

THE
WESTERN
FRONT

Who's Who in Business

2005



An
Advertising
Supplement to
The Western Front

Bellingham WA

PAKMAIL

(360) 738-8919

2950 Newmarket St. #101
Bellingham, WA 98226



**Pak Mail at Barkley Village,
home of convenient, one-stop shopping!**

At Pak Mail customers can choose from FedEx, UPS, or the United States Postal Service.

From overnight letters to large items like furniture Pak Mail is the place to go for great service at reasonable rates!

Check out their huge selection of boxes and moving supplies. Fine art packing is their specialty.

WWU Students and Faculty.
Bring this ad in and receive
\$2.00 off UPS or FedEx

Pak Mail has the best private mailbox lobby in the county.

Rent a mailbox for 6 months and get 2 months Free!

Black Angus

165 S. Samish Way • 734-7600



Do you like fine prime rib, tasty grilled prawns, filet mignon with succulent lobster tails?

Then Stuart Anderson's Black Angus Restaurant is where you want to go for dinner. Conveniently located for Western students on Samish way, the Black Angus Restaurant is proud of its fine customer service.

Western students are encouraged to stop by and enjoy the western style hospitality. Try the tender prime rib, USDA choice steak, chicken and seafood at Stuart Anderson's Black Angus Restaurant!

Happy hour lasts 3 p.m. to 7 p.m. Monday through Friday, until 11 on "Weekends Wednesdays". During happy hour, drinks and appetizers are half of the original price.

Stuart Anderson's Black Angus Restaurant
165 S. Samish Way • Bellingham
360-734-7600

**Who's Who and What They Do
at the Western AS Bookstore**



From left to right:
Top: Mike U. (Accounting), Cheryl (Gift Dept. Supervisor), Kale (Sportswear), Mary Ann (Accounting) Second: Taylor (Supplies), Mike C (Shipping/Receiving), Ian (Shipping/Receiving), Tana (Assistant Manager, Sportswear Supervisor) 3rd: Leigh Ann (General Books), Lara (Store Manager), Charles (Textbooks) 4th: Debbie (Customer Service), Rob (Textbook Supervisor), Kate (Cashier), Mike B. (Supplies Supervisor) Bottom: Maria (Customer Service)

The Western Associated Students Bookstore thanks you for your business!

As YOUR Western Associated Students Bookstore we are proud to serve the Western community. We are working hard to bring you more used books, offer higher buy back prices and make your shopping experience easy and quick.

- Our goals are great service, low prices and having the largest selection of used books available
- Our 10% discount on textbooks saved Western students over \$404,000 last year
- Bookstore revenues stay on-campus and support Associated Students programs and services including KUGS 89.3 radio, the Outdoor Center, the Women's Center, Viking Athletics and many others
- The Western AS Bookstore operates the university Post Office in the Viking Union
- We buy back books year round and offer on-line textbook ordering to keep you out of line and on your way

Keep your dollars working for your campus at the Western AS Bookstore!



WESTERN
ASSOCIATED STUDENTS
BOOKstore

Store Hours:
Mon-Fri 8:00am - 5:00 pm
Saturday 11:00am - 3:00pm

The Black Drop Coffeehouse



Don't let the mohawk fool you! We bring a combined 25 years of experience in espresso and coffee to our corner of W. Champion Street and Grand Avenue downtown. And we're **always** learning more.

The Black Drop



Coffeehouse

www.theblackdrop.com

(360) 738-DROP

THIS IS HOW THE DROP WILL ROCK YOUR SOCKS:

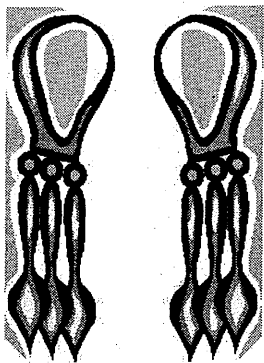
1. Every drink is ground to order and the coarseness adjusted accordingly.
2. If the shot's not perfect, we throw it out.
3. You won't find "sea foam" bubbles in your latte, just velvety steamed milk.
4. We never, EVER "park" the steaming pitcher on the drip tray. (WE PAY ATTENTION!)
5. Our equipment is spotlessly clean - that means there's never any rancid coffee oil residue in your drink.
6. If the beans ain't fresh enough, we toss 'em out!
7. We never "shock" the espresso (unless you ask us to!) by pouring shots directly over ice. We minimize the bitterness by cooling your iced drinks gradually.
8. Whenever possible, we pull shots directly into the serving cup so that all that yummy crema goes into your drink, not coating the inside of a shot glass!
9. Our beans are roasted fresh to order every week.
10. We are committed to continuing education and involvement in organizations such as the Specialty Coffee Association of America, Barista Guild of America, and Coffee Kids.

300 W. Champion St. ~ DOWNTOWN ~ 738-DROP



Learn To Bead

**Chandelier Earrings
Chokers & Bracelets
Single or multi-strand Necklaces
And Other Forms Of Personal Adornment**



**Select From:
Faux Pearls
Austrian Crystal
Facetted Stones
And Much More!**

**We offer Daily Demonstrations & Week-End Mini Lessons
Call For Times & Prices**

"The Creative Bead Store"

**In Historic Fairhaven, 1001 Harris Ave, Bellingham
(360) 671-5655**

Order that burrito naked!



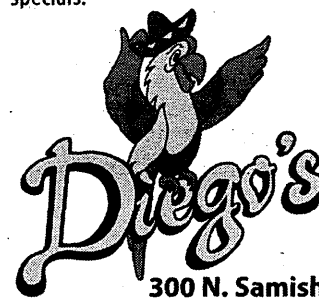
Diego's has brought Baja to the Northwest! Experience the friendly, fast-casual atmosphere of Diego's, celebrating ten years of great food.

Whether you are looking for a quick bite or a full meal, head to Diego's or call ahead for take-out. We are conveniently located on Samish Way.

Come in and enjoy a healthy, freshly made Mexican dish like one of our incredible fish tacos, an awesome chile relleno or a mouth-watering fajitas-style chicken burrito. Our food meets a large variety of dietary needs from vegetarian to low carb diets. Simply, let us know what you want or don't want - no tortilla - order that burrito naked!

We are now on-line. Check us out at www.diegomexicangrill.com and see our web specials.

We have prices for everyone's budget - express menu starting at \$1.65 for a bean, cheese and rice burrito or \$2.95 for a chicken express burrito.



**300 N. Samish Way
714-9426**

Summer hours start April 3
... closing at 10:00 p.m.



For nineteen years the highly qualified staff at Union 76 Care Car Center has helped Western Washington University students, faculty and staff maintain and repair their cars.

Conveniently located off I-5 (just one block from McDonald's), the 76 Car Care Center has six bays for easy in and out service. Whether you need simple oil and lube or a major repair job, the Care Car Center combines state of the art technology with a gang of knowledgeable mechanics determined to help their customers enjoy trouble free driving.



Bob Putich, the owner of Union 76 Car Care Center, says, "Our goal is to be Bellingham's most professional, ethical and highest auto repair facility providing our customers the most complete auto service possible at a competitive price."

Owned and operated by Western alumni, the Union 76 Car Care Center offers discounts to Western Students and they periodically publish coupons in the Western Front and the Blue Book.



**801 Ohio Street
360-733-1880**



**And they offer a courtesy
shuttle to home
and school - FREE!**

Mallard Ice Cream

To make a better ice cream, Mallard starts from scratch: rich cream, fresh organic fruit, Belgian chocolate, locally roasted coffee, premium pure vanilla, and estate grown spices. Each 5-gallon batch is carefully blended



an sweetened to taste. The result is ice cream that is smooth, rich, and bursting with flavor.

We make over 150 flavors and serve 28 at a time. Typically, we change 4-6 flavors a week, so every visit you can enjoy a favorite or try something new. We also make a variety of fruit based sorbets, for a refreshing treat and for folks avoiding dairy.

The Mallard staff loves making and serving delicious ice cream. We encourage you to drop in, meet the ice cream makers, and sample some of the best ice cream you have ever had.

207 E. Holly Street • 734-3884

Mallard - Seriously Good Ice Cream

EXTENDED EDUCATION & SUMMER PROGRAMS

Education you want, convenience you need

Opening doors for you...

Think Summer, Think Western

From art to Zimfest, Western's Summer Session has something to meet your needs or pique your interest. Spend a few days, a week or several weeks at Western this summer to:

- Fulfill prerequisites or graduation requirements
- Nourish your mind
- Discover a new interest
- Learn Italian or Spanish, or brush up on French
- Start a new hobby – art, dance, writing, water sports and more...
- Travel abroad to China, Italy or Mexico
- Expand your horizons
- Enjoy a Summer Stock or music performance

Summer Session is open to all. Registration is easy and no formal admission is required. Take advantage of unique classes or formats only offered during summer. So what are you waiting for? Choose Western to pursue your goals.



Summer Session begins June 21st

For detailed and current Summer Session information, visit our website

www.wvu.edu/~summer

Call or email for a free summer bulletin

650-2841 • summer.session@wvu.edu

Continuing & Independent Learning



- Earn university credit through distance education (correspondence study and online)
- Flexible study schedules
- Start print-based courses anytime
- Complete your GURs or Writing proficiency courses

650-3650 • ExtendedEd.wvu.edu/ilearn



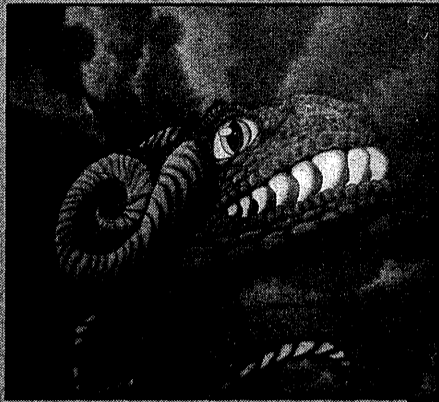
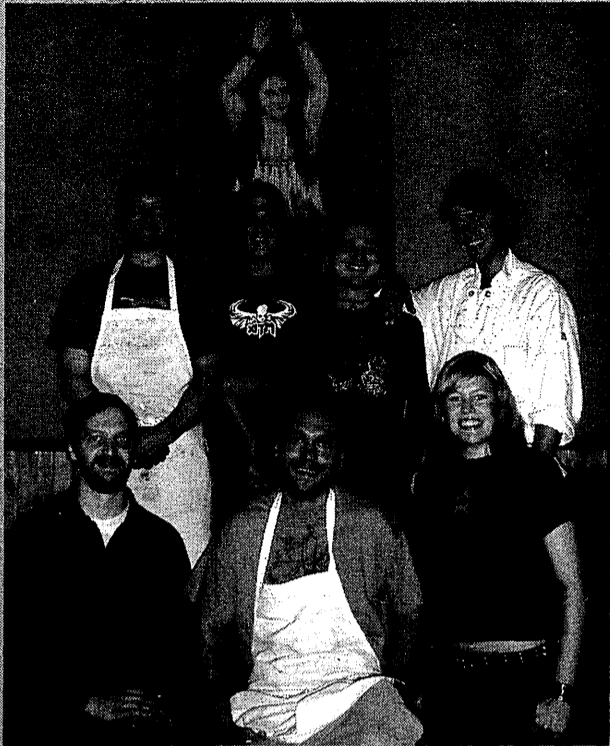
WESTERN
WASHINGTON UNIVERSITY

AA/E0 Institution

CASA QUE PASA

1415 RAILROAD AVE. BELLINGHAM

738-TACO

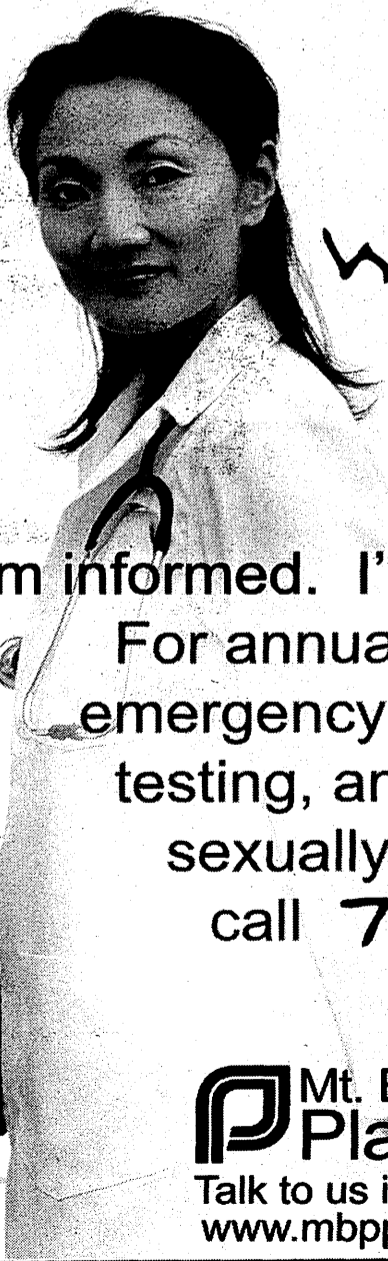


- Casa Que Pasa is the tasty, healthy, inexpensive choice for Mexican food lovers of all types and ages.
- We serve a wide variety of daily and nightly Specials to tempt you away from the regular menu of Casa Cuisine.

- We are the home of the Original, World Famous, Potato Burrito.
- The Cantina features full service, local microbrews, fresh lime juice margaritas, and a selection of Tequila to satisfy the tastes of any palate.

- Come in for a quick lunch or a dinner party or an evening drink after a day in the sun.
- We support KUGS and we donate money to many Western events and organizations.

Located in Downtown Bellingham • Open Seven Days a Week • 11 A.M. to 1 A.M.



what do I know about me?

I'm informed. I'm healthy. I plan for my future. For annual checkups, birth control, emergency contraception, pregnancy testing, and testing & treatment for sexually transmitted infections, call **734-9095** today.

most students qualify for free services

 Mt. Baker **Planned Parenthood®**

Talk to us in confidence. With confidence. www.mbpp.org Bellingham - 734-9007

2005 Western Front Staff

The Western Front, Western Washington University's official student newspaper, has been published since 1899. This award winning publication is a student-operated newspaper that is distributed to the students and staff at the University.

The Western Front circulates 6,000 newspapers on Tuesday and Friday during the academic year. "The Front" enjoys a loyal readership of 12,223 students and 1,570 staff/faculty members, as well as interested members of the Bellingham community

The goal of the students who work at The Western Front is to achieve excellence in journalism and provide superior service for our readers and advertisers.

For more information about advertising in The Western Front, contact us at 650-3161. For the newsroom, call 650-3162.



Apex Property Management, Inc. has a wide variety of affordable rentals around campus. All of our rentals are clean and many are the newest apartment complexes in Bellingham. Most units include washers, dryers & dishwashers.

Apex provides a friendly office atmosphere where all students are treated with respect and considered an important part of our business because...

YOU ARE OUR BUSINESS!

We would like to thank all of the Western students and staff who have chosen Apex as their rental management company.

Check out our quick hassle-free application process.

In April, Apex will begin taking applications to reserve rentals for the fall.

Our office is located across from Meridian Haggan at 2821 Meridian Street, Bellingham (next to Brown's Beauty Supply).

Our office hours are M-F 9am-5pm and on Sat from 10am-2pm (May-Sept only)

Call our office at 360-527-9829 or visit our website at www.apex-property.com.



PROPERTY MANAGEMENT, INC.

360-527-9829



Midtown Motors Auto Repair has served Western Washington University's community of students, faculty and staff for the last eleven years. They provide complete automotive repair, maintenance and are the closest full service repair facility to campus.

Midtown Motors Auto Repairs is a Napa Auto Care Center (12 mo., 12,000 mile warranty on qualified repairs nation wide). They are members of the Automotive Service Association.

The next time you need a maintenance, mechanical or electrical service call Midtown Motors Auto Repair. We provide shuttle service to and from campus.



Midtown Motors Auto Repair
1058 North State St. • Bellingham, WA 98225
360-733-1527

The Bagelry



For twenty one years The Bagelry has been a landmark in Bellingham – the place to meet for breakfast, lunch, coffee or snacks to enjoy one of their fabulous bagels.

