

NO MORE RAIN

Local farmers market to get cover from the downpour.

Features, Page 12

JUVENILE CRIMES

Should the United States allow the death penalty for juveniles?

Opinions, Page 17

STILL KICKING

Women's soccer defeats Central after losing to SPU.

Sports, Page 14



Western Washington University, Bellingham, Washington

ISSUE 9
Volume 131

The Western Front

TUESDAY
Oct. 19, 2004

Candidates urge students to vote in local elections

By Lauren Hardin
The Western Front

Despite their opposing views, Republican State Senate candidate Gerald Baron and Democratic state Sen. Harriet Spanel said they agree that involving Western students in national elections, and local elections is an important way of contributing to the community.

As Election Day nears, many students will have the chance to participate in the community by voting for the next president of the country as well as the state senator of District 40. The district begins at Lakeway Drive and extends to Mount Vernon, and includes Lake Whatcom and the San Juan Islands.

"All levels of our democracy depend on the participation of a community, which includes Western students," Spanel said.

As community members, students have a chance to influence decisions that directly influence them, she said.

"Students need to vote in their own community," Spanel said. "They are affected by what happens to them, and they also have the ability to change what happens."

Students need to show their support, participate in discussions and not feel embarrassed because they have different views, Baron said.

"Students should get involved and register to vote, but they also need to get involved in campaigns, learn about the issues and understand that there are values on both sides of it," Baron said.

Baron is a lifetime Whatcom County resident and is president of Baron & Co., a marketing and public relations firm located in downtown Bellingham. He regularly works with Western students on research projects concerning marketing and public relations.

Baron's campaign issues focus on the legal reform of health care, job security and preserving farmland.

"We are losing our doctors, and Western students should be very concerned because at the rate that we are going in Washington, there is a

SEE **Senate**, PAGE 5

Kucinich rallies for Democrats

By Timory Wilson
The Western Front



Lauren Miller/The Western Front

Rep. Dennis Kucinich, D-Ohio, speaks to an audience at Sehome High School about education, health care, workers' rights and the war in Iraq.

An energetic crowd filled the bleachers in Sehome High School's gymnasium Saturday as Rep. Dennis Kucinich, D-Ohio, urged the audience to vote for the Democratic Party on Election Day.

"This state is so critical because if you are able to provide the energy to guarantee that John Kerry is going to carry Washington, then the Kerry campaign can begin to focus on some of the other states, like Ohio," said Kucinich, a former Democratic presidential candidate.

The topic of the forum was "What it means to be a Democrat." Kucinich addressed issues such as education, health care, worker's rights and the war in Iraq at the town hall forum.

Rep. Rick Larsen, D-Wash., and state Rep. Mike Cooper also accompanied Kucinich to encourage people to vote.

Kucinich is giving speeches throughout the United States promoting voting for the Kerry-Edwards campaign and other Democrats in the upcoming election, political civic activist Marian Beddill said.

"This is the moment that we must decide that we are going to step forward to reclaim our country," Kucinich said. "There are a lot of Americans who are afraid that if they elect a new president, we are going to be unsafe. The truth is the only way we can ever be safe is to get rid of this administration."

SEE **Kucinich**, PAGE 3

Professor wins award for slave-trade book

By Jamie Badilla
The Western Front

Western history professor Alan Gally said he has imagined himself as a historian or writer since age 4, and now he is the winner of a 2004 Washington State Book Award.

His book, "The Indian Slave Trade: The Rise of the English Empire in the American South, 1670-1717," was one of 10 recipients of the award.

Gally also received the 2003 Bancroft award, the most prestigious award for American historians.

Gally said he wanted to reveal the role the Indian slave trade played in the establishment of the United States by providing financial assistance to the African slave trade.

"It's one of the more important revisions of how we understand the origins of American slavery in the last generation of American historians," Western history

department Chairman Christopher Friday said.

After conducting research for 12 years prior to the completion of his book, Gally said he learned to take pleasure in every small achievement. He said he sees writing as a means of personal communication with others.

"The greatest reward is getting read because you feel like people are engaging

SEE **Gally**, PAGE 3

Transit initiative may increase tuition

By Timory Wilson
The Western Front

The Transit Fee Initiative Steering Committee, a group assessing the transit fee initiative, is making changes to a proposal that would give students alternative modes of transportation and increased bus service next fall quarter.

"The initiative is working towards making other forms of transportation more available and accessible for students going to and from campus," said Mark Hamilton, a Western senior and member of the committee.

The committee is proposing a transit fee initiative that will give students a quarterly Viking Xpress bus pass, provide frequent bus routes in areas the Whatcom Transportation Authority is not servicing often and will make available a nighttime shuttle for Western students, said Seth Christian, a Western

senior and member of the committee.

Associated Students President Rachel Zommick said the transit fee is a suggestion right now and the AS board of directors will not make any official decisions about the proposal until the committee submits it to them.

The transit fee would cost students \$20 to \$30 a quarter and would be included in tuition, but that is subject to change depending on how much it will cost for a nighttime shuttle and additional bus service, Christian said.

"We want to make this an affordable program that students can get a lot out of for their money," Christian said. "Driving a car is \$4,000 a year on average because of gas, maintenance and repairs. That is \$4,000 you could spend your money on elsewhere. It is money in your pocket."

SEE **Initiative**, PAGE 4



Chris Taylor/The Western Front

Western students exit a bus at the Lincoln Creek Park and Ride. Alternative transportation may be more readily available for students if the Associated Students Board of Directors approves a transit fee initiative.

COPS BOX

University Police

Oct. 18, 2:26 a.m.: UP responded to a report of an incident between roommates in Highland Hall.

Oct. 17 11:11 p.m.: UP officers escorted a woman who was not feeling well outside of Parking Lot 16 to her dorm.

Oct. 17, 3:00 p.m.: UP responded to a faint, ammonia-like odor from a Viking Union mechanical closet.

Oct. 17, 12:55 a.m.: UP arrested an 18-year-old woman from Buchanan Towers in connection with a liquor-law violation. Officers cited her with a minor-in-possession.

Bellingham Police

Oct. 18, 11:40 a.m.: A woman reported a forgery on a check that was stolen from her car parked on the 100 block of South Samish Way.

Oct. 18, 9:48 a.m.: Police received a report that residents on the 500 block of Sterling Drive were having trouble with a guest.

Oct. 17, 8:00 a.m.: Police received three reports of damaged mailboxes on the 2300 block of Woburn Street in less than an hour. They listed the offenses as hate crimes.

Oct. 17, 2:15 a.m.: A woman reported that she had loaned her car to a designated driver for the night and he left with the car, stranding her. Officers later recovered the car and impounded it for safekeeping.

Oct. 16, 12:40 p.m.: Officers received a report of stolen political signs on the 2800 block of Humboldt Street.

Compiled by Elizabeth Adamack.

Viking Voices

“Would you support a mandatory fee that would provide all students with a Viking XPress bus pass?”

Compiled by Mari Bergstrom.



Jason Walter
Senior, economics

“I don't think it should be a mandatory fee because there are too many fees already — even though I do ride the bus.”



Michelle Callihan
Senior, business

“I think that would be bad for people who live on campus and don't ride the bus.”



Lisa Timmerman
Senior, environmental policy

“Yes, I think it's a great idea to support public transportation because it encourages more students to use the bus system.”

AP Wire

news briefs

STATE NEWS

Boy, 13, charged with posting child porn on Internet

Police charged a 13-year-old Lacey boy under suspicion of posting pictures of himself on the Internet with possessing and dealing in child pornography.

Thurston County deputy prosecutor John Skinder said the boy was charged Friday with possessing and dealing in depictions of a minor engaged in explicit behavior.

He was released to his parents while the case is pending. If convicted, he faces a maximum of 60 days in juvenile detention.

Initiative would bar shipments of nuclear waste to Hanford

An initiative on the state's election ballot could change how the federal government disposes of nuclear waste.

Initiative 297 would bar the U.S. Department of Energy from shipping some nuclear waste to the Hanford Site until all the existing waste is cleaned up.

The DOE, which has not taken a position on the initiative, plans to ship roughly 5,800 truckloads of low-level waste to the site in southeast Washington.

Opponents say it could backfire and lead to other states banning waste that the DOE plans to ship from Hanford.

Hanford already is home to 53 million gallons of highly radioactive waste in 177 underground tanks. The DOE aims to re-bury much of that waste in a nuclear waste repository in Nevada.

NATIONAL NEWS

Hillary Clinton criticizes Bush administration on flu-shot crisis

Sen. Hillary Clinton, D-N.Y., says that when it comes to the flu

vaccine, the Bush administration has its priorities wrong.

Clinton said at a senior center in New York that the administration is spending approximately \$5.6 billion dollars to create an anthrax vaccine instead of the few hundred million dollars to create an adequate supply of flu shots.

She said the severe vaccine-shortage crisis should be a “big wake-up call.”

Reagan daughter sues Salvation Army for canceling speech

Patti Davis, daughter of the late President Ronald Reagan, is suing the Salvation Army, saying the religious charity canceled her speech planned for one of its events because she supports stem-cell research.

Her lawyer said Davis was scheduled to speak in Santa Rosa, Calif., next month for a fee of \$15,000, but that the group canceled and would pay neither

the speaking fee nor a \$75,000 cancellation fee.

A spokesman for the Salvation Army said he had not seen the lawsuit and could not comment.

INTERNATIONAL NEWS

Fresh violence mars Afghan vote count

A deadly explosive hit a car in southeastern Afghanistan on Monday, the fourth day of vote counting in the country's first presidential election.

In all, five people died, including an election worker identified as a physician who helped organize the vote.

The vehicle belonged to the joint U.N.-Afghan electoral commission. A police chief said the car hit a land mine Taliban militants had put there.

Compiled by Michael Murray. AP Wire courtesy KUGS 89.3-FM.

The moon never sets on Railroad Avenue.

www.westernfrontonline.com

The Western Front is published twice weekly in fall, winter and spring; once a week in summer session. Address: The Western Front, Western Washington University, CF 251, Bellingham, WA 98225. The Western Front is the official newspaper of Western Washington University, published by the Student Publications Council, and is mainly supported by advertising.

Opinions and stories in the newspaper have no connection with advertising. News content is determined by student editors. Staff reporters are enrolled in a course in the Department of Journalism, but any student enrolled at Western may offer stories to the editors.

Advertising inquiries should be directed to the business office in 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

Deadline for announcements in this space is noon Friday for the Tuesday edition and noon Wednesday for the Friday edition. Announcements should be limited to 50 words, typewritten or legibly printed. Announcements may be sent to FAST@wwu.edu — in the subject line include a one-word topic and clearly mark that the item is for Official Announcements. Items also may be sent to “Official Announcements,” MS 9112, faxed to X 4343, or brought to Commissary 13F. DO NOT SEND ANNOUNCEMENTS DIRECTLY TO THE WESTERN FRONT. Phoned announcements will not be accepted. All announcements should be signed by the originator.

FOR CURRENT TESTING SCHEDULES, check www.ac.wwu.edu/~assess/tc.htm.

MATH PLACEMENT TEST (MPT). 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. Allow 90 minutes. Testing: 3 p.m. Mondays, Oct. 25; Nov. 1, 8, 15, 22, 29, Dec. 6; 9 a.m. Thursdays, Oct. 21, 28, Nov. 4, 18; Dec. 2, 9.

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

MILLER ANALOGIES TEST (MAT). The computer-based MAT is available by appointment only. The Testing Center, OM 120, reserves one computer at 3 p.m. Tuesday-Friday for the MAT. Make appointments in OM 120 or by calling X/3080. A \$42 fee is payable at test time. The test takes about 1½ hours, with preliminary scores available immediately. Official results will be mailed within 15 days.

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

WEST-B TEST. Anyone applying 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 for description and registration information. Test dates are Nov. 13, Jan. 22, March 12, May 14, and July 9.

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 (the Washington Educator Skills Test—Endorsement, beginning Sept. 1, 2005. See www.ets.org/praxis/prxwa.html for description and online registration information. Registration bulletins are available in MH 216. Test dates: Nov. 20, Jan. 8, March 5, April 16, and June 11. The June 11 test will not be at Western, check the Praxis Web site for the location.

RELAXATION TRAINING DROP-IN SESSIONS are scheduled for 4 p.m. Thursdays in OM 540. Stop by OM 540 or call X/3164 to register for the following groups: “Making Peace with Food,” “Riding the Emotional Wave,” “Art and Self-Exploration,” and “Math Confidence Workshop.”

READMISSION PROCEDURE: Students who interrupt their 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 have followed the application instructions and apply by the priority deadline (summer, continuing into fall quarter-April 1; fall quarter-April 1; winter quarter-Oct. 15; spring quarter-Jan. 15). Readmission for post baccalaureate students is more stringent. Applications are available from the Office of Admissions, Old Main 200, x3440. **UNDERGRADUATE FORMER STUDENTS RETURNING:** Winter, 2005 priority deadline has been extended to Nov. 1. Space for late applicants is very limited and will be reviewed on a space available basis. Late FSR applications should include a written explanation.

INTERNSHIP, SERVICE LEARNING, AND VOLUNTEER FAIR, Oct. 26, 2-4 p.m., VU Multipurpose Room - Explore internship and volunteer opportunities offered by 50+ social service organizations. Sponsored by: Career Services Center, Woodring Human Services Program. x7759 for more info.

INTERESTED IN STUDYING IN AUSTRALIA AND NEW ZEALAND? Australlearn, the Australia and New Zealand study abroad specialists will have information tables and sessions about study abroad and internship opportunities. Info Table: Oct. 19, 9 a.m.-2 p.m. in the VU Lobby; Info Session: Oct. 19, 3-4 p.m. in the IPE Office (Modular L7, next to Outdoor Sculpture, Stadium Piece).

THE RECREATION PROGRAM APPLICATION DEADLINE IS FRIDAY, NOV. 19, 2004. Application materials and a pre-scheduled faculty interview must be completed by that date. For more information, stop by the Recreation Program Office in Old Carver or call x3782.

INTERESTED IN STUDYING ABROAD? The International Programs and Exchanges office will have an information table on Wednesday, October 20 from 12:30-2 p.m. in the Viking Union Lobby. Please come to hear about the world of opportunities available to you!

