



OUT & ABOUT

Bellingham offers a plethora of outdoor activities.

Sports, Page 5

DONE WITH HUNG

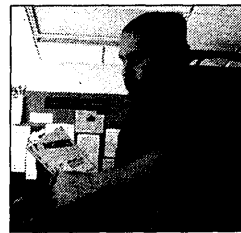
"Idol" reject should leave the entertainment business while he is still ahead.

Opinions, Page 6

¿QUÉ PASA?

Western student plays Latin punk, hip-hop and salsa on KUGS.

Accent/Features, Page 4



Western Washington University, Bellingham, Washington

ISSUE 3
VOLUME 130

The Western Front

THURSDAY
JULY 8, 2004

Bloated cost projections delay Arntzen Atrium eatery remodel

By Laura McVicker
The Western Front

Western will postpone the remodeling of the Arntzen Atrium eatery, originally planned to take place this quarter, until next summer because of higher costs than previously

expected.

When Western solicited bids on the project, contractors proposed larger estimates than the design team, Wise Miller Architects, had originally predicted, said Robert Schmidt, project manager of Western's Facilities Management. Schmidt

and the design team now will have to modify the eatery's design to fit the architects' cost projections, he said.

"The design may need to change to fit the budget," Schmidt said.

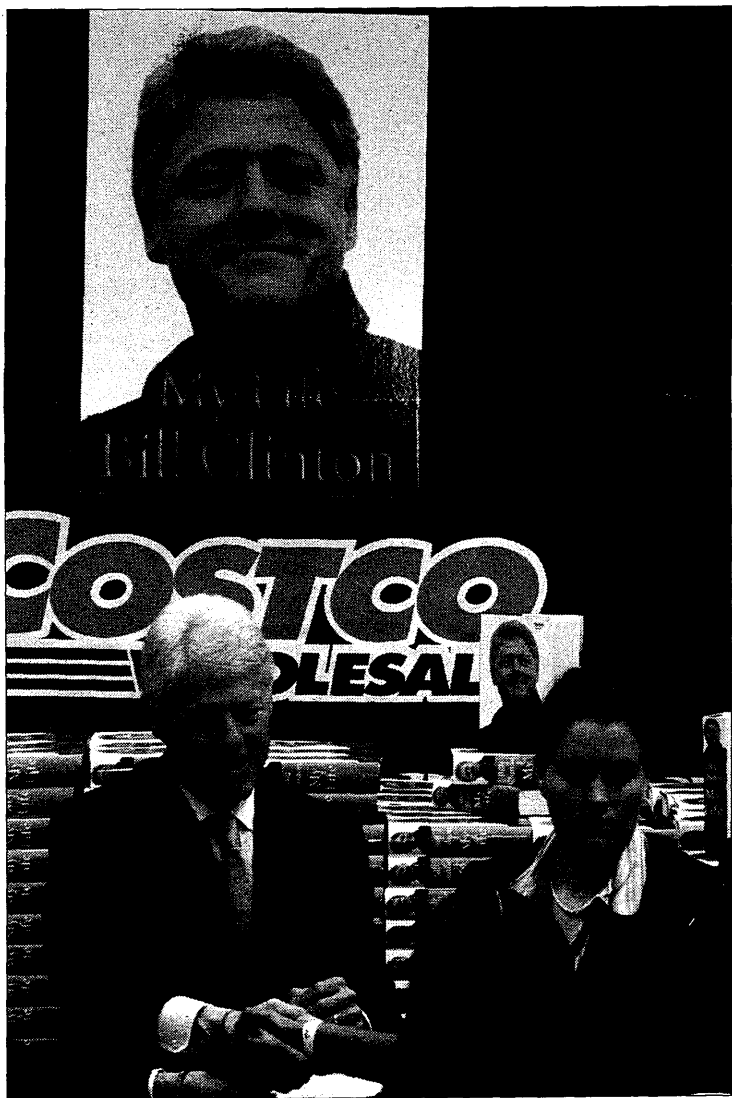
SEE Eatery, PAGE 8



Courtesy of Wise Miller Architects

The remodel of the Arntzen Atrium eatery would have expanded the food service court to 2,000 square feet.

Clinton at Costco



Lauren Miller/The Western Front

Former President Bill Clinton signs a copy of his new book, "My Life," at Costco in Issaquah.

By Tess Hembree
The Western Front

Hidden behind a fortress of Coca-Cola cases and nestled between aisles of hair dryers, blenders and ceiling fans, Bill Clinton signed copies of his new memoir, "My Life," at the Costco in Issaquah on June 30.

Thousands of enthusiastic fans greeted the former president, some of them waiting in line as long as 18 hours to get their copies of his 900-page tome personally autographed.

Costco guaranteed signatures to the first 1,000 people in line and handed out wristbands to 1,500 people, Costco representa-

tive Richard Galatei said. Those without a wristband were not allowed into the event.

Costco employees said the wristbands ran out at approximately 10:30 that morning — with people lined up as early as 9 p.m. the previous night to secure their positions in line.

Organizers limited the event to Costco members and allowed just one signature per membership card.

"I wanted the opportunity to meet a former president, someone who influenced policies and was the leader of the free world," Whatcom Community College student Jeremy Groves said.

SEE Clinton, PAGE 8

County council will buy parking lot on Lummi Island for walk-on ferry commuters for \$495,000

By Emily Nuchols
The Western Front

The Whatcom County Council approved the purchase of a 1.7-acre parcel of land on Lummi Island to serve as a parking lot for ferry passengers.

The motion passed 5-2 on June 29, with councilmembers Barbara Brenner and Dan McShane voting against the proposal.

Councilman Sam Crawford said ferry commuters have a need for parking, and the lot would fill that demand.

The proposed parking lot will accommodate the increase in walk-on passengers who commute from Lummi Island.

The county decided to buy the land for \$495,000, though the appraised price was \$465,000.

"I don't feel right about buy-

ing (the land) for over the appraised value," Brenner said. "It is too much money."

The additional \$30,000 will cover the cost of moving a house located on the property, Brenner said.

The Whatcom Chief, the ferry that serves residents and businesses on Lummi Island, is the only link to the mainland at Gooseberry Point. The small ferry holds 100 passengers and 18 vehicles.

Since 1991, the ferry has undergone a 27.6 percent increase in traffic. In 2001, the ferry transported more than 381,000 passengers.

McShane said this has been a long-term project that the county has been moving toward, but it was the first time the council voted on the issue.

Crawford said the council would like the land that was purchased to be the equivalent size of the lot acquired from the Lummi Nation at Gooseberry Point, which has more than 80 spaces.

McShane said that by approving the space for a parking lot, the council is supporting an increase in the number of cars and walk-on passengers who use the ferry. He said that before beginning construction of the parking lot, the county should evaluate the alternatives to encouraging more vehicles on the roads.

"The island is small enough that people could walk or bike," McShane said. "But once again, the county has decided to subsidize cars."

The Whatcom County Road fund will finance the project.

Federal building changes hands

By Rick Swanson
The Western Front

The Bellingham Federal Building, which served as Bellingham's first federal courthouse, is changing management after 91 years of private ownership. Tenants of the building, including the U.S. Postal Service and various government agencies, now will pay rent to the city.

Bellingham took ownership of the Bellingham Federal Building, located at 104 W. Magnolia St., from the U.S. General Services Administration on July 1, in a public ceremony, which Sen. Patty Murray, State Rep. Rick Larsen, Bellingham Mayor Mark Asmundson and GSA Regional Administrator Jon Kvistad attended.

The "no-cost public transfer" turned ownership from GSA over to the city, Kvistad said, and GSA will carry out \$2.61 million worth of renovations, which a state grant will fund.

The GSA is a landlord to the federal government, according to the company's Web site. Kvistad said cases involving surplus buildings such as this often end in the sale or demolition of the building.

The Bellingham Federal Building was built in 1913 and added to the National Register of Historic Places in 1979 and is a Bellingham landmark, Kvistad said.

Murray said she helped raise \$2.61 million to allocate toward repairs to the Bellingham Federal Building/Postal Office.

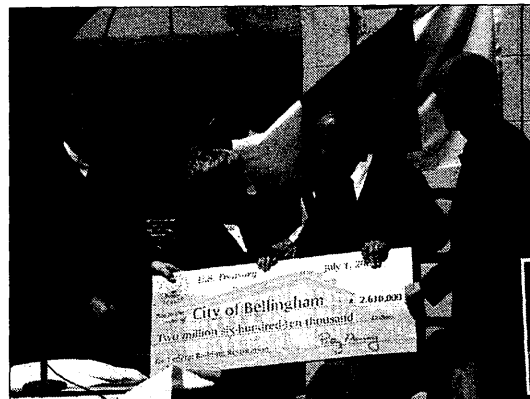
"This never would have happened if it wasn't for Patty Murray," Asmundson said. "It will benefit the

community for decades to come."

Murray said Asmundson sent her a request for the grant two years ago, and explained the importance of the building to Bellingham. Murray said she urged the GSA to reconsider renovating and promised a smaller budget. The \$2.61 million is less than one-third of the original budget, Murray said.

"This building is too important to be sold or destroyed and is a symbol of Bellingham's past," Murray said.

In addition to renting office space to paying tenants, the city will use portions of the 39,110 square feet for security, Larsen said, and it will "serve as a home for security to discuss needs on all levels."



Rick Swanson/The Western Front
John Kvistad, Patty Murray, Mark Asmundson and Rick Larsen gather around a \$2.61 million check at the July 1 building transfer ceremony.

COPS BOX

University Police

July 5, 2:11 a.m.: UP stopped a vehicle on the 800 block of Chestnut Street and arrested a 22-year-old male for driving under the influence.

July 5, 9:16 a.m.: UP responded to a report of someone throwing a rock through a window of the Performing Arts Center.

July 6, 10:43 p.m.: UP responded to a possible theft of a cell phone, ball, shirt and keys.

July 7, 11:17 p.m.: UP responded to a report of suspicious circumstances in Miller Hall. Police found chalk on a candy machine and chairs and books that someone had torn and thrown in the hallway.

Bellingham Police

July 5, 11:28 a.m.: Officers responded to the recovery of three stuffed animals on the 2500 block of Eldridge Avenue.

July 6, 11:55 p.m.: Officers responded to a complaint of a party on the 1200 block of Nevada Street and arrested two people for underage drinking.

July 7, 2:46 a.m.: Officers contacted a male on the 2000 block of E. Illinois Street about his loud stereo after a neighbor complained about the noise.

July 7, 3:08 a.m.: Officers verbally warned a woman on the 2900 block of Evergreen Avenue after a party she had disturbed a neighbor.

Compiled by Connor Clark-Lindh.

Viking Voices

If you could hug any professor on campus, who would it be and why?

Compiled by Kyle Turrell.



Zabeth Troxel
Junior, business marketing



Christian Geismann
Senior, economics/accounting



Luke Bennecker
Senior, business marketing

David Brunner (Student Support Services). I would hug him in appreciation because he's always there to provide tools for students.

John Krieg (economics), so that maybe he'll give me an 'A.'

Gashwin Saleno (mathematics), because he's like a big teddy bear. He wears teddy bear sweaters sometimes.

AP Wire

news briefs

STATE NEWS

Divers work to retrieve car that backed off ferry in Anacortes

Salvage crews have moved a submerged car that backed off a ferry away from the dock at the Anacortes ferry terminal.

Washington State Ferries spokeswoman Susan Harris said the car's location has been marked with a buoy and that ferries are now using the dock. Crews plan to use a crane on a barge to lift the car out of the water.

The car plunged into the water as a man trying to drive off the Chelan ferry mistakenly put his car in reverse.

Whatcom County man arrested for vehicular homicide

A Whatcom County man was jailed for investigation of vehicular homicide after his son was struck and killed in his driveway.

Washington State Patrol troopers arrested Peter Barter, 29, of Maple Valley, late Saturday.

Authorities said Barter was driving his 1999 Ford Expedition out of his driveway Saturday when he struck his son, Jacob, a toddler. The boy died at the scene.

Barter was booked into Whatcom County Jail Sunday morning on \$25,000 bail.

School patrol officer killed in motorcycle crash

A longtime Tacoma school patrol officer was killed in a motorcycle crash this past weekend.

The Thurston County Coroner's Office said Robert O. McCarthy died of blunt-force trauma after losing control of a homemade miniature motorcycle Sunday afternoon near Yelm.

The motorcycle was going less than 20 mph, but McCarthy was not wearing a helmet.

Gary Warnock, of the coroner's office, said they had not found evidence of drug or alcohol use.

Tacoma Police Lt. Mark Feddersen said 69-year-old McCarthy had worked for the local school district for approximately 20 years.

NATIONAL NEWS

The New York Post reports wrong running mate for Kerry

It was a big headline and an "exclusive" story — but it was wrong.

The New York Post reported Tuesday that Democratic presidential candidate John Kerry would pick Congressman Dick Gephardt, D-Mo., as his running mate. The headline read "Kerry's Choice" over what the paper touted as an "exclusive" story, which ran without a reporter's name linked to it. The story included a file photo of Gephardt and Kerry together.

Kerry announced Tuesday morning that he had picked Sen. John Edwards, D-N.C., as his running mate.

The Post's editor in chief apologized to readers for the story, which he said was based on information that later turned out to be wrong, but he did not offer any details.

The paper's Web site replaced the Gephardt report with an

Associated Press story on Kerry's actual choice.

INTERNATIONAL NEWS

Tests to determine if Milosevic healthy enough to defend self

He is fit enough to continue to stand trial, but a U.N. panel in the Netherlands is questioning whether former Yugoslav President Slobodan Milosevic is healthy enough to defend himself at his ongoing trial for war crimes and genocide.

Milosevic, 62, has been ordered to undergo a round of medical tests that will delay further hearings in his case until Wednesday.

He has thus far refused to accept a courtroom representative to help defend against 66 counts of war crimes and crimes against humanity during the Balkan wars of the '90s. The trial began more than two years ago.

Compiled by Tess Hembree.
AP Wire courtesy KUGS 89.3-FM.

Corrections

Julia Carlson, who was mentioned in the June 29 article "Student's video skylight design garners high praise from Boeing," graduated from Western spring quarter.

Boeing did not sponsor the design competition mentioned in the same article.

The Western Front regrets these and any other errors.

The Western Front is published twice weekly in fall, winter and spring; once a week in summer session. Address: The Western Front, Western Washington University, CH 110, Bellingham, WA 98225-9100. The Western Front is the official newspaper of Western Washington University, published by the Student Publications Council, and is mainly supported by advertising.

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

Advertising inquiries should be directed to the business office in College Hall 07, or by phone to (360) 650-3161.

Members of the Western community are entitled to a single free copy of each issue of The Western Front.

WWU Official Announcements

Deadline for announcements in this space is noon Thursday for inclusion in the next Tuesday issue.

Announcements should be limited to 50 words. Announcements may be submitted by e-mail to FAST@wwu.edu. The subject line should contain a one- or two-word topic and clearly state that the item is for official announcements. Announcements that are typewritten or legibly printed also may be sent through campus mail to "Official Announcements," MS-9117, sent via fax to X/4343 or brought in person to Commissary 113F.

DO NOT SEND ANNOUNCEMENTS DIRECTLY TO THE WESTERN FRONT OFFICES. Phoned announcements will not be accepted. All announcements should be signed by originator.

PLEASE POST

TESTING SCHEDULES may be found at www.ac.wwu.edu/~assess/tc.htm.

MATH PLACEMENT TEST (MPT). Registration is not required. Students must bring photo identification, their student number, Social Security number, and a No. 2 pencil. A \$15 fee is payable in the exact amount at test time. Allow 90 minutes. Test dates in OM 120 are 3 p.m. Mondays on July 12, 19, 26, and Aug. 2, 9, 16 and 9 a.m. Thursdays on July 22, 29, Sept. 9 and 16. Testing for Transitions (transfer students) will be in BH 105 at 3 p.m. July 9, 14 and 16, and in MH 163 at 3 p.m. for Summerstart students on Aug. 4, 5, 6 and at 1 p.m. in MH 163 on Aug. 11, 12 and 13.

MILLER ANALOGIES TEST (MAT). Registration is required in OM 120 or by calling X/3080. The MAT is not administered individually. A \$42 fee is payable at test time. Test takes about 1 1/2 hours. Registration is limited to 16 students. Testing will be at 2 p.m. in OM 120 on July 13, Aug. 17, and Sept. 14.

AUAP CLOSING CEREMONIES. The Asia University America Program invites members of the campus community to closing ceremonies at 7 p.m. July 15 in Fraser Hall 3, followed by a reception in the Viking Union Multipurpose Room. For more information, call X/3922.

WEST-B. Applicants for admission to state-approved educator preparation programs and those from other states applying for a Washington residency teaching certificate must meet the basic skills assessment minimum passing score. Residency teaching certificate applicants who have completed an educator preparation program outside Washington who have not passed WEST-B may be granted additional time. For more information, see www.west.nesinc.com. Summer test dates are July 10, Sept. 18, and Sept. 18.

WEST-E TEST (PRAXIS SERIES). Legislation enacted in 2001 required the adoption of subject knowledge assessments for teacher certification in 33 endorsement areas. The Washington Professional Educator Standards Board elected to require the West-E tests to meet the mandate for subject knowledge tests. Effective September 2005, applicants for Washington teacher certification must meet the new licensure testing requirements for teacher certification in 33 endorsement areas. See www.ets.org/praxis/prxwa.html for description and registration information. The remaining summer test date is Sept. 11.

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

ACCENT/ FEATURES

www.westernfrontonline.com

The Western Front

July 8, 2004 • 3

Kings of Bellingham

Band returns to hometown from East Coast in vegetable-oil-powered van

By Kim Sklar-Fowler
The Western Front

Minutes after writing the playlist on ripped-out pieces of notebook paper, the Patiokings of Northampton, Mass., jumped onstage at the 3-B Tavern Saturday among an array of instruments — a saxophone, chimes, bongo drums, triangles, cowbells, symbols, tambourines, guitars, an upright bass and an old electric Rhodes piano.