The Bagelry employs 40 people – many of whom are Western students – to serve our seven to eight hundred customers each day. You can find a great cross section of local people at any time of day enjoying their sumptuous bagels.

There is nothing like a good bagel and at The Bagelry they proudly produce

the best bagels in the Northwest. The bagels at The Bagelry are made in the time-honored tradition that is hard to find even in New York. With no preservatives or additives, the Bagelry's bagels taste like the bagels that our grandparents loved.

Healthy, delicious breakfast, lunch and snacks served 6:30 A.M. to 5:00 P.M. Mon-Friday, Sat 7:30 - 4, Sun 8-3

Stop by The Bagelry where you can get a quality bagel. It's a luxury you can afford.



1319 Railroad Avenue ■ Bellingham, WA ■ 676-5288

The People Behind University Dining Services



University Dining Services employs over 500 people throughout our various retail eateries, Catering, offices and resident dining halls. Come visit us at any of our locations on Western's Campus.

Here are just a few of our team members and locations.

Casual Catering is a new service and product line. Ideal for informal meetings, Casual Catering will provide your order for pick up at one of several locations on campus, packed for carry-out and disposal. For a Casual Catering order form, menu and details visit www.catering.wvu.edu or call 650.3933



Sub Connection makes up delicious subs with fresh baked bread and your favorite ingredients. Located in Carver Gym, Sub Connection can quench your hunger for a sandwich or, your thirst for freshly brewed Tony's Fair Trade Espresso.

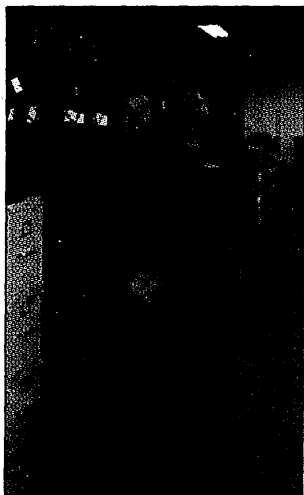


Rock's Edge Café is located in the Wade King Student Recreation Center. Fresh juices, smoothies and Tony's Fair Trade Coffee are just some of the options you can order. Be sure to Try our freshly made panini sandwiches or a delicious entrée salad.



For more information please visit our web site at www.housing.wvu.edu/dining/ or call 650.2970

Hardware Sales



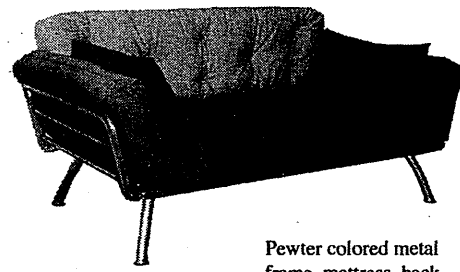
With over 90 employees, Hardware Sales offers the best selection of hardware items north of Seattle by stocking over 100,000 items. Service is their specialty. Whatever you're looking for: if they don't stock it, they'll special order it.

Their newly added 20,000 square foot office furniture store offers the best in new and used furniture.

Whether it's for an office of 100 people or a small computer desk for your dorm room you'll find it at Hardware Sales New and Used Furniture.



2012 King St • Bellingham, WA • 734-4888
(Behind the Main Hardware Store)



Pewter colored metal frame, mattress, back cushion and 2 pillows. Special \$279

"Dream On Futon is the nicest futon store I've ever seen!"

— frequent customer comment

DREAM ON FUTON CO.

Dream On Futon has moved 4 blocks to the corner of Chestnut and Commercial. The showroom is twice as big, which means more cool stuff! We have expanded our line of futon frames, and now have over 22 frames. Most of them come in 3 finish choices, and 4 sizes. There are 6 futon mattress choices, and hundreds of cover choices. You could make thousands of different futon sets with our huge selection!

Do you remember how hard futons used to get? (Perhaps you still have one of the old-style mattresses.) No longer! They are now formulated of new reflex foam or innerspring units, and many have 10 year warranties against compression. Futon mattresses, in a full size, range from \$169-\$339.

Natura(tm) mattresses are the natural way to sleep! Every day we hear from chemically sensitive people how challenging it is to find a mattress without chemicals. Natura mattresses are made of natural latex (from the rubber tree), wool and untreated cotton. These latex mattresses are comfortable! Natural and organic bed pillows, and wool or cotton mattress pads are also in stock.

New products include bunkbeds, trundle beds, and a futon bunk. Silk hanging lanterns can add an exotic touch to a room. We have a huge selection of divider screens.

Dream On Futon has been locally owned for 22 years, and strives to be the best futon store you have ever seen!

Dream On Futon
119 W. Chestnut St.
Bellingham, 98225
(360) 733-4925
M-Sat 10-6, Sun 12-5

www.futondreams.com

The Keg Steakhouse and Bar



For sixteen years this locally owned and managed Keg franchise has served the Western Washington University staff and students.

The Keg happily employs many WWU students and prides itself in purchasing high standard products to create their tasty dishes. The employees of The Keg treat each customer as their personal guest.

Although they have many mouth-watering selections on the menu, The Keg strives to serve the best steaks in Bellingham. Check out The Keg during happy hour and enjoy their great prices and drinks.

Only a minute from campus, The Keg is conveniently located next to the Sehome movie theater.

For wonderful drinks, friendly atmosphere and juicy steaks, take your family and friends to The Keg Steakhouse and Bar!

**The Keg Steakhouse
and Bar**
3218 Fielding Ave
Bellingham 738-0275



You know that neighbor kid you wanted to make friends with just so you could hang out at his bitchin' house? Well, we're his house!*

We've got the food, some bands, the tunes, pool, darts. Foos. And anything you want to drink.

But we're cooler than that kid and the parents aren't home.

You want a break from the library and coffee shops but still need to study? We're not too loud, not too smoky, and we've got the goodies to keep you going for hours.

(oh, and we're sexy too!)



*YOU MUST BE AT LEAST 21 TO VISIT.

113 Grand Ave. ♦ Bellingham, WA ♦ 360-671-3080
11 a m - 2 p m every day

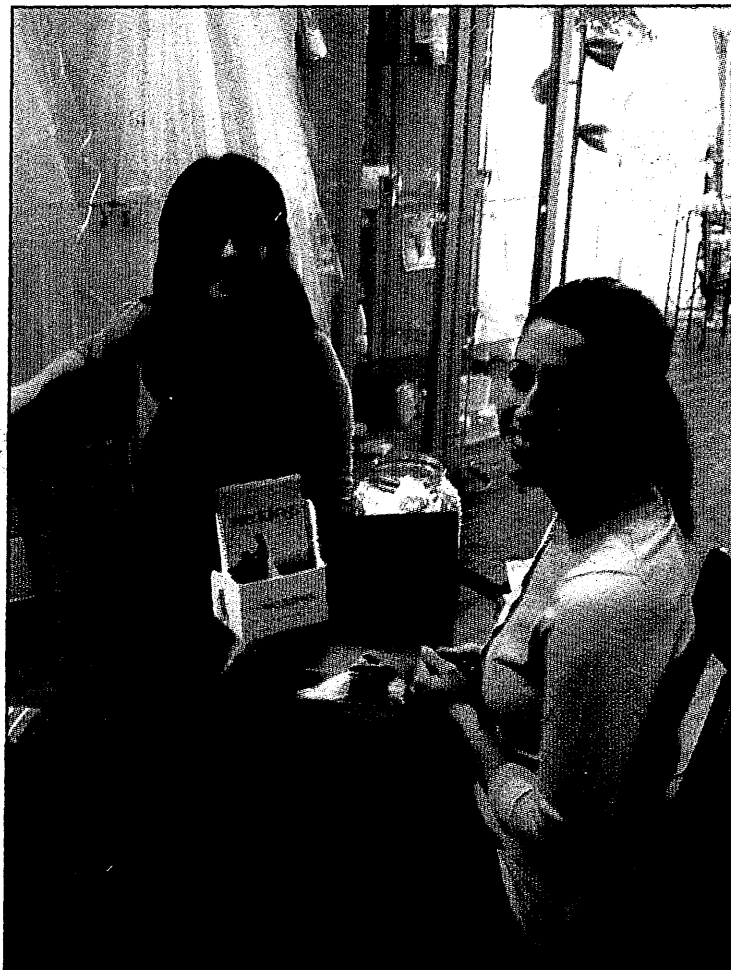
a thoughtful collection of gowns, veils, jewelry, and, tiaras.

Designing and manufacturing veils, headpieces, and hair jewelry for more than ten years, Jennifer Leigh has steadily built a business, supplying product for more than 100 bridal boutiques across North America and Asia. Her designs have been featured in scores of fashion magazines such as Elle, Modern Bride, Town & Country, and Martha Stewart Weddings. Jennifer's store is located in Fairhaven on the 3rd floor of the Sycamore Square building next to The Black Cat restaurant. She offers a wide variety of her own designs in addition to gowns and jewelry of other designers in her industry.

Jennifer is having a new retail store and studio built at the corner of 10th and Harris Avenue in Fairhaven and is expected to move in early 2006. Jennifer Leigh Bridal consists of 7 multi-talented individuals who design, sew, create, and sell beautiful custom crafted bridal accessories. All product is manufactured right here in Whatcom County. Stop by and say hello or just browse. Jennifer's team is often working away right before your eyes creating something everlasting for a new bride.

1200 Harris Ave 3rd Floor
Bellingham, WA 98225

360-714-0992



www.jenniferleighbridal.com

RUDY'S PIZZERIA



Sharon and Steve Scoggins opened Rudy's Pizzeria on State Street right next to the Up & Up Tavern. Rudy's Pizzeria features a quiet dining area with cozy old-fashioned booths and red brick walls.

Rudy's Pizzeria specializes in delicious made-from-scratch pizzas. Customers can choose from over forty toppings for their pizza and they have a choice of whole wheat or white crust along with a variety of tasty sauces.

The best part about Rudy's Pizzeria is that you can buy a fabulous gourmet pizza for very reasonable price.

Beer is available for dine-in or carry out. Delivery is available after 5pm seven days a week.

HOURS:

Mon.-Wed. 11am-11pm, Thurs.-Fri. 11am-12pm, Sat. 12pm-12am, Sun. 4pm-10pm
1230 State Street 647-7547

Expires: June 31, 2005

2 10" Pizzas with 2 toppings and 2 16 oz. drinks for \$10.99

DIAMOND JIM'S GRILL

1906 N. State St.
360-734-8687

Owner operated with a terrific eight person crew. Stop by and say hi to Sheryl, Morgan, Kim, Raine, Mary, Philip, Megan and "Diamond Jim".

Homestyle breakfast and lunch served until 2:00 pm everyday.

Come in for big portions of American Fried Potatoes (A.F.P.'s) loaded with cheeses, veggies, fresh cooked corned beef, etc. Or, try our famous "Peta-Mushroom-Tomato" scramble along with A.F.P.'s and two 10"pancakes — then go take a nap!

And don't forget our juicy Burgers, Reubens, and Monte Christo sandwiches too!



"Whenever I sit down to a meal, I always make a point to leave just four inches between my stummick and the edge of the table. When I can feel 'em rubbin' together pretty hard, I know I've had enough!"

~"Diamond Jim" Brady, our namesake

M - Sat: 6 am to 2 pm Sun: 8am - 2 pm



HEY! It's us – Ebright Wight
Ebright Wight Property Management is proud to announce we are now Windermere Management by Ebright Wight.



We have a new name and soon a new office location, but we are still the same staff with the same friendly smiles.

Our company has been renting properties to WWU students for over 30 years. "Always Friendly Service" is our motto, and friendly customer service is what you will find when you walk through our doors.

We will be moving moving to 4061 Eliza off West Bakerview in April. If you anticipate a rental need, we hope you will come and visit us at our new location. Ask about rental properties available for the next school year, or visit our web site www.ebrightwight.com.

733-7944 1400 Broadway

india grill

Restaurant

Voted one of the Best Places in the Northwest!

Indian Grill Owner, Santokh Tumber, opened this fine Indian Restaurant on New Year's Day of 1997. Tumber uses original savory spice blends to set his Indian dishes apart. Customers need not worry that the dishes at Indian Grill will be too hot for their palate. Tumber does not use curry powder usually associated with hot spicy Indian cuisine.

Each India Grill menu selection features a unique combination of spices including coriander, cinnamon, fennel ginger and others. A favorite at the India Grill is the chicken tikka masala. A savory dish with boneless chicken simmered in tomato sauce with a blend of spices. Another popular choice is the lamb kadahi that is presented in a sizzling iron wok.

India Grill is a wonderful restaurant for vegetarians. Tumber's menu features many hearty meatless dishes such as Baingan bharta, an eggplant dish and Saag paneer, a cheese and spinach dish puree.

Enjoy a fine Indian meal at the India Grill this weekend.

Lunch Buffet

\$4.95!

Receive our All You Can Eat Lunch Buffet for \$4.95 for each person at your table with this coupon. Expires 06/10/05 Valid on All You Can Eat Lunch Buffet

1/2 Off Dinner

Buy 1st Dinner at regular price and receive 2nd Dinner of equal or lesser value 1/2 OFF!. Expires 06/10/05 Dinner coupon valid Sun-Thur

1215 Cornwall Avenue, Bellingham • (360) 714-0314

Tokyo House



- The Tokyo House serves **sushi, teriyaki, noodles, and bubble tea** at a low price!
- We have **sushi happy hour** on Tuesdays and Thursdays from 5-8pm!
- We provide a **take-out chicken teriyaki** special for only \$4.99 (lunch or dinner)
- We are a local, **family-owned, non-smoking** facility that serves healthy, **low-fat and low-carb** foods that contain **no MSG** or farmed fish! We also recycle our oil to be used in biodiesel fuels.
- **Wednesday is student night** from 5-8pm – 15% off sushi, rolls, and alcohol! (ID required)
- **Home cooking** just down the street from WWU!
- Come check out our **menu and specials!**

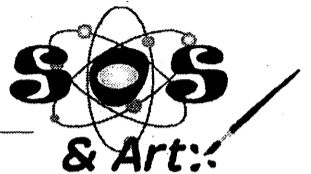
1222 N. Garden St. • 714-0500

Real academics! Real college facilities! REAL FUN!

YOUTH PROGRAMS

WHY THOUSANDS HAVE PARTICIPATED:

- Fascinating topics
- Inspiring instructors
- Active hands-on learning
- State-of-the-art college labs/classrooms



SLEEPING OVER WITH SCIENCE & ART

Grades 3-8

Join us for a spectacular night of hands-on science or art learning in state-of-the-art facilities at Western. Explore exhibit areas and see professors give live demonstrations.

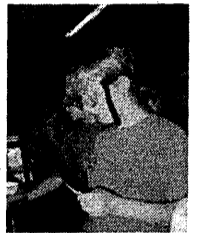
Friday, April 29 at 6:30 p.m. through Saturday, 8:00 a.m.

Arts — Lights! Camera! Acting!

Write and star in your own television commercial.

Science — Mount St. Helens BLAST

Learn about volcanos and the processes that form them.



START PLANNING YOUR SUMMER!

Adventures in Science & Arts:

Elementary (Grades 3-6) (days only)	July 11-15
Middle (Grades 7-8)	July 18-22
High (Grades 9-12)	July 11-15

College Quest:

Grades 10-12	July 11-15
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Western Kids Camp - NEW!

Weekly day camps will blend academic enrichment with recreation for a week of FUN!

Grades K-8	June 20 - September 2
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650-6822 • adventures@wwu.edu

www.wwu.edu/~adventur

AA/EO Institution



Extended Education & Summer Programs



CALL BEACON INSURANCE

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Call today for your no-obligation quote!

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- Grange
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GREAT RATES!

FRIENDLY SERVICE!

Owner: Lynda Williams & 'Jeff'

208 Third Street Suite 2A Lynden, WA 98264

The Grace Café

We Bake From Scratch Daily!

- * BAGELS
- * Muffins
- * COOKIES (BIG!)
- * Cinnamon Rolls
- * Pies
- * Scones



ALL DAY: Breakfast Bagel Sandwiches, Salads, Soup, Deli Sandwiches

Don't forget your favorite ESPRESSO DRINKS, Smoothies and Italian Sodas.

Comfortable Meeting Place!