On-campus recruiting

For complete updates, including deadlines, see www.career.wwu.edu or stop by OM 280. Dates listed here are interview dates. Oct. 19; Central California Regional Teacher Recruiting Center — math, science, and special education teachers, Oct. 19-20; Progressive Insurance, claims representative trainees, Oct. 20.

Kucinich: The Bush administration is sacrificing retirement stability

Continued from Page 1

Kucinich said the Bush administration was wrong to take the United States into the war in Iraq and it put the nation, tax dollars, young men and women, and world at risk.

"It is time that we stop the risk. It is time that we regained our country. It is time that we re-establish peace," Kucinich said. "It is time that we reclaimed our nation."

Kucinich said the Bush administration is hurting workers and their organizations by taking away their abilities to make decent wages, outsourcing their jobs and sacrificing their abilities to have retirement security.

"At the debate, every time Senator Kerry started to talk about jobs, the president shifted the debate to education," Kucinich said. "Now, this is not an exaggeration, but we need to change the occupation of the person who is heading our nation."

Kucinich said the administration created a bill that eliminated price control so the drug companies can charge Medicare as high a price as they want for prescription drugs.

"John Kerry is the only one in this election who is talking about changing the nature of health insurance so that everyone has the chance for coverage," Kucinich said.

Kucinich visited Western last week for a private meeting with students and said the first thing he felt was energy when he walked into the meeting.

"There is energy with them and in this community, which really in a way puts you at a level that is a little bit different than even



Lauren Miller/The Western Front

Kucinich (right) speaks as Larsen applauds. Kucinich praised Democratic presidential candidate John Kerry and accused the Bush administration of hurting workers' rights.

the rest of the state," Kucinich said. "You have the ability to create the right everywhere to get people involved. That serves people's passion that moves their hearts. That causes them to see that this is the time, this is the moment to regain this country. We are ready."

Larry Kalb, the second congressional district campaign field organizer, said Kucinich tells people that at a young age they can become involved in city politics.

Young people can change the world to what they would like it to be, Kalb said.

Western freshman Riley Sweeney said he attended the forum because he was a delegate for Kucinich in Olympia during the Democratic primary.

"Kucinich encouraged people to go out and do whatever they can to help get people to vote," Sweeney said. "It doesn't take much to change someone's mind."

Gallay: Award will help funding for his project

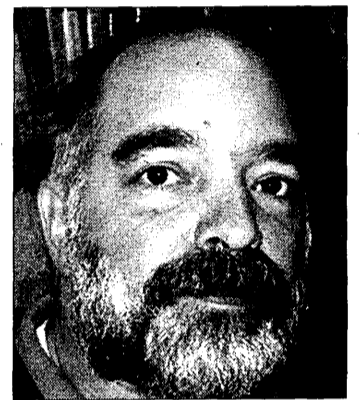
Continued from Page 1

your mind," Gallay said.

Gallay received a \$40,000 Faculty Research Award from the National Endowment for the Humanities for 2004-2005, which will help him fund his research project on the biography of the British courtier, navigator, colonizer and writer Sir Walter Raleigh.

Gallay is working on a novel on American Indians during the late 17th century.

At 7 p.m. on Oct. 27, the Seattle Public Library will house a free public ceremony to honor Gallay and the other nine recipients of the 2004 Washington State Book Award. A reception and book signing will follow.



Alan Gallay.

Visit The Western Front online. www.westernfrontonline.com



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Initiative: Transit fee could include bike-rack covers

Continued from Page 1

The nighttime shuttle would increase safety to and from campus for people living within two miles of Western, and students who feel isolated living on campus could take the shuttle to other areas in Bellingham, Hamilton said.

Students and faculty members can use the Viking Xpress bus pass as a parking permit in some areas on campus during specified times, and more than 100 local businesses offer discounts to people with bus passes, Hamilton said.

The proposal is not promoting more people to drive by themselves by building more parking spaces, Hamilton said, but instead offering incentives to use alternative transportation.

"The transit fee proposal is creating benefits for as many people as it can in different ways," Hamilton said.

He said the committee also would like the transit fee to include building additional lighting on campus and possibly add a covered area for bike racks.

Tony Russo, AS vice president for business and operations,

said he and Alanna Ahern, AS vice president for campus and community affairs, are active participants in the committee and are working with the committee to develop the proposal and make it beneficial to students.

The transit fee proposal is still

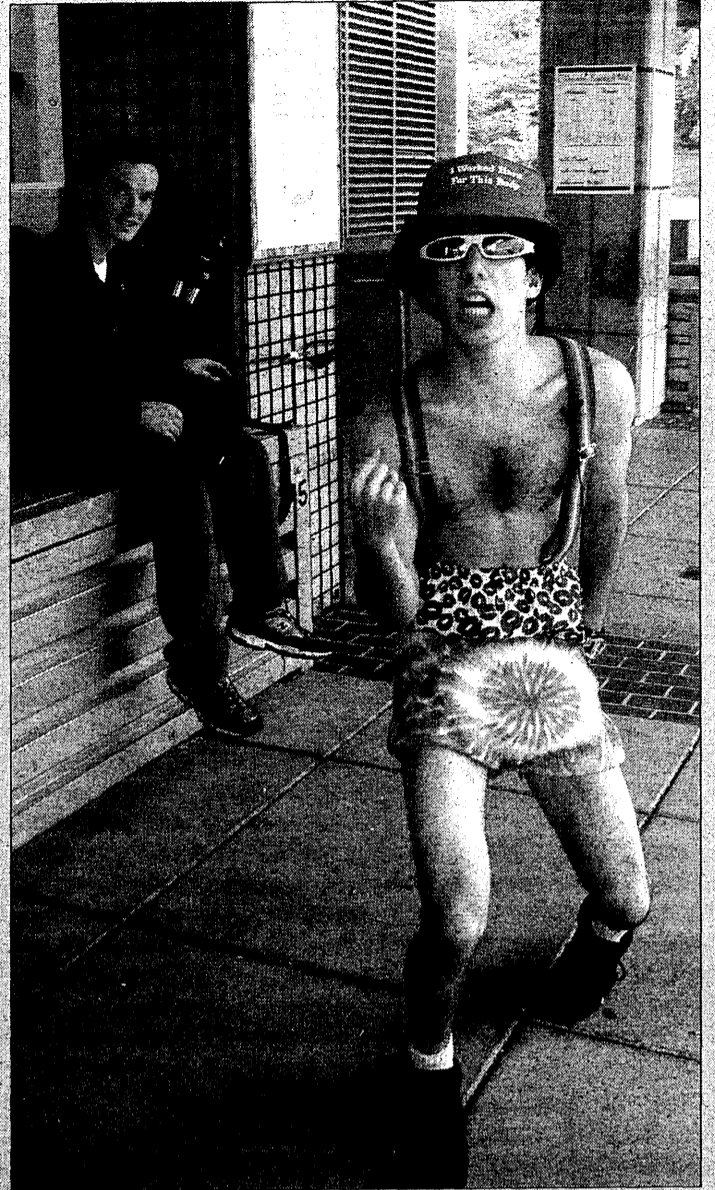
in its preliminary stages, but Christian said the committee hopes to get the AS board's approval by the end of fall quarter. Then, it needs 600 signatures from students supporting the proposal before the initiative can be voted on in the spring, he said.



Chris Taylor/The Western Front

A Western student boards a bus at Buchanan Towers. The transit fee proposal is encouraging students to use shuttle buses by offering incentives for those who use alternative transportation.

Beat-droppin' Barry



Byron Sherry/The Western Front

Jacob Caggiano, a Western sophomore and writer/performer for the television program "Western Live," performs as his character, "Beat-droppin' Barry," Friday outside the Viking Union. Kenny Davis, a Western junior and host of Western Live, said the show is part of KVIK, a student-operated television production organization and Associated Students program. Davis said the show is taped live at 6 p.m. every Sunday in the Viking Union Multipurpose room and features a mixture of live and taped segments. "The pre-taped stuff where the more innovative stuff is able to occur," he said. The show airs at 11 p.m. Thursday through Saturday on Channel 10.

Western Fees

Resident undergraduate students pay the following fees:

- Student Building Fee: \$15.00
- Health Services Fee: \$15.00
- Recreation Center Fee: \$85.00
- Technology Fee: \$15.00
- Proposed Transit Fee: \$0.00 - \$30.00

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-- Gina Bottoms

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Senate: Both candidates focus on importance of local economy and environmental issues

Continued from Page 1

very good chance that if you need to get medical care, you will not be able to find it," Baron said.

The medical malpractice system does not protect doctors from the high costs of malpractice insurance, Baron said.

"We have what I consider a crisis in that we are losing our doctors," Baron said.

Another issue that deserves attention is job security, such as workers compensation, regulatory agencies and unemployment

insurance, Baron said.

"It would be nice that a student could have the confidence of securing a job when they graduate," Baron said.

Western students need to take part in the local issues that directly affect them and their community, said Western senior Micha LaNasa, who works on Baron's campaign.

"When I graduate, this will become my community," LaNasa said. "I want to have a job available to me in a good community, so that the decisions I make now will

determine what Bellingham has to offer."

Spanel has been a Washington resident since 1964 and has been the Democratic Senate chair for six years. Her late husband, Les Spanel, was the former chair of Western's physics department.

Spanel's campaign issues focus on health care, education, transportation, conservation and environmentalism.

"Children, elderly and women are the people that lack health insurance and need it the most,"

Spanel said.

Increasing the availability of health care for residents by securing their insurance eligibility, condensing health-care programs and requiring small businesses to contribute to the cost of their employees' health-care costs are some ways of solving the issue, Spanel said.

Spanel's plans for improving transportation include, improving the ferry system and highways, as well as including other alternatives such as trains and more buses.

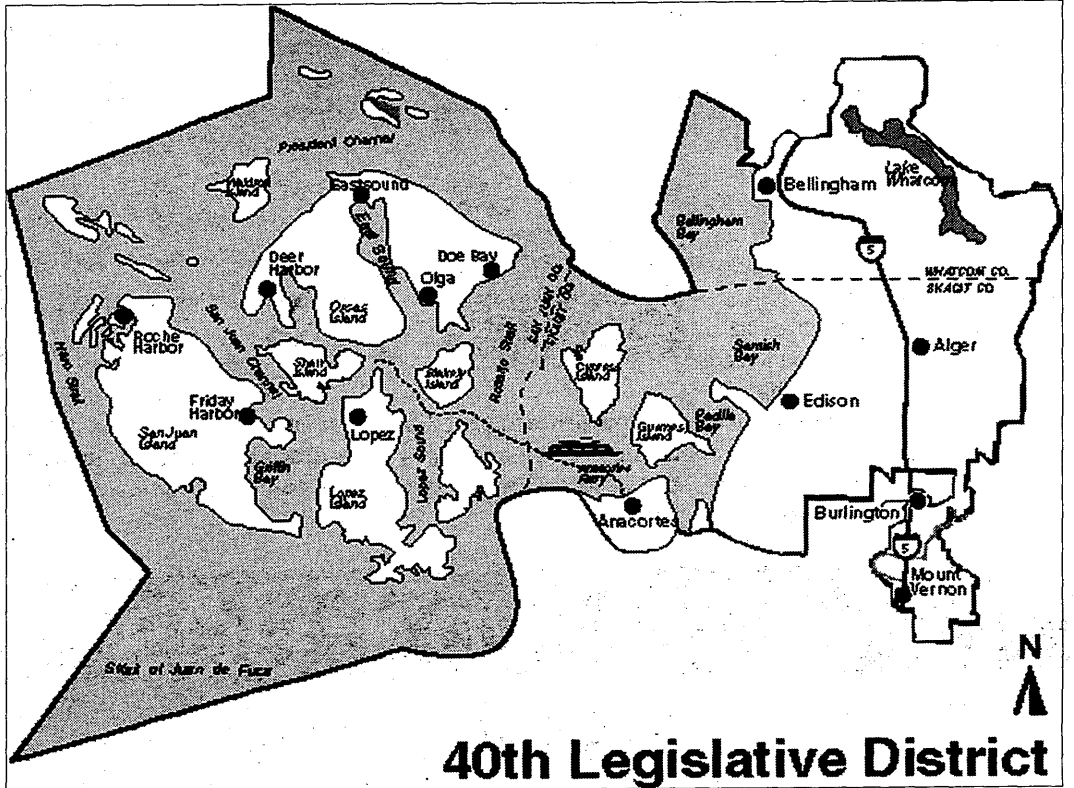
Spanel said she participated in the development of the Lake Whatcom Watershed Management Plan, instigated pipeline safety legislation in Whatcom County and worked toward the expansion of Bellingham parks and reserves.

Spanel said keeping local water and air clean is crucial to maintaining a strong community.

"The preservation, of our natural resources, is important," Spanel said. "We use only what we need and save the rest for future generations."



Lauren Hardin/The Western Front
State Senator Harriet Spanel adjusts the campaign sign Monday in front of her residence.



40th Legislative District

Map courtesy of the Washington State Legislature

Restaurant and Bar Staff:

(Some special events are not included in this offer.)

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Monday - Open Mic
Wednesday - Karaoke

Live Music Schedule

Wednesday, October 20 No Talent - No Problem... You're The Show!

Rock Karaoke

Thursday, October 21 Hosted by Marvin J.

Hammond Night

Friday, October 22 80s Retro Hits

The Retros

Saturday, October 23 Dance Hits of the 80s

Rocket Science

Thursday, October 28 College Rock

David John

Friday, October 29 Female AC/DC Tribute

Hell's Belles

Saturday, October 30 and

HALLOWEEN NIGHT

The Afrodesiacs

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\$3. You-Call-Its 6-11pm

Thursday \$1.00 Wells From 10-11pm
\$2.50 Long Island Iced Teas From 9-10pm
DJ Izzy B & DJ Bam Bam 9-10pm

50¢ Wells

Friday \$3.00 You-Call-It from 6pm to midnight

No Cover Nite DJ Bam Bam

Saturday \$2.50 Long Island Iced Teas from 9-10pm

\$1.00 Wells DJ Mikey Carter 9-10pm

Friday, October 29 Pimp & Ho Party

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Saturday, October 30 Costume Contest

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In Cash Prizes

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To Western, from abroad

Exchange students adjust to American processes, culture

By Stefani Harrey
The Western Front

International exchange student Dora Henger has been at Western for four weeks. Henger, who is from Hungary, said she needed a lot of help adjusting to the United States when she first arrived.