Kjell Ostlund, the band's lead vocalist, keyboardist, guitarist and saxophonist, began by jokingly counting off random numbers, "Nine, two, six, four . . ." and then began to hammer out the introduction to the band's song "Summertime" on his Rhodes keyboard.

When Ostlund and fellow band members Jesse Pollack, Jon Moore and Sturgis Cunningham began to play, the crowd shouted "My Friends & I," the name that Ostlund and bass player Pollack used to call their band in 1998 when they lived in Bellingham.

"We used to play at the 3-B all the time when we used to live here," Pollack said. "When we knew we were coming back, we knew we had to book the show there again."

After graduating from Sehome High School in 1995 and playing music for a few years in Bellingham, Pollack said he and Ostlund moved to Massachusetts because he heard it was easier to tour New England cities, which are crowded together on the East Coast.

The two former Bellingham residents found percussionist and back-up vocals singer Moore and drummer Cunningham in Massachusetts.

"Kjell and Jesse are lucky to have found Sturgis and me," Moore said. "They were looking for bandmates — soul mates — and we have a great chemistry together. The band went from a lounge sound to a dynamic experience. Before, the guys didn't have any back-up vocals, which I think creates warmth and energy that was potentially lacking."

With its new location, band members and sound, the group changed its name to the Patiokings, a term Ostlund and Pollack used in their old song "Kings of Kingsford."

"They came up with the name when Jesse and Kjell were working at a restaurant," Patiokings agent Jacqui Daniels said. "They would always debate about who was the best at grilling burgers and, therefore, who should be named 'the patioking.'"

Three years and a CD after the move, the group is traveling cross-country again. This time, however, the trek is part of its "Grease Tour," which promotes the release of

the band's new album, "Brand New Bag."

The tour has the band playing 26 cities in 33 days with city number 17 being the old hometown.

When asked what he would do during his three days in Bellingham, Pollack said, "Visiting family and eating, definitely — Casa Qué Pasa, Busara (Siamese Cuisine), Lemon Grass (Café)."

With friends and family in the audience, little-known facts about the band members slipped out.

"The band's energy level is high at shows, but normally, these guys are mellow," said Chris Baron, a friend of the band. "Especially Kjell, he isn't usually even chatty. But onstage, he is a totally different person."

The band members said they were thrilled to play for a homecoming audience.

"We're looking forward to playing for people in



Kim Sklar-Fowler/The Western Front
Patiokings drummer Jon Moore, left, and saxophone player Kjell Ostlund play for the crowd at the 3-B Tavern Saturday night.

Bellingham who have always been curious about the Patiokings and what happened to them," Moore said. "I can't wait to see people's faces light up when they hear our new sound."

Not everyone in the bar was familiar with the Patiokings, though. Bellingham natives Adrienne Spinelli and Yarrow Allen-Hickey first read about the band in the Bellingham Herald.

"The article described the band as a mix between grunge and funk, which sounded unique, so we thought we would check it out," Spinelli said. "I really like their eclecticism. They have bongo drums. How many bands do you see that use bongos?"

The band's instrumental diversity also captured the attention of Jonathan Skoczen, horn player for local band MamaLava.

"The first song was soulful and funky," he said. "But I was trying to figure out how they were going to incorporate the sax into the song. And then, all of the sudden, he just reaches over to the side and starts jamming."

In addition to new songs like "Summertime," the band played some of their oldies, such as "Kings of Kingsford," for the original fans and remixed some recent hit songs, such as Justin Timberlake's "Rock Your Body."

The band members said their tour, which began June 15, is not only promoting their album but also showing off their 1997 Chevy Cargo Van.

The Patiokings note that their tour van, besides having a sleek, black form, is environmentally chic.

With the help of Justin Carven, a friend of the band members and founder of the Greasecar Vegetable Fuel Systems, the Patiokings said they converted their diesel-powered van into a Greasecar — a car with a dual-engine system that allows the engine to run off filtered vegetable oil. The conversion cost \$1,500, but at the end of the tour, Pollack said they will have traveled 10,000 miles and saved as much as \$2,000.

As the Patiokings cruise across the country, they are pit stopping at restaurants to fill their 60-gallon storage tank.

"We're still figuring it out," Pollack said. "But we have the best luck at family-owned restaurants. The best place we found was this chicken shack in Arkansas. We got about 80 gallons of fresh oil."

The Patiokings hit the road again Monday, heading for Missoula, Mont., leaving their fans, their family and their favorite restaurants behind until they decide to return home to Bellingham once again.

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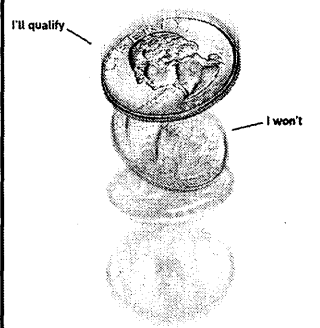
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 Internal Revenue Service
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LATIN LOOPS

KUGS disc jockey plays music with a Latin flavor

By Jessica Alvarado
The Western Front

The radio pumped out ska music with a Latin flare as a young man's voice greeted radio listeners.

"Bienvenidos! Qué pasa? You're listening to 89.3 KUGS," the man said.

The speakers pounded out the classic Latin-style music with horns, drums and guitar before switching to a more modern hip-hop funk with Spanish lyrics.

The man is Oliver Anderson, a Western junior and KUGS disc jockey, who is also the music director who manages the other disc jockeys at the student radio station.

His specialty show, "La Calle," which means 'the street' in Spanish, presents a mix of Latin music to his listeners Saturday nights from 8 p.m. to 10 p.m.

Anderson said that while a majority of people think of Latin music as tango or salsa, his show offers many sub-categories within Latin music, ranging from punk to classic mariachi.

Anderson said he originally did not listen to a lot of Latin music before his show. His CD collection now continues to grow the more he plays and exposes himself to Latin music.

Anderson said his musical tastes are continuing to develop. With the upcoming national presidential election, he said he finds himself listening to music with political lyrics.

Anderson said KUGS disc jockeys can play a huge, eclectic mix of music.

"We get full-length CDs from promoters — not just one-song samplers — which allows us to play more of a specific band," he said. "This gives us the chance to really make the show our own and not repetitive."

This past fall, KUGS general manager Jamie Hoover suggested bringing Latin music to the radio waves at Western. Anderson said he immediately jumped on the idea and started researching Latin music.

Anderson then took some of his mix tapes to KUGS program manager Aaron Managhan. Managhan loved the idea, Anderson said, and offered him the weekly mid-night shift called "Music for the Masses" before he could focus on "La Calle."

Anderson said his parents influenced his musical background throughout his life. His mother, who is from Argentina, engraved a lot of the Hispanic culture into him, Anderson said. As a child, tango music also largely influenced his musical tastes.

"My parents have been a huge part of my life and I am now driven by making them proud," he said.

Anderson first became interested in radio when he was in high school. He said one of his friends worked at the community college radio station in Federal Way and allowed him to play music and see how radio shows work.

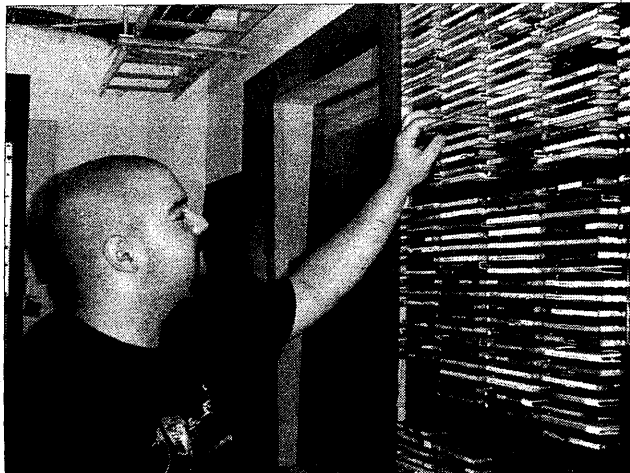
Anderson said he loved what he heard, and watching his friend at work sparked his interest to pursue his own career the radio business.

After Anderson came to Western, his older brother, also a Western student, talked to him about how to check into KUGS. Working there was the perfect chance to get involved in radio, Anderson said.

"Music is my life," he said. "I found an outlet for that through radio, which makes me happy."

Anderson said he is committed to widening people's horizons in music, especially in the Latin genre.

"My only goal right now at the radio is to have the most diverse musical catalog," he said.



Jessica Alvarado/The Western Front
Above, Oliver Anderson, music director and disc jockey for KUGS, organizes the CDs to arrange a playlist for each show. At left, he announces the beginning of his Saturday night show, "La Calle."

Sam Abraham, a Western senior and friend of Anderson for nearly five years, said Anderson has an ear for music. He said he and Anderson share similar tastes for music and learn new genres from one another. Anderson agreed that some of his friends have influenced his musical taste.

Another friend, Western junior Jeff Baff, who has known Anderson for a little more than a year, said he immediately liked "La Calle."

"I think it's cool because he plays such a big variety on his show," he said. "It's not just salsa, like most people would think."

Anderson said he loves to focus on his upcoming shows and put together the playlist the night before he goes on the air.

"I like to concentrate on how the songs will flow together — that's the main concern," Anderson said. "When identifying the songs, the most important part is listening to the ending to see how I can mix the songs together."

Anderson said he gets two or three fan calls a show when playing music on "La Calle." Many listeners have become familiar with Latin music and have started requesting specific bands such as Ozomatli and Los Mocosos.

"It means so much to me that Latin music is finding its place, especially among college students," he said.



RADIO

By Janna Bronemann
The Western Front

Jonathan Winter, president and curator of the American Museum of Radio and Electricity in downtown Bellingham, pointed at one of the first radios invented — a metal box the size of a medium television with wires sticking out — and said he is amazed at how different radios look today.

In an age when technology is improving at a rapid rate, people can easily forget how electricity was invented, but this is exactly what the museum attempts to show their visitors every Wednesday through Saturday.

"Radio today, for the most part, is aimed at a mass



Janna Bronemann/The Western Front
Weston Hensley, a sixth-grader from Indiana, plays with the headphones of an old radio at Bellingham's American Museum of Radio and Electricity.

market," Winter said. "In the old times, radio was much more community-centered. We don't have many of those anymore."

Winter said the community needs to see and appreciate the items that helped build history.

He said manufacturers produce electronics so quickly that when an item breaks, people throw it away and replace it — the focus is convenience, not quality.

"Today, everything's digital," Winter said. "Everything here can be repaired. Items today aren't even built with a repair cycle."

Winter said the museum features his collection of original radio equipment manufactured from approximately 1910 to 1945. The museum also displays old record players, microphones, typewriters, phonographs, receivers and amplifiers.

Weston Hensley, a sixth-grader visiting from Indiana, played with the many buttons on an old transistor radio.

"It looks like a pilot's cockpit," Hensley said.

Also on display is a Theremin, an antique musical instrument from the '20s. The Theremin is a wooden box about the size of a large microwave with a straight metal rod sticking out of the top and a looped metal rod sticking out from the side. In the past, the musician would move his or her hands in front of the rods, and the frequency from the motion would produce a sound resembling a violin, said Michele Hill, a volunteer and member of the museum.

Hill said RCA made only 500 Theremins in '29 and discontinued them because they were too difficult to play. She said musicians played them for background music in '50s horror films, and the Beach Boys used one in their hit song "Good Vibrations."

Winter, 61, said he was first attracted to radio

equipment as a teenager and developed an interest in the way electricity powers radio. Winter said the stages radio has gone through to reach its present model continue to fascinate him.

"Radio grew out of an investigation into the property of electricity," Winter said. "It's a very natural combination."

He said John Jenkins, chairman and second curator of the museum, collects items from the "dawn of the electrical age" and the early investigation of electricity.

Winter said he started collecting old radios because he was amazed by the way scientists could make small observations and use creativity to produce complicated objects such as the radio. He decided to open the museum nearly 20 years ago because he was bothered that many people did not know about the history of the radio or electricity.

"I started to get a desire to share my collection with the community," Winter said. "To me, it's the joy of learning."

He said the museum represents his passion for the history of radio and serves as an educational facility.

Dominique Coulet, the museum's grant writer and education coordinator, said that in May, 20 school groups from Whatcom County toured the museum.

The museum is a private, nonprofit organization that gets its funding primarily from donations, memberships, local businesses and corporations, Coulet said.

She said the museum is designing an interactive static-electricity learning center showcasing the history of Benjamin Franklin's famous kite experiment.

"If someone is interested in anything to do with radio or electricity, you're bound to find it here," Coulet said.

The museum has been at 1312 Bay St. for the past three years, and Coulet said the collection continues to grow.

Everyone has a connection to radio and electricity, Hill said, and learning about electronics can be educational or reminiscent for people who grew up using the equipment.

"It's part of our history," Hill said. "To know where we've been helps us know where we're going."

ACTIVE

SPORTS

Bellingham filled with outdoor adventures



Western senior David Brannon fixes his bike using the equipment available at the Outdoor Center's bike shop. The center charges a \$2 fee for use of the tools.

By Emily Nuchols
The Western Front

The sun is shining, temperatures have climbed and the incessant rain has halted for a short time. Summer is a perfect time for students to explore the breathtaking landscape surrounding Western.

Western is located east of Mount Baker, an impressive, 10,781-foot peak reaching into the sky. Students have the opportunity to venture into the 1.7 million acres of Mount Baker-Snoqualmie National Forest, or to explore Bellingham Bay and the San Juan Islands.

Since the destinations are located within a 50-mile radius of campus, students have the freedom to hike, climb or kayak to a chosen destination.

Students lacking experience in outdoor activities have plenty of choices to gain knowledge.

The Outdoor Center, located in Viking Union 150, has compiled a number of expeditions for interested students throughout the month of July.

Kayaking excursions include trips to

Wildcat Cove at sunset, an overnight trip to Western's Viqueen Lodge on Sinclair Island or a whitewater kayaking weekend.

The Outdoor Center's last excursion of the summer is a climb on Mount Baker. The center will provide all necessary gear.

"You don't need any experience," said Nate Farr, an employee at the Outdoor Center. "All the trips are for beginners."

Prices range from \$20 to \$105 for students and \$25 to \$130 for non-students. The overnight trips and the climbing excursion cost a bit more than others do.

Farr said the center has seen a decrease in the number of students interested in the excursions.

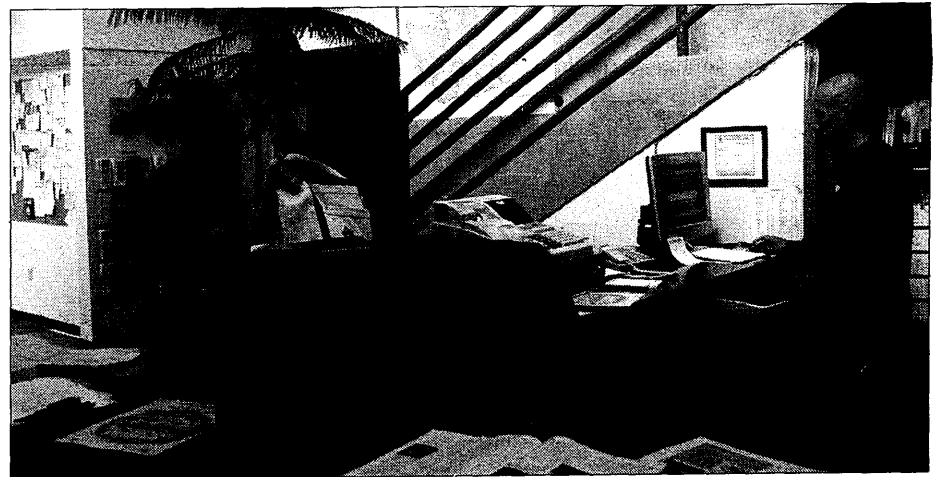
"There are definitely fewer people signing up during the summer," Farr said. "All the trips still have plenty of room."

Another feature of the Outdoor Center is the bicycle shop. Students can special-order bike parts, and Farr said that for \$2, each student can fix their bikes with the help of mechanics.

"We have two more races this month," said Drew Swayne, a Western senior, Outdoor Center employee and a member

of Western's cycling club. "Nationals are at the end of the month."

Swayne said the most popular trail to ride near Bellingham is Galbraith Mountain, just past Lake Padden on



Joel Todd, the Outdoor Center's equipment shop coordinator, checks in gear used for a camping trip. The center rents camping, hiking and mountain equipment throughout the year.

Samish Way.

The Outdoor Center also rents outdoor equipment to students for a small fee. Camping, kayaking and skiing equipment are available. Students, faculty and alumni of Western, Whatcom Community College and Northwest Indian College can all rent equipment.

REI, an outdoor specialty store, located at 400 A 36th Street in Sehome Village, is another resource tool for students to gain outdoors knowledge.

REI rents equipment to co-op members as well as the public.

On-location clinics will teach the basics of outdoor activities.

Clinics are being held on-location throughout July and August, including basic bike maintenance, introduction to rock climbing and introduction to sea kayaking.

The Bellingham Mountaineers, a local organization concentrating on mountaineering and hiking, is offering seminars throughout July. Bellingham Mountaineer Ted Ullman said the seminar is geared toward those wanting to gain experience and will focus on the basics of camping.

Seminar topics include weekend backpacking skills, an introduction to sailing, backcountry navigation and travel and an introduction to rock climbing.

"Anyone is welcome to come," Ullman said. "But it is mainly for beginners."

Women's soccer team acquires new talent

By Janna Bronemann
The Western Front

Despite the Western women's soccer team's losing record in 2003, five players have signed letters of intent to play this fall, which may indicate a promising upcoming season, head coach Travis Connell said.

Even though the team had a record of six wins and 13 losses, Connell said the team was more successful than its record showed.

He said the Vikings defeated the strongest teams in the league but struggled against the weaker teams. Connell said this showed potential for the upcoming season.

Connell said the new recruits provide a stable foundation for the future.

"I have a really positive attitude, and I am very hardworking," Western transfer student Erin Stay said. "I don't like to lose."

Connell said the new players will be a

positive contribution to the team. He said the new players on the team are tough workers and quality players.