- * Visit with friends
- * Business Meetings
- * Study
- * Outdoor Seating

6 am-6pm Monday-Friday • 7am-5pm Saturday • 650-9298
SUNSET SQUARE (EXIT 255)

Donate plasma

Your new DVD could be someone's **life story.**

GET A \$5 BONUS

First Time Donors
Present this coupon on your first visit.



Donate plasma.
It's easy & simple.

BioLife
PLASMA SERVICES

give. receive.

Available to first time donors only.
Paycode: 60021 wfront

**Receive up to \$180
a month and give life
to patients in need.**

360-756-1700
465 Stuart
Bellingham, WA 98226

Call for an appointment today.

www.biolifeplasma.com

Kalamalka Tattoo and Body Piercing



Kalamalka is a unique tattoo and body piercing facility established in 1993. Kalamalka features private tattoo suites, hospital sterilization, and a staff dedicated to the vision of personal body adornment. Kalamalka proudly encourages custom designing in tattoos and provides thorough information concerning body piercing with a variety of jewelry options.

Kalamalka
2518 Meridian 733-3832

KUGS



KUGS 89.3 FM in Bellingham has been a student operated radio station for over 30 years. Located on Western's campus, KUGS provides programming for the student body as well as the greater Bellingham community.

We have an eclectic mix of new music that everyone can enjoy, every weekday from 10 am to 6 pm. Also, check out any of our 40 specialty shows -- they rule more than your mom (assuming your mom is NOT a biker chick or Grace Slick etc.)! You can check out this selection of everything from folk to hip hop to surf metal to indie every weekend as well as in the evening-time.... That is, after our awesome news and public affairs programming, every week night from 6-8 pm. Oooh, yeah.

KUGS has over 70 student volunteers, and we are strongly committed to rockin' your flippin' socks off. C'mon... Our official mascot is a break-dancing robot. If that isn't enough, then... We double-dog dare you to listen!



Tired of programming that never changes? Keep in "the know" by checking out our quarterly program guides online at www.kugs.org.



D'Anna's Cafe Italiano is a family-owned and family-run restaurant unique to the Bellingham community.

A treasure trove of old Italian family recipes have been passed down and are still being culled through and adapted for the café.

In addition to the many varieties of homemade ravioli and pasta, delicacies such as various seafood dishes, Homemade Italian Sausage, and fare.

D'Anna's has been established in Bellingham for over five years and has become a frequent destination spot for locals as well as out-of-towners.

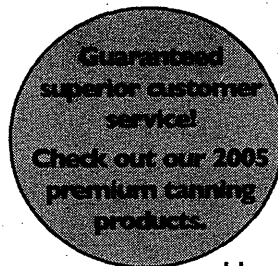
D'Anna's 1319 N. State St.
Cafe Italiano 714-0188



SOL TANNING

At Sol Tanning Sehome Village our ultimate goal is to bring a little color to both the body and soul. And color is what the customer gets when they enter this world of bright vibrant colors and upbeat tempos. It is a place where they can escape from busy schedules, unwind and experience feeling good. Come in and meet our knowledgeable salon staff.

WHERE THE SUN IS ALWAYS TURNED ON!



Sol Tanning Salon
 In Sehome Village
 322 36th St.
 Bellingham 734-1144

Hours: M-F, 9 a.m. - 9 p.m. Sat, Sun., 10 a.m. - 5 p.m.

MU'TINY
TATTOO & PIERCING

★ **specialty piercings** ★

★ **custom tattoos** ★

360-647-0939
1703 N. State St. B'ham
 (across from Bellingham Health & Fitness)
HOURS: Tues.-Sat. 11AM until 7PM



4204 Meridian Street
 Suit 105
 Bellingham, WA 98226
 360-733-6042



Bethany is a compassionate, professional, social service agency that enhances the lives of children and families in Bellingham for 20 years. We offer free birthparent counseling, foster care, infant adoption, special needs adoption, and international adoption.

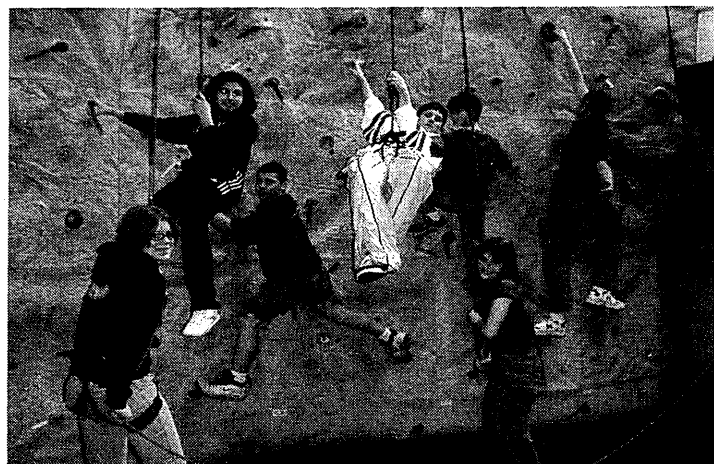
If you are facing an unexpected pregnancy, you may feel overwhelmed, frightened, or confused about what to do next. Who can you tell? What are your choices? What if you are not ready to be a parent? You have three options to consider: adoption, parenting, or abortion. Whatever you decide, it will affect your life and that of your baby forever. You are about to make one of the most important and difficult decisions of your life.

When you call Bethany, an experienced, caring counselor will listen and answer all of your questions. We'll help you explore your options without any pressure, with respect for your decision. Your call to Bethany will be kept completely confidential. Adoption has changed dramatically over the years. Call Bethany for more details about the myths and facts concerning adoption practice today.

You're not alone. We Care. You don't have to face your pregnancy alone. No matter what your situation, we can help.

Whatcom Family YMCA

1256 N State Street • Bellingham
733-8630

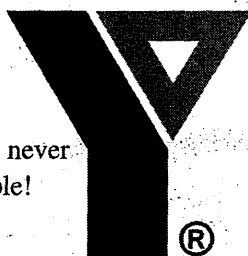


Serving the Bellingham community for over one hundred years, the Whatcom Family YMCA offers Western Students a safe place to be, a place to grow, be challenged and the opportunity to interact with others in a positive way.

Over the years, the YMCA has developed unique relationships with Western students and encourages them to join, serve as volunteers or become employees.

The YMCA provides programs for people of all ages, abilities and socioeconomic backgrounds. Financial assistance is available for those in need.

The YMCA is located on the corner of Holly and State Street. Western students and staff are invited to stop by and check out the facilities and meet the friendly staff today. For anyone who has never tried the YMCA, a one week guest pass is available!



www.whatcomymca.org

Johnson Outdoors



Johnson Outdoors has served kayak lovers in Whatcom County for the past four years.

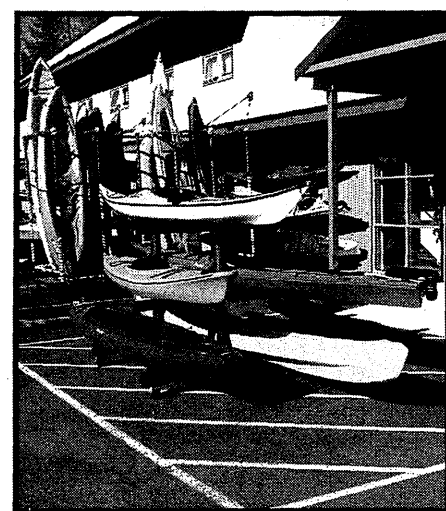
During that time they have grown into the only full service kayak shop in the county. The knowledgeable staff at Johnson Outdoors strives to bring the best service to their customers.

This fine kayak shop carries a full line of Necky and Ocean Kayaks, including whitewater, recreational, touring and sit on tops. Johnson Outdoors has a full line of accessories available for kayaking enthusiasts.

Need a kayak for the weekend? Johnson Outdoors keeps a full line of rental and demo boats on hand.

Johnson Outdoors offers a 10% discount to customers with a Western Washington University I.D. card.

Spring is on the way! Drive out to the Necky and Ocean Kayak factory in Ferndale and visit the friendly staff at Johnson Outdoors. They will help pick out the perfect kayak for you



**2460 Slalshan Loop
Ferndale, Wash.
360.366.4013**

hot clothes for hot chicks

You've probably heard of it... Maybe you have friends doing it. Yeah, clothing exchanges. They've been popping up all over the country and there's a brand new one right here in Bellingham, Passion Fly.



Created by B'ham transplant, Kristi Swanson, Passion Fly opened it's doors in July 2003 at the old Mexican Village Café on State street. Nestled between Parker Paints & Lyndale Glass, it's a great spot with plenty of off-street parking behind the building.

The place is small enough to get awesome personal attention. If you stop in, you're likely to be helped by Kristi or WWU student Jayme Hougen. Both are happy to offer fashion tips for the style-impaired gal on a student-budget.

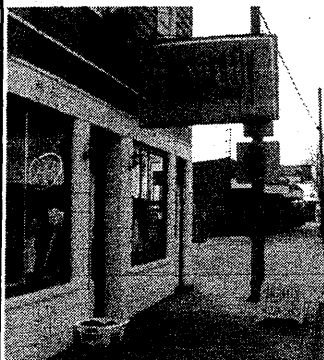


"It makes total sense for girls to shop here. There's a tingly-all-over-feeling you get from buying recycled anything. I mean, you're giving back—being good to Mother Nature. It's really cool thing to do. My favorite thing about this recycled fashion thing is that you can dress totally hot without looking like your neighbor and you're not going to spend a fortune on one outfit." - Kristi Swanson

Here's some really sick facts that might make you think twice before buying your clothes new: Americans throw out over 4 billion tons of clothing and textiles every year • EPA Studies show 4.5% of landfill is composed of textiles including • It takes 400 gallons of water to grow the cotton for one T-shirt • 80% of all the garments worn in the US are imported.

Feeling icky now? Be the solution— buy recycled clothes at places like Passion Fly • Sell, trade or donate usable clothing at stores like Passion Fly • Have a clothing exchange party • Compost cotton, wool linens and textiles and feed it to the earth!

Passion Fly accepts clothing during business hours. They don't buy or sell rubbish though, so make sure your stuff is clean and sellable before you lug it in. Since fashion is ever changing, calling in before-hand to see what's in demand is always a great idea. Reduce, Reuse, Recycle, Shop at Passion Fly!



2010 n state
(at james & state)

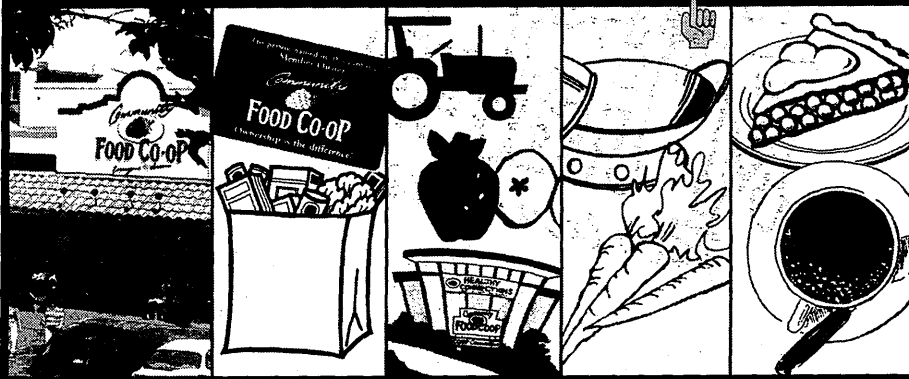
756-9440

shop
m-t 11 to 6
sat 11 to 5

Community FOOD CO-OP

1220 N. Forest Street, Bellingham, WA
360-734-1858
Open Daily 8 am to 9 pm
Deli-8 am to 8 pm.

About the Co-op Membership Community The Store The Deli



The Community Food Co-op Downtown Bellingham's natural grocer!

What began in 1970 in Fairhaven as a 900-square-foot store with fewer than 10 items has grown to a 10,000-member-strong natural grocery store.

You'll find organic produce, meat and seafood, wine, scrumptious deli fare, a juice & espresso bar, great housewares and fun stuff, bulk items, natural and organic grocery items, baked goods, dairy, and supplements and wellness products.

Everyone is welcome! We encourage you to participate by shopping, joining, and building and supporting a sustainable, vibrant community.

Best Grocery Store
Best Deli
Best Vegetarian Restaurant*

Voted by the readers of the Bellingham Weekly.

*While we serve meat, seafood, and poultry dishes everyday, you'll find fantastic vegetarian and vegan entrees, salads, soups, and goodies.

UPS THE UPS STORE



Students who are leaving town can count on The UPS Store for packaging and moving supplies. The UPS Store even offers pick-up services to facilitate moving students. And, they offer a 15% discount to WWU students, faculty and staff on all document services including copies.

Joe and Cindy Burroughs opened The UPS Store in October. Since then they have run full throttle to keep up with the shipping needs of the community. They offer specialized shipping and packaging, mailbox rentals and copying services. The UPS store has the ability to create custom boxes and can have them shipped almost anywhere in the world.

Where do you go to get that official document notarized? The UPS Store has an official notary public on staff ready to certify your signature.

When you need to ship, stop by The UPS Store for all of your shipping, postal, document and business needs and take advantage of their low, direct UPS shipping rates.

(360) 650-1377

Sehome Village - 336 36th St. - Bellingham, WA

Sonic Index

Now 3 years young!!! We specialize in all things vinyl, from rock to trance to hip hop and back. New, used, rare, or just dusty and cheap. A full range of cds you will not find at the mall - imports, independent releases, hard to find, etc. Not just hip hop and electronic cds anymore!!! We also love tracking down hard to find recordings, let us know what you're looking for and we will start diggin'.

Bellinghams largest selection of new vinyl including:

- Hip Hop * Battle Records * Rock * Punk * Reggae**
- Dub * Roots * Trance * NRG * House * Electro * Breaks**
- Drum and Bass * Pop * and more...**

Now buying your used cds!!! Top Dollar paid!!!

Gear for sale and rent--turntables, mixers, speakers...

We also have 100 cds to check out on our laptop listening stations everyday! We will be adding 100 more cds and another laptop soon!

M-S 11am-9pm Sun noon-6pm

tune into our webcast on orbitalgrooves.com or find orbital grooves on your itunes radio thursday nights from 7pm-9pm



Oh yeah, smiling, friendly, helpfull record store slaves here to serve your every need every day.

Billy McHales' Restaurant

Bellingham's Best, New Karaoke Tuesday!



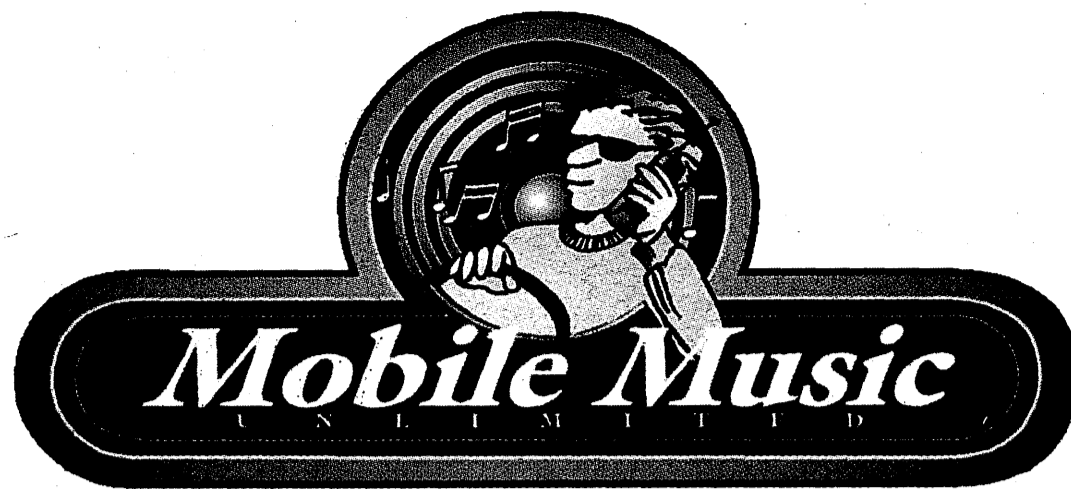
DRINK SPECIALS

- 21 oz. Long Island Iced Tea \$3.50
- Flavor of the Day Margarita
 - Regular \$1.95
 - 24oz Jumbo \$3.95
- 20 Beers on Tap

HAPPY HOUR SPECIALS

- Spicy Billy Wings
- Chicken Tenders **Your Choice \$4.25**
- Nachos
- Prawns
- Bacon Wraps
- Coconut
- Potato Skins
- Deep Fried Cheese
- Chicken Fajita Quesadilla
- Calamari **Happy Hour Special \$5.95**

Billy McHales' Restaurant
In Front of Costco on the Gulde Meridian
BELLINGHAM



Mobile Music Unlimited – Taking your car to the MAX!

