of car with a Confederate flag, NRA sticker or gun rack.

Before I start with actual driving, there is one sure-fire way to piss off anyone in Washington state: Buy an H2. Nothing says, "I don't give a shit about you, your kids or your environment," quite like the purchase of a Hummer. Oh sure, there are other vehicles you can buy that just scream "prick," but none of these cars shows quite as much of a reckless disregard for others.

Now, once you get into your overpriced, irrationally huge, Texas-style Canyonero, it's time to do some maneuvers that really prompt a damn good fist shaking. The first thing you can do is drive 61 mph in the fast lane. That's easy enough, right? But that's not all. When someone actually tries to pass you, you should accelerate to match his or her speed until you and the car in front box him or her in. This is important — no matter what speed you have to do, trust me, it will be worth it to see that guy lose it and start banging his head on his steering wheel and keep

coming back for more. How many times have you prompted road rage and the guy just backed off?

If you really want to piss the guy off, stare at him while you've got him boxed in, just to let him know that you know exactly what is going on. Really, give that stare a try sometime. Usually when you cut someone off or don't let him in, you look straight ahead to try and convince him that you had no idea he was there.

'Nothing says, "I don't give a shit about you, your kids or your environment" quite like the purchase of a Hummer.'

That's just in bad taste — you might as well take credit for your work. So look right at the guy and give him what I like to call a "G Dubya smirk."

Stand out when you screw somebody. It's done wonders for the current administration. That's what we're looking for, a little showmanship.

There also are other things you can do, but they won't get the same kind of reaction as, say, following a speeding ambulance on the way to an accident scene during rush hour. This is pretty advanced and it really takes a special kind of asshole to act this selfish.

Also, using the carpool lane without carpooling will do the job more than taking advantage of someone else's misfortune — in this case, a potential fatality — to get home a few minutes early to play Halo 2 or to get drunk a little earlier tonight.

Revote: \$4 million waste

CONTINUED FROM PAGE 10

their sleeves and get it done.

Dino Rossi said, "I hope you will agree that a revote makes the most sense to build back people's trust in our election process," according to his Web site.

But he should back up his word by honoring the final recount and moving on. If people are forced to vote again on the same race, it will further put the legitimacy of this election in question.

Throughout the same letter to Gregoire, Rossi made transparent efforts at selfish manipulation.

"I would not want to enter office with so many people viewing my governorship as illegitimate," he wrote.

One can only hope that now the election is finally over. It should be. Rossi and his cohorts may challenge the third recount in the courts or continue to push for a completely new election, but his doing so will suggest he cares more about himself and his party affiliation than he does about what is best for the Evergreen State.

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