"We've got a good group coming in that will set a good tone," Connell said.

Connell said two of the players are junior transfer students: midfielder Katy Sebens from Seattle Pacific University and Stay, a defender from St. Louis University in Missouri.

He said the other three players will be freshmen who graduated this year from high school. Western will gain midfielder Amanda Font from Decatur High School in Federal Way, forward Anna Smits from Lynden High School and midfielder Kelly Gagne from Kentwood High School in Covington.

Stay said she helped her Division I St.

Louis University team reach the conference finals and led her high school team to a state championship, where the team awarded her the Most Valuable Player award. She said she was captain of her club team, which also won the state championship.

Stay said she is looking forward to playing for Western because the coaches talked about how the team will grow this season, but she joked that they may be saying this as a recruiting tool.

"I hear we're supposed to be improving this year, so I hope to be a part of that improvement," Stay said.

Despite receiving other offers from schools close to St. Louis, such as Illinois State University, Stay said she wanted to play for Western because it was closer to her hometown of Shoreline.

'I hear we're supposed to be improving this year, so I hope to be a part of that improvement.'

Erin Stay

Western transfer student and recruit for Western women's soccer

Smits said she decided to go to Western because she played for Connell when he was in charge of the Rangers, the Whatcom County club team. She said she also took private soccer lessons from Connell before deciding on Western.

"I knew he would be a good coach and a good one for me," Smits said.

Smits said she received first-team all-North Cascades Conference her senior year at Lynden and was captain of her high school team and club team for two years.

"I try my best to push myself and try to push my teammates," Smits said. "I try to score a lot of goals because I am the forward."

Connell said this will be his second season coaching the Western women's soccer team, but he has been head coach for the men's soccer team for the past five seasons and also will coach them this fall.

The women's season will begin August 28 at Civic Stadium against Cal Poly Pomona University.

OPINIONS

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The Western Front

July 8, 2004

Frontline

The European economy will benefit from an extended workweek and less vacations

After many years of criticizing the American way of life, Europeans are now discovering that their "leisure society" of 35-hour workweeks and month-long summer vacations is damaging to their job market.

Since the '70s, European employers have shortened workweeks to 35 hours in an attempt to decrease the unemployment rate. According to a July 7 New York Times article, many Europeans believe that the adjustment has done little to alleviate the unemployment rate and instead has led to chronic economic problems, including the looming threat that European employers will move their businesses elsewhere.

Although many Europeans may not agree with increasing the workweek, this change will lead to an increase in local job production, which will benefit the European economy and its workers.

The shorter hours do not give businesses enough time to complete the demand for work hours, particularly in France and Germany, is increasing.

"I feel it's been a brake on economic development and therefore a brake on overall employment," French President Jacques Chirac recently said, according to the Times article.

When employers first adjusted the workweeks, they believed more jobs would be available to Europeans. The unemployment rate instead has increased because employers have found that low-wage countries in Asia and the rest of the European Union provided inexpensive employment options. While Europeans received shorter workweeks with no change in pay, foreign workers were willing to work longer hours and for less money.

According to the Times article, Europeans work an average of 10 percent fewer hours a year than Americans, which has created the European notion that Americans work too hard. In contrast, American society has instilled in its workers the belief that being a hard worker is the equivalent of being a good person. Because employees are eager to impress their employers, productivity increases, which also increases overall economic activity.

Many Europeans say the longer work hours with no additional income will lead to exhaustion and less time for leisure and family. These luxuries, however, come with a high price.

According to an August 2001 Seattle Times article, France's business market practically shuts down during the summer as employees take extended vacations. While employees are enjoying an average 25 days of vacation a year, most factories and offices close.

The developed world is becoming a "work society," emphasizing long workdays and fewer play days. By increasing the workday, the EU will become more economically stable and will eventually become a stronger competitor in the global job market.

Frontlines are the opinion of The Western Front editorial board: Cari Lyle, Shanna Green, Anna Sowa, David Wray, Lauren Miller, Matthew Anderson, Jenny Zuvella, Jelena Washington and Jessie Bowden.

The Western Front

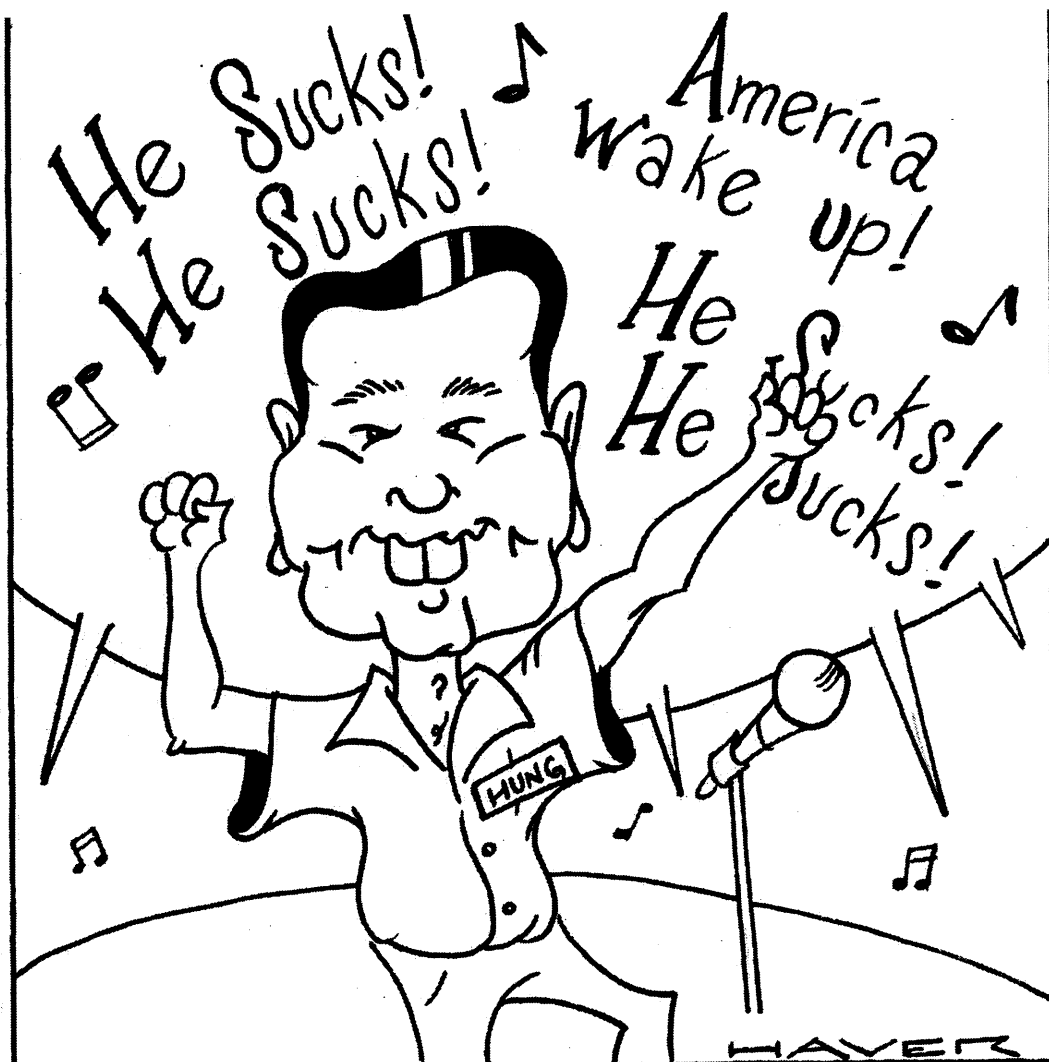
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And we quote:

"I look at that ring and think — very cool."

— Britney Spears about her engagement ring from fiance Kevin Federline



Hung's 15 minutes are up



Meron Kelemework

COMMENTARY

With a voice only he can appreciate and dance moves that just might give Elvis a run for his money, William Hung has managed to sneak into Hollywood, paving his own road to fame.

When Hung sang — well tried to sing — Ricky Martin's "She Bangs" he had audience members rolling with laughter, and now the ridiculous performance is available on Hung's own DVD "William Hung: Hangin' with Hung."

Hung has followed his musical dreams but will most likely become a one-hit wonder. In order for Hung to avoid the

crash that follows most one-hit wonders, he must leave while he is still ahead of the game.

As Hung auditioned for "Idol," it was obvious this was more than a mere joke to him — he really thought he had a chance of making the finals. As the judges laughed, he continued to sing until Simon Cowell cut him short. Not realizing the laughter meant he was not going to make the cut, Hung, almost glowing with pride, said, "I have no professional training — this is all natural."

These days, almost anybody can get their 15 minutes of fame, but Hung unfortunately does not realize he might need a little more than his natural talent.

"I looked like an idiot up there," he said. "I want to be good, not something people will laugh at."

Hung is hardly like other

"Idol" artists. How he managed to capture the attention and the hearts of his fans still remains a question. Hung certainly is no hunk, nor does he entice his audience with his voice and attempted hip-shaking, yet he has women proposing marriage on his official Web site.

Hung is charming, not because of his boyish good looks but his innocence. His attempts to make it in an industry filled with the corrupt and naive but refreshing. He remains true to himself in the face of those who reject him. It is the sincerity with which he approaches his so-called fame that has 116,000 fans signing petitions.

In the face of all this attention, Hung must realize that no amount of fame or money will buy him respect. Hung has not

SEE Bang, PAGE 7

Veterans deserve quality health care



Deanna Itano

COMMENTARY

They fight in the name of the United States. They risk life and limb, but when these soldiers return from war, with wounds or psychological ailments, they should not expect the country to take care of them.

This is the message delivered to U.S. veterans, when President George W. Bush planned to leave veterans to take care of their own health care.

Presidential Democratic candi-

date Sen. John Kerry, D-Mass, will alleviate Bush's shortcomings in veteran's healthcare if he wins office in November.

Kerry left the campaign trail, June 22 for Washington, D.C., to pose his vote in support of a military spending amendment to a military spending bill that would guarantee mandatory health-care funding for America's 26 million veterans, according to a June 22 New York Times article.

This shows that Kerry has his priorities straight. He is fighting for something that will directly benefit the American people.

"I have met thousands of veterans as I have fought this country who have fought with pride and honor but still don't have

the quality health care they need," Kerry said on his campaign Web site.

At least someone is taking the initiative to offer a proper thanks to those who have fought for their country — a thanks promised by the Bush administration upon entry to "the war on terror" but never delivered.

Unfortunately, Kerry did not get a chance to vote on the amendment. According to a June 23 New York Times article, he arrived on Capitol Hill to find that the vote had been rescheduled for a later time.

Bush's war has created an entirely new generation of vet-

SEE Health, PAGE 7

Bang: Hung should not sacrifice respect for money

Continued from Page 6

gained his fame through his skills but instead his entertainment value. As a minority, Hung must consider several aspects. Commentators such as Emil Guillermo, an award-winning independent columnist, say this is simply a case of racist stereotyping. The fact that Hung's accent and the stereotypes he represents are a part of his entertainment value angers people like Guillermo. Many share these views, and though they are harsh, they are more than valid.

Asians, like other minorities, struggle to fight the stereotypes they face every day. As a minority, Hung must keep in mind that he is regarded not just as an individual but also as a representative of his ethnicity. Fun is fun, but at the end of the day, Hung's responsibility is to make sure he upholds his own respect as well as that of others in his ethnicity.

This certainly does not mean Hung should not go out and attempt to do what he loves. It means he should know how much he is willing to sacrifice. No amount of money will buy

back one's respect, and no one receives dignity or pride by selling out.

Some say he has no idea what he is doing.

With appearances on talk shows, movie offers, a CD out on Koch Records, a single holding steady at No. 39 on the Billboard charts and 380,000 copies sold, Hung is hardly a fool. It takes a smart person to know acting like a complete fool can and will make you money — look at Jessica Simpson.

He has made a name for himself. All that is left to do is leave while he is still on top.

Health: Veterans need to be priority

Continued from Page 6

erans. Upon their return home, veterans may expect a decrease in health-care funding if Bush has his way in the upcoming election.

Nearly 500,000 veterans will be completely left out of Bush's 2005 budget, which expects to increase costs of prescription medications and new enrollment fees.

Kerry's play means less money spent on weapons and more spent on its citizens — an important and necessary step toward building a stronger nation.

Bush advocates argue that Veteran Administration medical-care funding is higher than before

he took office. This is true — the White House Web site indicates a 40 percent increase.

But this magic number does not serve veterans as well as the Bush administration would like the American people to believe. When veteran population increases or cost inflation is taken into account, many vets receive less than adequate health care or receive no funding at all. Evidently, a raise in veteran funding does not necessarily mean higher quality health care.

So as Bush dwells on the "fight against terror" Kerry is devising ways to take care of the soldiers when they come home.



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Clinton: Ex-prez signs 1,500 copies of book

Continued from page 1

Groves, who arrived at Costco at 6:15 a.m., was the 999th person in line.

"It was more than just a chance to meet Clinton, though," Groves said. "I got to meet like-minded people and talk about the current state of politics. They were great company."

Some were not as lucky as Groves — though only 1,500 bracelets were given out, 50 to 60 people waited at the back of the line, hoping for a chance to meet the president despite Costco and Secret Service warnings that they would not be admitted.

"I'm number 1,501," Seattle resident Hilary Hyde said. "I'm not giving up."

The line wrapped around the back of the store and through a maze under tents in the hot summer sun. Employees sold Polish sausages and sodas, along with copies of Clinton's book for \$18.99. Red Robin representatives also showed up to take orders.

Inside the store, business went on as usual as customers shopped amid the Secret Service and media.

Clinton began signing books at 2 p.m., one hour later than scheduled. Officials quickly herded fans through the line, allowing them to stop for 10 seconds at the most to say hello

to the former president. After their encounter with Clinton, fans continued into the store, where many stayed to shop.

"Hallelujah!" Kris Rose said as she left the book-signing area. The Portland, Ore., resident was the first person in line, having arrived at Costco the night before.

Some, however, were not as thrilled about their experiences.

"We've been here since 11 p.m. because she wanted to come," said Kai Hibbeln of Seattle, pointing to his girlfriend proudly displaying her autographed book.

He rolled his eyes as she jumped around, exuberantly animated about her close encounter with Clinton.

The Secret Service were a source of frustration to some customers, Groves said. Before they were allowed to enter Costco, fans underwent a rigorous search, he said.

Secret Service stored customers' belongings in plastic bags, labeled with the number corresponding to their bracelets, and customers retrieved them after they obtained their signatures.

But most said it was well worth the nuisances and wait.

"He's the next closest thing we have to JFK," Bothell resident Lawana Lindberg said. "And I got to meet him."

Eatery: Costs higher than first projected

Continued from page 1

Wise Miller Architects had proposed several redesign models, said Tim Wynn, director of Western's Facilities Management.

Western decided on a design that would have cost \$946,000. The lowest figure for which contractors said they could do the job, however, was \$1.42 million, Wynn said.

The next step for the design team is to analyze the contractors' estimate and decide how to modify the design, said Kirk Wise, architect for Wise-Miller Architects.

He said that when the design team projected the costs for the remodeling, certain factors not taken into account increased the costs.

Wise said the current increase in energy costs, such as gasoline and steel prices, made the project more expensive. He said a lack of competition among contractors also raised the cost.

The PDCA and the design team will have to work with fewer materials to perform the construction, Wise said. The design team will collaborate with Western to develop ideas for how to get the job

done with less materials, he said.

"The thing is, (the production) just has to be smaller," Wise said.

The PDCA and the design team now will make a modified estimate and present the project to contractors, Wise said.

Wynn said officials also will have to change other aspects of the remodeling in order to fit the costs. Types of services, such as grilles, which are more expensive than other services, may not be part of the atrium, Wynn said.

Western will alter the project plan regarding the types of wall covering, flooring, ceiling covering and signs, he said.


"We're going to have to change a lot to bring the cost down," Wynn said.

Officials in charge of the project plan to work closely with University Dining Services to decide what the necessary changes should be, Wynn said.

Wynn said the PDCA wants to consult the original contractors to see why the costs were so high before they plan the changes to make next summer.

"It's very difficult at this time to predict where we're going to go," Wynn said. "We're going to look at everything."

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STOCKING UP

Theater students prepare in performance rehearsals.

Accent/Features, Page 11

LIKIN' LACROSSE

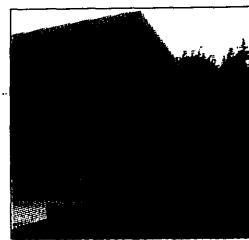
Western women's lacrosse club experiences rebuilding year with new rookies.

Sports, Page 16

A FAIR FEE?

Should Western force students to pay for the recreation center?

Opinions, Page 21



Western Washington University, Bellingham, Washington

ISSUE 3
VOLUME 130

The Western Front

THURSDAY
JULY 8, 2004

"Viking Voyage"

Choosing the right major may not be so important

By Kathryn Barcom
The Western Front

David Eldred, director of marketing and assistant vice president at People's Bank in Bellingham, has worked in marketing for nearly 15 years. Surprisingly, he said he never obtained a degree in marketing. Eldred instead graduated from Western in 1989 with a bachelor's degree in English

and an emphasis in creative writing.

Eldred, like many new students on campus, did not know exactly what he wanted to do when he first arrived at Western. After switching majors a few times, he said he decided on an English major because he loved to write.

Tina Loudon, director of Western's Career Center, said it is not uncommon to see students get jobs unrelated to their

majors and that students choose their majors for a variety of reasons other than career goals.

"Sometimes students choose a particular major because they know it's the best tool fit for their future occupation," she said. "Other times, students find a subject they enjoy from taking general

SEE Careers, PAGE 3

Transfer admissions policy changes at UW will not affect Western

By Shannon Barney
The Western Front

The University of Washington's guarantee to automatically admit students with a 2.75 grade-point average and transfer degree ends this fall. The admissions office is moving to a more competitive and comprehensive acceptance process, but despite changes at UW, no changes to Western's transfer admissions policy are intended.