The Internet helped for banking, she said, but she has also been asking a lot of questions. When it comes to sending mail back to Hungary, Henger said the process in the United States is confusing.

"(Adjusting) has been OK," Henger said. "Everyone is really nice and friendly."

Henger said she will only stay for fall quarter. She is in her fourth of five years of study in Hungary and came to Western as part of her industrial design program.

For the most part, international students are finding their way at Western, International Programs adviser Richard Bruce said.

One of the adjustment issues international students seem to have is with the U.S. postal system and it is costing them money, said Ruth Koning, a campus post-office station operator.

"We usually work pretty well with (international

students) to explain things if they ask," said Debbie Lindquist, a part-time employee in the campus post office.

Many countries have a different postage system than that of the United States, Lindquist said. In other countries, such as Japan, letters are addressed with the delivery address in the upper left corner and the return address in the center of the envelope, she said.

When the mail is addressed incorrectly, the international students get their mail returned to them, and then they have to pay to resend the letter after they address it correctly, Koning said.

Koning said most problems occur with postcards but occasionally with letters and packages. She also said post-office employees try to pay more attention when an international student comes in so they can be sure the mail is addressed correctly and save the student time and money.

"A lot of times, we can catch it before they send it," Koning said.

Koning said she has created a template to make things easier for international students. The template she uses right now is in the Roman alphabet and Japanese characters called Kanji, as well as in English, Koning said.

Bruce said some other issues international students face when first arriving in the United States is opening bank accounts, obtaining cell phones and buying American food.

Henger said she needed a lot of help when she first got here. She does not have a car so exploring



Stefani Harrey/The Western Front

Western sophomore Elise LaFleur gets help from senior Jessica Milos to mail a package at the campus post office. Many international students address mail incorrectly because several foreign countries have a different postage system.

SEE Exchange, PAGE 8

Parks and Recreation may cut back outdoor-program funding

By Timory Wilson
The Western Front

Whatcom County Parks and Recreation may increase the prices of its outdoor programs and limit the amount of multiple-day excursions offered in the upcoming year. But the addition of half-day programs should attract Western students, said Michael McFarlane, director of Whatcom County Parks and Recreation.

"Two things are changing," McFarlane said. "We have to increase the number of users on programs and reduce the amount of subsidies on programs."

The department could reduce the number of multiple-day outdoor programs and adding shorter programs to involve the general

public, said Dan Taylor, Whatcom County Parks and Recreation commission chairman.

During the next few weeks, however, the department will calculate price increases for all outdoor programs for next year because of staff limitations and reduced subsidies, Taylor said.

Rob Bunnett, the Whatcom County Senior Center's manager, said the main reason for the price increase on multiple-day programs, such as overnight kayaking trips, is the department's need to break even. It needs to fully recover the costs for outdoor programs, which the county will not pay for through subsidies, Bunnett said.

Another reason prices may increase is because the department will hire private contractors to lead

multiple-day excursions instead of staff leaders, Taylor said.

Taylor said the department will redirect 50 percent of its employees to providing staff at Semiahmoo Park, Bay Horizon and other northern parks, which will result in fewer staff available to lead outdoor programs.

The price of the programs depends on what is involved in the outdoor event. For example, a one-day kayak trip costs \$48, compared to an overnight kayak trip to Cypress Island, which costs \$140, said Carl Prince, the outdoor program

coordinator for Whatcom County Parks and Recreation.

The department also will add shorter, more educational half-day programs such as natural-history hikes and bird walks, McFarlane said.

"Two things are changing. We have to increase the number of users on programs and reduce the amount of subsidies on programs."

Michael McFarlane
Whatcom County Parks and Recreation director

"College students might also enjoy the new half-day programs because they will take up less time," Taylor said.

Students who are not from this area may want to participate in the introductory programs to learn how to snowshoe or cross-country ski, Taylor said.

Kristin Haas, a Western senior and excursions and instructions co-coordinator for the Outdoor Center, said changes to the county's Parks and Recreation outdoor programs should not increase the community's usage of the Outdoor Center.

The Outdoor Center does not advertise to the general public, and the programs are \$5 to \$30 more expensive for community members to participate in than Western students, said Joel Todd, a Western senior and equipment shop coordinator for the Outdoor Center.

If the Whatcom County Council accepts the changes to the department's outdoor programs, the changes will take effect in January, Taylor said.

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Congressional candidates tackle state's rising tuition in forum

By Elana Bean
The Western Front

State congressional candidates addressed local issues, including tuition costs, in a senatorial forum Monday at Whatcom Community College.

Six candidates answered students' questions, which a moderator delivered.

Issues affecting Washington were the focus of the forum. The candidates discussed the traffic problem on the Guide Meridian, the importance of economic stimulation, creating jobs in Washington and the rising costs of tuition.

"There's not a lot of jobs you can get with just a high-school education," said Kelli Linville, who is an incumbent Democratic state representative for the 42nd district.

Linville said affordable and quality education should be available to everyone.

"We have to keep focused on the middle class that doesn't qualify for financial aid but can't pay for college outright," said Republican Rep. Doug Ericksen, who also is running for re-election in the 42nd district.

Linville said the best financial-aid program is still low tuition.

To increase funding for schools and universities, the economy needs stimulation, Washington State Senate Republican candidate Gerald Baron said.

The candidates explained in their final statement why college students should care about each candidate.

"I think that it is really important for all of us to be clear about who you vote for," said Robin Bailey, a Democratic candidate for Ericksen's state representative position in the 42nd district.

Democratic state Sen. Harriet Spanel highlighted her work on local issues, including health care and the environment.



Elana Bean/The Western Front

State Rep. Doug Ericksen and opponent Robin Bailey participate in the senatorial forum Monday at Whatcom Community College.

"I have worked on many of the issues that are important to you," said Spanel, who is running for re-election.

Ericksen spoke about creating a better life for the next generation of Washingtonians.

"We can find a balance between our environment and job opportunities," Ericksen said.

Students had a chance to see the candidates speak in a relaxed situation.

"This is a good chance for people

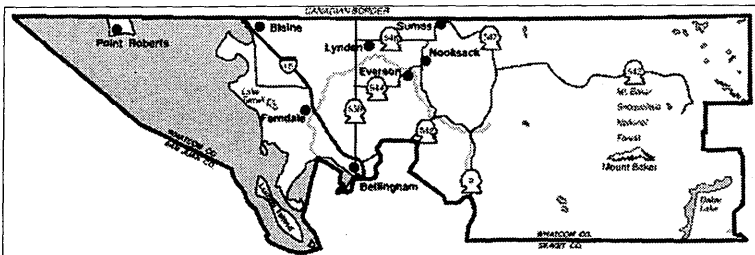
to get to know the candidates," said Wes Brown, a student representative of the Associated Students of Whatcom Community College. "It's more of a personal interaction."

John Hoberlin, a Republican running for state representative in the 42nd district, did not attend the forum because he is recovering from triple coronary bypass surgery after he suffered a heart attack. His campaign manager Matt Cole represented him at the forum and

said he expects Hoberlin to have a full recovery.

"I'm glad I came. It was just enough to see what basic issues the candidates stood for," said Elizabeth Tipperey, a Whatcom student who attended the forum. "It inspired me to do some research of my own."

The forum was at the Syre Student Center auditorium on Whatcom's campus. Another congressional forum will occur at 1 p.m. Oct. 26



Courtesy of the Washington State Legislature

42nd Legislative District

GETTING OUT

FEEL THE DOOR HANDLE

- If the handle is hot, don't open it.
- Go to a window and call for help.
- If the handle is NOT hot, open cautiously.
- Check for smoke or fire before going out

GET OUT OF THE BUILDING

BEFORE PHONING FOR HELP

- Don't take time to phone before leaving.
- Get out and find a phone.

PULL THE FIRE ALARM ON YOUR WAY OUT

DON'T LOOK FOR OTHER PEOPLE OR GATHER STUFF

- Knock on doors as you leave
- Yell "FIRE" as you leave
- Don't hesitate or stray from your path.

CRAWL LOW TO THE FLOOR

- Thick smoke can make it impossible to see
- Toxic chemicals in smoke can be deadly in minutes

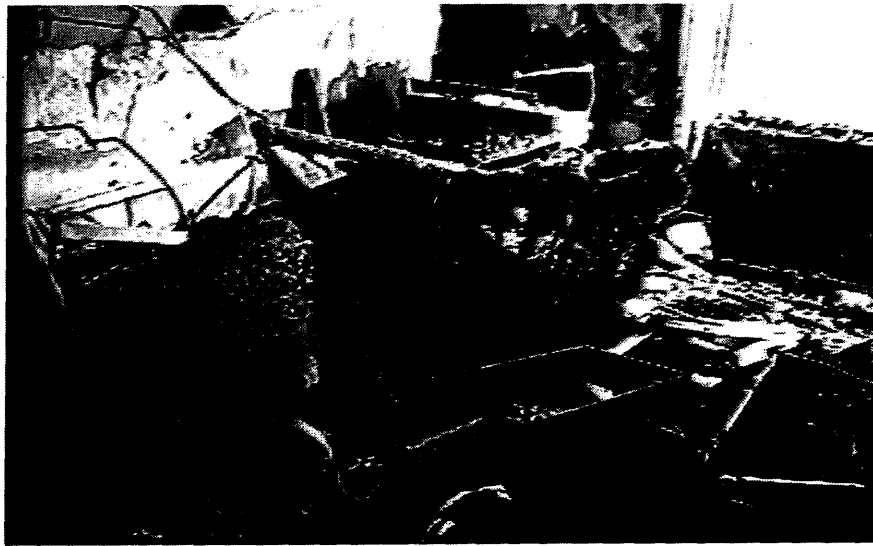
CLOSE THE DOOR BEHIND YOU

- Keep the fire from spreading.
- Protect your possessions from fire and smoke damage.

GET SOMEONE'S ATTENTION

- **YELL and SCREAM!**
- Hang a sheet from a window.
- Stay low. There is less smoke and toxic gas close to the floor.
- **WAIT**, never panic or jump.

Fire Safety for Your Life



This is a resident's room in Mathes Hall after the November 1997 fire. NO ONE was injured. EVERYONE got out immediately. Learn what to do. Save your own life!

FIRE

- 1) Notify persons in the area
- 2) Evacuate the building.
- 3) Pull the nearest fire alarm or call 911 from a safe place.
- 4) Use a fire extinguisher, if trained.
- 5) Close doors and windows,
- 6) Assemble in a safe place.
- 7) Meet and inform responders.
- 8) Provide assistance.

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University Police 3911
CASAS 650-3700

(Confidential support following sexual assault or other violent crime)
Chemical Emergency 650-3064

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- Take responsibility for protecting your life.
- Take trash outside.
- Never overload electrical outlets.
- Use power strips plugged directly into outlets.
- Keep space heaters and halogen lamps AWAY from flammables - clothing or paper.
- Put out candles when unattended (**NOT** allowed in residence halls).
- Put out incense when unattended.
- Extinguish smoking materials.
- NEVER smoke in bed or if tired.

CHECK SMOKE ALARMS

- In off-campus housing, install new batteries every quarter.
- In residence halls, smoke alarms don't need batteries.

PLAN ESCAPE ROUTES

- Know where all exits are located in your building - KNOW 2 EXITS from where you sleep.
- Practice your plan.
- Tell your roommates about your plan.

Students can register for carpools online

By Cara Shaw
The Western Front

Western freshman Ardith Feroglia scrambled to find a ride home to Wenatchee for the weekend last year. A three-to four-hour drive was impossible for her without a car. Buses and trains were too expensive and did not fit with her schedule. In desperation, Feroglia turned to another source.

Fortunately for students such as Feroglia, the Viking Union and Student Activities has created the Rider/Driver Board, a Web site in which students can seek a ride or offer one in order to save gas money.

Unfortunately for those same students, however, the service has only 14 registered users.

"I think there are people out there who could benefit from this service — they just don't know about it," Western freshman Becky Engley said.

Students can benefit from this program by finding a ride or sharing the cost of driving with a passenger, but a ride-matching service is only as useful as the number of people who log onto it, Western alternative transportation coordinator Carol Berry said.

"Any ride-matching service is dependent on the registering of rides available, not just rides needed," Berry said.

Because of the absence of registered users, Feroglia was stuck without a ride. She said she found a ride just in time to visit her home for the weekend.

Engley, a Vancouver, Wash., resident who does not have a car, said she had never heard about the Rider/Driver Board but would consider using the service if she could not find a ride home with one of her friends.

According to the board Web site, students have posted only nine announcements asking for rides since the Associated Students created the site last year. Also according to the Web site, the most students that have ever been on the Web site at one time is three, which occurred on March 31.

Western freshman Amy Gibson said she believes that students are not taking advantage of the board because they do not know it exists.

Gibson said she also thought the idea of riding home with a complete stranger would deter some people from using the service.

"People would rather ride with their friends than strangers," Gibson said.

Besides long journeys home, the board also can serve students who need shorter rides.

"It could be helpful in locating carpool partners for daily rides as well as longer trip-share rides," Berry said.

Rider/Driver Board

www.as.wvu.edu/forum/index.php

Business professor receives first college teaching fellowship award

By Kara Johnson
The Western Front

Western professor Peter Haug became the first person to be named the College of Business and Economics' Distinguished Teaching Fellow this past February at Western. The college honored him Oct. 15 at a Teaching Scholarship Day luncheon.

Haug, a professor of manufacturing management in the department of decision sciences, gave a speech on his "Five Pillars of Teaching Operations." He said the five pillars are passion, preparation, process, publications and people.

The college nominated Haug for the award in a collegewide meeting in February, but he received the award in a Friday presentation.



Courtesy of the Distinguished Teaching Fellowship Professor Peter Haug.

To be eligible for the award, Haug had to be tenured, as well as nominated by a student, faculty or staff member.

Haug has numerous academic accomplishments, including teaching and studying in China, Scotland and Iceland, but he is best known for his hard work and dedication, said Joseph Garcia, Haug's colleague and coordinator of the Teaching Scholarship Day.