Since 1976 – Mobile Music Unlimited, a locally owned and operated company, has been serving the Northwest for all of your Mobile Audio needs. It started out with one van repairing car radios and car stereos with 8-track players (remember those?), and has grown to include 4 stores serving 7 counties in Washington. It now encompasses all the newest technology in mobile audio and video with surround sound giving you the ultimate in a “theater like” experience, and the latest in wireless phones and satellite television.

Just named MB Quart Dealer of the Year for our region, Mobile Music also carries such brands as Clarion, Panasonic, Pioneer Premier, Eclipse and MTX for killer mobile audio and video. They are also your “Exclusive” dealer for Verizon Wireless Service and carrying a full line of wireless digital phones with all the newest features such as color screens, internet connection and cameras. For Vehicle Security they have the most reliable brands of Clifford, Viper and Hornet offering such things as keyless entry, remote start and full vehicle security systems. They also offer power accessories for your car such as cruise control, power windows and door lock. They have for your home, DISH Network satellite television and Starband high speed internet connection.

Installation of all products is backed by a lifetime warranty for as long as you own your car, and installed by certified installers.

Stop by and visit one of our stores located in Bellingham, Mount Vernon, Oak Harbor or Port Angeles and speak to our trained staff.



1801 Cornwall Ave • 360-671-7166

Possible park-and-ride fix

Grant may fund lot improvements

By MICHELLE ACOSTA
The Western Front

Western hopes to receive a \$2 million grant from the federal government to improve parking conditions at the park-and-ride lot on Lincoln Street.

James Shaw, director of public safety and University Police, said the Federal Transit Authority approved a federal appropriation of public funds set aside for construction and maintenance on the park-and-ride. He said the grant is still pending until the FTA approves the project proposal and signs a contract for the park-and-ride.

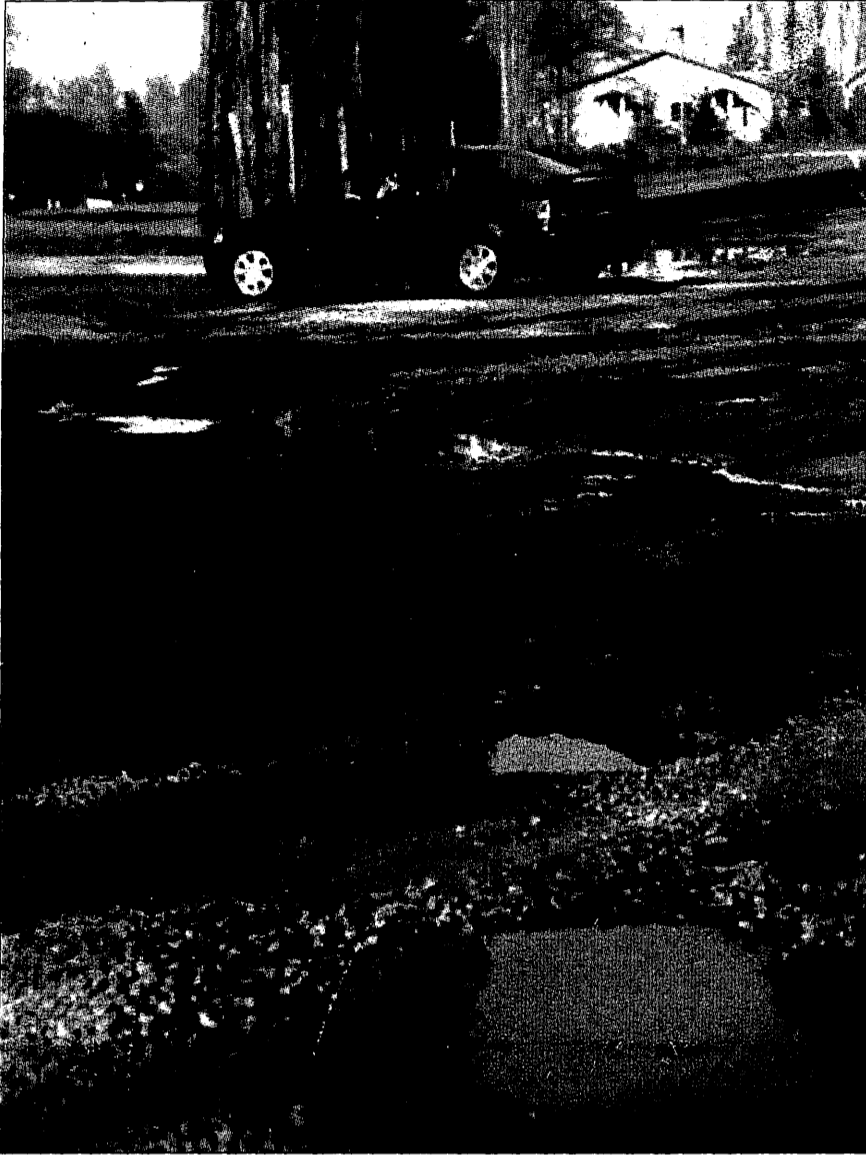
"The grant hasn't been formally approved and, until a contract goes through, it is just an agreement," Shaw said.

Shaw said the Western staff presented a proposal for park-and-ride funding to the board of trustees, and the FTA agreed the grant would be an appropriate way to fix environmental and maintenance problems. He said some of the funds would be used to mitigate environmental issues, such as the open stream that possibly could cause salmon bearing at the park-and-ride lot.

"As far as the holes and pavement go, it's all a maintenance issue," Shaw said. "It's all part of the development plan, and we plan to fix it as we go."

Shaw said maintenance and renovations will take place once project assessments are complete and the grant is received. An environmental report will be conducted to assess any other environmental issues, he said.

Shaw said the park-and-ride is being developed by Western in three phases and is in its first phase of improvements. The first phase includes two emergency phones, more lighting and a bus shelter,



CHRIS HUBER/The Western Front
A commuter drives over potholes and through puddles in order to exit the Lincoln Creek Park-and-Ride.

Shaw said.

"The second phase will focus on smoothing out the pavement," Shaw said.

Shaw said Western hopes to receive the \$2 million grant from the federal government to take care of the environmental issues, but needs \$12 million altogether to completely renovate the park-and-ride.

"By the time we reach the third phase of the park-and-ride, we plan to begin constructing a deck to accommodate more parking," Shaw said.

Shaw said the goal was to create an alternate access to Western. He

see PARKING, page 8

Western planners debate waterfront usage proposals

By KATHRYN BRENIZE
The Western Front

Western's waterfront planning committee issued pre-proposals March 1 to continue its involvement with the progress of the waterfront property development.

The Western planning committee released pre-proposals for prospective organizations that possibly could be located at the waterfront site in the future, said Lynne Masland, director of University Communications and committee member.

"I think it's an absolutely wonderful opportunity for Western and the community," Masland said. "I think, through the process that will come from receiving proposals, we'll have a much better idea of what would be good for Western at the waterfront site."

Western President Karen Morse appointed a committee in spring 2004 of faculty, staff, students and administrators to collaborate guiding principles for the development of the waterfront area, said Buff Schoenfeld, executive assistant to the president.

The committee is accepting the pre-proposals from individuals, departments and groups that have an interest in a location at a waterfront site, she said.

Schoenfeld said the pre-proposals will provide many ideas for future use of the waterfront property. One pre-proposal has been received so far, suggesting an area for Western alumni to have houseboats.

"It just demonstrates how much imagination can be stimulated," Schoenfeld said. "Western has a large input, but we are still early on in the visioning process."

Many of the proposed ideas and their planning will depend on the funding available, Schoenfeld said. She said funding from the federal and state government or private investments should be available.

"There are all kinds of variables, especially

see WATERFRONT, page 7

'Bridge to Terabithia' author gives insight

By COURTNEY WALKER
The Western Front

The award-winning author of "Bridge to Terabithia," Katherine Paterson, spoke at Western's second annual Bond Children's Literacy Conference in the Performing Arts Center Saturday. Paterson, along with three other well-renowned authors, spoke of courage, inspiration and patience in speeches they gave at the conference.

Paterson, also the author of "Jacob Have I Loved," Nina Laden, author of "The Night I Followed the Dog," Avi, author of "The True Confessions of Charlotte Doyle" and Janet Wong, author of "Good Luck Gold," told personal stories and shared the different experiences they had as writers.

see CHILDREN, page 8

Pool crowding causes complaints

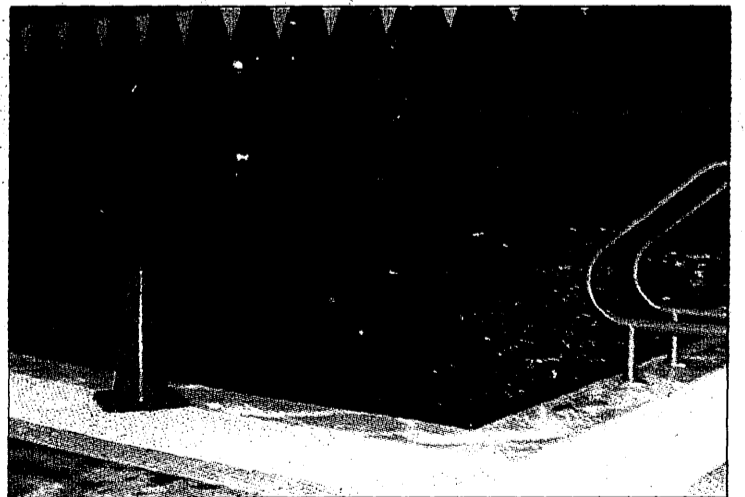
By CRYSTAL OBERHOLTZER
The Western Front

Western's student senate will vote on a resolution tonight that may limit the Wade King Student Recreation Center's ability to rent its pool to outside parties, said Karl Geisler, chairman for the Student Senate of the Associated Students of Western.

The proposed resolution stems from complaints the student senate received about the pool being overcrowded during weekday afternoons when the Bellingham School District swim-team practices there, graduate senator Joel Gibbard said.

"Every time a large group rents that pool, it is inaccessible to other students,"

see POOL, page 7



AMANDA WOOLLEY/The Western Front
Team Dolphin practices in the Wade King Recreation Center Monday night.



CHEAP CARS

Bellingham residents bid for discount cars at local auto-auctions.

FEATURES, PAGE 9

FAT & UNEMPLOYED

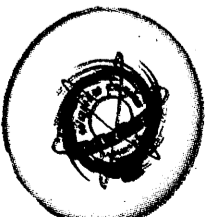
A New Jersey casino's ban on weight gain could leave some employees without a job.

OPINIONS, PAGE 17

FLYING DISCS

A closer look at one of the most popular games at Western.

SPORTS, PAGE 15



COPS BOX

University Police

March 6, 9:28 p.m.: UP investigated the odor of gas in the Ridgeway Commons dining hall.

March 6, 1:37 a.m.: UP arrested two 19-year-old men outside Ridgeway Kappa on suspicion of possession of marijuana.

March 5, 11:51 p.m.: UP cited and released a 19-year-old male in parking lot 15G on suspicion of being a minor in possession of alcohol and possession a fake license.

March 5, 12:04 a.m.: UP found a shopping cart jammed into a bathroom door in Nash Hall. The trim and paint were badly damaged and the cart was unable to be removed.

Bellingham Police

March 6, 10:14 p.m.: Officers arrested a 45-year-old man on suspicion of driving under the influence and crashing his car into a building on the 500 block of Grand Avenue.

March 6, 2:05 a.m.: Officers responded to the 4300 block of Meridian Street on a report of a fight involving 30 people, during which one person possibly was wielding a bat.

March 5, 5:16 p.m.: A suspect took a car for a test drive and did not return it to a lot on the 2000 block of Grant Street.

March 5, 12:36 p.m.: A resident of the 400 block of West Champion Street called the police for assistance in getting a guest who had worn out his welcome to leave the apartment. Police contacted the guest, told him to leave and issued him a lifetime trespass from returning.

Compiled by Adriana Dunn

Viking Voices

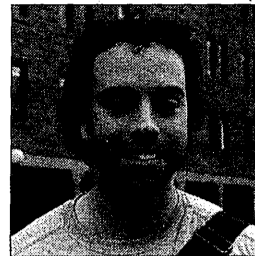
What is your favorite pick-up line?

Compiled by Tiffany Sheakley



Joe Inslee
Freshman, undecided

Your eyes are the same color as my Porsche.



Erik Frank
Senior, psychology

Is that a keg in your pants, because I want to tap that ass.



Leah Vanderstoep
Senior, political science

I like your earrings, but they would look better on my night-stand.

AP Wire

news briefs

STATE NEWS

Scientists study possible underwater eruption

A team of U.S. scientists set out Saturday for the Pacific Ocean off British Columbia's Vancouver Island, where they believe an underwater eruption is under way.

The lab is part of the U.S. Commerce Department's National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration.

They hope their observations will help improve understanding of the Juan de Fuca Plate, a tectonic slab of the Earth's crust. Its movements can produce earthquakes and even large-scale tsunamis similar to the one that caused the Dec. 26 disaster in southern Asia.

Hundreds demonstrate in support of gay marriage

Hundreds of people marched and rallied in Seattle Sunday in

support of giving homosexuals the right to marry.

The demonstration was aimed at today's state Supreme Court hearing in Olympia.

The court is hearing an appeal from two counties where judges found the state Defense of Marriage Act of 1998 unconstitutional.

Meanwhile, the Bothell-based Washington Evangelicals for Responsible Government expects thousands of people today for what it calls a "mayday for marriage" rally March 8.

NATIONAL NEWS

University of Colorado president resigns after controversy

The president of the University of Colorado said it is in the school's "best interest" for her to resign.

Elizabeth Hoffman's announcement came as the school struggled with a football recruiting scandal and an uproar over a

professor's comparison of 9/11 victims to Nazis.

Hoffman said she didn't want questions about her future to hamper the university's efforts to "successfully create the bright future it so deserves."

Arms-control expert named next United Nations ambassador

An outspoken arms-control expert not known for diplomatic nuance was appointed as the next U.S. ambassador to the United Nations Monday.

John Bolton, who now serves as undersecretary of State, is being described as a "man who gets things done" for Arms Control and International Security. Secretary of State Condoleezza Rice announced his appointment. She described him as a "tough-minded diplomat" with a "strong record of success."

Bolton pledged to work closely with members of Congress on foreign policy. He also acknowledged

having written critically about the world body in the past.

When Bolton publicly denounced North Korea's nuclear weapons program, that country's officials refused to negotiate with him.

INTERNATIONAL NEWS

Dominican Republic prison fire kills 120 inmates

Officials say a jammed entrance hampered rescue efforts during a jail fire in the Dominican Republic early Monday morning.

Officials said at least 120 inmates died after rioting prisoners set fire to pillows and sheets.

The national director of prisons said the riot started after guards broke up fighting between rival gangs. The official said the prisoners were fighting to establish which gang would control the prison.

Compiled by Kathryn Brenize
AP Wire courtesy KUGS 89.3-FM

Corrections

The March 4 Accent article titled "Drag for a night" incorrectly defined transgender. The Human Rights Campaign Foundation associates the term with those uncomfortable identifying as male or female exclusively. In addition, Western junior Mary Thies was misidentified as transgender.

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, CF 251, Bellingham, WA 98225. The Western Front is the official newspaper of Western Washington University, published by the Student Publications Council, and is mainly supported by advertising.

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

Advertising inquiries should be directed to the business office in CF 230, or by phone to (360) 650-3161.