"The University of Washington has actually changed to have a policy more like Western's," said Jeanne Gaffney, assistant director of college relations and transfer articulation at Western's admission office. "We changed our policy (10 years ago) because we know that a student is more than a number."

The UW needed to bring its enrollment numbers down to what the state funding allows for the university, said Philip Ballinger, admissions director at the UW.

Before, if no space was available for admission, students who did not have a 2.75 GPA but had other achievements could not get in, Ballinger said. Students who are more prepared but have lower GPA scores now will have a better chance of getting into the UW.

The new transfer policy at the UW eliminates the need of a 2.75 GPA. The UW now will consider a student's intended major, foreign language completion, work experience, grade improvement, high-school grades and other personal accomplishments, according to the office of admissions.

"I know that the University of Washington's policy change has created a lot of fear and concern for transfer students, but in reality, they are not admitting any fewer students than they have previously," Gaffney said.

In fall 2003, 10,488 people applied to Western — of those, 7,723 were accepted and 3,427 actually enrolled, Gaffney said. Western accepted almost 75 percent of those who applied, she said.

SEE Accepted, PAGE 8

More students means fewer jobs



Jessica Alvarado/The Western Front

Erik Nelson, an assistant manager at BC Surf and Sport at Bellis Fair Mall, unpacks new merchandise.

Incoming students have difficulty finding jobs in Bellingham's tight market

By Jessica Alvarado
The Western Front

With more than 140 specialty stores, Bellis Fair Mall offers a variety of opportunities for students trying to find a job in a town where jobs are scarce.

"Bellingham is one of the hardest places to find a job," said Jeri Glines, a BC Surf

and Sport assistant manager.

For transferring and incoming students, Bellis Fair would be the easiest place to start looking, Glines said. A student can drop off resumes and pick up applications at more than a hundred different stores in one day.

"We're always accepting applications," said Kelley Keim, team manager for Bon-

Macy's Home Store. "Definitely apply early since we're hiring pretty much all the time."

Keim said Bon-Macy's Home Store receives the most applications during the transition into a new school quarter.

"Our store is never hesitant to hire a col-

SEE Jobs, PAGE 4

Personal safety always a big campus concern

By Matt Haver
The Western Front

Starting a new life at college can be a scary thought, but thanks to Western's Campus Police and Personal Safety Escort Service, the fear of falling victim to campus crime does not need to be one of them.

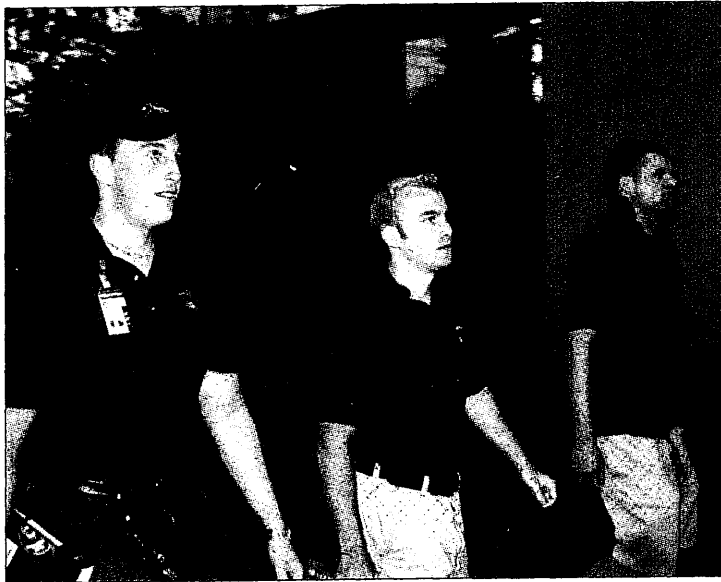
Every year, fall quarter brings hundreds of new students to Western. Western's campus leaders hope that new students are aware of the support system available to them if trouble ever arises, University Police Chief James Shaw said.

While the threat of crime is real at any school, Shaw said the University Police and Security forces' mission is that all students feel safe and secure in at Western.

Western has had its own police force for 25 years. UP and the Personal Safety Escort Service patrol Western day and night, seeing to it that all members of the campus community are free from threat and crime, Shaw said.

"A lot of people don't know we have a police force here —

SEE Safety, PAGE 6



Kyle Turrell/The Western Front

From left to right, Western seniors Justin Wilson, Ben Russell and Mark Jackson patrol north campus as public safety assistants, also known as Greencoats.

Letter from the Editor

This special edition of The Western Front was aptly titled "Viking Voyage" in an effort to help familiarize incoming freshmen and transfer students with Western and its surrounding community.

Viking Voyage is designed to offer students who are new to Bellingham a feel for the news, hot topics and everyday life just 25 miles south of the Canadian border.

Inside, readers will find stories highlighting popular Bellingham hangouts located downtown, outdoors and on the waterfront. Viking Voyage also explores local residents' favorite activities, events and pastimes.

This special section is a gesture by The Western Front staff to welcome and acquaint new students to the Western community.

Student lobbies for African-American studies

By Laura McVicker
The Western Front

Western senior Ennis Johnson said he has always felt like the only minority voice in his classes, so he researched other universities and found one characteristic they had that Western did not — an African-American studies program.

Johnson and six other Western students, inspired by other state universities, are planning to start an African-American studies program at Western. They will be working toward this goal through an independent studies program with Fairhaven associate professor J.T. Stewart this fall, Johnson said.

As part of the program, the students will research similar African-American studies programs at other schools and write a mission statement, Johnson said.

"A lot of African-American people can only trace their heritage back two generations," Johnson said. "I thought it was important that we talk about where African-Americans come from, the events that happened and why racism is such a very important, undealt-with issue 200 years later."

Johnson began preliminary work on the African-American studies program in his independent-study class this past spring with Stewart. He researched the programs at Washington State University and the University of Washington to formulate ideas for Western's.

Johnson and the students also will form a survey to find out what other students think about an African-American studies program. Johnson said he wants to find out what kinds of classes students think

should be part of the program.

Johnson said he is planning to work with faculty members in many departments to establish a set of classes for the program. He said he wants it to be part of the American cultural studies program so it would be available for both Western and Fairhaven students. If the program is approved, a student could receive a minor in African-American studies.

Johnson said he has met with various faculty members who have taught classes dealing with African-Americans. He met with Larry Estrada, director of Western's American cultural studies program, and Fairhaven professor Midori Tagaki. Johnson said he has received their support to teach classes in the program.

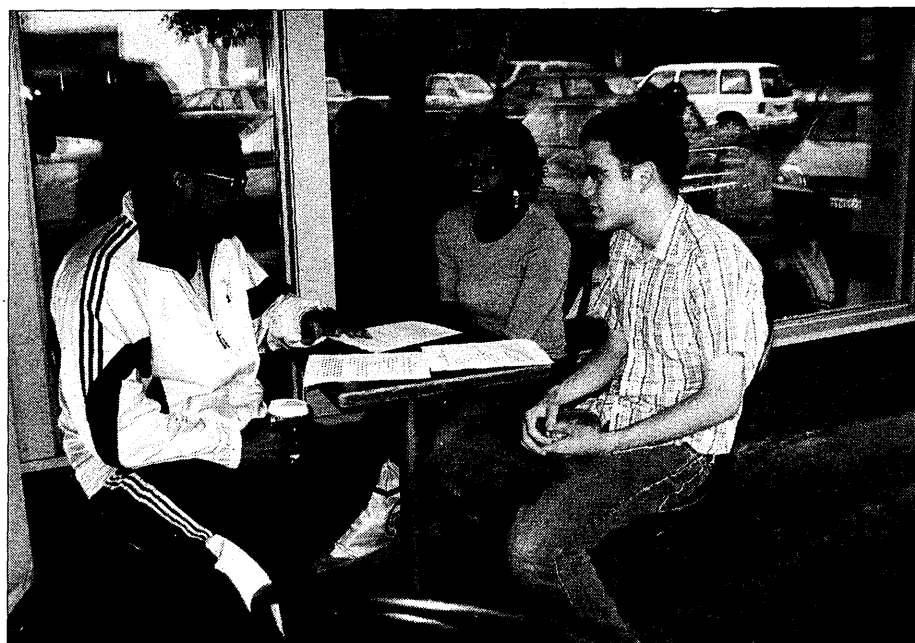
"I talked to a couple instructors about it and I found out that they had several different studies programs, but they didn't have an Afro-American studies program," Johnson said.

He presented his idea at a Fairhaven faculty meeting May 6 and met with Fairhaven College Dean Ron Riggins this past quarter. Riggins approved the idea, allowing him to move the process forward.

Riggins said he supports the program because classes in various departments that relate to African-American studies are already established and the program would bring these classes together.

"Instead of creating something entirely new, (Johnson is) bringing existing resources together," Riggins said.

The next step will be presenting the program to the Academic Review Board and the Academic Coordinating Committee, whose approval is needed to turn Johnson's idea into a program at Western,



Laura McVicker/The Western Front

From left to right, Western seniors Ennis Johnson and Roselane Miller and Western junior David Cahn meet to discuss the possibility of beginning an African-American studies program at Western.

Riggins said.

The committee has to clear the program before Johnson can figure out what department it will be affiliated with, Riggins said. Then Johnson and other interested students will develop a formal program of classes.

Western junior David Cahn, who will be part of the independent-studies program with Stewart next fall, said he was surprised Western did not already have an African-American studies program. He said the program would create a forum in

which students can learn more about the history of African-Americans and understand their roles in society.

"It's only right and just," Cahn said. "(African-Americans) have the right to learn about their history just as much as anyone else."

Riggins said he is confident the collaboration between faculty members and students this fall will make Johnson's plan a reality.

"It has to be a worthy idea," he said. "And this one is."

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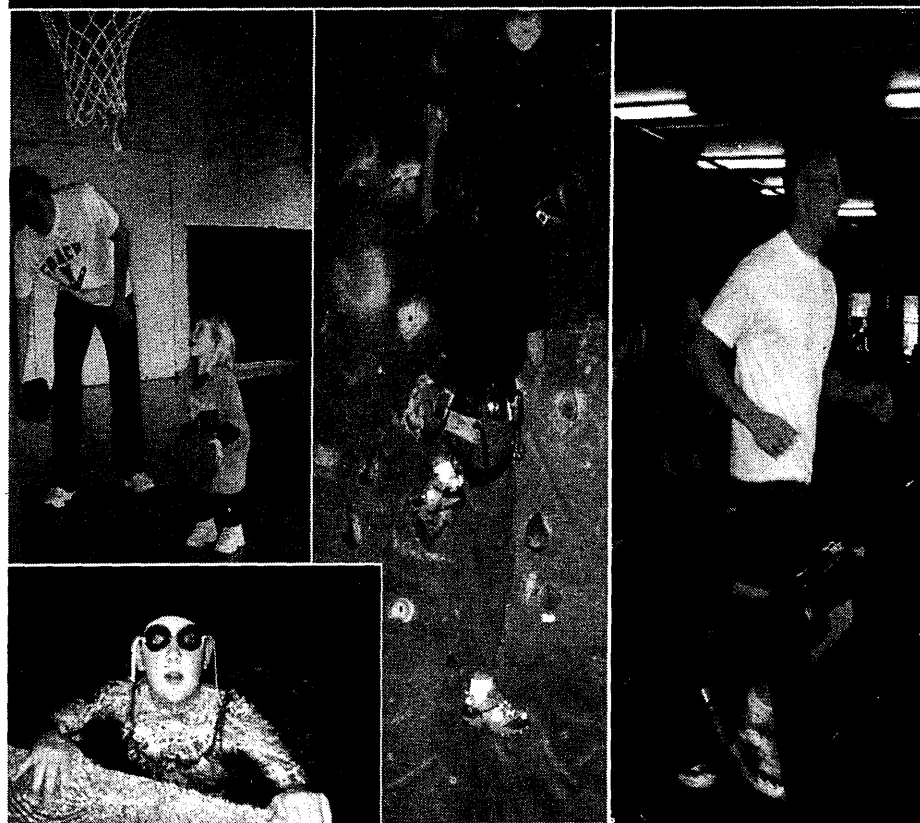
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Careers: Graduates find after-school employment in fields different from their majors

Continued from page 1

undergraduate requirements and turn those interests into a major."

Eldred said he believes that a liberal arts degree is key in many business settings because it gives students writing abilities and communication skills.

"Employers pay attention to more than just what kind of degree you receive," said Diane Shelton, has been the vice president of human resources at People's Bank for 27 years.

Shelton, who is responsible for interviewing and hiring at the bank, said completing any degree shows an employee's commitment and dedication.

Loudon said students with a particular talent or passion often want to take their interest as far as they can in the education system.

"It's very important to do something you like, but it's also important to look ahead to the future," Loudon said.

For the past 25 years, Loudon

has provided students with information to better equip them for the workforce. She said students who do not know what to do often find it easier to pick a broad major, such as communications, English or business that helps them achieve general valuable skills.

Western's Career Center has multiple resources for new and continuing students. One tool available at the center is access to surveys that show what graduates do with their degrees.

According to the '02-'03 Annual Employer Survey response, most people with a computer-science degree ended up using their major in their current occupation. The same is true with teaching, though it is not uncommon for graduates to continue their education beyond the four-year degree.

The Career Center also has an assessment test that students can take if they are unsure of their career path or major. Loudon said the \$20 assessment is some-

times helpful for those who already know they want to teach or write but are unsure about a specific direction or interest.

"Ideally, we like to follow students throughout their studies at Western," Loudon said. "We like to meet with them in the beginning to help them decide what direction to pursue, in the middle to look at internships and campus opportunities and toward the end for career placement and follow-up."

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 - ⇒ If a resident in University Housing, participate in Western's Student Personal Property Insurance Program by contacting Risk Management or University Residences.

Jobs: When work is in scarce supply, the more applications the better, job hunters say

Continued from page 1

lege student," Keim said. "In fact, we employ a good number of students."

Keim said a person need not have work experience is needed to apply. The store provides a training program until employees feel comfortable with their positions.

"A person can start out at any position in the store," she said. "We're pretty easy when it comes to finding a job."

The Mariner's Team Store employs five students of the six employees who work there, store manager Wes Miller said.

"I actually just hired two students a couple of weeks ago," he said.

All positions are part time, and employees work 10 to 15 hours a week, Miller said.

"I've only had a problem hiring a student once," he said. "They lacked a means of transportation, but that doesn't affect me from hiring students."

Miller said he is more inclined to hire college students because they are more dedicated than many others because they need to earn money.

Many employees at BC Surf and Sport are college students, Glines said. Most part-time employees work eight to 20 hours a week.

"We have no problem hiring students since our manager is a student himself," Glines said. "He's very understanding because he's dealing with a school load, too."

BC Surf and Sport sends its employees to snowboard clinics during the winter to learn more about the product features they sell.

Glines started working at BC Surf and Sport approximately two years ago.

Before that, she said she had tried everything to find a job in Bellingham.

"It's so hard," she said. "I pretty much got lucky because I knew someone up here to hire me."

Before she found a job, Glines went to the Career Service Center, located in Old Main 280, every morning to look at postings for local jobs.

The center has a Web site linked from Western's main page, she said.

"That really helped me find baby-sitting jobs to earn some fast cash," Glines said.

Glines said her best suggestion for students looking for jobs is to not just ask for applications.

"Come prepared to all the stores you want to work at with a resume to give them," she said.

Western junior Pat Hughes said he agreed that the Bellingham area has a difficult job market for students.

"I turned in applications to over 20 places," he said. "I mean, you name it, and I applied there."

Hughes said he stresses to students looking for jobs that they can never turn in too many applications. Students should travel to Bellingham early in the summer before school starts to avoid the big rush right before fall quarter, he said.

"Don't think that turning in one or two applications is enough," Hughes said. "Get

used to running around and turning them in anywhere and everywhere."

Hughes said using the online non-work-study resource located on Western's

Web site helped him hear about jobs throughout Bellingham.

"It may not be the job you want, but you just need to take what you get," he said.



Jessica Alvarado/The Western Front
Vida Sabala, left, store manager at The Body Shop, helps a customer apply makeup. Sabala said she enjoys working with college students because of their hard work and dedication.

Western Washington University Dining Services

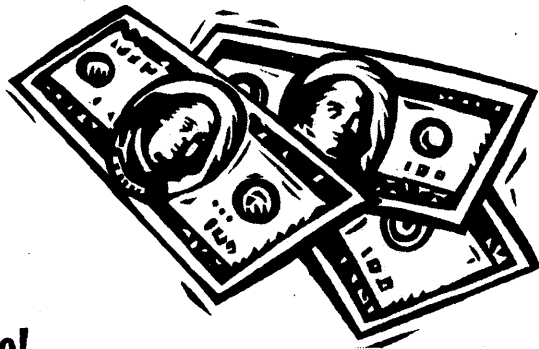
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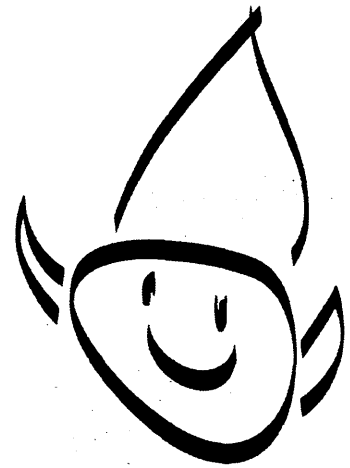
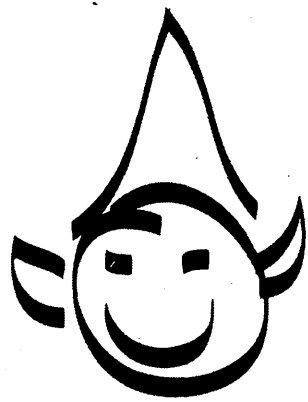
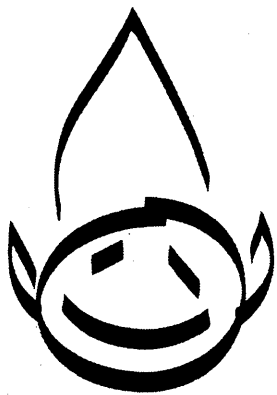
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Safety: Greencoats protect private, public property

Continued from page 1

they think we just have security," UP Sgt. Connie Satter said. "The main goal of the campus police and security force is providing the resources and the personnel to make our community as safe as possible."