"(Haug) works hard and has high standards for himself and others," Garcia said. "He is passionate and interested in people. He has innovative ideas with staying power. Most of all, he is tireless."

Garcia said Haug is not only a great resource for faculty but also for students.

"Peter goes to bat for students — he has them as his utmost priority, and he looks at them as not only students but as

future professionals," Garcia said. Assistant professor of decision sciences Chris Sandvig, who nominated Haug for the Distinguished Teaching Fellowship, agreed with Garcia, saying that Western reaps the benefits of Haug's work, but the biggest beneficiaries are the students.

Haug created the Manufacturing and Supply Chain Management Program, which was the main reason Sandvig nominated him. Students can earn a Bachelor of Science with the program and participate in internships, which are the foundation of the program.

"I have tremendous respect for him as a person," Sandvig said. "He created a program that gives students a wonderful education and that receives a tremendous amount of industry input and support."

Haug said he felt honored to be named the first Distinguished Teaching Fellow, an award that lasts for three years.

"I strive to be a professor who demonstrates and inspires," he said. "But I am the first to admit that I constantly seek ways to achieve the status of an inspirational teacher."

Exchange: Foreign students find Bellingham a good transition

Continued from Page 6

Bellingham for necessities like groceries has been difficult.

Western has three different programs for international students each year, Bruce said. He said international students come with varying degrees of knowledge about American culture and the English language.

The international exchange students come to Western either for a quarter or sometimes to earn a degree. Many of these students have transferred from community colleges but still have some of the same transition issues that students face when coming from places outside the United States, Bruce said.

Western senior Quoc Pham is an international student from France and started at Western in fall 2001. He said the transition to the United States was difficult because he came from Paris to Bellevue, which he said felt boring. He

also said that without a car and friends, he felt depressed.

Pham said he transferred to Western as a junior. He said he has a few family members in the area to help him with some of the cultural differences like banking, cell phones and mail but being in the area for a few years before coming to Western made it much easier.

"When I first got to Western, the transition was a lot easier because Bellingham is a small community," Pham said. "It's supportive and easier to connect with people."

International students know that moving to the United States will be difficult, but they work with the International Programs advisers to get

help, Bruce said.

Henger said her classes are busier, the scenery is different and women's fashions are different, but most of all, the smells and tastes of the United States are different, even the drinking water.

When international students arrive in the United States, they are only allowed to bring so much on the plane with them, Henger said. They buy most necessities once they are here.

Henger and Pham said the biggest help so far has been the supportive people they have met here.

"It's interesting to see how easy it is to adjust," Pham said. "Everyone is very helpful."

'When I first got to Western, the transition was a lot easier because Bellingham is a small community.'

Quoc Pham

Western senior and international student from France

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Features



Strange Days

Georgia man burns home while watching disaster movie

Charles Alton Adams' mobile home erupted into flames after he set it on fire. The Georgia man told police he set his trailer on fire after watching the disaster movie and drinking beer. Adams, 32, walked into the Crisp County Law Enforcement Center early Thursday and told deputies he had burned down the double-wide home. He told deputies that after watching "The Day After Tomorrow," a special-effects extravaganza depicting deadly natural disasters caused by global warming, and drinking nine or 10 beers, he decided to set fire to pillows on his bed.

When asked why, Crisp County Sheriff Donnie Haralson said, "I have asked that question myself... The whole thing just doesn't really make sense."

Haralson said Adams has been charged with arson.

Circus elephants rampage, trample man's yard and ruin hedges

A homeowner in southern Sweden filed a police complaint after four circus elephants

broke loose from their trainers and ran into his backyard, trampling the hedge and the lawn, a police spokesman said Thursday.

Mattias Lindell, 29, said the animals completely ruined his garden, after animal trainers working for German-based Circus Mustang lost control of the elephants when removing them from the vehicles in which they traveled. The circus had put up its tent only a few feet away from Lindell's house outside Helsingborg, on Sweden's southwestern coast, he told The Associated Press.

He filed a police complaint, seeking damages for the destroyed hedge and ruined lawn, which was "just turned into dirt," he said.

It was not the ruined yard, however, that made Lindell angry.

"I have a 3-month-old baby who often sleeps in the garden in a carriage," he said. "If he had been doing that when this happened, things could have been a lot worse."

Would-be bank robber gets laughed at by clerk

A bank robber put a mask on his face, pulled out a gun and demanded money in a bank in Zagreb, Croatia. But when the bank clerk laughed in his face, the would-be robber was so

humiliated he just ran away.

The bungled holdup occurred midday Thursday at a small bank on Zagreb's main square, police said.

The 31-year-old clerk, identified only as Martina S., "laughed aloud" at the threat from the bandit because she knew she was protected by bulletproof glass, police spokeswoman Gordana Vulama said.

After cackling at the thief, she picked up the phone to call police, Vulama said.

Seeing that, the failed robber spun around and fled the scene.

Doctor says woman has sleep-sex disorder

An Australian woman claims she had sex with strangers while she slept and later had no recollection of her encounters because of a sleeping disorder, her Sydney doctor said Thursday.

The middle-aged woman had no idea that she was sneaking from her house at night in search for sex with random strangers until her partner woke, discovered she was missing from the bedroom and found her having sex with another man, said Peter Buchanan, Royal Prince Alfred Hospital sleep disorder physician,

to The Sydney Morning Herald.

Her partner was already aware that she was a sleepwalker and also had been confused by condoms he found strewn around the house, Buchanan said.

Buchanan will discuss the case when he lectures on sleep sex — the disorder has yet to be given a formal title — at the Annual Scientific Meeting of the Australasian Sleep Association in Sydney at the weekend.

"It is very complex, elaborated motor behavior during sleep," Buchanan told Australian Broadcasting Corp. radio Thursday. "People are often stunned and overwhelmed when they're told what they've been doing."

The partners and doctors of people suffering from the disorder often do not believe the acts were committed while they slept, he said.

"It's very stressful both for them, for their partner or for their relationship," Buchanan said. "It also promotes an intense sense of embarrassment on their part, their partner's behalf and this inhibits people coming forward to seek potentially helpful professional intervention."

Compiled by Nick Schmidt.

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Takin' out the trash



By Ruth Wetzel
The Western Front

Less trash is no longer littering the Squalicum Harbor Beach thanks to the Surfrider Foundation. Members of the group organized the first of what will be a routine beach cleanup every two months at Squalicum beach on the morning of Oct. 10.

Surfrider began in the '80s when surfers were getting sick from water pollution and wanted to know why, said Jen Prince, chair of the Northwest Straits Chapter of the Surfrider Foundation. Surfrider originated in California, created by surfers in an effort to stop a California pulp mill from dumping pollution into the surf beach at Humboldt Bay. Surfrider is a nonprofit environmental organization with 37,000 members and 60 chapters internationally, including three in Washington state. The organization celebrated its 20th anniversary on June 17.

Bellingham residents Mike Wheeler and Jodi Mau founded the Northwest Straits Chapter in Bellingham as an Associated Students club in 2000.

Squalicum Harbor Beach is a secluded area where debris from the Nooksack River, garbage blown from boats and remnants of alcoholic-beverage containers tend to collect, cleanup coordinator Nancy Heiser said.

"Everything we do has coastal impacts," said Ian Miller, Washington state field coordinator for Surfrider. "(If you) dump oil on your lawn it will eventually end up in the Gulf of Mexico."

Heiser said a lot of the trash on the beach is hazardous to wildlife. The plastic six-pack rings look like plankton to some animals, and if they ingest it, it can kill them.

Miller said Surfrider began the cleanup process in fall because summer is a prime time of excessive littering on the beach due to high usage. In the winter, beaches collect a lot of debris from heavy winds. The cleanups will be a year-round effort, he said.

The members of Surfrider also have to base the cleanup schedule on when a low tide will be present, Prince said. Prince received a bachelor's degree in biology at Western in 2001 and then moved to California for three years to work with the California State Parks Service, where she heard about the Surfrider Foundation. She moved back to Bellingham this past spring, joined the local Surfrider chapter and is now working on her postbaccalaureate at the Woodring College of Education.

Surfrider also is a partner in the Olympic Coast Cleanup, which Miller said drew 500 people last year. Cleaning beaches from Cape Flattery to Ocean Shores, Miller said the group pulled 15 tons of debris from beaches in 2003. He said it was the most extensive cleanup in Washington state.

Prince said she recalled one memorable cleanup in July in La Push, near Forks, where hundreds of people came to support the cause.

"Everyone was cleaning up with a Surfrider garbage bag in their hands," she said.



Ruth Wetzel/The Western Front

Members of the Northwest Straits chapter of the Surfrider Foundation gather at the beach clean-up at Squalicum Harbor Beach on Oct. 10.

Heiser said the Fourth of July tends to be a garbage-producing event, and by the end of the day, the group had a 25-foot-by-25-foot pile of full garbage bags.

"We had these plastic bags over our shoulders praying that nothing leaked out," Heiser said, recalling another particularly messy cleanup.

"(Cleaning the beach is) a good excuse to go to the beach," Heiser said.

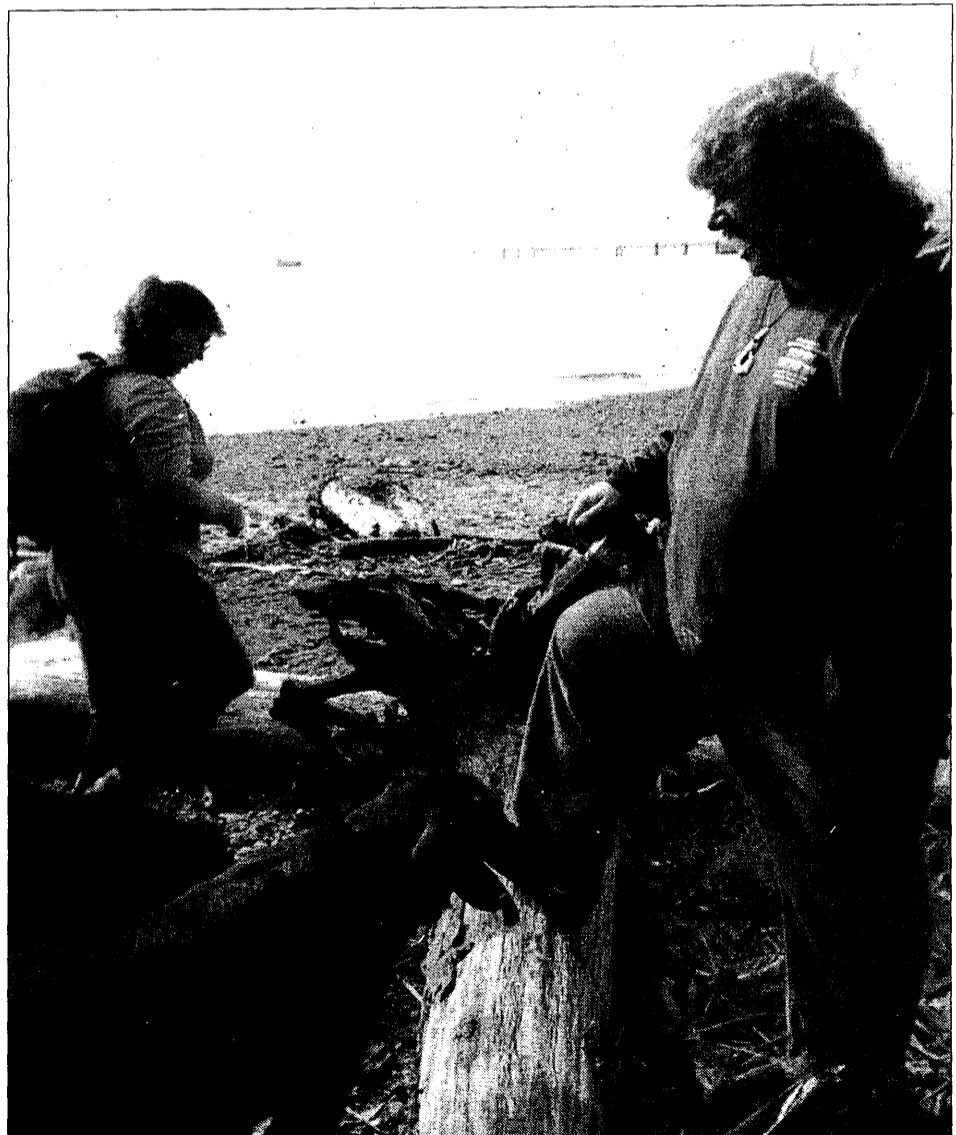
Former Northwest chapter chairman Ryan McElice said people portray Surfrider as a surfing organization, but it is foremost an environmental organization. It attracts surfers because they are directly affected by the environment and have an interest in protecting water quality, he said.

In addition to beach cleanups, the foundation organizes programs from water-quality monitoring to educational programs about the impact to the coast by watershed activities to the community, McElice said.

In February, the local chapter went to Mount Baker and set up a booth to provide information about watersheds. In 25-degree weather, members of the group watched the sun rise over Mount Shuksan as they set up their booth with bare hands. McElice said that it felt strange to be driving east and not west, going toward the mountains instead of the water.

"Surfing? What are you people doing up here?" McElice said, imitating the initial response people had upon seeing the Surfrider booth at Mount Baker.

But even from different locations, people from the mountains and from the coast can share the same love for the environment, McElice said.



Ruth Wetzel/The Western Front

Nancy Heiser, treasurer and beach cleanup coordinator of the Northwest Straits chapter of the Surfrider Foundation and Scott Bullock, member of the Surfrider Foundation, take a break from the clean up on Oct. 10.

TAKING THE LONG PATH THROUGH THE DESERT

Bellingham resident Helen Thayer and her husband traveled on foot 1,500 miles across the Gobi Desert after doctors told her she might never walk again

By Shabnam Mojtahedi
Special to The Western Front

At age 63, few women leave the comfort of their established lives to go on an adventure. Helen Thayer is not the typical woman.

As an adventurer, author, photographer and a woman of many "firsts," Thayer has defied limits and overcome every disadvantage that has come her way.

Her most recent adventure, a trek across the Mongolian Gobi Desert, challenged Thayer with winds of more than 90 mph, near death because of dehydration, temperatures of up to 126 degrees and near imprisonment by border patrol officers.