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

WWU Official Announcements – PLEASE POST

Deadline for announcements in this space is noon Friday for the Tuesday edition and noon Wednesday for the Friday edition, except when otherwise noted. Announcements should be limited to 50 words and be typewritten or legibly printed. Announcements may be sent to FAST@wwu.edu — in the subject line include a one-word topic and clearly note that the item is for Official Announcements. Items also may be sent to "Official Announcements," 315-9117, faxed to X-4343, or brought to Commissary 113F. DO NOT SEND ANNOUNCEMENTS DIRECTLY TO THE WESTERN FRONT. Phoned announcements will not be accepted.

MATH PLACEMENT TEST. The Math Placement Test will be given in OM 120 at 3 p.m. March 14, and at 9 a.m. Thursdays on March 10 and 17. Registration is not required. Students must bring picture identification, student number, Social Security number, and a No. 2 pencil. A \$15 fee is payable in exact amount at test time.

LOT RESERVATIONS. • Lots 11G and 14G will be reserved at 5 p.m. March 10-12 for those attending performances of *Die Fledermaus*. • Lot 14G will be reserved at 7 a.m. March 12 for those attending the Northwest Regional National History Conference. • Lot 14G will be reserved at 2:30 p.m. and Lot 10G at 5 p.m. March 12 for Adventures Under the Stars.

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

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

STUDY ABROAD IN MORELIA, MEXICO through AHA International. Spend winter quarter 2006 in Mexico with Wendy Walker (assistant professor, environmental studies). For more information, call X/3298 or send e-mail to ipe@wwu.edu.

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

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

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

READMISSION PROCEDURE. The Office of Admissions reminds the University community that all students who interrupt studies at Western, other than for summer quarter, must apply for readmission. Students pursuing a first bachelor's degree are generally assured readmission if they have followed the application instructions and apply by the priority deadline (summer, continuing into fall, April 1; fall quarter, April 1. Readmission for post-baccalaureate students is more stringent. Applications are available in OM 200, X/3440.

Employers on campus

For complete and updated information, including locations and deadlines, visit www.career.wwu.edu or stop by OM 280.

• Camp Vega, counselors, Web designer, March 10 • Campaign to Save the Environment, canvas directors, through March 10.

Robots ride through Fairhaven

By ADRIANA DUNN
The Western Front

Robots took over the basement of Fairhaven Public Library Saturday for the first annual Bellingham Robot Festival sponsored by the Bellingham Artificial Intelligence and Robotics Society.

Western graduate student and BAIRS board member Natasa Lazetic-Greear said she was surprised at the turnout for the festival, which she estimated at approximately 200 people.

"I thought if I saw 20 people today I'd be happy," she said.

Lazetic-Greear created the learning robot Lucy for her robotics class at Western last spring.

Lucy has three light sensors and a point system used to detect and follow the black line to follow on the map, she said. The robot gains points when its sensors detect the black course. If it detects white, it loses points.

"She wanders around figuring out what to do — Lucy says, 'OK, I need to turn now and make sure I'm maximizing my points,'" Lazetic-Greear said.

Eleven-year-old Dakota Cochran's LEGO robot still was rotating as planned, despite a slight malfunction. When running perfectly, Cochran's robot draws circles with a pen it holds. Many of the junior BAIRS members used the LEGO Mindstorm robotics systems.

The LEGO Mindstorm kit includes motors, sensors and a micro-controller — the computer chip. Lazetic-Greear said the LEGO kits can be put together in one or two hours and cost approximately \$200.

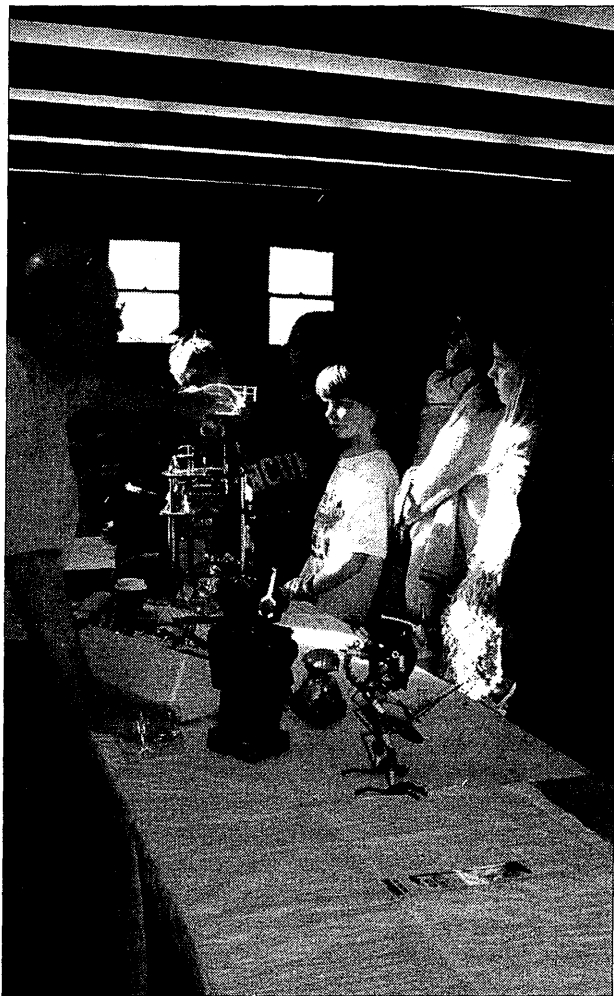
Bellingham resident Dan Crape brought two of his own creations, both made from scratch, to the festival. SAM DOBLE (Simulated Android Mechanoid Demonstrator of Bipedal Locomotive Engineering) is a mannequin that Crape said he hopes to have walking on two feet soon.

Crape also brought his other ongoing project, KYLE, to the festival.

"KYLE is a 'Knowledgeable, Young Life Entity' I was going for an interactive robot that would recognize my single-word speech," Crape said. "He is going to be written to recognize 'yes' or 'no' from another user."

KYLE will be able to give history lessons, play interactive games and tell stories. Crape has been working on it for 12 years.

"It was just last year that this club started that I really started putting something into it," he said.



CORÉE NASLUND/The Western Front
BAIRS co-founder Terry Harmer uses his homemade robot, Topspin, to demonstrate the abilities of today's robotic technology.

Junior BAIRS members raced their robots on a course in the middle of the basement floor. Ten-year-old Evan Ricci won the first-place ribbon with his robot, the first one he has built, for fastest time on the course, with an official time of 6.5 seconds.

"This is the first blue ribbon I have ever won," Ricci said.

BAIRS is a nonprofit organization supported by the Computer Science department at Western and is open to anyone in the community. The objective is to share ideas and resources about robots.

Western staff's talents shown at craft exhibit

By ERIC SANFORD
The Western Front

The various talents of Western employees will be on display at the 11th annual Western Staff Arts and Crafts Show in Viking Union 565 from March 14 to 18.

The arts and crafts show will contain more than 120 entries, said Ann Carlson, assistant for the vice provost for undergraduate education.

"The show excludes the faculty," Carlson said. "It's just for the rest of the people who work at the university. We have entries from everyone from custodians to secretaries."

Carlson said the exhibit will display jewelry, photography, mixed media and woodwork.

"There are a lot of talented people on the university staff," Carlson said.

On the opening day, the Viking Helmet car that employees Paul Streubel and Gary Hardman created will be on display, Carlson said.

Facilities management employee Gary Hardman said the Viking Helmet car, which is a modified "Go-4" vehicle donated by Parking Services, was Streubel's idea.

"I joined up with him and I did a lot of the mechanical work, as well as some painting and electric wiring," Hardman said. "Employees Don Fast and Dan Norsby helped us, too."

Another noteworthy entry is a quilt Western staff and students created in honor of Jonathan Santos, son of Western staff member Doris Kent, exhibit co-chair Linda Strock said. Santos died Oct. 15, 2004, while serving with the U.S. military in Iraq.

Co-chair Nancy Phillips said the center of the quilt features a photo of Santos brothers Jonathan, Jared and Justin. Various Western staff members and employees completed the rest of the quilt.

Strock said her and Phillips' job is to organize the entire show. Strock explained the reasoning behind the Staff Arts and Crafts show.

"It's sponsored by Western President Karen Morse, and it's how she honors the employees of Western," Strock said. "It's her gift to us."

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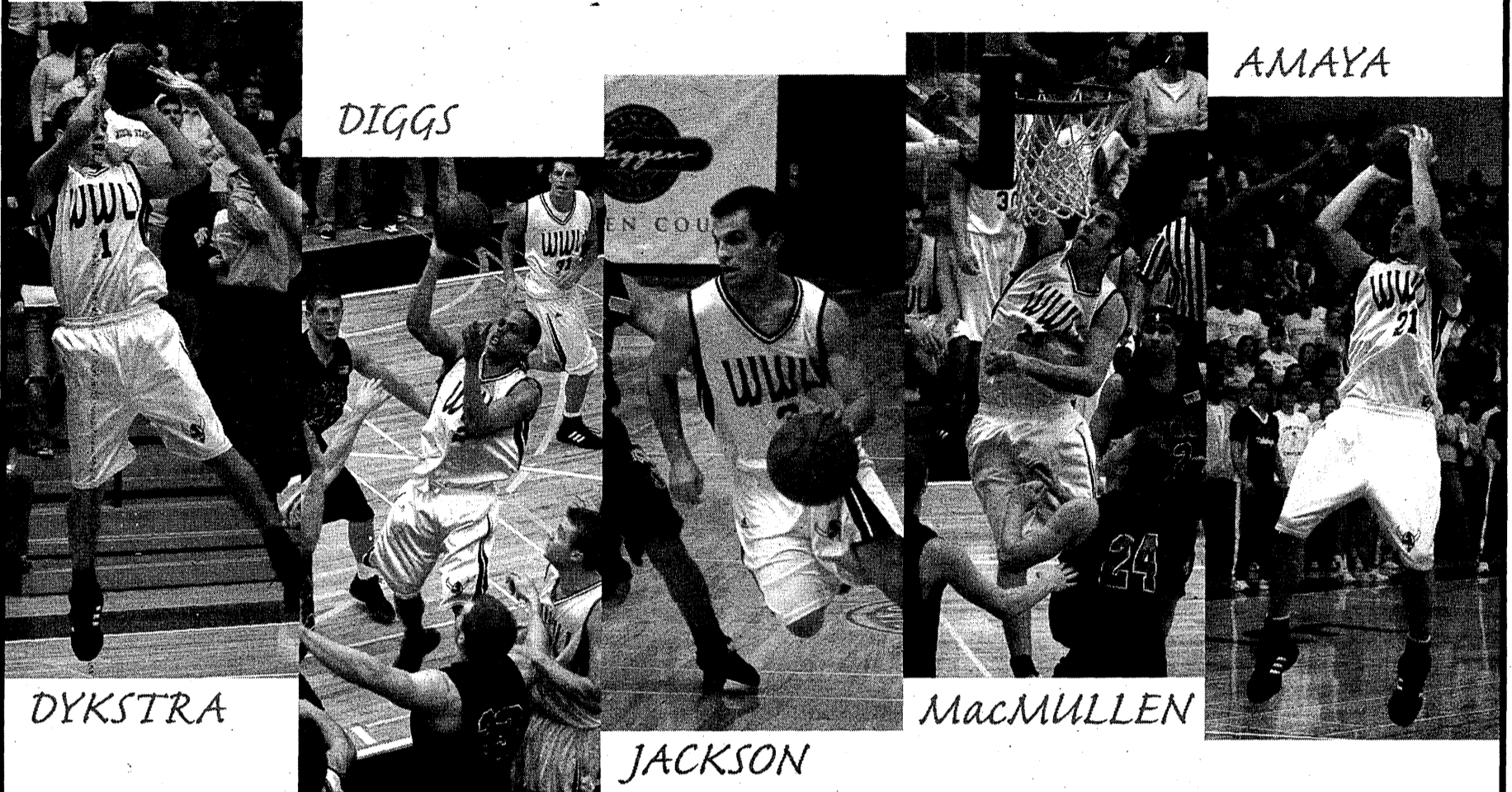


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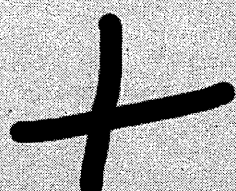
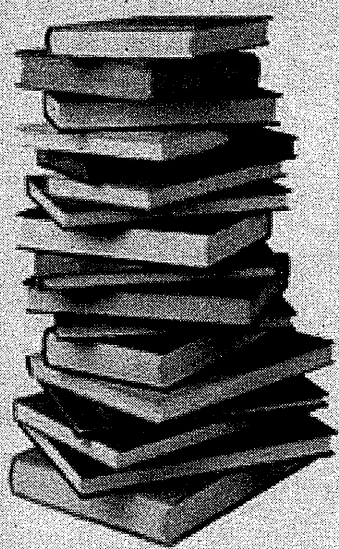
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News Briefs

Housing server may have been hacked

By BRITTANY GREENFIELD
The Western Front

Western housing information technology services is investigating a break-in to the main Web server of housing administration, systems coordinator Iain Davidson said.

Davidson said a person or automated program gained unauthorized access Feb. 19 to the Web server that runs the Web site for university housing and provides online resources for housing administrators.

Davidson said he and his staff are investigating the source of the security compromise, how it occurred and what administration and student information the intruder may have had access to.

He said several services and support staff members reported Feb. 22 that the Web server was not displaying the correct information, was running incorrect programs and was working slower than usual.

Davidson said staff members took the Web server offline for several days after they discovered the extent of the problem.

"We took the server offline

to make sure that whatever was happening was not a growing problem," he said. "Right now our priority is to get our site up and running."

Davidson said staff members replaced the compromised Web server and rebuilt the programs, putting approximately 800 information pages back onto the housing Web site.

"We just have to methodically put the pieces back in," he said. "We're rebuilding the server from the ground up."

Because services and support staff members have been working to correct this problem, Davidson said they have postponed other projects, such as university housing renewal.

Davidson said he expects to discover how the person or automated program gained access by reviewing access logs and reports of the frequency of use for the server. After he figures out exactly what happened, which he estimated could take several weeks, Davidson said he will hand the information over to UP Cpl. Ed Malpica for further investigation.

Concert will raise money for tsunami

By MARISSA HARSHMAN
The Western Front

The Associated Students is gathering members of local bands for an Acoustic Benefit Show. The money raised will be used to help children who survived the South Asian tsunami in December.

The show will take place at 7 p.m. March 10 in the Underground Coffeehouse. A \$5 to \$10 donation is suggested. The show will include Korby Lenker, Dana Little of Late Tuesday, Corbin Watkins of Corbin Gets It Right and Caleb Young of Autumn Poetry, AS tsunami disaster relief coordinator Sean Baird said.

All proceeds from the show will go to Save the Children, a global organization providing relief to children in Third World countries, AS president Rachel Zommick said.

A substantial number of children were left orphaned after the tsunami hit, Zommick said. The money raised will help provide water, food and clothes to people who are still in need, she said.

The money also will be used to rebuild schools, construct counseling centers for children and keep the city streets clean, Baird said.

"I think it's important to remember that even though (the tsunami) happened two months ago, there are still people in need, and there will be for a while," Baird said. "I would hope that even a year from now somebody would put on another benefit show."

Baird said he contacted members of several bands from the Bellingham and Seattle areas, and has four people performing in the show.

"This is a worthy cause and I'm happy to help out for a worthy cause, whatever it may be," Lenker said.

The show is meant to remind people of the natural disaster and keep it on the minds of Americans, Zommick said.

"I think as Americans we can't grasp the amount of hurt and death that has occurred over there," Baird said.

Baird chose Save the Children because of the low overhead cost, he said.

Each organization has an overhead cost, which is the amount of the money donated that the organization keeps. Save the Children will use 93 cents of every dollar raised to provide relief to the children in South Asia, and the rest goes towards overhead costs, he said.

Baird said he is starting the ribbon campaign again this week to raise additional funds for the victims of the tsunami. A table located in Red Square will take donations and provide information about how the money will be used, Baird said.

Organizations around campus are planning other events to take place next quarter to raise additional funds, he said.

The concert will last for two hours, allowing each person to perform for 20 to 40 minutes.