Personal attacks, such as rape and assault on or near campus, have occurred in the past — four were reported in 2002, according to Western's annual crime statistics Web site.

While the '03-'04 academic year brought criminal activity, Satter said Western's campus is free from specific ongoing threats at the present time, but students still should take precaution.

"We have our Personal Safety Escort Service for those who are caught alone and need to get from point A to B on campus after dark, and we have the blue phones everywhere," Satter said, referring to the yellow courtesy phones with a bright blue light that put the caller directly in touch with UP.

Western's Personal Safety Escort Service, also known as the University Greencoats because of the color of their uniforms, employs students as escorts for anyone in need of assistance after dark. Greencoats help in situations ranging from battery jumps to safe walks home after

long nights of studying.

"Sometimes people call us when they don't need to, but that's okay," Satter said. "We'd rather that happen than people not call us when they need to."

The phones, which are scattered throughout campus, are equipped with a flashing light to alert patrolling officers of an incident and are marked visible on any campus map. The phones also are located inside the main lobbies of Western's residence halls.

According to the UP Web site, Western's Greencoats address property damage and loss, along with protecting its students.

"The goal of the Greencoats is to protect university interests, as in property," said Edward Eugenio, Personal Safety assistant and veteran Greencoat.

In an age in which students pour hundreds of dollars into their vehicles, the threat of car prowlers is very real, Satter said. Belongings such as electronic and sports equipment also are at high risk of theft, he said. UP members said owners need to register bikes with campus security, cars should always remain locked and free of expensive equipment, and personal belongings should be well-guarded and engraved with the owner's name if possible.

"Our worst crime is property theft and damage," Satter said. "We like to advise freshmen to think twice about what they bring, trying to teach them to protect their property."

The UP Web site offers dozens of quality approaches to keep students from falling prey to thieves and would-be attackers, Shaw said. He said it is a useful resource for students to familiarize themselves with the valuable services available to them.

"We tell people that there's always strength in numbers," Shaw said. "You don't want to walk in poorly lighted or poorly traveled areas. Tell people where you're going, and carry a cell phone."

Another simple device to help prevent attack is available from the UP in coordination with the Student Affairs department. Students can use keychain whistles, available to any Western student at the Public Safety building or Office of Campus Health and Wellness Services, to alert officers, frighten potential attackers or call for assistance.

"Probably the thing I tell people most when I talk about personal safety is really trust your instincts," Shaw said. "Be aware of your surroundings, be aware of people in your surroundings and be aware of people violating your space and acting in a peculiar manner. Most of the time people can sense when things aren't right."

Be aware of your surroundings, be aware of people in your surroundings and be aware of people violating your space and acting in a peculiar manner.

James Shaw
University Police Chief

On-campus eating presents nutritional, health problems

By Kenna Hodgson
The Western Front

Staying healthy on campus may seem like an oxymoron.

The campus lifestyle consists of late nights, crazy schedules, all-you-can-eat dining halls and the absence of parental control. These circumstances can lead to an unhealthy lifestyle.

This fall, many services at Western and the Bellingham community will work to ease the transition from home to college life.

"Good health is simple," Bellingham nutritionist Mary Lou Anderson said. "It is all about finding a balance."

Nutritious food, water and oxygen are the core of a healthy lifestyle, Anderson said. The biggest challenge is making these items a priority.

Western's three dining halls and multiple food markets offer many food choices for students.

This year, University Dining Services aims to increase the accessibility of nutritional information to students, said Lisa North, director of business services for the organization.

Although students can look up the information at computers located in the dining hall now, North said that because the computer does not automatically show the menu for the day, it is not the optimal tool.

Dining Services ultimately will provide information on its Web site, and students will be able to click on a menu item and

see its contents, she said. In the meantime, a sign including the nutritional information will hang by each item.

Dining Services tries to make healthy eating an easier choice, North said, and each dining hall provides a salad bar and fruit in the morning.

"Light eating does not always mean a salad," North said. "It's about the combination and the portion size."

When eating on campus, students can avoid over-indulging by remembering a few rules, according to the University of California, Los Angeles' Web site. Students should avoid going to the dining hall starving and have a healthy snack such as a piece of fruit beforehand. They should try not to go back for seconds and thirds — it takes 10 to 20 minutes for the body to realize it is full — and commit to eating at least one serving of fruits or vegetables at each meal.

Over-eating is not the only problem that college students face — not eating enough is an issue as well. Sometimes eating does not fit into class schedules, but making an effort to schedule a lunch break is worth it, Anderson said.

"It's important that students eat three meals a day," she said. "This gives you more consistent energy throughout the day."

If sitting down to eat is not an option, she said a good protein shake or bar is one of the best substitutes.

SEE NUTRITION, PAGE 8

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Sports medicine endorsement gives Western's PE and health programs more clout, credibility; certification tests also offered

By Darcey Maher
The Western Front

Western students interested in pursuing health, fitness or clinical exercise professions can now add more prestige to their resumes.

The professional standards of Western's physical education and health department rose this spring with a new endorsement from the American College of Sports Medicine, said Lorrie Brilla, professor for Western's exercise and sport science program.

As the largest sports medicine and exercise science organization in the world, Brilla said that ACSM's endorsement enhances the professional standards for Western's graduates in the health and fitness field. The organization has more than 20,000 international, national and regional members, and its stated goal is to advocate the advancement of health through science, medicine and education.

The ACSM reviewed Western's sport science and exercise program curriculum and decided it met the organization's academic standards for preparing students for employment in health professions.

"Our curriculum has been recognized as one that has met a national standard," Brilla said. "We are the only university in Washington that has been recognized by the ACSM."

The ACSM's endorsement acknowledged that Western students have acquired the knowledge and skills necessary to take

the ACSM written credential examinations, Brilla said. The ACSM also will provide feedback on student performance and give information on professional development opportunities for students and faculty members.

Western's endorsement is part of ACSM's University Connection Program, which includes 50 universities nationwide.

The credentials ACSM provides offer a measure of competence for sport medicine and health and fitness professionals for clients and employers, Brilla said. She said the organization requires the highest level of knowledge and skills among students and establishes the standards for all other certifications.

"This endorsement means that Western is offering a higher level of service to gain credibility," Brilla said.

Brilla said she used to administer ACSM's health and fitness instructor certification examinations on Western's campus every summer but recently stopped because of a lack of financial compensation. ACSM also offers certification examinations at the Seattle Athletic Club, PRO Sports Club in Bellevue and the University of Oregon.

Although Western does not offer ACSM exams on campus, the Testing Center offers American Council on Exercise certification exams, Brilla said.

The ACE is a separate group, although both it and the ACSM are considered prestigious organizations, Brilla said.

ACE is less research-based and offers a group-fitness instructor certification, said Becky Schindler, manager for Western's physical education department.

Schindler said she began offering classes in group health and fitness to fulfill the academic requirements necessary to meet ACE's required curriculum.

"We were having trouble finding people with the ACE certification to teach our 100-level PE classes on campus,"

Schindler said. "The group fitness class I offer fulfills that need and people won't have to travel all the way to Seattle or Vancouver (B. C.) to take the test."

Alysia Nolan, personal trainer for Fitness Together in Bellingham, said she had to drive to Seattle to take the ACE examination.

"I would have loved it if they had offered the test in Bellingham," she said. "It is already a very expensive test."

The test costs \$160 to take at Western. Nolan said she had to pay \$200 for the test and \$300 for study materials.

Schindler said employers often require health and fitness professionals to have exercise and sports certification in addition to a bachelor's degree in a

related field.

"In the last five to 10 years, fitness and health clubs have been requiring these certifications by their employees because the public is demanding a more medical-based approach to physical health," Schindler said.

Professionals in the health and fitness fields take continuing education credits and renew their certifications every two years in order to keep information and practices up to date.

ACSM & ACE: Different organizations, common goal

ACSM: American College of Sports Medicine

- ACSM is the largest sports medicine and exercise science organization in the world with more than 20,000 members.

- It offers knowledge and skill endorsements for university curriculums.

ACE: American Council on Exercise

- It offers certification for group fitness instructors.

- ACE certification often is a prerequisite for employment.

Infographic by Lauren Miller

'This endorsement means that Western is offering a higher level of service to gain credibility.'

Lorrie Brilla

Professor for Western's exercise and sport science program

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Nutrition: Excessive alcohol consumption can be unhealthy

Continued from page 6

Another problem among students is excessive drinking. Drinking affects the brain, nervous system and blood sugar levels, Anderson said. Alcohol also contains a lot of calories — a 12-ounce beer contains roughly 150 calories and one shot of 80-proof alcohol contains approximately 100 calories, according to UCLA's Web site.

Alcohol also dehydrates the body, Anderson said. Drinking in moderation and consuming water with alcohol can help minimize these effects, she said.

Anderson said taking a multivitamin and drinking water are essential to good health. To calculate how much water to drink each day in ounces, students should take their weight and divide it by two, Anderson said.

To help students cope with nutritional issues, Western employs on-campus dietician Kara Ten Kley. Students can contact her for answers to any nutritional questions they may have, North said.

While eating healthy requires constant effort, it is not the only factor to stay-

ing healthy, Anderson said. Being involved in enjoyable activities, being outdoors, making friends and exercising all contribute to good health, she said.

Ron Arnold, the Wade King Recreational Center fitness coordinator, said the biggest challenge college students face is inactivity.

"Many kids go from being a two- or three-sport athlete to sitting in a classroom and studying in their dorm rooms," he said. "Activity is the key to a healthy lifestyle."

Western also is located in an area where outdoor activities are plentiful and easy to find. Hiking, biking, and kayaking are minutes away.

Western graduate student Brady Feutz said the hardest part of staying healthy in college for him was finding somewhere to lift weights. With the opening of the recreation center, students can access personal trainers, weights and exercise equipment, and classes ranging from spinning to belly dancing.

"The center was put here primarily for the students," Arnold said. "It's up to the students to take advantage."

Accepted: Transfer students nearly half of fall applicants

Continued from page 1

Approximately 30 percent of admissions are allocated to transfer students through the Direct Transfer Agreement of all Washington state public universities.

In 2004, transfer students comprised approximately 45 percent of applications reviewed at Western, and nearly 80 percent of them were admitted, Gaffney said.

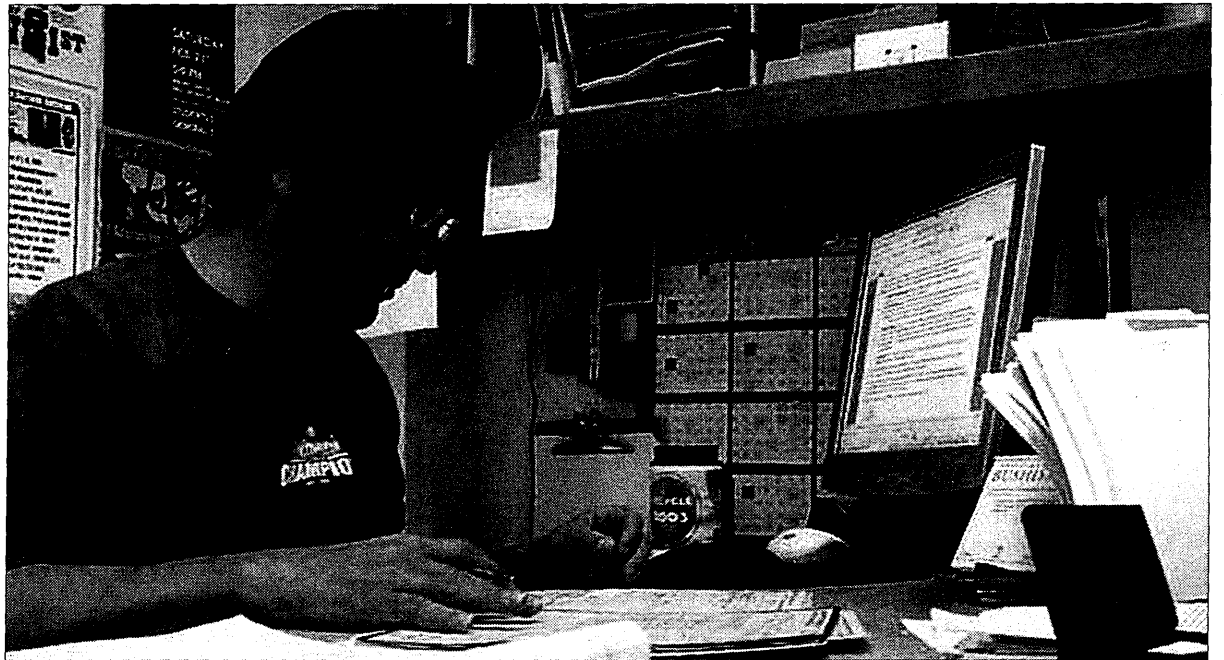
"We accommodate community college students at a very high rate," said Michael Barr, Western's assistant director of admissions.

Barr said students with a 3.0 GPA in community college have a huge advantage. Fewer than 50 percent of students without an associate's degree or who transferred from another four-year college were accepted in 2004.

Students find it more difficult to be accepted if they transfer from a four-year university, Gaffney said.

Although employees in admissions do their best to admit major-ready transfer students, many students do not have a clue what they want to major in, said Yolanda Graham, associate director at the Academic Advising Center. But she said Western tries to accommodate these students.

Unprepared students might end up staying at Western for an additional year, and without proper prerequisites, it increases competition for first- and second-year Western students still trying to complete classes for their majors, Gaffney said.



Shannon Barney/The Western Front
Tom Nerini, assistant director of admissions at Western, revises a letter to prospective students. The admissions office is one of the only offices that all students must work with.

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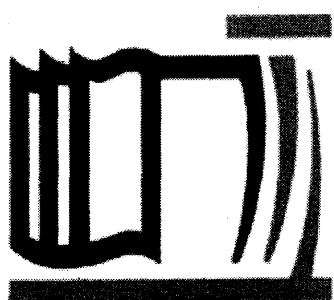
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The Western Front

July 8, 2004

CLUBS, NOT CLIQUES

By Kathryn Barcom
The Western Front

Western junior Brian Nelson said he knew when he started attending Western that he wanted to be involved in the Western's Triathlon Club.

"A sport that combines running, biking and swimming is intimidating for a lot of people," said Nelson, who is now president of the Triathlon Club. "I was excited to find out that there was a club like this club on campus."

Nelson, who has been a member for the past two years, is one of many Western students who have met others with similar interests through the Associated Students clubs.

From art clubs to political groups, Student Activities coordinator Lisa Rosenberg said Western has a club for everyone.

When Rosenberg began working at Western 13 years ago, 80 AS clubs operated on campus. At the end of this past spring quarter, Rosenberg said students had established 120 clubs.

Rosenberg said she has seen numerous clubs come and go, but certain clubs have been sturdy for years, such as the swing-dancing club, religious clubs such as the Campus Christian Fellowship, The Inn Ministries, Hillel of WWU, and various cultural and ethnicity clubs that Ethnic Student Center coordinator Michael Vendiola advises.

Vendiola said five clubs existed when the Ethnic Student Center opened in 1991: the Black Student Union, the Asian Pacific Islander Student Union, the Native American Student Union, MEChA (Movimiento Estudiantil Chicanos de Aztlan) and the International Students Club.

Vendiola said the number of Ethnic and Cultural Clubs on campus tends to fluctuate between 10 and 12.

He said the ESC is devoted to providing students with social, cultural and academic resources on campus. The ESC offers students activities, volunteer work and the ability to meet other students with similar cultural backgrounds, Vendiola said.

"Everyone has their own culture and ethnicity," Vendiola said.

If existing clubs do not satisfy students, Rosenberg said any student can form an AS club as long as he or she has at least five members and a specific purpose or goal.

"One of the great things about Western is that if there isn't a club that interests you, it's easy to start a club of your own," Rosenberg said. "Sometimes a club that is fairly new can do wonderful things for our community."

Western senior Kim Barry said she started a club in May when she had to write a paper about cancer for Western's Lifestyle Advisor Program.

She said she took an anonymous survey to see how many people cancer directly or indirectly affected and saw an alarming number of people whom the growing disease affected. She then decided to create a place where people could share their experiences, learn from one another and pass information on about cancer prevention.

Recently, the Western Students Against Cancer club had an overnight relay to raise money for cancer prevention.

"When I met with the American Cancer Society, I was given a goal to create 20 teams and raise \$20,000," said

Barry, president and founder of the club. "When it came down to the relay, we had 45 teams and raised approximately \$53,000, exceeding what we aimed for."

The Relay for Life began at noon May 22, lasting overnight until 8 the next morning.

"The reason that the relay was overnight was to show that cancer never sleeps — and that cancer patients can't give up," Barry said.

She said the group is already planning for the 2005 Relay for Life, in which she expects the club to raise even more money.

Rosenberg said clubs on campus are open to all enrolled students. Exceptions are the few limited-membership clubs, which typically have a grade-point average prerequisite, such as the National Society of Collegiate Scholars.

"During the first week of school, there is a club fair in Red Square," Rosenberg said. "This is the place where many clubs can set up a table for student's to come by and ask questions."

Since Rosenberg started working at Western, she said she has noticed an increase in general interest in AS clubs among students.

"I might talk to someone planning a backpacking trip and someone planning a music concert in the same day," Rosenberg said. "Western is a great place for students to get involved in any area that interests them."

'One of the great things about Western is that if there isn't a club that interests you, it's easy to start a club of your own. ... Western is a great place for students to get involved in any area that interests them.'