A year before leaving for Mongolia, Thayer said she was rear-ended by a car traveling at high speeds. Doctors told her that she might live the rest of her life in a wheelchair, but Thayer said she was determined to make it through therapy and accomplish her dream of crossing the entire Gobi Desert on foot.

Thayer and her husband, Bill, said they left for Mongolia in the summer of 2001 and walked approximately a 1,500 mile path across the desert.

Helen Thayer presented her pictures and the story of her adventure Saturday, Oct. 2, at the Whatcom Museum of History and Art, where not enough seating was available for the large audience that gathered to watch Thayer's third presentation at the museum.

Event coordinator Sibyl Sanford, who sponsored the presentation, spoke of Thayer as an inspiration.

"This is the third time I've brought her here, and I just find her so amazing," Sanford said.

Making her way to the podium with a walker, Thayer hardly looked the picture of the first woman to walk alone to the magnetic North Pole, the first woman to walk across the Sahara or the first to trek the entire length of the Gobi Desert.

Equipped with a bright red tent, a turquoise sleeping bag,

supplies and two borrowed camels named Tom and Jerry, Thayer and her husband started across the rocky desert. Thayer said it was the second time they had traveled to Mongolia, so they were already accustomed to the lifestyle and the language.

A few days into the trek, Thayer said they experienced their first scare when black clouds washed over them while lightning illuminated the thundering sky. The wind started blowing so strongly it lifted the Thayers into the air and slammed them back onto the rocky ground. Thayer said they clung to the camels for three hours.

"We were wondering if we were going to live because it was so violent and so dark," Thayer said.

They did not turn around, however, because Thayer said that what she learned from her adventures was to take everything "one step at a time."

"We have to keep knowing that our goal is ahead of us," Thayer said.

Bellingham resident Kristi Coy attended the presentation and said she has seen Thayer speak several times.

"Every time she has new and interesting tales of experiences and insights on the world," Coy said. "They inspire me to try new things and learn about different areas."

Thayer has written three books about her adventures, and she and her husband established the Adventure Classroom program in 1988, she said, to teach children the importance of setting and accomplishing goals, even through adversity.

Thayer said another reason for traveling to remote places of



Shabnam Mojtahedi/ Special to The Western Front
Helen Thayer and her husband, Bill Thayer, greet listeners at the Whatcom Museum on Oct. 2.

the world is to spread awareness and respect for indigenous people and diverse cultures. Her pictures expressed the stories of nomadic Mongolian families and showed her admiration for different people and ways of life.

"The people were definitely the most memorable part of being in Mongolia," Thayer said. "When you travel, you have to do what people do in that country and leave your own customs at home."

Western gives adults a chance to return to fitness

By Nick Schmidt
The Western Front

In 1990, Bob Parker was an employee of Georgia-Pacific trying to get a free

massage. GP was offering free massages and a tuition waiver to employees who enrolled in Western's Adult Physical Education program.

"I had so much fun that I have kept coming back," Parker said. "The group becomes like a family over time, and it's a lot more fun than walking on a treadmill."

Every Tuesday, Wednesday and Thursday, approximately 15 to 18 people in the morning and seven to eight people in the evening come to participate in the program.

The program, which the physical education and health and recreation department began at Western 24 years ago, exists to study bone loss in middle-aged women. The program was so popular

among the participants that it continued as a class that the department offered with some of the original participants.

Rose-Mary Barstad, the grant and contract supervisor for the Bureau of Faculty Research at Western, has been coming to the class for 10 years, she said.

Barstad said it was finally the right time in her life to begin participating.

Barstad said the games they play make exercising easier and more fun than a regular gym.

The newest member of the evening class is Dan Larguer, 56, a 26-year veteran and retired employee of the Bellingham Bon-Macy's.

"I was normally up on campus auditing classes at Western, and I was here, so it just seemed to work," Larguer said.

While Larguer still has a gym membership, he said he still likes attending the class because it forces him to exercise, which is something Larguer said his doctor has been pushing him to do.

"The class reminds me of being younger, and at school recess, I loved playing the games and that is what we do in class," Larguer said.

Rachel Martin, a Western graduate student and course instructor, said the course is offered on a quarter-to-quarter basis, but most of the those enrolled keep coming back in addition to a couple of new members every quarter.

Martin said that in the morning session, the class works on strength training in the Carver Gym weight room. In the evening, the class usually does a sport.

"So far this quarter we've played the group's favorite — floor hockey, lacrosse, soccer, ultimate Frisbee, and group choice, which is usually floor hockey," Martin said. "And when we aren't playing floor hockey, they are usually complaining about missing or wanting to play floor hockey."

Martin said participants are eligible to take a full fitness test, a flexibility test, a bike test, body fat composition and a food/diet analysis.



Nick Schmidt/The Western Front
Members of the Adult Physical Education Program play soccer in an evening class.

Building a place out of the rain

The Bellingham Farmers' Market is ready to escape the rain in a new structure the city is building for it

By Stefani Harrey
The Western Front

The weather was gray and misty at 10 a.m. Saturday — a good day to stay inside. A few drops of rain were all that was necessary to cause the bands to cancel and a few vendors to stay at home. Only late in the afternoon did the sun finally peek out — much too late for the Harvest Festival to begin.

Rick Wright, Bellingham Rotary Club Community Projects Committee chair, said that if everything works out, next year the Harvest Festival will go on as scheduled even in the rain. It will be housed inside the new, permanent Depot Market Square structure, which the city is building in the parking lot that is home to the current Bellingham Farmers Market downtown on Railroad Avenue.

Wright said he hopes construction will start at the beginning of next year and be finished by summer, weather permitting. He said the market should be in the depot next season.

Market manager Robin Crowder said the market has a Harvest Festival each October. Vendors bring their pumpkins and squash and set up displays. Market visitors can win prizes for voting in a scarecrow contest between the vendors.

Crowder said the festival usually features the Bellingham High School Alumni Band, which plays throughout the day, and the band Fritz and the Freeloaders. The bands were slated to play Saturday, but because of the rain, both cancelled. Without the music and with the rain, the festival fell through, she said.

The market had smaller crowds than usual, and the vendors worked to keep their displays from blowing over and getting wet. A few vendors still displayed their pumpkins and squashes, but fewer put up their scarecrows.

When it is raining, far fewer people shop at the market, but if a permanent structure with a roof was built, customers could shop without consider the weather, Wright said.

Wright said he and Brian Griffin, a fellow Bellingham Rotary Club member, have been working with the Economic Development Council to obtain funding. The council accepted its proposal last week, he said.

"It was the missing link in the finance chain," Wright said. The depot will receive public funding from a State Capital

Programs Grant, a real-estate excise tax, an arterial street fund and a wastewater fund through the city of Bellingham, Wright said. The entire cost is \$2.5 million. The Rotary Club is collecting private donations to raise more than \$500,000, he said.

As of Saturday, the committee still needed to raise \$214,000. Wright said he and Griffin are doing fund raising at the market each week.

He said market customers can purchase \$50 engraved paving stones for the sidewalk of the new structure, or they can buy a \$500 engraved, bronze vegetables for placement along the walk.

Wright said people can buy other objects, such as drinking fountains, benches and stone tablets, that will surround the structure when it is done. People can purchase \$5 raffle tickets to win an engraved paving stone and other prizes each market day.

"A lot of people who come want to support the market but can't afford it," Wright said.

Wright said the market is in the last leg of the private fund-raising effort. With the last bit of money the market hopes to raise, Griffin and Wright have contracted to purchase part of the Skagit River Bridge trestle.

The bridge crosses the Skagit River near Burlington but a new bridge is replacing it. The Rotary Club is helping to recycle it, Wright said.

"It's going to be a mega recycling effort," Wright said.

Another fund-raiser for the structure will be a rummage sale, said Pat Hirschorn, a vendor who sells eggs, pumpkins, vases, bird feeders and other various items at the market.

The rummage sale will be Nov. 13 at the Rome Grange on the Mt. Baker Highway, Hirschorn said. She said they will also have a bake sale, antiques and coffee.

Once the market is built, it will be a multipurpose structure that will be reminiscent of the 1895 train station on Railroad



Stefani Harrey/The Western Front
Bellingham resident David Zhan plays guitar at the Bellingham Farmers' Market Saturday, Oct. 16.

Avenue, Wright said. Garage doors which will encircle the building can be pulled down if the weather is bad. The doors will provide shelter for the vendors and their customers in all seasons.

"Having to handle the tents is incredible, especially in this kind of weather," Hirschorn said, speaking about the wind and rain of Saturday morning.

Wright said he hopes the market season will extend longer with the depot and be used for other activities like dog shows, antique shows, flea markets and public meetings.

"The farmers market will be the anchor tenant of the depot," Wright said. "But it will be a public building. Anyone can lease it from the city for anything they want."

The market season is almost over for this year. It runs on Saturday for the rest of the month from 10 a.m. to 3 p.m., Crowder said. The fund-raising efforts will be in full effect for the rest of the season in the Depot Market Square booth, Wright said.

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Making waves

Two Bellingham women create a line of natural beauty products that aim to make surfing smell good

By Anastasia Tietje
The Western Front

Great weather, waves crashing, white sand beaches, tanned guys, bikini-clad women. These are classic elements of a surfing environment. Although Bellingham does not fit into this picture with its bay and dreary winters, two women decided to make Bellingham the home of their line of surfing products.

Bellingham residents Kim Lund, 30, and Tracy Cereghino, 34, launched Salty Girls in October 2003. After knowing one another for 12 years and sharing a mutual love of surfing, they started daydreaming about products that would make surfing, more specifically surfing gear, smell good.

"On those (surfing trips) together, we were always talking about health and beauty products that would be great to have as women surfers," Cereghino said. "We weren't finding what we wanted in the shops, so we decided to try our hand at it."

The women make everything from lip balm to swimsuit saver, which are designed to prolong the life of one's swimwear. All products are available on their Web site.

"We focused on using natural ingredients particularly aromatherapy and homeopathy because what you put on your body is as important as what you put in it," Lund said.

Cereghino grew up on Mercer Island, and Lund is a Bellingham native, Cereghino said. Cereghino moved to Bellingham to attend Western, and she met Cereghino while working at Mount Baker Ski Area. They followed

different career paths and started families. Their relationship grew as they started surfing and began thinking about products they wanted for their gear. Their favorite surfing spots are Cannon Beach, Ore., and areas near Vancouver Island, Cereghino said.

"Starting a snowboard company would have made more sense with our proximity to the mountains," Cereghino said.

A large surfing community exists in Bellingham, she said.

In June, Lund and Cereghino drove to the Queen of Surf Competition in Pacific Beach, Calif., to launch their products.

"We stopped at surf stores along the way to introduce our products, and we were amazed at the response," Lund said.

Lund said that they have not received a negative response yet from their packaging.

Twenty-five shops in Oregon and California sell Salty Girl products. Sojourn, a Bellingham store, also ordered products. Salty Girls products will be available in Bellingham starting in November, Sojourn manager Michelle Millar said.

"We like to support local companies," Miller said.

Sojourn will carry most of the Salty Girls products except for the products geared specifically to surfers. But Millar said they might consider selling those products during the summer.

"Things are going really well," Lund said. "We thought our products would be in smaller shops, but that's not the case. Larger shops are picking up our products as well."

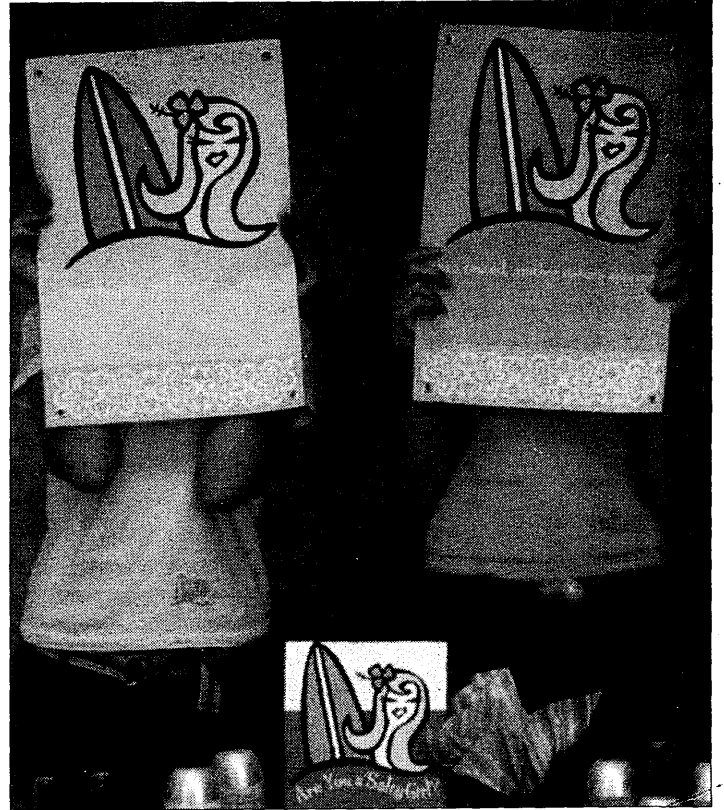


Photo courtesy of the Salty Girls
Kim Lund and Tracy Cereghino, the owners of Salty Girl, pose with their beauty product line. Salty Girl products will be available in November at Sojourn's in downtown Bellingham.