Northwest photographer's work archived at Western

By BRADLEY THAYER
The Western Front

Politics in Washington, D.C., trade delegations in China, President John F. Kennedy and even the Rolling Stones are among the subjects captured by noted journalist and photographer Wallie Funk.

"He has the ability to capture an essence that most photographers aren't able to do," said Elizabeth Joffrion, an archivist at Western's Center for Pacific Northwest Studies, to which Funk donated his photo collection.

The Wallie V. Funk photograph collection was added Feb. 28 to the center's archives. Funk donated his photos to the center in September 2004, but sorting and archiving the collection took time, he said. Funk said Joffrion approached him about the donation when she heard he was gathering his collection. The photos are now located in the Goltz-Murray Archives Building across from Buchanan Towers and online at the center's Web site.

Wallie Funk is a native to the Pacific Northwest. He was born in 1922 in Anacortes and has lived in both Island and Skagit counties. He graduated from Anacortes High School in 1941. After serving in World War II, Funk returned and completed a degree in journalism at the University of Washington in 1948. In 1950, he and friend John Webber purchased The

Anacortes American newspaper. They ran the American together for 14 years before selling it in 1964 and purchasing The Whidbey News-Times and The South Whidbey Record on Whidbey Island.

"He ran independent papers throughout his career at a time when independent papers were a dying breed, as they were being bought out by conglomerates," Joffrion said.

Webber and Funk owned, published and operated these two newspapers until 1989, Funk said.

"We worked in a 50-50 partnership for almost 45 years,"

Funk said.

Funk also said he cares greatly about preserving the heritage of the area in which he has lived. His first editorial in the Anacortes American was on the front page and was a plea to his fellow citizens for help in preserving local history, according to his biography on the Center for Pacific Northwest Studies Web site.

Funk's collection also included photos documenting the careers of such photographers as Charles Judd, Ferd Brady and Darius Kinsey, Western graduate Theresa Trebon said.

Funk continued to document the history of his community during his retirement — he wrote articles through 2001 and took photos until 2002.

"Wallie Funk is a wonderful person, and his collection includes some amazing material," Joffrion said.

The collection as a whole, prior to being donated, amounted to approximately 100,000 images and negatives, said Trebon, whom the Anacortes Museum Foundation hired in April 2001 to organize, identify and catalogue Funk's material. Trebon also wrote a book in honor of Funk's 80th birthday



Photo courtesy of Wallie V. Funk Collection

Orcas surface at Penn Cove on Whidbey Island in a photo taken by journalist and photographer Wallie V. Funk in August 1970.

and all of his contributions to the community, titled "First Views: A History of Skagit County, 1850-1900."

Approximately half of the 100,000 images went to the Center for Pacific Northwest Studies and the other half went to the Anacortes Museum. Several hundred also went to the Island

County Museum in Coupeville.

"In terms of deciding where the photos were to go, that was a difficult and painful process for Wallie," Trebon said. "He had begun collecting photos in 1950 or thereabouts, and so he was looking at the dissolution of something he had lived with for over half a century."

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Pool: Overcrowding frustrates students at rec-center

CONTINUED FROM PAGE 1

Gibbard said.

The recreation center rented the pool to the Bellingham School District after examining membership use of the pool during the 2003-'04 school year, Director of Campus Recreation Marie Sather said. The examination focused around numbers pool lifeguards collected during the 2003-'04 school year.

Three Bellingham high-school swim teams used four of the six pool lanes between 2:45 p.m. and 4:45 p.m., starting August 15 and ending February 6, Sather said.

She said the recreation center would decide on a renewal of the contract with the Bellingham School District after analyzing membership usage of the pool during those times.

Sather said the Bellingham School District rented the pool for \$4,300 to aid in earning the \$400,000 a year the recreation center needs to meet its budget. Funds from faculty and alumni memberships, locker rental fees, youth programs, tournaments, fitness classes and facility rentals all go toward meeting the \$400,000 goal, she said.

Sather said the pool usage from the 2003-'04 school year showed only two or three students using the pool during the time slot given to Bellingham School District swim teams during this year.

"We try to do these types of rentals when it least impacts our student membership," Sather said.

Despite the recreation center's attempt to minimize student impact, Gibbard said student complaints led him to suggest that the student senate consider the practice of renting the pool to groups outside of Western.

Gibbard said the rental fee the Bellingham School District paid was just a fraction of the money the recreation center needs to fill its budget, and that money could be produced in a less intrusive manner.

"(The fee) represents an increase of less than 13

cents for students if it can't be made up somewhere else in the budget," Gibbard said. "If you consider the student inconvenience caused by this, 13 cents is miniscule."

Sather said the recreation center will not fight any actions taken by the student senate, but she would rather work with the senate and the AS board to find the best way to keep the pool operational while serving membership needs.

"It's a constantly evolving project to find a balance," Sather said. "There may be a lot of things we can do management-wise that we weren't doing before."

Western graduate student Amber Hixson said she swam at the rec-center pool one or two times a week during fall quarter. She swam while the Bellingham School District swim teams were practicing, and she said the pool was overcrowded during those times.

"If you go swimming while they're there, only two lanes are open to students," Hixson said. "If there's more than a couple of people swimming, it's really crowded in those two lanes."

The student senate rejected a proposed resolution during its March 1 meeting that would keep the recreation center from renting the pool to student groups, such as the polo club, as well as outside groups during its March 1 meeting because that resolution did not serve student needs, Geisler said.

"We're trying to make sure that in the future students' needs are met with a priority," he said.

The new proposed resolution focuses on lane swimming only, the pool set-up used in team practice, and will only directly affect large groups not associated with Western students, Gibbard said.

Sather said the Bellingham School District's contract for the pool rental was for this year only. She said because the recreation center is fairly new, she still is trying to find the right schedule and programming to make it run as well as possible.



AMANDA WOOLLEY/The Western Front
Beachgoers stroll across Taylor Dock on Bellingham Bay. Western is considering options to develop on Bellingham's waterfront.

Waterfront: Mayor creates port group

CONTINUED FROM PAGE 1

funding," she said. "We have to find funding before anything can be accomplished, but it's a marvelous opportunity and we should proceed."

Georgia-Pacific previously owned the contaminated waterfront property, which now belongs to the Port of Bellingham and the city. The property consists of an 137-acre area that is a feasible site for future homes, stores and offices, she said.

Bellingham Mayor Mark Asmundson and The Port of Bellingham created a Waterfront Features Group, composed of appointed community members, to develop a vision for the property and asked Western to be involved in the planning, Masland said.

Since Morse started the Western planning committee, it has met numerous times and held three public forums for community members and

students to learn about the planning and ideas, Schoenfeld said.

The pre-proposals, to be submitted by April 15, will be evaluated by the committee before further planning, she said.

"As the pre-proposals have been issued, our next step will be evaluating them," chemistry associate professor and committee member David Patrick said. "We want the whole campus to be involved in the process, and everyone will be invited to comment on the proposals."

Patrick said the committee does not have a specific deadline for future forums.

The committee has not yet decided on the next scheduled forum. The committee will begin the evaluation process after the requested preliminary proposal deadline, after which a public review likely will be held, Schoenfeld said.

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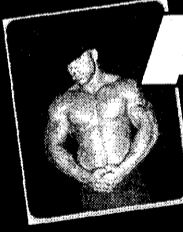
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Parking: Some say park-and-ride more convenient

CONTINUED FROM PAGE 1

said Western no longer could accommodate parking on campus and lease-purchased the old Samish Twins Drive-In Theater to serve as an alternate way of getting students to school, beginning last fall.

Nancy Phillips, administrative assistant in business and financial affairs, said Western previously leased parking services at Civic Field from the city of Bellingham before lease-purchasing the new park-and-ride on Lincoln Street.

Commuters have been able to park their cars at the park-and-ride and take the Whatcom Transportation Authority buses to Western as a convenient way to avoid paying for parking on campus, Phillips said.

"Western had to find another space for parking when Parks and Recreation began renovation on Civic Field and increased the price," she said.

Carol Berry, transit coordinator of parking services, said the park-and-ride was designed to have 530 parking spaces and has more space than Civic Field. Berry said the new park-and-ride holds 100 more vehicles than the parking spaces at Civic Field, making it more accommodating and convenient for students.

Western senior Erin Evans said she lives near Bellis Fair Mall and used to park at the Burger King lot on the corner of Samish Way and Bill McDonald Parkway until it was closed down to be demolished. Evans said she tried to avoid parking at the park-and-ride lot because of the terrible conditions with the potholes, but she has no other choice but to start parking there.

She said the lot would be more convenient if it were completely paved and leveled to prevent students' vehicles from getting dirty or damaged.

"The fact that the park-and-ride is a lot bigger is nice," Evans said. "But they need to make it into a regular parking lot and not something they just put together."

Children: A number of authors detail what influenced their writing style

CONTINUED FROM PAGE 1

Paterson and Avi are winners of the Newbery Medal; Paterson has also won two National Book Awards.

Paterson spoke about courage and the inspiration she gets for her stories. She discussed two kinds of courage — strong courage and soft courage.

"Strong courage is marching off the map and endures the unendurable," Paterson said. "Soft courage is the courage to surrender."

Paterson also told stories about how the themes for her books were developed. She discussed an experience she had visiting inmates in a jail to discuss her book "The Great Gilly Hopkins." Paterson said a comment an inmate made inspired her to create a character named Angel who was the heroine in her book "The Same Stuff as Stars."

Following Paterson, writer and illustrator Nina Laden discussed the ways her family had a huge impact on her career choice. She told stories about her parents, who were artists, and how they inspired her artistically. Laden said her mother was a painter and her dad a makeup artist in Hollywood.

"My mom brought me up on a steady diet of Humphrey Bogart movies," Laden said.

Laden showed slides of her family and home in Seattle and also displayed the process she uses to illustrate a story.

"I believe that every book tells how it wants to be illustrated," Laden said.

Laden explained how she writes a story first, then begins the artwork to accompany it.

"I always start with a story," she said. "The story is the skeleton and the pictures are the flesh."

A third author, Newbery Medal winner Avi, read excerpts from eight of his books. Between readings, he described different inspirations from his life that

helped create the stories.

"English classes were a particular horror for me," Avi said. "I have what is known as the symptoms of dyslexia. Still, more than anything, I wanted to be a writer."

Janet Wong, author and writer of children's poetry, gave advice to teachers in the audience about teaching poetry effectively in the classroom. She displayed her poetic inspiration — her poetry suitcase. She took out the suitcase and showed how each item inside had inspired her in some way to write a poem. Wong spoke about the difficulties of learning to write poetry.

"Sometimes we're not always the best judge of our own writing," Wong said. "I always write at least a second draft."

Wong also talked about getting started in the business and the struggles she encountered.

"I had no idea how to write a book, no idea how to get it published, but I thought, 'Why not?'" Wong said.

Nancy Johnson, conference coordinator and Western English professor, said the whole experience was created to discuss the love for literature. She said she selected the four authors to share their experiences in the field and to give the audience inspiration and encouragement.

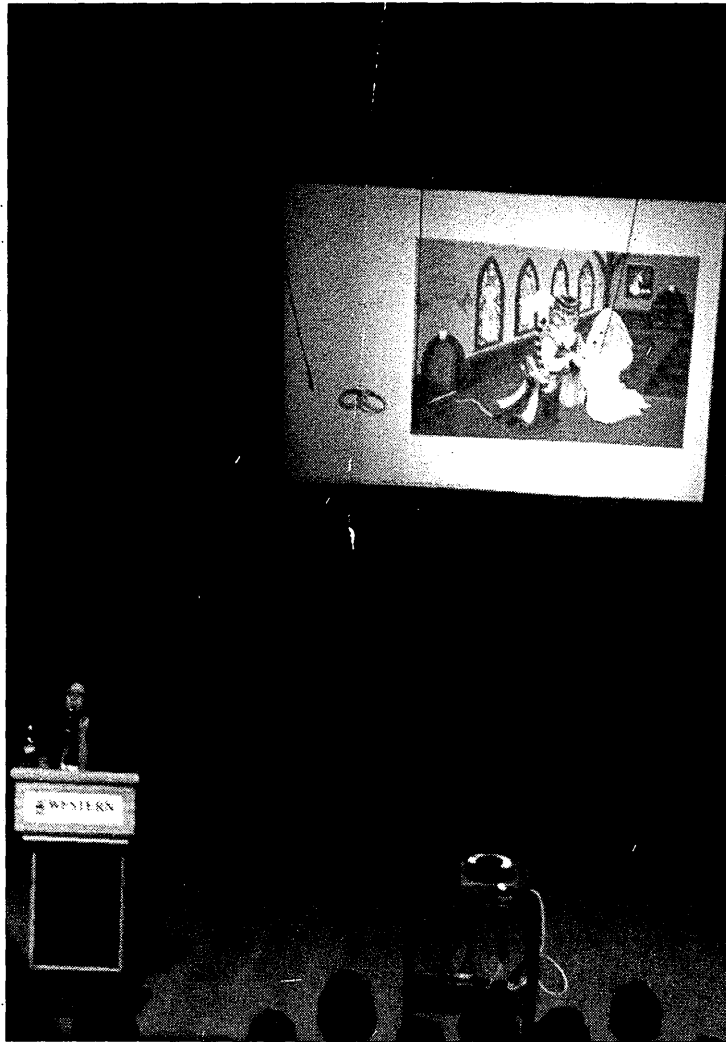
Approximately 200 people attended the conference last year, and more than 400 came to this year's event, she said. She is working on next year's event, but she said the caliber of this year's event will be difficult to replicate because of the authors who presented this year.

"This is going to be tough to beat," Johnson said.

Johnson said she encouraged students to attend the event because of the opportunity to meet all four of the renowned authors who presented. She said events such as this would make

I had no idea how to write a book, no idea how to get it published, but I thought, 'Why not?'

JANET WONG
Author and writer



COURTNEY WALKER/The Western Front Children's author Nina Laden presents a slide show of many of her illustrations from her books.

a lifelong impact on students, and they would remember it for the remainder of their life.

"The things you will remember from college aren't your classes," Johnson said.

Western senior and sixth-grade student teacher Amanda Busby said she couldn't choose one author at the conference as her favorite, but she was looking forward to hear Avi speak.

"I love all of them," Busby said. "I can't pick just one favorite. They are all great."

Other audience members, such as library teacher Ginny Flegel,

had a great time at the conference. Flegel teaches at Beacon Hill Elementary School in Kelso.

"I came because I wanted to know more about the authors themselves," Flegel said. "Right now, most of the kids love Avi's books."

Lowell Elementary kindergarten teacher Annie Franzmann was glad she had the chance to attend the conference.

"We've enjoyed all of the authors," Franzmann said. "I have read several Avi books because they appealed to my son. I am really glad Western hosted this."

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FEATURES

TUESDAY, MARCH 8, 2005 • WESTERNFRONTONLINE.COM • PAGE 9

Strange days

German roadside aid turns into theft

A German motorist in Berlin stopped to help tow the car of two stranded individuals, but after hitching the car to his vehicle, the man drove off before the car owners had a chance to get in. After speeding off, the motorist drove toward a gas station and crashed the towed car into an air pump, turning the vehicle at the last moment before it collided.

According to police, a station employee witnessed the man disconnecting the two vehicles before he drove off. No trace of the reckless driver has been found, police said.

Former stripper sells boobs on eBay

Former topless dancer Tawny Peaks is auctioning one of her size 69-HH silicone implants she had removed in 1999 on eBay. Peaks said she will sign the implant to the winner but has not planned to auction off its mate.

In 1998, a man sued Peaks and her employer, the Diamond Dolls nightclub of Clearwater, Fla., when he said he suffered whiplash after being hit in the face by her

breasts at a bachelor party.

The man took the case to "The People's Court" where former New York City Mayor Ed Koch ruled the breasts were not dangerous. He did not award any damages.

The self-described homemaker has started a new life in Detroit with her husband and three children.

The implant auction ended Saturday. No information was available about the winning bid.

Cat holds on for life on roof of a car

Torri Hutchinson's cat might just have one fewer lives to live. Hutchinson was driving along Interstate 15 in Idaho recently when a motorist kept trying to get her attention by pointing to the roof of her car.

She said she was wary of the man but wondered if perhaps her ski rack might have come loose.

She pulled over to the side but kept her doors locked and the motor running.