Lisa Rosenberg
Student Activities
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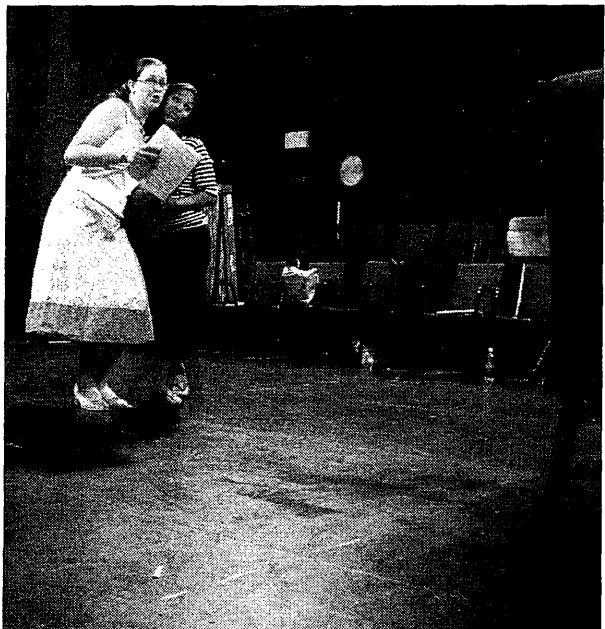
From pizza to "Peter Pan"

By Kenna Hodgson
The Western Front

Western's campus is sparsely inhabited by students struggling to study during the summer, but while most of the campus is quiet, the Performing Arts Center is bustling with energy.

Costumes clutter the hallway, rehearsals take place in every available room, voices singing fill the halls and empty pizza boxes litter the theater lounge.

Western's 34th annual Summer Stock season is here.



Kenna Hodgson/The Western Front
Western senior Ruthie Hessler, left, and Western junior Rachae Thomas practice singing for the opening show of "Some Enchanted Evening."

"It's a professional atmosphere on a college campus," said Steve Sherman, Western junior and theater company member. "We're rehearsing nine hours a day."

Summer Stock is Western's professional summer theater. This season will feature five shows in July and August.

The company has 11 paid staff, but many members receive school credit or volunteer their time. Approximately 50 people are making Summer Stock happen, Sherman said.

"We just eat, sleep and rehearse," he said.

Because the shows overlap, the rehearsals also do. Sherman said most of the cast and crew members are simultaneously working on more than one show.

"Some Enchanted Evening" started the season on Tuesday. The show is a musical compilation of the life and work of Rodgers and Hammerstein, said Will Cruttenden, a Western senior and stage manager. During the show, the five cast members sing and dance in harmony to 50 show tunes.

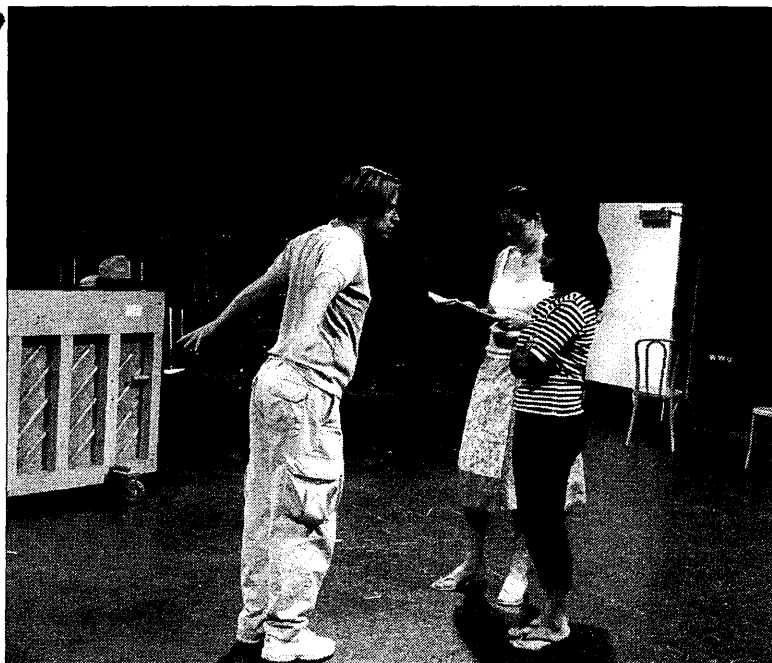
"A lot of people think that Rodgers and Hammerstein songs are really corny," said Mark Anders, visiting director for "Enchanted." "The people who think that haven't listened to them recently."

"Peter Pan," the timeless tale of Never-Never Land, opens today.

"The Rimers of Eldritch," the story of a ghost town called Eldritch and the crimes that happen there, opens Saturday.

"A Raisin in the Sun" opens July 16 and is the first production by a black playwright in Whatcom County, said Mark Kuntz, director and theater department chairman.

"Big River" is based on Mark Twain's famous story of Huckleberry Finn and the Mississippi River and opens



Kenna Hodgson/The Western Front

Director Mark Anders, left, instructs Ruthie Hessler and Rachae Thomas during rehearsal for Summerstock's "Some Enchanted Evening."

July 23.

Kuntz said theater-goers can expect some changes from previous years. For the first time, Summer Stock will perform outside. "Peter Pan" and "Enchanted" will play at venues such as The Boundary Bay Brewery, the Bellingham Cruise Terminal and various parks throughout town.

"We want to get off the hill and into the county," he said. New locations will make attendance easier for some people and will encourage others to attend, Kuntz said.

Western brought guest actors, directors and setting/lighting designers from Seattle, New York, Oklahoma, Alaska and other places throughout the country to participate. This will help continue to raise the standard of professionalism in the Summer Stock program, Kuntz said.

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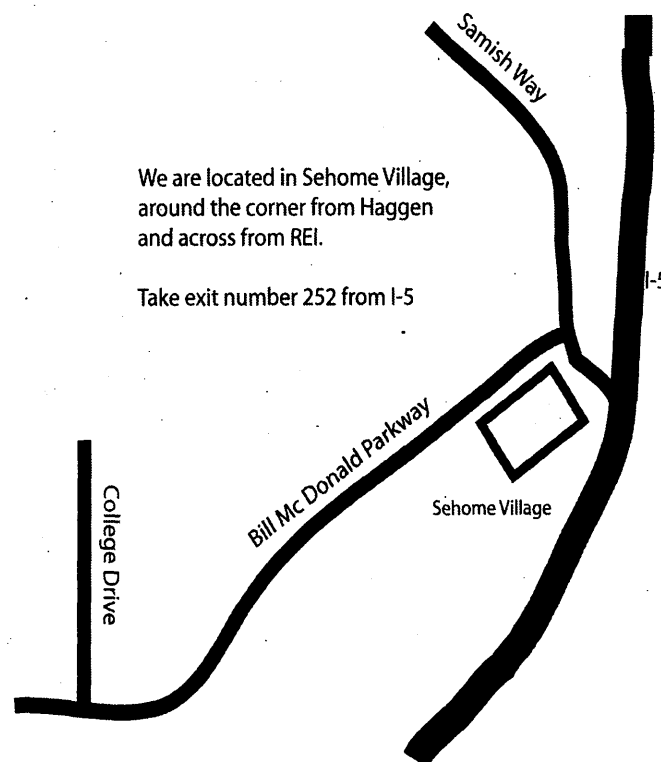


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PADDEN LURES FISHERS

By Janna Bronemann
The Western Front

The daylight had barely broken, and the birds chirped softly, as if to peacefully wake the wildlife at Lake Padden. At 8 a.m. on a Thursday, while most people were probably sleeping or rushing to work, a few fishermen surrounded the lake in hopes of reeling in a fish or two.

Western senior Ryan McHenry, an Outdoor Center employee, said he fishes primarily for recreation and usually releases the fish he catches.

McHenry said the challenge of making an artificial lure look like natural bait makes the fight to catch a fish rewarding. But it does not really matter

if he catches anything, he said, because he appreciates the wilderness.

"I enjoy everything about the outdoors," McHenry said. "The smells, the nature in general, the wildlife and the scenery."

Seattle resident Peter Ramirez, 45, said the fishing is not about the weather but the satisfaction of being outdoors and the excitement of waiting for a fish.

"I'll fish in rain or snow," Ramirez said. "It doesn't matter."

Ramirez works as a laborer for a temporary agency and travels the West Coast to fish on his days off.

Bellingham has a lot to offer for fishing, Ramirez said, because it is not as crowded as places such as Seattle, and it has easy access to salmon because of the salmon hatchery located downtown.

Lake Padden is Ramirez's favorite place to fish for trout. Though fishermen are allowed to catch up to five fish a day at Padden, Ramirez said catching only a couple

Lake Padden is approximately 10 minutes from downtown Bellingham, said Dale Smith, a fishing and marine specialist in Whatcom County. It is a few miles south of campus on Samish Way on the right side.

Padden offers a swimming area and a 2.6 mile trail around the lake.

Lake and river fishing season extends through the summer, Smith said.

Anyone older than 15 needs a fishing license to fish in Washington, and they can purchase them at Yeager's Sporting Goods located at 3101 Northwest Ave.

fish is enough to satisfy his craving for the taste of fish.

Dale Smith, a fishing and marine specialist for Whatcom County and employee at Yeager's Sporting Goods, said Bellingham is perfect for fishing because of its proximity to the San Juan Islands. Bellingham's fishing spots compare to Idaho or Oregon, which are two of the best states for fishing in the West.

He said Bellingham has quality sites for upper-lake trout fishing.

Other good fishing areas include Lake Samish, Toad Lake, Silver Lake and the Nooksack River, which is an excellent spot for salmon, trout, and steelhead fishing, Smith said.

The experience of being in the wilderness makes fishing a special sport, he said.

"The wait to catch a fish is worth it because of the thrill of seeing God's creatures up close," said Smith, a self-described diehard fisherman. "It's wild. It's free."



Janna Bronemann/The Western Front
California resident Aet But gets ready to cast his line in Bellingham's Lake Padden in hopes of reeling in a fish.

THE UNDERW

By Jamie Clark
The Western Front

When most people think of scuba diving, they envision tropical waters and faraway places, but many Western students may not realize is they can dive into water filled with coral, anemones and giant octopi less than an hour's drive from where they live. They also may not know that a Western campus club is devoted to doing so.

The Western scuba-diving club meets monthly and organizes numerous dive trips, said Jasper Hickman, founder of the club and employee at WA Divers Inc., a dive shop on State Street.

"Pretty much, someone is going to be diving from the club every weekend," club president Chris Dutton said.

The campus scuba-diving club grants its members special dive trips, special sales and discounts on rental equipment from WA Divers and priority on scheduled trips, Hickman said. It also gives them free membership into the WA Divers dive club, he said.

Bellingham does not have great diving because the Nooksack River is constantly pouring sediment into the coastal water, said Ron Akeson, owner of the Adventures Down Under dive shop on Holly Street. He said Bellingham is a central location for nearby diving, though.

An approximately 1 1/2 hour drive either north or south can land a diver in better territory, Akeson said. He said the San Juan Islands and Canadian Gulf Islands are among the best in the world for scuba diving, offering views of coral and sea creatures unobstructed by sediment.

Akeson said that in a day trip up to Nanaimo, British Columbia, divers can see sunken Canadian Naval Ships, such as the Destroyer Escort and the Liberty Ship. Anywhere in Pacific Northwest waters, divers have the chance of seeing anything from lingcod, rockfish and anemones to the giant Pacific octopus.

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THE ADVENTURES OF WESTERN WOMEN

By Laura McVicker
The Western Front

Western graduate Becky Stenersen said she thought of starting the Associated Students club Women in the Woods in spring 2002 on a hunt with friends for a pretty place to study.

They found a place, but she could not concentrate. While the rest of her friends studied at the remote lagoon, she jotted down ideas for a club.

"I was overwhelmed with ideas," Stenersen said.

Stenersen said she thought of creating a club in which women could experience female companionship while participating in activities typically dominated by men.

Women in the Woods has provided women with hiking, biking, climbing, rafting and skiing trips to various parts of Washington since fall 2002.

Stenersen said she did not create the club to exclude men but to give women the experience of female-supported trips. Stenersen said men have helped set up equipment and promote events in the past.

Stenersen's vision for the club was to allow women to experience and learn from nature, be active outdoors, understand the environment and treat it better, she said.

"The wilderness is such an obvious classroom that is conducive to learning,"

Stenersen wrote in the club's mission statement.

"Pretty much any trip you can think of outdoors, we have it," Stenersen said.

These trips are usually free, except for gas money, and let experienced athletes and beginners participate in an outdoor sport, Stenersen said.

Trips typically run three to four times a month. A professional guide leads one trip a month, while students lead the other trips, which Stenersen said are much less formal.

The club's finances come from the AS board and various grants from the community, Stenersen said.

Stenersen said the club not only gives women the experience of a new dynamic in the all-female trips but also a network of friendships.

"I've seen so many friendships that have been made," she said.

Western graduate Kristin Kearnes said she remembers a whitewater-

kayaking trip, part of a Women in the Woods trip in spring 2003. She said that before they went on the Skagit River, they practiced safety techniques in a pool in Carver Gym.

"We had to learn what to do if our kayak flipped over," Kearnes said.

On the trip, Kearnes said the women cheered for one another when crossing the river.

She said the trip marked her first kayaking experience — since then, she has gone on several kayaking trips and has taken lessons at Carver Gym.

Kearnes, a participant and leader of a telemark skiing trip, became involved in Women in the Woods in her residence hall two years ago. Kearnes said the club gave her many friends and strengthened her confidence.

"It totally teaches you self-esteem and independence," Kearnes said. "It's a totally different vibe with (only) women."



Photo Courtesy of Kristin Kearnes
Western graduate Kristin Kearnes and other participants of Women in the Woods kayak on the Skagit River in spring 2003.

WATER MUSEUM

pus, which can grow as big as 10 feet wide, he said.

Whidbey Island and the islands in Canada are two of the major sites the dive club visits most often, Hickman said.

Whidbey Island and the Browning Group, north of Vancouver Island, also are hot spots, WA Divers employee Jeremy Jones said.

Good diving is not limited to the islands, though scuba divers go to Seattle and even Tacoma to find what they are looking for, Dutton said. He said one of his favorite spots to dive is the Tacoma Day Island Wall.

"There are a lot of wolf eel," he said. "They're a big, ugly eel. Some have heads as wide as people's shoulders. There are also anemones and just a lot you don't see other places because it's not visited as much."

He also said that while many of the sunken ships in Canada were sunk purposely for recreational use, a diver can go to Lake Washington to see the real thing.

"You can see old World War II planes that have crashed," Dutton said. "There's a ferry boat that has coal cars from the mining days — it's like an underwater museum, and everything's really preserved because there's no saltwater eating away at it. The Dawn (ferry boat) looks like it could be sitting in a museum, but it's 120 feet underwater."

Both Bellingham dive shops, Adventures Down Under and WA Divers, offer organized dives, classes, charters, rental equipment and equipment for sale.

WA Divers offers certification classes that Western students can take and earn college credit through Scuba Schools International, Jones said. Students can get their transcripts from American Council and Education for \$15, which they can then transfer onto their college transcripts, Jones said.

"It is a huge time commitment to learn to scuba dive safely," Jones said.

Photo Courtesy of Jeremy Jones

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Down on D Street

By Kathryn Barcom
The Western Front

The house at 1801 D St. is more than a typical residence for college students. It is a place that connects musicians in Vancouver, B.C., and Bellingham, preserving the area's independent music scene.

The house's three full-time residents perform with five different bands that live, practice and play shows at "the D Street house."

Some band members are Western students, while others are from Vancouver. Sober Unit, Shook Ones, Ordeal, Cancer and Snake Run are the bands that practice at the house.

"Everyone living here is either practicing with their band or putting on a show," said Terry Wilk, the Snake Run lead vocalist who practices and sometimes stays at the house. "Sometimes there are band practices two or three times a day."

Wilk said the busy house is dedicated to music. The bands have played shows in the basement since fall.

"The neighbors don't really mind (the noise)," Wilk said. "We have the shows early enough — they're in the basement, and we shut the door to muffle the sound."

Though the residents of the D Street house often change, Wilk said the roommates have mutually agreed that shows will continue as long as they want to support local music.

He said the house draws different crowds depending on what kind of music is playing, and the basement showcases several subgenres of hardcore, rock and independent music.

"The Bellingham (music) scene to me

is this house," Wilk said. "It's pretty much a family."

Wilk said everyone involved in Bellingham's scene knows someone who either lives or used to live in the house. The latest addition to the family is an old emergency medical transport vehicle, which has working lights and a public address system. Though "Sober Unit" is printed on the sides of the vehicle, Wilk said all five bands use it.

The D Street basement family will be sponsoring the Bellingham Basement Festival on July 18 at 5 p.m. The show is \$5 and open to the public. Actions Aside and Set it Straight from Northern California, Break the Chain from Vancouver, B.C., and Bellingham bands Yossarian and Typical Ace will be playing.

He said people know the D Street house for its intimate setting, but this time, more bands are playing than the typical three or four.

Many times bands playing together have complementary sounds, said Eric Sanford, a Western junior and lead vocalist of Yossarian, and this is also true for the basement line-up.

"The Northern California bands have a youth-crew sound, more or less," Sanford said. "(The subgenre is) a kind of straight-edge, with fast punk parts and danceable breakdowns, mixed with aggressive vocals."

Andrea Zacharia, a Western senior and founder of Loa Records, said her band Typical Ace was the only one that did not quite fit the distinctive hardcore mold.

"Ours is just pretty much rock," she said. "But it all works together."

Typical Ace guitarists Derek Rickard, a Western graduate student, and Bo Stewart,

a Western junior, are also members of Yossarian.

The members of the aggressive hardcore band Yossarian, which got its name from the main character in Joseph Heller's book "Catch 22," met on campus this past year. They found they had similar tastes in music. Other members of Yossarian are Western junior Julie Shoun and Western senior Aaron Apple.

The idea of the Bellingham Basement Festival developed from a show in April when Yossarian and Typical Ace played together. Sanford said people from Bellingham to Seattle came to see the bands. He said the turnout and atmosphere prompted the bands to play together again.

"A lot of people will enjoy this coming show," Sanford said. "It's the kind of music that makes you want to move around."

Wilk said the D Street house residents agreed that their place would be perfect for the show.

He said "No alcohol and no drugs" is posted on each flier and message board containing show information to deter people from bringing them into the house.