WESTERN

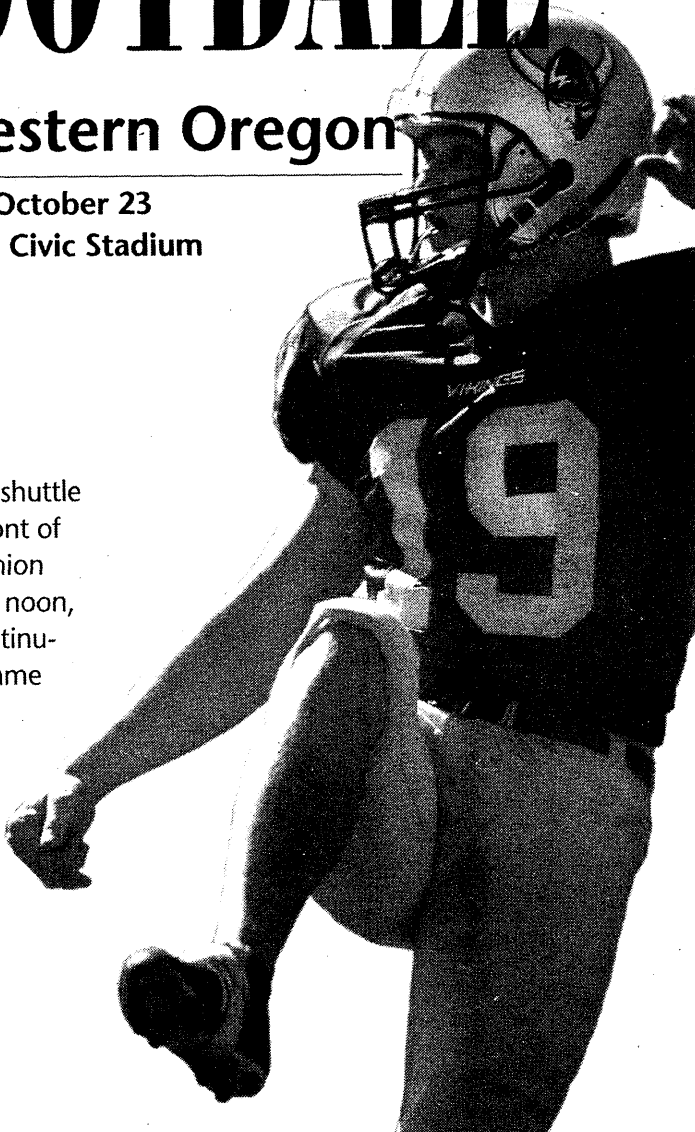
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HALL OF FAME

Western inducted cross-country and track runner Marilyn Thibodeau and soccer midfielders Tom Venable and Debbie Carter into its hall of fame. Western named Thibodeau athlete of the year during the 1981-1982 season. She was also a two-time track all-American during the 1982 season in the 1,500 and 3,000 meter races. Venable was a two-time most valuable player and a 1989 and 1990 National Association of Intercollegiate Athletics first team all star. Carter finished her career with 32 goals and 10 assists.

MEN'S GOLF

The Western men's golf team is tied for sixth after the first of two days at the California State Bakersfield Fall Invitational. Western senior Casey Granston shot an even-par 144 as the Golfstat/NCAA Division II No. 4 ranked Vikings ended with a score of 580.

Women's soccer breaks three-game scoring drought

Midfielder Lindsey Cox scores twice as Western defeats Central Washington University

By Nick Schmidt
The Western Front

The Western women's soccer team's 316-minute scoreless streak finally snapped three minutes into Monday's victory against rival Central Washington University. Western improved its record to 8-6-1.

Western junior midfielder Lindsey Cox found the back of the net twice in the Vikings' 2-1 victory against the Wildcats.

"We definitely got the result we wanted — a win," Western head coach Travis Connell said. "We've got to find a way to have more energy in the first half and finish teams off in the first half."

Cox's first goal came only three minutes into the match off a cross from Western junior midfielder Lizzy Page.

Central tied the match in the 23rd minute when Wildcat sophomore midfielder Tina Thorne kicked the ball into the upper left corner of the net off a corner kick by freshman midfielder Hannah

Bridges.

Cox scored the eventual game-winner four minutes into the second half when she finished a cross from Western junior defender Erin Casey.

Despite the close score, Western dominated on both sides of the ball.

The Vikings managed 17 shots on goal for the match and kept the Wildcats players to only three shots, well below their game average of 10.

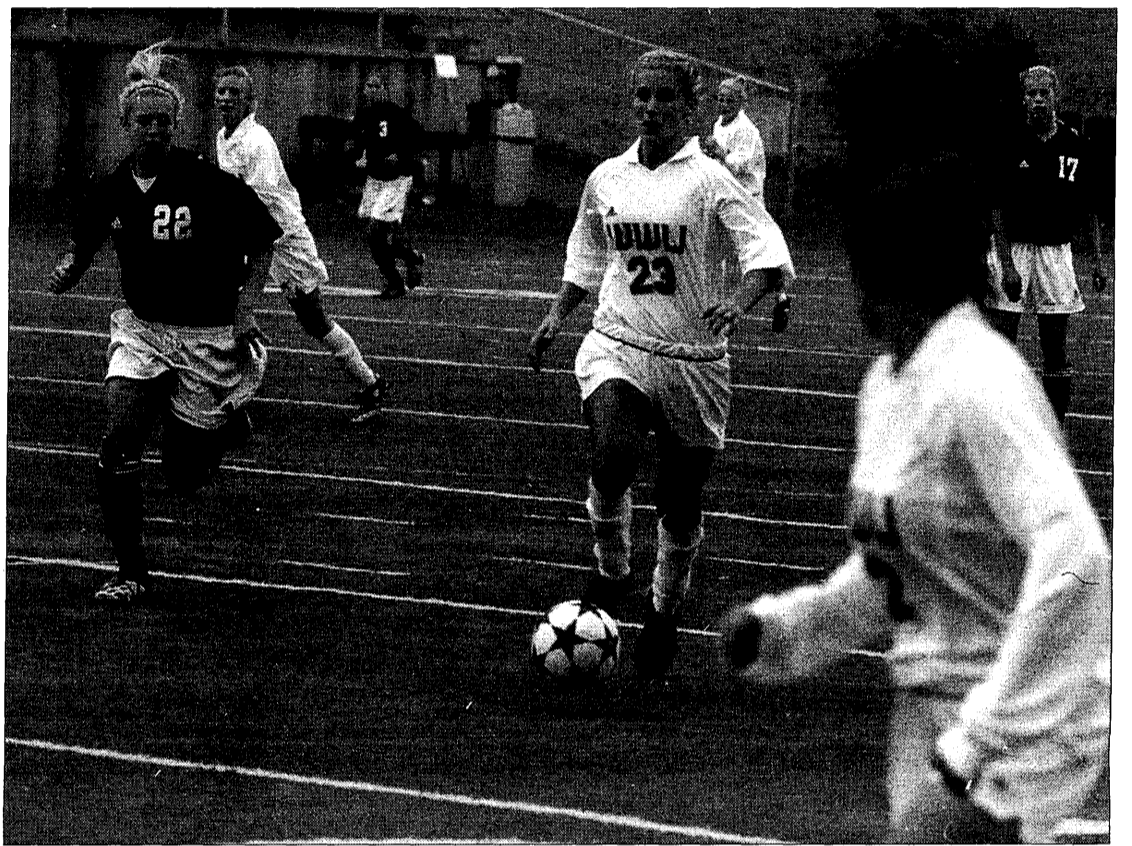
Cox's two goals doubled her season total.

"Lindsey had one of the best games of her career, and she definitely helped us out," Connell said.

Despite managing nine shots in the first half and eight in the second, Cox said she still was unhappy about the team's slow play in the first half.

"I was kind of frustrated at the beginning of the game; we knew this team was beatable, and I was

SEE Soccer, PAGE 16



Chris Taylor/The Western Front

Western junior midfielder Lizzy Page pushes the ball against Central Washington University during the first half of Western's 2-1 victory Monday at Civic Field.

Volleyball bounces back against Saint Martin's after loss to Central

By Elizabeth Adamack
The Western Front

Western's volleyball team lost to Central Washington University after an aggressive match Friday, but it came back Saturday to win in a slow-starting game against Saint Martin's College at Carver Gym.

Western's team is 12-6 overall and 8-3 in the Great Northwest Athletic Conference.

Western head coach Diane Flick said she was pleased with her team's performance Saturday, especially after the loss to Central.

"I think we did a good job, especially coming off quite an emotional match the night before," Flick said. "I think we played real steady especially toward the end of games, and that is where we have let up in the past. I am really pleased with our effort."

The Vikings got off to a slow start against the Saints. The first game was close, but Western finally pulled away with a kill by Western redshirt freshman outside hitter Jaime Anderson to make the score 21-20.

The second game was similar until a block by Western senior middle blocker Meghan Evoy and

junior setter Kristen Urdahl pushed the Vikings ahead 21-20. Western dominated the rest of second game, winning 30-22. The Saints won the third game 30-27.

Evoy had a match-high 22 kills, and Western senior co-captain middle blocker Kristy Carstensen had 16.

Western senior co-captain libero Brianna Murray said she thought the hitters benefited from a great setter.

"(Urdahl) did a really good job of putting up good sets tonight. (The hitters) did their job," she said.

"I think we did a good job, especially coming off quite an emotional match the night before."

Diane Flick

Western head volleyball coach

Western won the fourth and deciding game 30-15.

This game was different from the intense match against Central because the Saints' record fell to 2-13 after the match.

"I thought we played well in comparison to our competition," Murray said. "It's hard playing

against a team like that. That is slow and doesn't have a lot of intensity. But I thought we did a good job of picking up when we needed to."

Friday's match against Central was a record-ending night for the Vikings. The Vikings had not lost a home match in 23 tries.

Western lost Friday's game to the Wildcats three games to one before a crowd of 1,230. Central won the first two games 30-28 and 30-26. Western countered with a 30-26 win in the third game. Central fought back to win the match in the

SEE Volleyball, PAGE 16

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MADNESS

Western's second-half comeback too late

Humboldt State University running game breaks Western's six-game home winning streak

By Adam Rudnick
The Western Front

Despite its offense overcoming a 17-point second-half deficit, the Western football team's defense could not contain Humboldt State University late Saturday afternoon at Civic Field.

"I think we all thought we were going to win the game. We had momentum," Western junior running back Duncan Sherrard said. "It was just a tough way (the game) came down."

The Vikings' defense, which gave up 27 first-half points, held the Lumberjacks to only one second-half touchdown. That touchdown made the difference in the game as Western lost 34-27 and fell to 1-2 in the Great Northwest Athletic Conference.

"It's tough to celebrate anything when you lose like this to Humboldt State," Western senior quarterback Steve Nichols said. "It's a letdown."

Trailing 27-10 in the third quarter, Western traded punts with Humboldt until Western senior kicker Michael Koenen knocked in a 49-yard field goal to make the score 27-13.

Sherrard ran for two fourth-quarter touchdowns, the first of which was set up by a 43-yard punt return by Western junior wide receiver Andy Olson. The scores tied the game at 27 with less than five minutes to play in the fourth quarter. Sherrard carried the ball 27 times for 156 yards and scored two touchdowns in the game.

On its next possession, Humboldt responded with what turned out to be the

game-winning touchdown, thanks to a four-play, 75-yard touchdown drive. Humboldt junior running back Lionel Arnold's 49-yard run set up the Lumberjacks' go-ahead touchdown run by junior running back Daniel Nembhard.

"I think the whole team came out in the

second half ready to play, but it was just not quite enough," Sherrard said. "(Being down early was) a tough hole to dig ourselves out of, we just couldn't quite do it."

Western head coach Rob Smith said the Vikings' defense, after giving up 27 first-quarter points, knew that Humboldt would

be running the ball on what turned out to be its game-winning drive.

"You spend all half fighting back and getting back to even," Smith said. "Then, it was four (running) plays right up the middle where they just obviously handled us up front and then got the job done. We did not."

Western started strong, scoring on its first play from scrimmage with a 76-yard touchdown reception from Nichols to Olson.

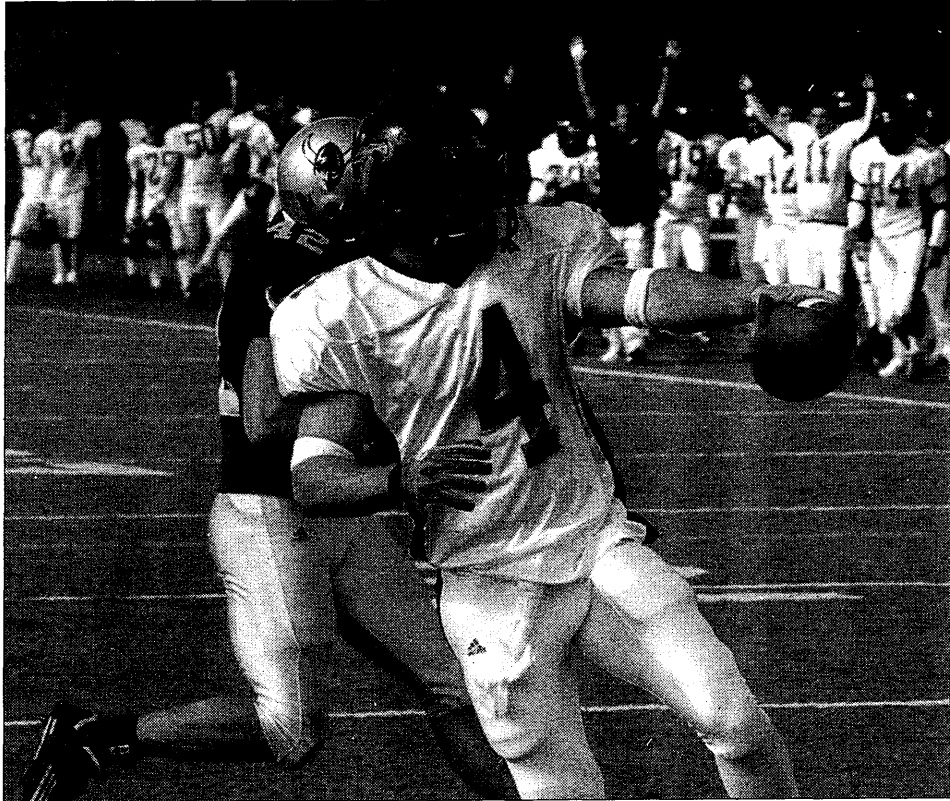
Olson finished the game with 110 receiving yards and one touchdown, while Nichols completed 17 of his 24 passes for 208 yards. Nichols had one touchdown pass and one interception.

Smith said that after Western's first score, the team might have temporarily lost its focus, allowing Humboldt to gain momentum.

"I don't know if our players thought 'Hey, this is going to be easy' because of (Western's first-play touchdown) or what," Smith said. "There are just some things that are really disappointing in terms of when an offense comes out and says 'We're going to run the football, here we come, stop us,' and we don't. That's frustrating."