The man pulled up behind her. Hutchinson rolled down her window to hear the man frantically shouting, "Your cat! Your cat!"

He reached for the roof of her car and handed the shocked Hutchinson her tabby.

She had driven approximately 10 miles with the cat on top of the car and didn't even notice the feline when she stopped for gas.

Hutchinson said Cuddle Bug, or C.B. for short, had climbed into the back of her car as she was getting ready to leave.

She put him out, but he must have jumped onto the roof while she wasn't looking, she said.

Drunken designer pick-pocket gets sacked

A drunken Japanese burglar is suspected of trying to steal a young woman's Louis Vuitton wallet, police and reports said.

The woman tackled unemployed Hideaki Kinoshita, 41.

He later was arrested for his attempt to lift three bags after breaking into her office in Hakata, southern Japan.

Kinoshita allegedly threatened to stab the 23-year-old woman with a knife, but she grabbed his arm and cornered him before a male customer came to her aid.

"I was scared, but I was desperate because he was trying to steal my bag with my precious Louis Vuitton wallet inside," she told police, according to Mainichi Shimbun, a Japanese newspaper.

German athlete protests winning gold medal

German long jumper Bianca Kappler should receive a gold medal for honesty.

Kappler was awarded gold Saturday at the European Indoor Championships for a leap of 22 feet, 10 inches on her final of six attempts.

But she protested, telling judges that she deserved silver because she couldn't jump farther than 21-11 1/2 or 21-11 3/4. She was seen looking at the electronic scoreboard in disbelief and laughing at the result.

Kappler's other jumps were 21-1 1/2, 21-5 1/4 and 21-3 1/4.

Naide Gomes of Portugal jumped 21-11 3/4 to be initially awarded silver, and Stiliani Pilatou of Greece was given bronze with a jump of 21-9 1/2. European Athletics Association spokesman Nicolas Russi said the judges agreed to resolve the issue by letting Kappler take her final jump again alone Sunday.

German team officials said they believe the mistake may have been a human error with someone typing in 22-10 instead of 21-11 1/2.

Compiled by Corée Nashund

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Auctioning

Bellingham residents

BY JENAE NORMAN
The Western Front

A black Cadillac with leather, a neon green Honda Civic with a body kit, a black Dodge truck with new rear-end parts and a blue Chevy Bel Air with too many miles sit parked for observation among 89 other cars.

The 500 or so people observing the cars are not admiring the metal at a car show in the Tacoma Dome. They are at Berglund & Jones Auctioneers' public auto auction in Bellingham, taking notes and preparing to bid.

"What's nice about this auction is it has lots of versatility," Bellingham resident Jaison Boylston said. "There's autos to motorcycles to motor homes."

Debbie and Rick Berglund are a husband-and-wife team. Rick tries to test drive the cars and does the advertising while Debbie does the paperwork and organization.

The chain-link fence surrounding the lot rolls open at 8 a.m. so people can come in and check out the cars and other items before the bidding begins. By 9 a.m., the line to register for a bidding number is growing and starting to wind around cars. The line to get a hot dog and coffee is growing as well. The only thing that doesn't have a line is the Honey Bucket.

The crowd observing the cars is a mixed group. A couple of wives are telling their husbands no, a few young daughters

are beckoning their dads to look at a certain car, and plenty of guys are telling their buddies what they could make out of a car for only \$1,000. One reason, however, brings all of these different people to the auction — it's cheap.

"You have lots of potential to save money," Bellingham resident Nancy Lee said. "You might be able to save up to half, but there's a small chance you could also pay more."

An auto auction is held at least once a month at the Berglund & Jones lot, owner Debbie Berglund said. Some people return each month, waiting for the right car at the right price.

"There were a lot of people here last month and prices were ridiculous, so I waited," Bellingham resident Andrew Dumont said.

Western junior and Vehicle Research Institute major Mathew Joplin said he attends auctions to make money.

While looking under the hood of a vehicle, crawling underneath the car and checking out the tires, he jots down comments about the cars on note cards so he can glance at them quickly and remember while bidding.

"I buy cars at low prices and sell them for more," Joplin said. "It's what I do instead of a job."

A sign hangs in the window of each car listing its year and features, but no price tag hangs there.

Auctioneer Rick Berglund starts the bidding and waits for the crowd's response. If the crowd responds by holding up

their numbers printed on white paper, the bidding continues to go up in price. If no one responds to the starting price, Rick Berglund starts again with a lower number.

Holding a microphone that sends his voice over the entire lot, Rick Berglund rolls his tongue and announces numbers quickly.

"Three thousand, 3,000, 3,000—you got to beat 3,000, you wanna bid 4,500," he says as employees in red jackets, standing on crates and boxes to see, acknowledge the bids with a "yep."

Once a high bidder is established and no one else is trying to outbid, Rick Berglund makes a final call and tells the crowd the car is sold.

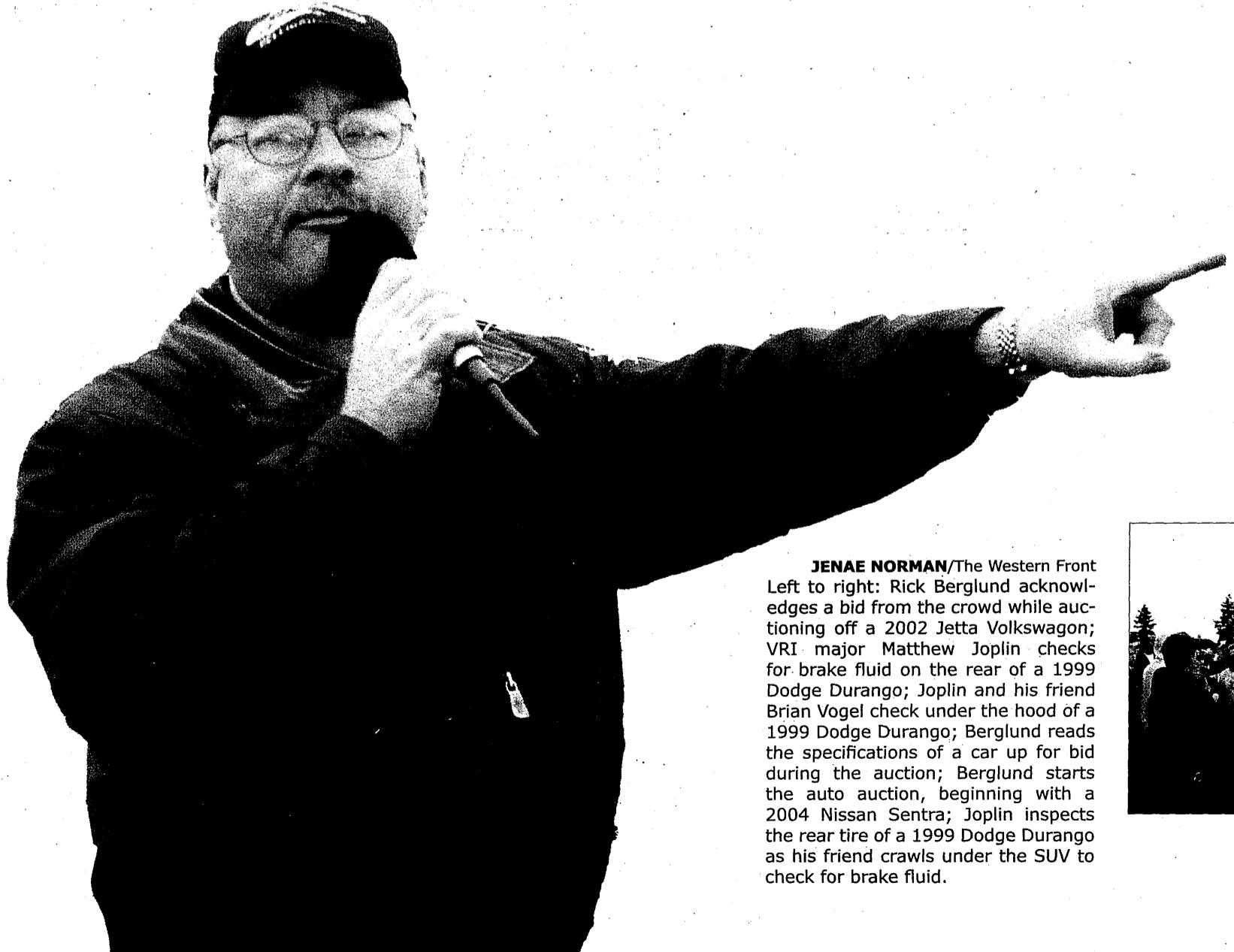
A steady stream of bidding occurs for each car. Bellingham resident John Hamilton said auctions are a humorous social gathering in which sometimes people give others dirty looks during the bidding.

Jessica Jones, a University of Washington student, had the highest bid at \$8,300 for a blue 2002 Volkswagon Jetta.

"When bidding, I was really nervous," she said. "You get an adrenaline rush and a little shaky."

After winning, Jones jumped up and down with a smile on her face. An employee of Berglund & Jones approached her to sign the papers agreeing to her purchase of the car.

Western junior Kayla Galaktianoff said her boyfriend, Joplin, gets worked up and is a different person when he's



JENAE NORMAN/The Western Front
Left to right: Rick Berglund acknowledges a bid from the crowd while auctioning off a 2002 Jetta Volkswagen; VRI major Matthew Joplin checks for brake fluid on the rear of a 1999 Dodge Durango; Joplin and his friend Brian Vogel check under the hood of a 1999 Dodge Durango; Berglund reads the specifications of a car up for bid during the auction; Berglund starts the auto auction, beginning with a 2004 Nissan Sentra; Joplin inspects the rear tire of a 1999 Dodge Durango as his friend crawls under the SUV to check for brake fluid.



Automobiles

bid for better prices

He's focused and serious, she said. Guys go out thrill-seeking, but these auctions are seeking," Galaktianoff said.

In a small building that looks like a walk-up on stand, Debbie Berglund takes people's money for cars. Only accepting cash or a cashier's check, Berglund & Jones requires at least a \$200 deposit on those who don't have the money in full, she said. The auction is over and the cars are paid for, people are taking their cars off the lot.

Who only leave a deposit can come back on to pick up the car and complete the payment. People at the auction agree that the only downfall to an auction is the cars can't be driven until bought. "You only get to turn it on," Bellingham resident Amanda said. "That's kind of sketchy. Hopefully, it's your car and you find the right one."

The title for the car is registered in the buyer's name the day after the auction and mailed within a couple of weeks, Debbie Berglund said.

Berglund & Jones has contracts with the state, the Whatcom County and the Northwest Regional Drug Court to obtain surplus and repossessed autos, Debbie Berglund said.

Berglund & Jones takes in 100 cars on average on each month, Debbie Berglund said. For each

car sold at the auction, Berglund & Jones adds on a 10-percent buyer's premium to make a profit.

"An auction means you sell others autos on consignment. You sell it for them," Debbie Berglund said. "Then you charge a cost for profit."

During the auction, Rick Berglund keeps the process humorous for the crowd and offers a few jokes. He explains the buyer's premium to the bidders before starting to auctioneer.

"If you buy a car for \$500, you will pay \$550," Rick Berglund says. "If you buy a car for \$1,000, that means you really pay \$1,100. If you buy a car for \$5,000, you will really pay \$5,500, and I will buy dinner."

Regardless of the profit charge, Debbie Berglund said cars sold at auctions still are cheaper, for the most part.

"We've been in business for 15 years in a small town," she said. "If people weren't getting good deals, we'd be out of business."

Jones agreed about the prices and good deals.

"Auctions are perfect for a student," she said.



JENAE NORMAN/The Western Front Western student and VRI major Matthew Joplin looks under the hood of a 1997 Jeep Grand Cherokee at Berglund & Jones' public auto auction.



The ups and downs of bipolar living

Bellingham bipolar support group helps people be themselves

BY JENAE NORMAN
The Western Front

In American culture, it is not uncommon for people to identify themselves by something significant in their lives, including their occupation, religious beliefs or a disease with which they are afflicted with.

For those who identify themselves by occupation, saying, "Hi, my name is Steve — I'm a doctor," has no negative connotation. People who identify themselves by saying, "I'm giving something up for Lent because I'm Catholic," also receive acceptance. When offered sugar, a diabetic who says, "Sorry, I can't have candy, I'm a diabetic," often is met with understanding.

One percent of the population, or more than 2 million adults, are afflicted with bipolar disorder, however, and are subject to prejudice from the label.

According to the National Institute of Mental Health, bipolar disorder is a brain disorder that causes unusual shifts in a person's mood, energy and ability to function. The shifts experienced are severe compared with the normal fluctuations everyone goes through.

"Being bipolar doesn't define who I am," Western senior Bryn Thomas said. "I define what I am. There are too many labels that define people. I can do what anyone else can do. Bipolar only limits me if you use it as a label."

A bipolar-disorder support group is establishing itself in Bellingham through Meetup.com, a free Web site that allows individuals to create groups based on shared interests, group coordinator Thadeus Warrington said.

"I saw there were others out there with bipolar disorder, and talking with them is therapeutic," Warrington said.

The new support groups, has five members and meet once a month or as often as members need. Thomas said she would like to see anyone in the Bellingham community with bipolar disorder join the group.

"The idea of the group is to share experiences and help each other," Thomas said. "We will discuss experiences, ideas and strategies for coping."

Western's disAbility Resources Center also offers services for students with the



TARA NELSON/The Western Front

Bellingham resident Thadeus Warrington, 33, fixes his mohawk in his bathroom. Warrington started a monthly bipolar support group on Meetup.com.

disorder, including academic intervention that is sensitive to bipolar disorder, Director David Brunner said.

"There are a number of folks who don't know about us that could use us," Brunner said.

The center serves 45 Western students with bipolar disorder, he said.

Bipolar disorder, which often develops in late adolescence or early adulthood, is a mixed state of emotions ranging from manic episodes to depressive episodes, Thomas said.

During a manic episode, it is common to be in a euphoric state where perceptions are clearer and the sense of feeling is heightened, Thomas said.

"You have grandiosity about yourself," Thomas said. "You are able to achieve anything, but in reality, you can't do anything because there's so many ideas and so much going on that you can't get organized."

A depressive episode is marked as the opposite of mania, where nothing can seem to be accomplished because a person lacks motivation, care and remembrance, Thomas said. While experiencing a depressive episode, those with bipolar disorder do not want to leave their rooms or be around people, Warrington said.

"Depression usually comes right after a manic episode," Thomas said. "There is a lot of lethargy. I don't want to get up. My mind works really slowly. I have no motivation, and everything seems dismal. Nothing seems worth it."

The term "bipolar" doesn't summarize all of the feelings, thoughts and emotions those with the disorder experience, Thomas said. Other feelings include agitation, fear and even psychotic episodes, she said.

"Psychosis is when you are extremely in tune with stimuli, where you feel very intuitive about things, like you have a heightened sense of people around you," Thomas said.

During Warrington's most recent episode of psychosis, he thought he was a brilliant musician, when in actuality he is an aspiring artist, he said.

Those with the disorder are not always in a state of mania or depression. It is common also to experience long periods of a normal functioning state, Brunner said.

He also said bipolar disorder affects people differently. One example of this is the amount of time one spends in a certain cycle. Some people experience a cycle in depression for months, when others will only be in a depressive state for a few days, Thomas said. Switching from one cycle to

another in such a short period of time is called rapid-cycling.

"My cycles depend on stress, but I cycle rapidly," Thomas said. "I always treasure those moments where I feel level for a while."

Warrington said his cycles are slower, usually lasting a couple of months.

The cause of change for a cycle usually is triggered by stress, Warrington said.

"Changing cycles depends on the stress or stimuli at the time," Thomas said. "Stress is emotional for anyone. I just feel it more."

Many people who have bipolar disorder are unaware because it is hard to diagnose and is easily misdiagnosed with other disorders, according to the National Institute of Mental Health. No physiological testing, like a blood test, can be done for diagnosis. Bipolar disorder is diagnosed based on symptoms and the course the illness takes.

Warrington and Thomas agreed they had an inclination that they had the disorder in their teenage years, when they often suffered from depression, they said. Both were diagnosed as having bipolar disorder in their late teens.