Sanford said he expects a lot of people to show up for the Bellingham Basement Festival even though many students are gone in the summer.

"Bellingham has a pretty good scene overall," he said. "And it's places like the D Street house that help continue the music."



Kathryn Barcom/The Western Front
Terry Wilk, vocalist for the band Snake Run, sits on a television in the living room of the D Street house, known for its basement shows.

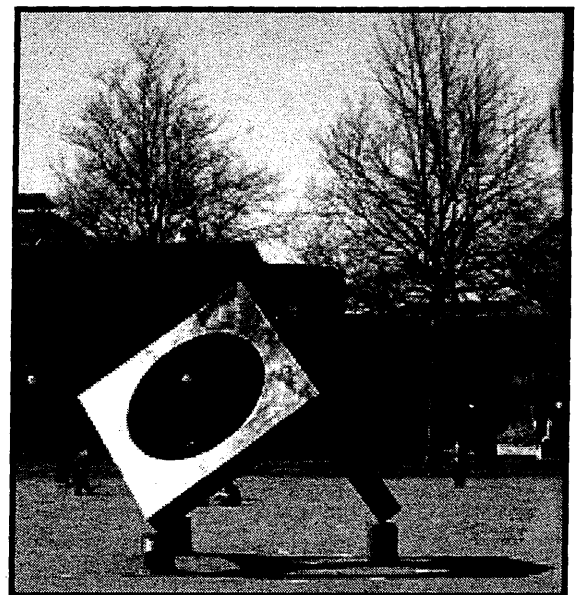
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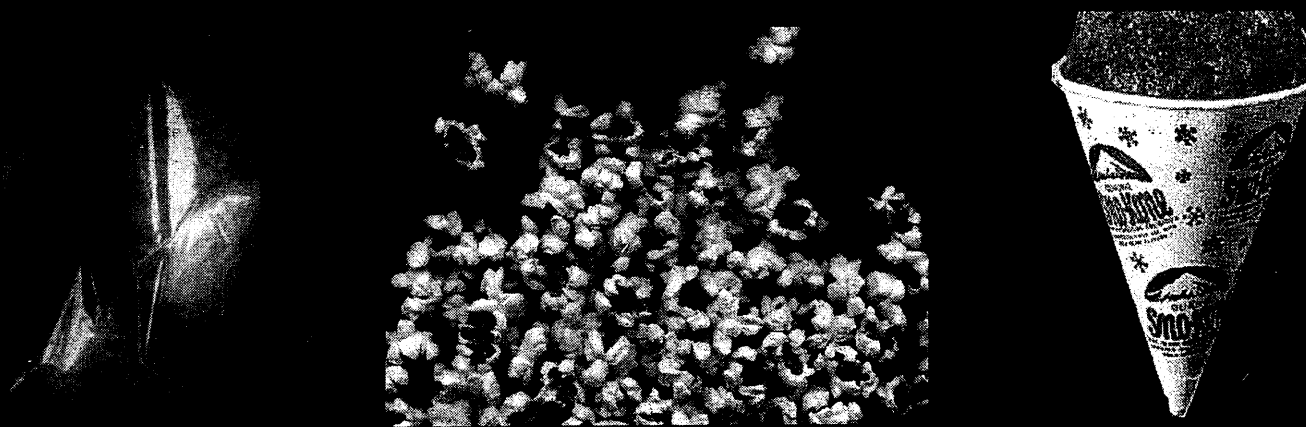
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SPORTS

Women's lacrosse keeps athletes active

By Kadi Matherne
The Western Front

Many high-school athletes who come to college get lost in the crowd and forget their involvement in sports. But 11 women sporting plaid kilts and sticks are making sure that does not happen to them.

The Western women's lacrosse team members are preventing students from losing themselves in the face of large freshman classes and are keeping students involved in a sport they love.

"It's a great opportunity for people who played lacrosse in high school to brush up on their skills," said Megan Hartford, a Western senior and member. "But it's also a chance for girls to learn the game period. We take everybody, no matter their experience."

The sport itself is relatively rare on the West Coast but is gaining popularity exponentially, said Sara Babani, a Western senior and team captain.

"I've seen an extreme growth for lacrosse since I started playing, especially in the past few years," Babani said.

Many players who join in the fall have little or no knowledge of the sport, said Barbara Little, a Western senior and second team captain.

"We get a lot of girls who have never played lacrosse before," she said. "But the

club is open to anyone who wants to play."

Women's lacrosse will resume practicing in the fall to train new players and prepare for a brief fall season.

"We have a short, fun season called 'fall ball,' mostly to get people acquainted with the game," Hartford said. "We get together and play Western alumni. It's a

lot of fun."

The competitive season begins in the spring, Hartford said.

"That's when we do a lot of traveling and competing with bigger schools," she said.

The games are on weekends so team members do not miss class and have time to travel to game locations, Hartford said.

Most of the games are held in Washington, Little said, but the team occasionally travels to Oregon and California.

"Game weekends can be pretty intense," she said. "A lot of times we'll play four or more games in one weekend."

Joining the team is not as time-consuming as a varsity sport, but it still is a big commitment, Babani said.

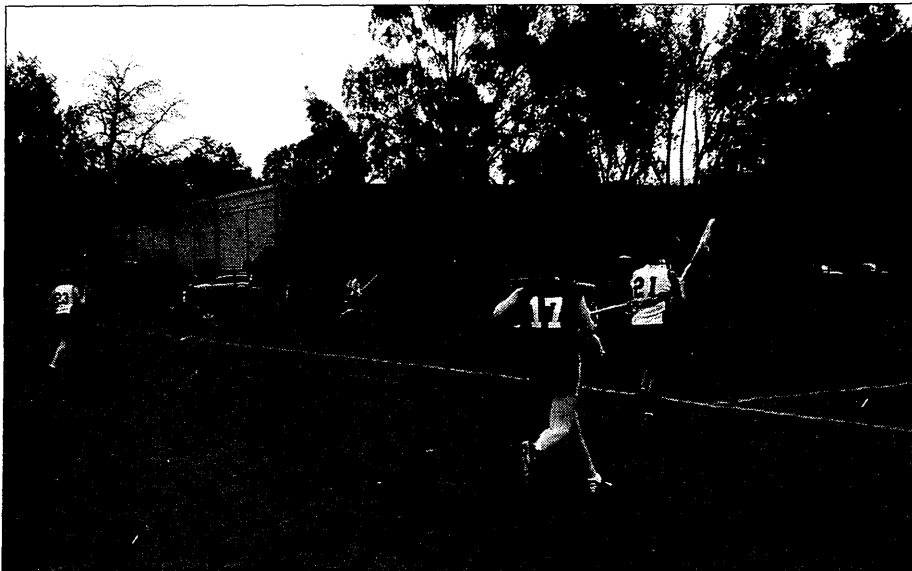
"We travel to play every single weekend from March until May, so it does take dedication," she said.

The biggest event for the lacrosse team members is the trip to California, where they compete against women from highly aggressive teams, such as, the University of California, San Diego; University of California, Los Angeles; and Stanford University.

The team ranked third at the league championship tournament in 2003 and finished in the top four in 2004.

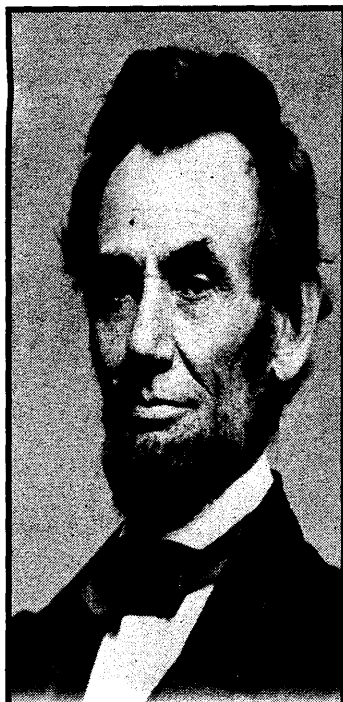
Jeff Crane, intramural/club sports coordinator and the team's advisor, said the team's weakness is having too many rookie players but said he sees promise from the girls for the coming season.

"The team did pretty well," he said. "They're rebuilding, though. They had a lot of young, inexperienced players this



Courtesy of Western women's lacrosse club
The Western women's lacrosse club team members run down the field while playing the Portland women's lacrosse club during the Western States Tournament at Stanford University in Palo Alto, Calif.

SEE Lacrosse, PAGE 17



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Lacrosse: The women's team spends the off-season fundraising for spring tournaments

Continued from Page 16

past season, but I expect them to improve." The lacrosse women are a club team, which means they are non-varsity and the school does not fund them.

"We're not varsity, but we are a competing team, and we do travel to play other schools," Little said. "But our expenses aren't paid for by Western. They give us about half the money we need, and we have to raise the rest."

Club team members essentially are on their own with both finances and general organization.

"Club teams are responsible for coaching themselves and raising money for their own transportation," Crane said.

"Everything is student led and self-sustaining."

The women's lacrosse team started two years ago and, like all club sports, had to petition to be a probationary club team, with only \$60 of state funding to keep it afloat, Crane said. The team members had to come up with the rest themselves.

During the fall and the winter off-seasons, the team spends time raising funds

to cover traveling expenses for the spring season, Little said.

The lacrosse women have worked as ushers at Western events and organized car washes and raffles to raise money. They also have sent out letters to

their relatives and Western alumni, requesting financial support.

After proving they could financially sustain themselves, they were eligible for more state funding.

"Each club team averages about \$2,000 in federal funding per year — some more, some less," Crane said. "It's all based on the team's need."

Team members, regardless of wins and losses, said they are enthusiastic about the sport on and off the field.

"As soon as we play our last game, I miss it," Babani said. "I really am happiest when I'm on the field."

'Club teams are responsible for coaching themselves and raising money for their own transportation'

Jeff Crane

Intramural/club sports coordinator and women's lacrosse adviser



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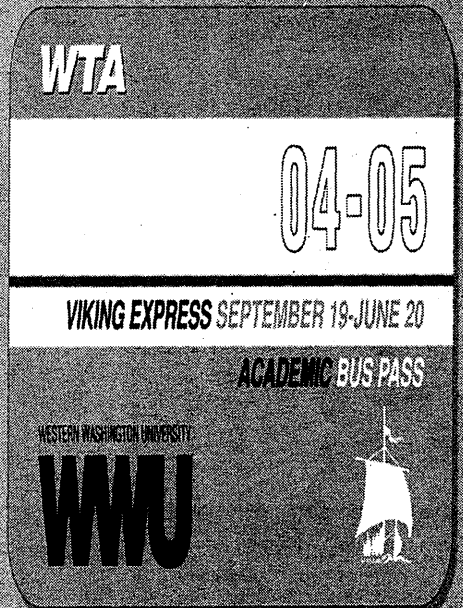
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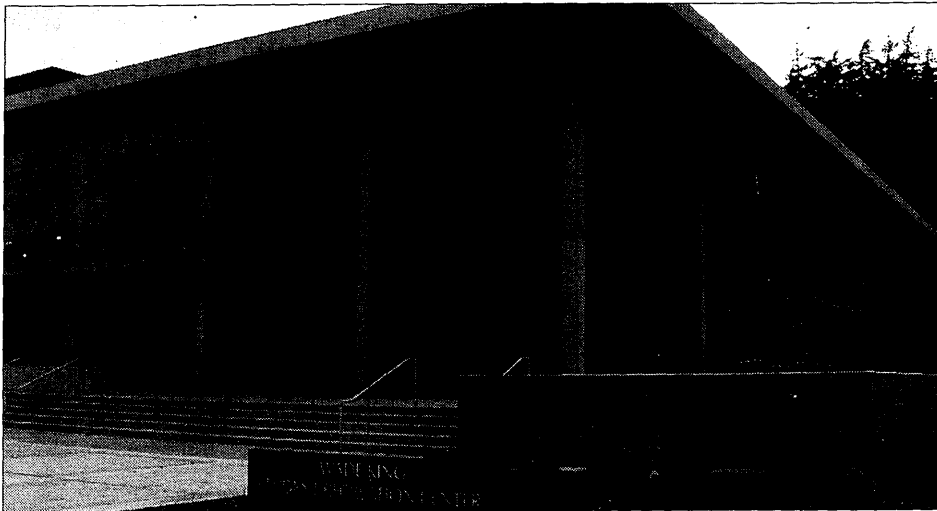
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The rec center features only the best



Jessica Alvarado/The Western Front

The Western Board of Trustees named the Wade King Student Recreation Center after Wade King, the late son of Frank and Mary King, Western's largest scholarship donors.

By Jessica Alvarado
The Western Front

One of the newest additions to Western greets students as they step on campus from the parking lots. Benches and a fountain adorn the front of the Wade King Student Recreation Center, providing a pleasant area on campus to relax in the sun.

The center offers a variety of activities for students, ranging from intramural sports to water aerobics. The facility has three weight and cardiovascular areas, a gym with three basketball courts, an elevated three-lane track, a 25-person whirlpool, locker rooms, two group exercise rooms, a wellness resource room and

a conference room for 22 people. The rec center has its own climbing wall located just past the front desk.

The most recent addition to the facility are flat-screen televisions with DVD players for the cardio equipment lining the building's windows.

"These seem to be a big hit among the students — some even bring in their own movies to watch as they work out," Western graduate student Mary Cunnan said.

Also new to the center is the Bod Pod, which is a machine that measures the amount of one's body fat.

"I guess it's a way for students to see the effects of cafeteria food on your body

and become more aware of what you should not eat," Western fitness coordinator Ron Arnold said.

The Bod Pod is in the wellness resource room, located in the back of the building on the first floor. Students also can perform a general assessment test for flexibility and strength in the wellness room.

Arnold said he plans on setting up an orientation for incoming freshmen and transfer students at the beginning of the year to familiarize them with the facility. Students should look for signs on campus and check online early fall quarter for orientation times, he said.

"The rec center provides students with a well-trained staff with an assortment of classes to choose from," Cunnan said. The rec center offers such specialty classes as beginning belly dancing and the fitness class "Butt and Gut."

"Yoga and pilates seem to fill up the fastest, so if a student is interested, do not hesitate to sign up as soon as possible," Cunnan said.

To sign up for the classes, students must register at the front desk and pay \$20 to \$25 for different classes. Classes last the entire quarter and meet twice a week.

Cunnan said the center has found that mostly women sign up for fitness classes, but it is not uncommon to see a few men trying some of the classes as well.

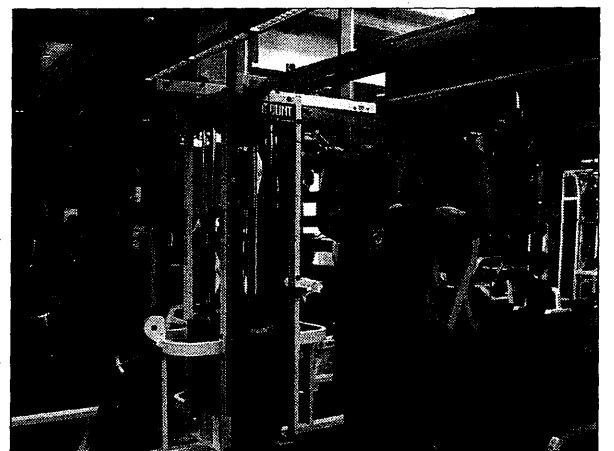
For the risk-takers, the center offers a rock climbing

class, which meets a total of six hours making students certified to climb with a belay device for only \$25. Instructors teach their classes a number of different climbing techniques to enable students to use the ropes on their own time once the class is completed. "Western seems to be a pretty big climbing community," Cunnan said. "So we also offer advanced technique classes for the more experienced climbers."

The pool classes at the center allow students a chance to enroll in swim lessons, water aerobics and lap swimming.

Open pool is available for students as well, and the pool allows students to interact in activities such as water polo or pool basketball, building supervisor

SEE Recreation, PAGE 20



Jessica Alvarado/The Western Front

Western senior Sam Grouver frequently uses the recreation center to stay fit.

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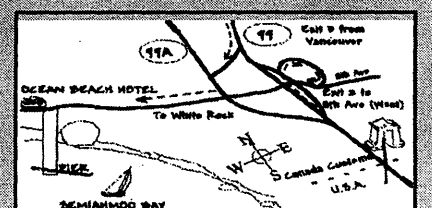
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W E S T E R N V S C E N T R A L

Women's rugby faces restructuring year

By Jamie Clark
The Western Front

For the past four years, the Western women's rugby team has won an overwhelming majority of their games, said Jennifer Gossett, former team captain who graduated this past spring. She said the team has spent the past year rebuilding, after losing a couple star players and next year will be even more of a rebuilding year.

Coach Marie Bussard said the team is losing a few experienced seniors next year but a lot of players will return, and she said she thinks the team will do well in the fall.

"We're losing Jenny who's been the team captain and a strong personality on the team," Bussard said. "She's been a focal point of the team and has helped a lot keeping the team together. She'll be hard to replace."

Gossett said several of the younger players have stepped up and committed to learn the game. She said she thinks they will help carry the team to a successful season.

Western senior Lauren Williamson said she played her first rugby game in fall 2003 with the Western team. She started in the game playing the fullback position and was so nervous that she vomited.

Since then, Williamson said her experience on the team has been more than she ever expected.

"We're not out there to screw around — we're out there to kick some ass," Williamson said. "There's nothing like taking a girl down when she's running at you full speed."

Mika Maloney, a Western senior and next year's forward captain, said 15 people from each team play on the field during the game. To score a tri,

which is like a touch-down, a player must touch the ball down past the tri-line. She also said players cannot pass the ball forward throughout the entire game.

Maloney said the forwards start the ball in action and generally have more physical contact with the opposing forwards while the backs do more catching, supporting and tackling.

'We're not out there to screw around — we're out there to kick some ass. There's nothing like taking a girl down when she's running at you full speed.'

Lauren Williamson
Western senior rugby player

Williamson, who will continue playing this year, said the team has a lot of talented players.