Western plays host to Western Oregon University at 1 p.m. on Saturday.

Game Notes: The loss snapped Western's home winning streak at six games ... Humboldt last defeated Western in 1962, Western had won the previous six games, all since 1997 ... Humboldt senior wide receiver Dustin Creager is the GNAC all-time leading receiver and added to his record by catching 11 passes for 96 yards and two touchdowns Saturday.



Chris Taylor/The Western Front

Dustin Creager, Humboldt State University senior wide receiver and all-time Great Athletic Conference leading receiver, celebrates after catching his first touchdown during the first quarter. Creager caught 11 passes for 96 yards and two touchdowns against Western Saturday at Civic Field.

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Earnhardt Jr. did not deserve discipline



Dan Johnson

COMMENTARY

Dale Earnhardt Jr.'s mouth cost him first place in NASCAR's Nextel Cup standings and may eventually end up costing him the entire championship.

In a ridiculous move made on Oct. 5, NASCAR docked Earnhardt 25 points from the point standings for using an expletive following his win at Talladega on Oct. 3.

The deduction places Earnhardt total score of 5,826 just 24 points behind leader Kurt Busch.

NASCAR punished Earnhardt for telling a reporter in a post-race interview that his fifth victory at Talladega "Don't mean shit right now. Daddy's won here 10 times," according to ESPN.com.

The move by NASCAR shows why race-car driving will always be a second-rate sport in this country.

NASCAR is making itself a joke by allowing a committee of rule makers to have as much influence on a race as the drivers do.

Changing the results of a competition after it has taken place

is an absolute joke.

Baseball would never dock a team that just won a one-run game two runs because the manager used an expletive in the post-game interview.

Neither would a football team that won a game by three points later be docked a touchdown from that game because a player used an expletive in an interview when describing that particular touchdown.

This would never happen because baseball and football officials understand that the results of the game should be decided on the playing field.

"I think we're the only sport that takes points off of the board after they've been scored," said Richie Gilmore, director for Dale Earnhardt, Inc.

Point docking is not the only place where NASCAR is in the wrong.

An expletive should only be punished if it is meant to cause damage to another driver or an official.

Earnhardt was simply trying to downplay his accomplishment,

while at the same time complimenting his father — a beloved figure in the NASCAR world.

This was not a case of a racer trying to provoke another racer or insult an official and, therefore, should not be punished as if it were the same offense.

NASCAR, however, will not reconsider. Since a drivers meeting in February, when drivers were notified that NASCAR was taking

violations of FCC guidelines seriously, two other drivers have received the same sentence as Earnhardt Jr., according to ESPN.com.

NASCAR is missing the point.

If NASCAR wants to be a family sport and fine a driver for using profanity on television that is fine.

But to use the power to alter the outcome of the event with a 25-point penalty as if Earnhardt finished fifth instead of first is ridiculous.

Until NASCAR realizes that the outcome of an event should be decided on the track and not in the boardroom, it will always be a second-tier sport.

'NASCAR is making itself a joke by allowing a committee of rule makers to have as much influence on a race as the drivers do.'

Soccer: To make the postseason the Vikings need to win out and get help

Continued from Page 14

just glad we could go out there and get a win," she said.

Connell said he was glad to see the team bounce back after its 2-0 loss to NSCAA/Adidas Division II rankings No. 1 ranked Seattle Pacific University on Saturday.

Western has been scoreless since Oct. 6 when it battled NCAA Division II Seattle University, ranked No. 10, to a 0-0 tie.

Western lost the next two games against National Association of Intercollegiate Athletics Simon Fraser University, ranked No. 6, Oct. 12 and again on Oct. 16 against SPU.

"It was hard coming out of such

an emotional loss to SPU," Cox said. "That was why we probably came out in the first half and played kind of slow against Central."

As far as postseason dreams, Connell said the women will have to win the rest of the games on their schedule.

"We can only control what we can, and that is our next game against Northwest Nazarene University," he said. "We just have to focus on that."

The women will travel to Northwest Nazarene Oct. 23. Western's next home match will be at 4 p.m. Sunday against Grand Canyon University at Mount Vernon High School.



Chris Taylor/The Western Front
Western junior forward Chela Gray races to beat Central Washington University sophomore goalkeeper Christina Nordmark in front of the goal Monday at Civic Field.

Volleyball: Meghan Evoy had 14 kills, Courtney Schneider had 36 digs in loss to Central

Continued from Page 14

fourth game by a score of 30-25.

The Vikings' last loss at home was Sept. 7, 2002, to Brigham Young University - Hawaii. The loss on Friday was only the second home loss since 1999.

Both teams were nationally ranked going into Friday's match. Western was ranked 21st and Central 13th in the latest American Volleyball Association/NCAA Division II top 25. With its win Friday, Central extended its undefeated season to a record of 18-0.

Despite the loss, the Vikings played a solid match and were pleased with their performance, Evoy said.

"We felt good. We were having a fun time on the floor, working hard even though we lost," Evoy said. "I think that we were satisfied with our effort, and we were

successful."

Evoy had 14 kills and Western freshman libero Courtney Schneider had 36 digs on the night.

Central senior setter Kate Reome had a career high 71 assists Friday night, third best in school history.

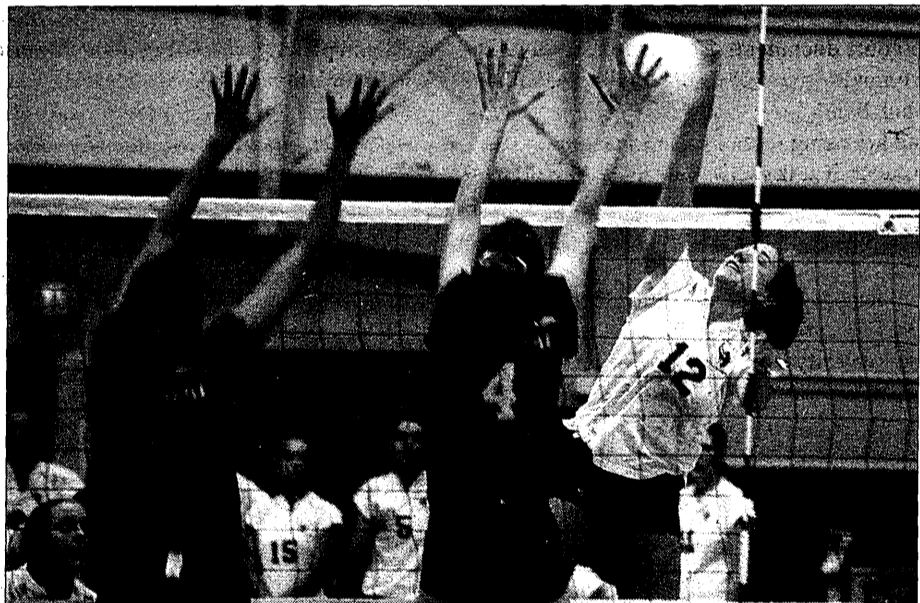
'We felt good. We were having a fun time on the floor, working hard even though we lost.'

Meghan Evoy
Western senior middle blocker

Western will play at Seattle Pacific University Saturday. It returns to Carver Gym to face Western Oregon University Nov. 5.

Wildcats junior middle blocker LeAnne McGahuey had a match-high 24 kills on the night.

"We were united today (Friday) — we just felt so good together. It just felt right. Everyone kept it up instead of getting down when something bad happened," Western junior outside hitter Krystal Knight said.



Chris Taylor/The Western Front
Western senior libero Brianna Murray attempts a kill against Central Washington University Friday at Carver Gym.

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In Depth:

Should the United States allow the death penalty for juveniles ?



Youth not an excuse for crimes



Crystal Oberholtzer

COMMENTARY

In a society where juveniles commit crimes just as horrific as adults commit, relieving juveniles of the consequences their adult counterparts face is irresponsible and naive.

The U.S. Supreme Court is debating whether to abolish the death penalty for juveniles. That decision stems from the case of Christopher Simmons. The Missouri courts overthrew his death sentence because he was 17 at the time of the murder, citing cruel and unusual punishment under an "evolving standard of decency," according to deathpenaltyinfo.org, a non-profit media organization.

Simmons committed the crime with two accomplices, Charlie Benjamin, 15, and John Tessmer, 16. He persuaded them to commit the crime by assuring them their status as juveniles would keep them out of prison, according to court documents from the case. Juvenile criminals know their age will keep them from being punished as severely as adults and are using that to their advantage.

Juveniles, in a criminal sense, are defined as 16- to 17-year-olds, according to the National Criminal Justice Reference Web site.

When ruling on juvenile death penalty, the Supreme Court should keep in mind the severity and sophistication of some juveniles' crimes — including Simmons'. Simmons, at 17, robbed and murdered a woman by binding her limbs and throwing her off a bridge.

In 1966, the Supreme Court determined special factors that juries must consider before sentencing a juvenile to death. Those

factors include the juvenile's sophistication, maturity, environmental situation and home life, as well as aggravating and mitigating factors, according to the criminal justice Web site. Those determining factors, which are not required to be addressed in adult death-penalty sentencing, help to determine whether a juvenile can be considered among the "worst of the worst" criminals and deserving of the death penalty.

Because concrete precautions are in effect, sentencing a juvenile to death is not a rash decision. The Virginia courts' recent decision to sentence Lee Boyd Malvo, the 17-year-old Washington, D.C., sniper, to life in prison instead of giving him the death

penalty is proof that sentencing juveniles is a careful process.

Factors leading to Malvo's involvement in the sniper attacks, such as his troubled youth and the strong influence of fellow sniper John Allen Muhammad, affected Malvo's sentencing. Although Malvo's case was highly publicized and his crime unusually brutal,

Virginia courts determined he was not mature enough to be sentenced to death even though Virginia is one of 19 states that allows sentencing 16- and 17-year-olds to the death penalty, according to the American Bar Association Web site.

Supporters of abolishing the death penalty for juveniles are looking toward science for evidence to support their views. Much research goes into the course of development of the human brain and its abilities to rationalize and process information. Scientists have found the brain is mostly developed by age 16, but that some functions, such as impulse control, do not fully develop until a person is 20 to 25, according to a July 2004 Science Magazine article.

Some say these findings provide a solid argument against the death penalty for

SEE **Allow**, PAGE 19

Juveniles deserve second chance



Salina Greig

COMMENTARY

Everyone makes mistakes. Juveniles who make mistakes, no matter how awful, deserve a second chance.

The U.S. Supreme Court should side with science and international opinion and ban juvenile capital punishment.

The Supreme Court is in the process of reviewing whether the juvenile death penalty, or legal execution of 16- and 17-year-olds, violates the constitutional ban on cruel and unusual punishment, according to the American Civil Liberties Union Web site.

The review comes from a Missouri Supreme Court case, Simmons v. Roper, which was re-examined in 2003, nine years after Christopher Simmons was sentenced to death at age 17 for the murder of his neighbor Shirley Crook, according to deathpenaltyinfo.org, a non-profit media organization.

Young people often act on impulse and lack the ability to control their actions.

Recent studies show that because of their immaturity, juveniles also are more likely than adults to be coerced by sophisticated criminals or taken advantage of during a criminal investigation, according to the ACLU Web site. While minors, just like adults, should be punished for committing heinous crimes, denying a child a second chance at life is unfair.

The Missouri Supreme Court has already reasonably determined that the juvenile death penalty violates the Eighth Amendment's provision against cruel and unusual punishment under the "evolving standards of decency" test. The court revoked

Simmons's death sentence in 2003.

At the time Simmons murdered Crook, he was not legally responsible enough to vote, marry, enlist in the military or purchase cigarettes. The law, however, determined that at 17, he could be executed. The severity of his crime required a harsh punishment, but capital punishment was not the answer.

Nineteen states allow the juvenile death penalty, according to the Death Penalty Information Center Web site. States have executed 13 juvenile offenders in the past five years, eight of whom were in Texas, according to the Amnesty International Web site. Over the past decade, the United States has executed more juvenile offenders than every other nation in the world combined, according to the ACLU's Web site.

As a leading nation in the world, the United States must set a good example for those nations watching its every move. The United States must not be hypocritical in its actions. Other nations are watching as the Supreme Court re-examines the constitutionality of the juvenile death penalty.

In August 2000, the U. N. Sub-Commission on the Promotion and Protection of Human Rights ruled that international law forbids the execution of criminals younger than 18, according to Amnesty International's Web site. China, Iran, the United States and other nations continue to use the juvenile death penalty despite this international law. In 2003, Iran began drafting a bill that would raise the death penalty age from 15 to 18, according to the ACLU Web site.

Ironically, the United States continues to criticize many nations for their human-rights violations. The execution of juveniles is unjust and unconstitutional, and the United States must set an example for those nations it so often criticizes for its human rights

SEE **Outlaw**, PAGE 19

'The execution of juveniles is unjust ... the United States must set an example for those nations it so often criticizes for human rights violations.'

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Frontline

America should change its drinking age to 18

At age 18, young people are by all accounts adults. Voting, smoking, marrying, gambling, driving an automobile and fighting in the armed forces are all rights U.S. citizens possess by the time they turn 18.

If an 18-year-old is able to vote and die for his or her country, he or she should be able to drink a beer. If he or she can throw a grenade, he or she should be able to throw back a shot of whiskey.

The drinking age in the United States should be lowered to 18.

History shows that limiting alcohol consumption is counterproductive. Prohibition from 1920-1933 exemplifies the ultimate failure that results from making alcohol a "forbidden fruit." Banning alcohol during Prohibition raised consumption levels and increased risky drinking behavior, just as the drinking age of 21 does today.

Obviously, people drink no matter what — even at Western.

"Seven out of 10 Western students stop at 3 or fewer drinks," according to three randomly selected samples from surveys in the past three years conducted by Prevention and Wellness Services. A large portion of Western's 12,940 students are likely underage, yet seven out of 10 students drink.

Lowering the drinking age to 18 would decrease binge drinking. For fear of getting caught, minors hide and pound their Pabst Blue Ribbon rather than sipping it moderately. Instead of measuring 1.25 ounces for a shot of Monarch Vodka, they chug from the bottle to hastily get wasted before attending concerts and clubs or going out in public.

The question is whether 18- through 20-year-olds would drink more safely if it was legal, as is the case in most European countries. Dr. Ruth Clifford Engs of Indiana University Bloomington, answered yes in an interview on The State University of New York at Potsdam's Web site.

"Young people ... since the increase in the minimum legal drinking age, have tended to drink in a more abuse(ive) manner than do those of legal age," Engs said.

Supporters of the current drinking age often point to research, such as that of the American Medical Association, which shows that alcohol abuse can be detrimental to teenagers' health. Research by John C. Nelson, President-elect of the AMA, shows that alcohol may have devastating affects for teens and may cause permanent learning and memory loss, according to the AMA's Web site.

If 18-year-olds can destroy their lungs with cigarettes, they should have the choice to drink with the rest of the world. It is senseless for the United States to ban alcohol for 18-year-olds when the more dangerous cigarettes are legally available.

"Smoking is the most preventable cause of premature death in our society," according to The American Cancer Society's Web site. "Cigarettes kill more Americans than alcohol, car accidents, suicide, AIDS, homicide and illegal drugs combined."

Smoking, among other things, is clearly more dangerous than drinking, yet teens can freely indulge in tobacco.

A glance at history and a little common sense shows the need to lower the drinking age in America.

Frontlines are the opinion of The Western Front editorial board: Matt DeVeau, Cari Lyle, Mugs Scherer, Kaitlin King, Jelena Washington, Chris Taylor, Anna Sowa, David Wray, Zoe Fraley, Amanda Woolley, Travis Sherer, Caleb Heeringa, Aaron Apple, Lauren Miller and Jessica Evans.

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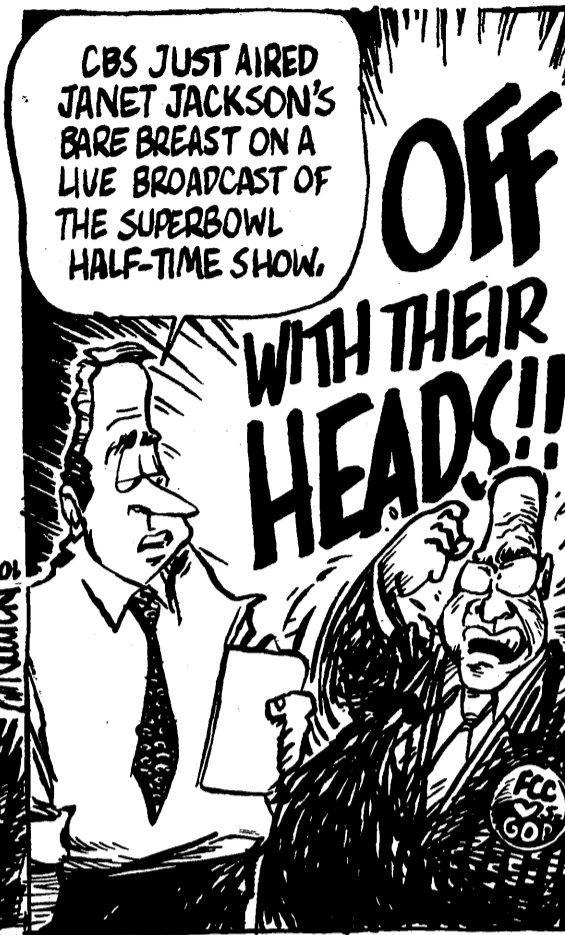
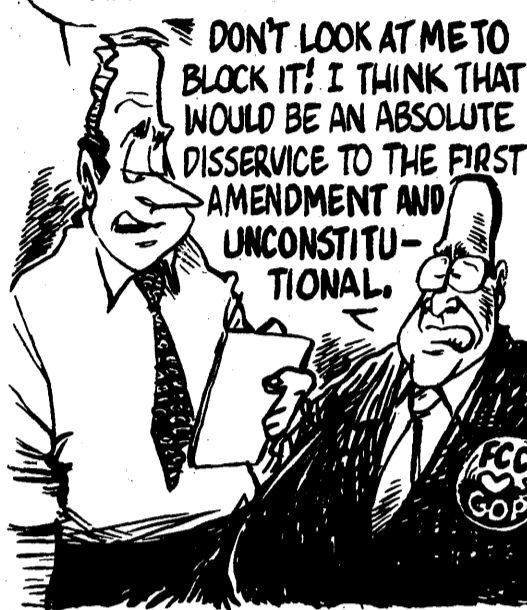
And we quote

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SINCLAIR BROADCASTING GROUP IS FORCING ITS AFFILIATES TO AIR A TWO-HOUR-LONG KERRY ATTACK AD WITH NO COUNTERPOINTS OR REBUTTALS ABOUT TEN DAYS BEFORE NOVEMBER 2ND IN AN ATTEMPT TO INFLUENCE THE ELECTION.



Anti-Kerry documentary not news



Anastasia Tietje

COMMENTARY

The Sinclair Broadcast Group has drawn its line in the political sand. It has made bad decision after bad decision involving its political views.

The group's plan to force its affiliates to show a highly partisan documentary two weeks before the presidential election is another questionable move by a media group that has shirked its responsibility as a respectable media organization.

The documentary, "Stolen Honor: Wounds That Never Heal," is about Democratic presidential candidate John Kerry and his 1971 Senate testimony, which some Vietnam

veterans said was demeaning and caused Vietnamese captors to detain American prisoners of war longer.

This would not seem like a huge deal except that the group is planning to preempt local primetime broadcasts on 62 of its stations. According to the group, the documentary is news.

The program is set to air two weeks before the presidential election, according an Oct. 15 Associated Press article. This is an interesting time to broadcast such a statement that could sway public opinion, especially considering Sinclair's past partisan decisions.

The group refused to show "The Fallen," a "Nightline" program in which Ted Koppel listed all the Americans killed in the war in Iraq while their pictures appeared on screen. The group said the "Nightline" program would "influence public opinion,"

according to an Oct. 11 article on the CBS Web site.

Members of the group, apparently feel this documentary, said to criticize Kerry, will not influence public opinion much.

According to an Oct. 11 article in The New York Times, a group of Democratic senators appealed to the Federal Communications Commission for an investigation to prove the documentary is not news but a prolonged election advertisement for President George W. Bush.

Shortly after, the FCC declined to investigate, according to the AP article. The agency's chairman said the FCC would not take any action and that no precedent he could think of would cause the FCC to block the document.

Journalist Ari Berman wrote in

SEE Sinclair, PAGE 19

Tipping does not replace fair wages



Erik Tomren

COMMENTARY

Tipping used to be a way to show appreciation for a service well-performed. Now the ubiquitous tip jar can be found throughout the fast-food industry, from coffee shops to Chinese takeout.

Throughout time, the tipping expectation has spread from a few well-defined industries such as restaurants, pizza delivery and bartending, to include any number of mom and pop shops and, unbelievably, the coffee industry, dominated by the multinational corporation Starbucks Corp.

By encouraging tipping, Starbucks and local competitor

Tully's Coffee Corp. are shirking responsibility to their workers by paying wages that are low by any standard.

Starbucks should stop relying on customer tips to supplement worker income and pay its hourly employees more.

Corporations such as Starbucks hire hourly employees at low wages but make sure to mention that tips also are a factor. But the starting wage in midtown Manhattan, \$7.75 per hour plus tips, was low in relation to the cost of living. The workers in one New York store have begun the first steps toward unionization, joining with the Retail Workers Union, according to the Starbucks Workers Union Web site. Starbucks does not offer raises until after six months, typically 11 cents, and the company's medical coverage is difficult, if not impossible, for workers just scraping by to afford,

according to the Web site.

The reliance on tips for income also makes it difficult for a coffee-shop employee to determine if he or she is making a fair wage, a task made even more difficult by the widely varying hours since most locations do not guarantee 40 hours a week, according to the Starbucks Workers Union Web site.

Tipping inadvertently takes the pressure off corporations to provide a living wage for workers and places it on the consumer. Advocates who promote a "living wage" believe that employees who work 40 hours a week should be able to afford some type of housing with 30 percent of their income — an impossibility given the minimum wage many service jobs offer, according to the Universal Living Wage Campaign Web site.

SEE Tipping, PAGE 19

Sinclair: Group is showing its bias

Continued from Page 18

an opinion article on the CBS Web site that what Sinclair is doing is comparable to another broadcasting group preempting news to show Michael Moore's "Fahrenheit 9/11" and then calling the movie news.

The public would not stand for this, at least the conservative part of the population. The company would likely be bombarded by angry phone calls, protests and even boycotts.

Sinclair does own the stations that are broadcasting the documentary, and has the right to do what it chooses with its affiliates.

It would be less of a conflict, however, if the group was not preempting local broadcasts during primetime, on public airwaves, to show a politically charged program. Even if the group had let "The Fallen" air and kept its political standing to itself, this would not be viewed as just another documentary criticizing Kerry.

News broadcast companies should provide fair, accurate and unbiased news. By many reports, including an October 13 Boston Globe article, this documentary is neither fair nor unbiased, and hardly even news.

Allow: Scientists reluctant to testify

Continued from Page 17

juveniles, but they do not take into account premeditation, which is often a significant factor determining whether to punish a criminal with death. Premeditation implies the opposite of impulsiveness. Planning a crime for weeks is not an impulsive decision, so his decision was not affected by the part of his brain that may not be fully mature.

Also according to the findings, certain brain functions are not fully developed until the age of 18 and often not until age 22, and yet no debate exists about raising the age at which criminals are considered adults.

Even many of the scientists doing research on brain maturity are unwilling to testify on a juvenile's inability to make moral, rational decisions, according to

deathpenaltyinfo.org.

If the people defining a mature brain cannot say that juveniles should be exempt from the death penalty because of brain maturity, it is not a significant argument against the juvenile death penalty.

The debate about punishing juveniles with the death penalty is not the debate about the morality of the death penalty itself. Under certain circumstances, juveniles can be as much a threat to society as adults. This is why they can, and should, be treated as adults if the crime warrants it.

Limiting a dangerous juvenile's punishment on the sole basis that he or she is between 16 and 18 years of age would be ignoring his or her ability to commit crimes on the same level as an adult and overlooking him or her as a serious threat to society.

Tipping: Fair wages are the responsibility of employers

Continued from Page 18

A living wage is similarly out of reach for Starbucks employees, and tipping does little to bridge the gap from minimum wage to living wage.

For example, consider the midtown Manhattan Starbucks that is attempting to unionize. If a worker at that location did not work 40 hours and instead worked only 35 hours, at a wage of \$7.75 an hour, his or her net income would be \$13,904.45 a year, according to an income calculator found at the Javascript Web site. A similar salary might be expected in Seattle, considering Washington state's current minimum wage is \$7.16, according to the State Department of Labor Web site.

Therefore, if a worker earning \$7.75 an hour, working 35 hours a week, transferred from a Seattle Starbucks to one in New York City, he or she would have to earn 50.9 percent more money than in

Seattle to afford the same lifestyle, which amounts to \$20,975 a year, according to the Cost of Living Wizard at Salary.com. A universal living wage would help bridge the difference between cities and assure that all workers can afford a minimal lifestyle, regardless of the local or state minimum wage.

Lost income needs to come from somewhere, and right now the expectation is that the consumer should make up for what Starbucks refuses to pay. Tipping for coffee has already become something of an expectation, placing an inappropriate burden on the customer and essentially raising the price of coffee for those who feel a moral obligation to tip.

An obvious solution would be for Starbucks to get rid of its tip jars and pay an extra \$1 or \$2 more an hour — what the employee would make in lost tip wages. Starbucks, however, is unlikely to pay more for wages because its success is contingent upon hiring workers at

low wages, encouraging tipping with the placement of tip jars and relying on workers to spread the word that their livelihood is dependent on tips.

Given the low wages of the food and beverage industry as a whole, Starbucks is not necessarily a bad corporation for which to work. Part-time employees working 20 hours or more are eligible to receive health-care benefits, with Starbucks listed in Fortune 500's "100 Best Places to Work" list, according to the Starbucks Web site.

Health-care benefits are meaningless, however, if employees cannot afford to make use of them and if workers are forced to rely on tips as a source of income.

If Starbucks does want to make a difference, to its workers and to the community, it can start by paying its employees higher wages and stop asking its customers for a handout on behalf of its employees. By raising wages and nixing the tip jars, Starbucks can make a difference in the coffee industry, and perhaps in the fast-food industry as well. Maybe the outcome will be a future with living wages for all workers.

'If Starbucks does want to make a difference ... it can start by paying its employees higher wages and stop asking its customers for a handout on behalf of its employees.'

Outlaw: Rehabilitation, change more likely for juveniles

Continued from Page 17

violations.

Recent studies by the Harvard Medical School, the National Institute of Mental Health and the University of California, Los Angeles' Department of Neuroscience suggest that adolescents cannot be held accountable to the same extent as adults. The frontal and pre-frontal lobes of the brain regulate impulse control and judgment. These lobes are not fully developed until after 18, and often not until age 22, according to the ACLU Web site.

These findings show that young people tend to make unsound judgments more often, act on impulse and not understand or realize the consequences of their actions.

Also according to the ACLU Web site, adolescents are more likely to rehabilitate and less likely to make mistakes as they grow older and their brains mature.

While supporters of the juvenile death penalty may say young criminals will never benefit society, these studies also show that adolescents are more likely than adults to be rehabilitated

because they can gain the ability to realize the consequences of their actions as their brains continue to develop, according to the ACLU Web site.

The death penalty age should be raised to an age when the human brain has fully matured. The execution of people who do not have fully developed brain functions is morally wrong.

The death penalty should be reserved for criminals who are unable to change — for serial killers such as Gary Ridgway and Ted Bundy and for people who will never be able to be controlled. Many juveniles can change for the better, no matter how harsh the crime, and they deserve a second chance at life — even if it is in prison.

'The death penalty should be reserved for criminals who are unable to change — for serial killers such as Gary Ridgway and Ted Bundy.'

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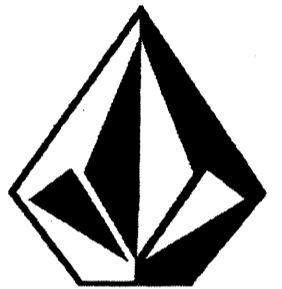
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