"We just need to figure out how to gel (together)," she said. "The back line needs a strong leader. Shit, we've got a lot of talent on the team — we just need to figure out how to use it."

Williamson said other schools in the conference know Western's team for their forwards.

"We've got a lot of strength in the front pack with how much they push," she said.

Bussard said one of the team's strengths is its cohesiveness.

"They're kind of like a big family," Bussard said. "They're a real cohesive group and they play well because of that. They're also a lot of

fun because of that."

Gossett said that even with the changes the team is going through, the team members are still close.

"The team's going to take its own new direction," Gossett said. "They're a tight-knit group of girls interested in learning more skills and excited about what's going to happen for them."

Williamson and Gossett both said the most important part of rugby is the friendships they have gained.

Gossett played all four years while at Western. She said she had always wanted to play contact sports like her brothers did, so when she met a girl in her residence hall freshman year who played rugby, she decided to give it a try. She came to her first practice with no experience and had no idea what she was getting into, but she said she ended up loving it.

"I met my best friends playing rugby," she said. "It's more like a family than it is a team."

Gossett said she is sad to leave but ready to move on. She said that once someone has played on the team, they are always a part of it. The team even has alumni games every year in which alumni players come back and play against the current team.

Williamson also went to her first practice with no experience and had no idea what to expect.

"I have a family now," Williamson said. "I met some of my best friends. We hang out outside of rugby as well. We not only have rugby between us, but friendships as well."

The team plays during fall, winter and spring quarters. Gossett said league season is in the fall and winter and the tournaments are in the spring.

Recreation: The rec center offers high-quality machines

Continued from Page 18

Josh Stilts said.

"We also have an iceberg that gets tied down in the pool, which is like a climbing rock for students to use," Stilts said. "Not that many people know about it yet."

Besides providing specialty and fitness classes, the rec center also manages intramural sports, such as basketball, flag football, volleyball, soccer and softball.

The facility offers a wide range of equipment to accommodate students' different styles of strength conditioning. Free-weights are the top choice of male students, and cardio machines are popular for the female students, Cunnann said.

The rec center also allows students the opportunity to hire a personal trainer for only \$18 a session to get into shape fast, Arnold said.

The rec center provides students with Woodway treadmills, which Arnold said is the best equipment.

"Every NFL team has them in their gyms," Arnold said. "They're built to accommodate people of all sizes and tend to be easier on your knees and joints as you run."

Men do not seem to focus on cardiovascular workouts as much as the females, Arnold said.

"The men love the weight room — I guess it helps burn off the extra testosterone that growing men have," Arnold said.

Arnold said the facility can assist those in wheelchairs. It has a special unit called the upper-body ergometer for wheelchair access to provide a cardiovascular workout for those in wheelchairs, Arnold said.

Next year, the rec center plans to create training in specific sports programs to focus on increasing speed and agility to enhance the player's athletic performance, Arnold said.

The rec center also provides job applications on the center's Web site for those students who are interested, Stilts said.

Stilts said the recreation center quickly fills job openings and students should fill out applications as soon as possible.

"If you're interested, it's really good to start looking early," Stilts said. "Start during summerstart sessions."

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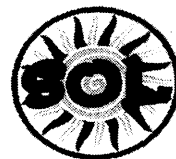
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OPINIONS

Head to head:

Should students have to pay a mandatory rec center fee?

Students do not need more fees



Jessica Alvarado

COMMENTARY

The \$85 mandatory recreation fees for the Wade King Student Recreation Center are too extreme to charge all students at Western, especially for those who do not even use the facility.

With tuition fees and the cost of living increasing at Western, many students could use the extra money to put toward academic endeavors — the reason students are here in the first place.

The students who do not use the gym end up giving Western \$255 a year for basically nothing.

The recreation center did not open until

slightly before school started in fall '03, so some students may have looked elsewhere for a place to work out during the summer.

Students may have already signed on for yearly gym memberships when the facility was under construction earlier in the year, and were unable to stop payments to their other gym.

Those students then were stuck paying double the cost to work out at a place they were already committed to.

Western has a mandatory fee for the health center, charging for health services on campus. This is a far more understandable fee than a mandatory fee to use the gym.

Western only charges \$54 a quarter for health services. Western should not charge more to use the gym than it does to use the health center located on Western's campus. Staying healthy is more important than maintaining a good body image.

SEE Mandatory, PAGE 22

The fee is a practical trade-off



Jessie Bowden

COMMENTARY

Working out at Western has become a bit of a controversy.

Beginning in fall 2003, every Western student found another fee tacked onto their tuition bills. This time, it was an \$85 Wade King Student Recreation Center fee that students must pay even if they have no intention of using the facility.

Many are looking at this as unfair and wrong. Students, however, should look at the mandatory fee more positively.

Student unions and recreation centers are the way of the future as far as colleges and universities are concerned. The

University of Washington and Washington State University also have recently completed recreation facilities. In order for Western to compete with these other state universities, it must make itself more attractive to prospective students.

The rec center does just that — but without this fee, the building, the state-of-the-art technology and the top-of-the-line equipment would not be possible. If Western is unable to compete with other universities, it will not only lose prospective students but also state funding because of poor enrollment rates.

Prior to the completion of the center, the workout facilities on campus were minimal, not to mention always occupied by physical education classes and inter-collegiate teams. The weight machines were old and the cardiovascular equipment was not sufficient for more than a

SEE Physical, PAGE 22



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Mandatory: Western has other means to prevent required fees for students

Perhaps maintenance of the gym costs more than the health center, but the recreation center receives \$125,000 a year from Frank and Mary King, who provided the largest donation in Western's history, totaling more than \$4 million. The recreation center is named after the Kings' late son Wade King. According Western's Board of Trustees January minutes, this money would be used for student athletic scholarships — \$75,000—and the operations of the recreation center—\$50,000.

On top of receiving the annual payment from the gym's sponsors, the facility charges alumni \$420 for an annual membership or \$120 for a quarterly membership.

Faculty members and staff at Western are also charged \$90 a quarter or \$240 annually to use the facility. Enough people pay for the facility to make up for the difference spent on maintaining the facility.

Discussions on trying to find a way to reduce the rec center fees for staff and faculty have taken place among members of the Exempt Professional Staff Organization, an on-campus group participating in university governance.

The organization decided that if faculty and staff received a discount, it would be necessary to reduce the students' fees as well, since the mandatory fee pays for the cost of the building not the

operation of the center.

The center reported in May that in order to reduce costs, it cut staff hours, but the change was not nearly enough. The center said the mandatory fees are essential in order to maintain the facility.

Many students at Western say the gym is one of the best-kept facilities in the community. The center offers a variety of equipment and classes open for students that may not be found elsewhere for such a reasonable price. Some students find the mandatory fees an incentive to start working out since they are paying for the facility.

Just because it may motivate students to work out more does not make it an adequate reason for forcing the students to pay for something they may or may not use.

Western should find a reasonable way to cut the mandatory fees down for those who do not use the facility. Western needs to keep the \$85 charge for those students who use the gym on a regular basis and not for those who do not.

Students already find too many fees with their tuition bill it is hard to keep track as it is.

The struggling college community does not need another unnecessary fee tacked on to the already high tuition bill.

Physical: Students who do not use the gym should consider the health benefits of regular exercise

Continued from Page 21

few people at a time. This caused a major inconvenience for many students, forcing them to work out elsewhere or not at all.

Students now are able to use three basketball courts, plenty of cardio machines, brand-new free weights and weight machines, a swimming pool, an indoor track, an indoor hockey and soccer area and fitness classes at almost any time, without sports teams or gym classes interrupting them. This creates convenience and an incentive to work out at a level that students would not find at another gym in Bellingham for a lower price.

According to the National Mental Health Association Web site, depression is a major issue among the college population, and researchers have proven that exercise reduces stress, anxiety and depression, boosts self esteem, improves sleep, builds energy levels, strengthens the heart and makes the body more able to use oxygen and improves overall physical health and weight management.

According to the Cleveland Clinic Health Information Center Web site, these benefits improve concentration. At the

end of this progression lies a mentally, emotionally and physically stronger student.

The fee was not a decision the administration simply imposed upon the students without any discussion. Students made the decision. Discussions and a vote took place, and students decided the

'The fee was not a decision the administration simply imposed upon the students without any discussion. Students made the decision.'

fee was a good trade-off for the quality and the facility Western provided. The vote may have taken place before most current students began attending Western — a project of this magnitude, however, need not be voted on every few years. The school needed to make a decision, and the students ultimately were involved in it.

Many students believe that Western should not force them to pay for a gym they have no intention of using. They argue that people who choose to use the gym should pay the fee and those who choose not to use the

gym should not have to.

According to a list of tuition and fees on the Western Web site, however, students attending Western also pay a \$54 health center fee each quarter even if they have never visited a doctor there. In addition, they also pay a \$15 technology fee and a \$35 non-academic building fee each quarter. Sometimes, as members of a community, people need to share in the cost of that community, whether they feel they will personally benefit.

Imagine a world in which people got to pick and choose what fees they paid — if people did not pay taxes for education for instance, because they did not have any children in school, or if people chose not to pay for the physics department because they were not physics majors. Frequently, many of the things people want to do would not have enough funding because others would have simply chosen not to pay.

Western imposed the fee and built the building. The implementation of the fee took place in '03, and it now seems pointless to argue about something of this level that cannot be changed anyway. Students now should look at this fee as an incentive and exercise.



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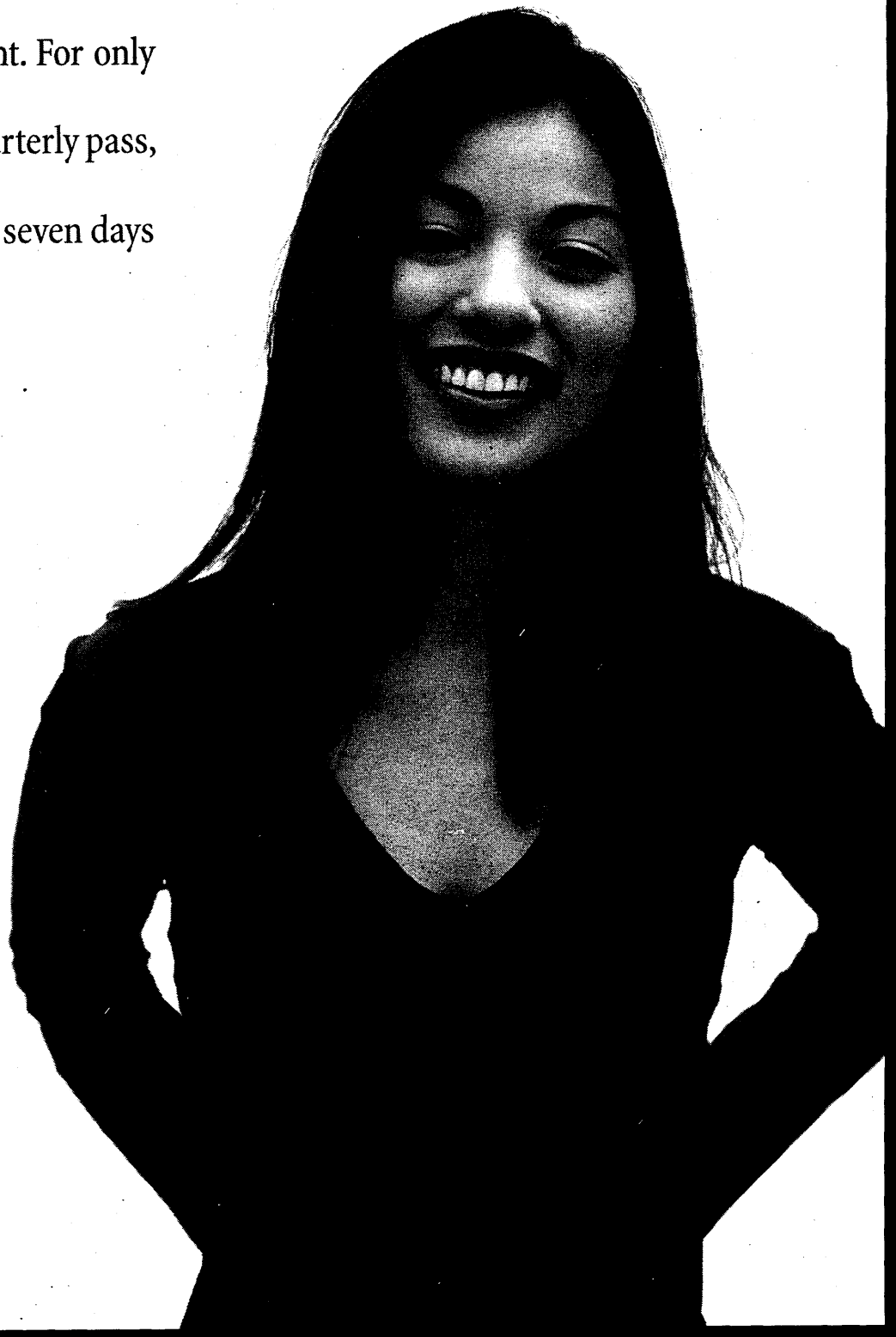
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Western students should utilize alternative transportation options



Emily Nuchols

COMMENTARY

Additional student parking at Western is an unnecessary expense. Students should look to alternative transportation as the answer to Western's ongoing parking problems.

Parking at Western is a frustrating issue. Western does not provide enough parking spaces for the number of students enrolled. Students should utilize many other ways of making it to class.

Construction of a student parking garage is an expensive answer to the university's parking dilemma. This addition would no doubt have an effect on students' already increasing tuition rates.

Instead of building another structure on campus, administrators should use funds for something pertinent. Students should be encouraged to walk, bike or ride the bus to school.

With fuel prices fluctuating, it should be more obvious than ever that students, as well as the public, need to find alternative modes of transportation.

Not only does it cost more to drive to campus, but parking passes are expensive. A parking pass to the C Lot costs a student \$50 a

quarter, while a bus pass for the quarter is \$20. While an academic year parking pass is \$150, an unlimited bus pass for the same amount of time is \$50. An added benefit of riding the bus is that the pass doubles as a parking pass after 5 p.m.

Whatcom Transportation Authority buses continuously run throughout the day with bus lines reaching nearly everywhere in Bellingham. Students can use bus time to study or catch a few more minutes of sleep before class, and the bus drops students off closer to class than any parking space.

An even better alternative to riding the bus is to walk or bike to campus. Students should take the time to add a little physical activity to a busy student day. Enjoy the amazing scenery where Western is nestled.

Western is one of the few places a student hike through an old-growth conifer forest or overlook boats sailing in Bellingham Bay en route to class?

Some may argue that Western needs more parking to keep up with the increasing number of students. Every student has frantically searched for a vacant space on the eve of a final.

Aside from the madness of finals week, parking is not a problem that needs an expensive solution. Enough alternatives are provided and, if used, should solve the lack of space.

Students who live near campus, should try walking or biking to class. And those student who do not live near campus — they should take the bus.

'With fuel prices fluctuating, it should be more obvious than ever that students, as well as the public, to find alternative modes of transportation.'

Libraries need accessibility



Jamie Trudel

COMMENTARY

At midnight during summer quarter, a student rushes to Western's library to complete a bibliography that he needs for his paper, which is due early the next day. As he reaches the door, his running slows to a somber stroll when he sees the library's hours. The library closed three hours ago and now he will not be able to turn in the completed paper.

This scenario occurs for thousands of Western students every year. If Western offered a library that was open 24 hours a day, the amount of productivity and good grades would likely rise. Keeping the library open for 24 hours would be a relatively easy task and would ultimately help further the university and its students on many levels.

One group of students who would benefit from a 24-hour library would be working students. Some students work full time during the day and must cram their evening classes as well as studying into the wee hours of the morning. If the library were open all night, these students would not be at such a disadvantage.

Another benefit of a 24-hour library would be that students could take advantage of the extra hours to put the finishing touches on projects and

papers. The night hours also would help students doing group projects. If a member of the group does not pull his or her own weight, the other members usually have to complete the remaining part of the project. These late hours would give them more time to do that.

A full-time library would be a huge selling point for prospective students. Western could use the library hours in advertisements and information it sends to people considering Western. Having a 24-hour library would make Western more competitive with other universities.

Western may not have a 24-hour library at this point because of a low number of library employees. Surely Western has enough money in its budget to fund more employees, since the school raises tuition each year. Better yet, the library should just hire students.

If Western employed more students to work in the library, not only would it be available all the time, but more jobs would be accessible for students. Western students already struggle in the Bellingham job market. The idea of having a convenient on-campus job is a great prospect for many students. Students can work and study at the same time.

The situations works great for the university as well as the students. Western would provide employment to its students and further itself as a lucrative university by adding the positive attribute of a 24-hour library. After all, the main job of a student is to study — whenever that may be and — no other place is as well-suited as Western's library at 3 a.m.

TOP 10 REASONS TO SHOP AT HAGGEN

- 1) **LOCATION**
 - Haggen is conveniently located in Sehome Village on Bill McDonald Parkway at the south end of campus and easily accessible by bus.
- 2) **OPEN 24 HOURS - EVERYDAY!**
- 3) **MARKET STREET CAFÉ**
 - Featuring authentic Asian cuisine, scratch-made sandwiches, over 20 scratch-made deli salads, rotisserie and fried chicken and other ready to eat food.
- 4) **STARBUCKS**
- 5) **IN-STORE BANKING AND ATM MACHINES**
- 6) **FARM-FRESH PRODUCE**
 - The freshest selection of produce including organic and specialty items.
- 7) **VISA MASTERCARD AMERICAN EXPRESS AND MOST DEBIT CARDS ACCEPTED**
- 8) **IN-STORE SCRATCH BAKERY**
 - Featuring doughnuts, bagels, muffins and other bakery items made fresh daily.
- 9) **GUEST SERVICES**
 - Dry cleaning, money orders, Lotto and other services.
- 10) **HAGGEN CARD!**
 - C.A.R.D.® members benefit from additional savings, discount Whistler tickets and more! It's easy to sign up—and it's FREE! Stop by Guest Services at any Haggen store for details.