Treatment for bipolar disorder includes changing medications, altering stress in one's life and altering activities depending on the cycle, Thomas said.

"I have embraced the natural approach," Warrington said.

Medications often make bipolar disorder worse for him, he said.

According to the National Institute of Mental Health, treatment such as medication and therapy is most effective when continuous and monitored by a professional.

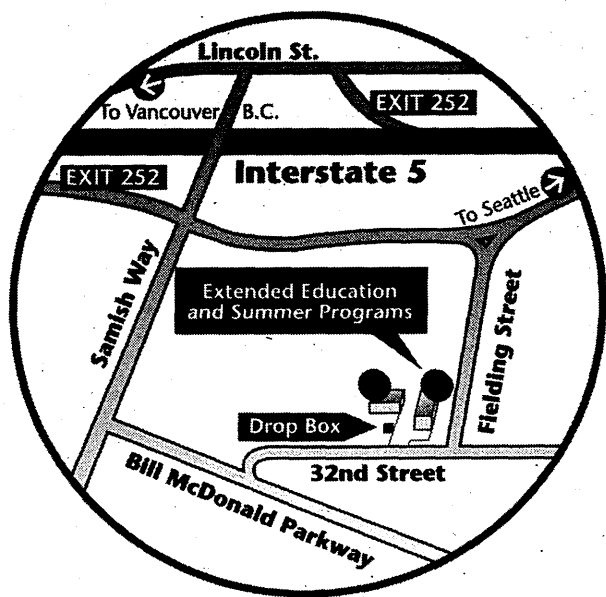
While effective treatment methods are established for treating bipolar disorder, the cause is yet to be determined. Most scientists now agree no single factor causes bipolar disorder, according to the institute.

Instead, many factors act together to produce the illness. Like many ambiguous health issues, bipolar disorder continues to be researched and studied.

"I've lost a few relationships because of bipolar disorder," Warrington said. "People just don't get that it's a disease, not who I am. They should know we're just moody fuckers."

The group's next meeting is at 6 p.m. March 14 at the Black Drop Coffeehouse, or online at bipolar.meetup.com/235.

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SPORTS

TUESDAY, MARCH 8, 2005 • WESTERNFRONTONLINE.COM • PAGE 13

Men's regional tournament coming to Western

By MATT DEVEAU
The Western Front

The Western men's basketball team will play host to the West Regional of the NCAA Division II National Tournament, beginning Friday in Carver Gym — where the Vikings players have not lost this season.

The Vikings will enter the tournament as the No. 1 seed and will face No. 8 Brigham Young University-Hawaii at 7:30 p.m.

Western, which finished the season 21-6 overall, has not made the national tournament since 2001, the last time the team played host to regionals. The Vikings advanced to the national semifinals that season.

Western earned the right to play the tournament on its home court despite losing 121-105 to Northwest Nazarene University Saturday in Nampa, Idaho.

"We're thankful it has worked the way it has," Western head coach Brad Jackson said Sunday in an athletic department press release. "We kind of hoped that as the committee put together the entire criteria we would still have a chance to host, and obviously that was the case."

BYU-Hawaii finished the season 16-8 overall behind 6-foot-8-inch senior center Jake Chrisman, who averaged 20.7 points and 5.7 rebounds per game. The Seaside play in the Pacific West Conference and nearly upset the University of Louisville — a top-10

Division I team — in November.

Western is 13-0 at home this season, while BYU-Hawaii is 4-7 in road games.

Tickets for the tournament, which became available yesterday, cost between \$5 and \$10. Purchasing information is available by calling 650-2583.

Western women head to Seattle Pacific for regionals

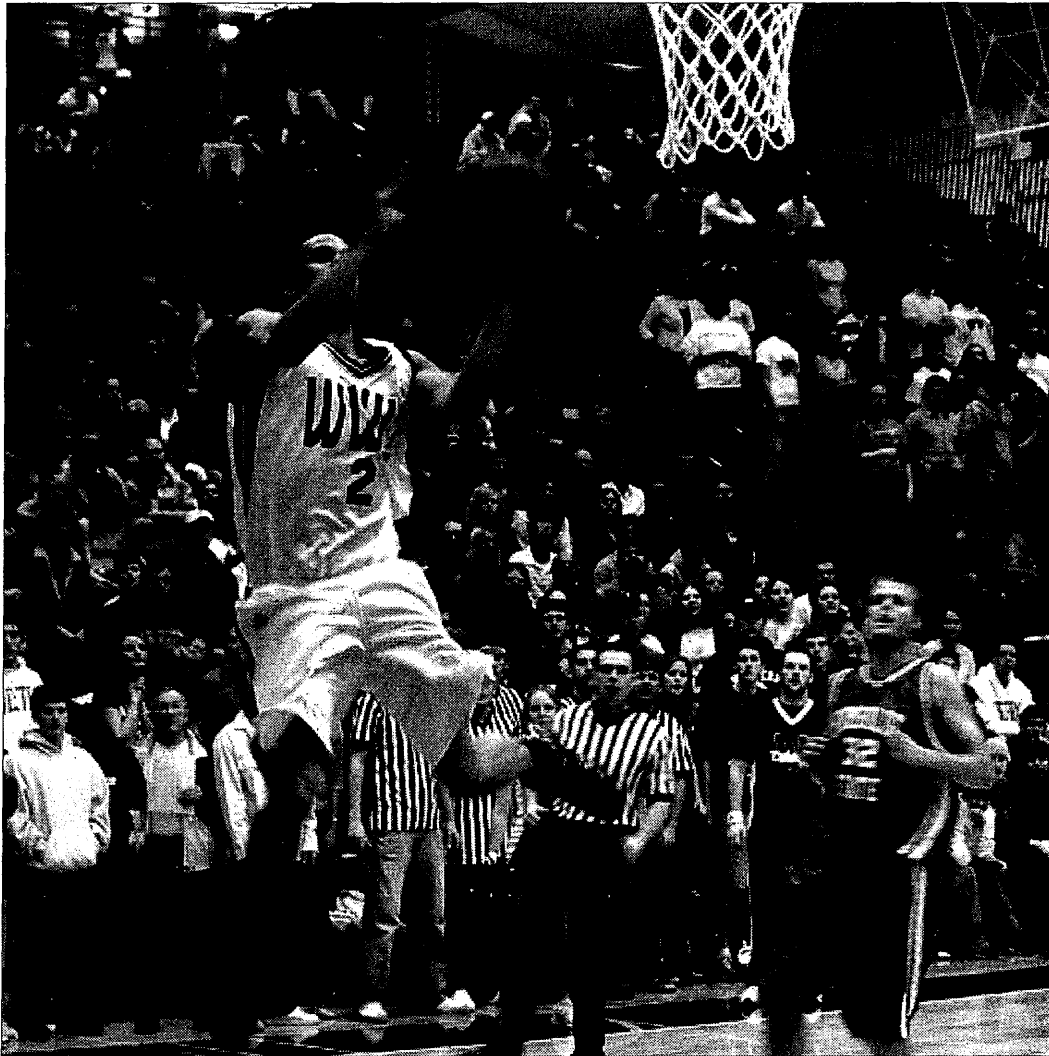
The Western women's basketball team received the No. 2 seed in the West Regional of the NCAA Division II National Tournament and will travel to Seattle for Friday's first-round game against California State University, Dominguez Hills.

The Vikings will face the No. 7 Toros at 2:30 p.m. at Royal Brougham Pavilion on Seattle Pacific University's campus.

SPU is the regional favorite and is playing host to the tournament for the second consecutive year.

Western, 23-4 overall, is making its eighth straight national tournament appearance and its seventh in a row since becoming a full NCAA member.

Dominguez Hills, 17-9 overall, plays in the California Collegiate Athletic Association. Junior guard Tameka Blue averaged 13.2 points per game for the team, which features three freshman starters.



AMANDA WOOLLEY/The Western Front
Junior guard Ryan Diggs shoots a layup during Western's win over Humboldt State on Saturday, Feb. 25 in Carver Gym.

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Western tennis will compete nationally

The team will make its sixth consecutive appearance at the USA Team Tennis Championships

BY MARISSA HARSHMAN
The Western Front

Western's club tennis team is making history.

The team will appear for the sixth straight time at the USA Team Tennis National Campus Championships Wednesday, the only team ever to accomplish that feat.

The coed team will travel to San Diego to compete in the tournament against 40 other club teams, Western junior and captain Justin Cooper said.

The team has not played official matches since its end-of-the-year tournament in October. At nationals, the team will play singles and doubles matches, including coed doubles matches, Western junior and captain Sarah Martin said.

Western's tennis team is led by four student captains, Martin said. Eleven players — five men and six women — will travel to California to compete.

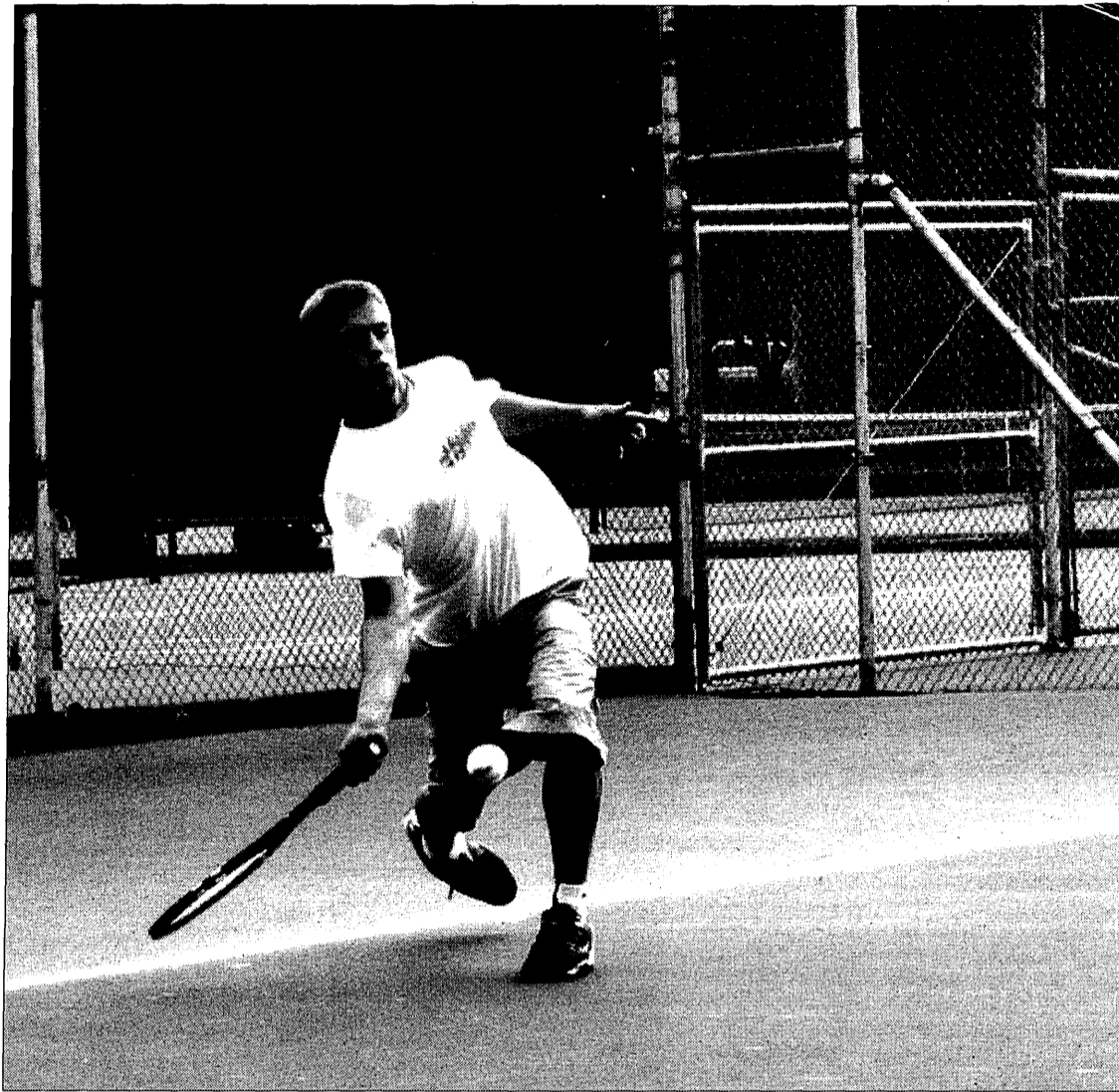
"We're the only team to make it all six years," Martin said. "That gives us a lot of motivation to do well. A lot of people there know us."

The team did not compete as well as they would have liked last year, and is hoping for better results this year, Cooper said.

"Personally, I did worse than I ever have," Cooper said. "I feel like I have a lot to prove. I felt like I let the team down last year."

Three of the five men going to California to compete are seniors, which gives the team experience in the competitive matches, Cooper said.

"We have guys who've been on the team at least three years and know how to handle the pressure,"



Western senior Brandon Johnson practices his swing at a recent practice. The team will compete at the USA Team Tennis National Campus Championships beginning Wednesday in San Diego.

Cooper said. Since nationals are held before the new season begins, the people on the team from the previous season compete in the championship matches, Cooper said.

"(Nationals are) kind of like a reward to the people who stuck it out all year and kept practicing," Western senior and captain Kevin

Novan said. Players purchase student memberships at the Bellingham Tennis Club and practice all year, Novan said. Once the season begins, the team will practice together each weekday, he said.

The season consists of seven matches against other club teams from universities of all levels in

Washington and Oregon, Martin said. The team also plays varsity teams from community colleges. "When we play Skagit (Community College), we really

want to prove ourselves," Cooper said. "They have people playing on scholarships, and we really want to beat them."

The team receives funding from the state, from Western and from independent fund raising, Novan said. At the end of each year, Western allots money to each club based on how well the club develops, Cooper said. The team received \$2,000 last year, Martin said.

"We usually fork out the money at first and just hope to get reimbursed later," Cooper said. "We're using almost our whole piggy bank on nationals. It's going to cost us about \$4,000 to go down there."

The team captains will hold tryouts for the upcoming season after they return from nationals, Cooper said.

Tryouts will begin March 29. The team usually has approximately 14 players, depending on the number of skilled people who try out, Martin said. The captains try to keep the number of players low to ensure that each member receives playing time, she said.

"We're going to have a really good team this year," Martin said. "We have a lot of good returning players."

Cooper said the tennis team hopes its performance at the national tournament will make it easier for the members to schedule season matches against more competitive teams.

"(Nationals are) like the world series of tennis for us," Martin said. "It's what we strive to get to, and to do good when we get there."

Courtesy of Sarah Martin

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Flying discs drive Western students to distraction

BY STEFANI HARREY
The Western Front



AMANDA WOOLLEY/The Western Front

Western sophomore Lauren Irish catches the frisbee during a warm-up drill at Monday night's practice for the women's Ultimate team on the turf field.

When two popular sports — soccer and football — are combined, a small flying disc is added and seven enthusiastic players run up and down the field, the only outcome is the alternative sport: Ultimate Frisbee.

Western has a men's and women's Ultimate team. The teams have existed since 1998, men's team captain Mylo Allen said.

Allen, a graduate student at Western, said the basics of the game are similar to football and soccer. The main goal of Ultimate Frisbee is trying to score a touchdown, just like football. But unlike football, in Ultimate each touchdown is only worth one point, Allen said.

"Ultimate is a game about being a good sport," said Emily Herold, Western senior and one of the women's team captains.

In Ultimate, the games are self-officiated, Allen said. The teams play on an honor system, said Anne Wilcox, women's team member and Western sophomore.

"It's really fair," Wilcox said. "It is pretty easy, people are usually honest, and if you want to contest something you can — it's not a big deal."

Both captains said the teams play for the spirit of the game. They hold the rules above the competition, Allen said.

A common misconception about Ultimate, Allen said, is that players can continue to run once they have the disc. Players can only take two steps once they catch the Frisbee, and then they have 10 seconds to throw it to another player before a turnover is called on the team, Wilcox said. Players can throw the disc in any direction. Usually they do not throw the Frisbee backwards, although no rules dictate the direction the disc, Wilcox said. If players cannot find an open person to throw to after approximately six seconds, they would look for the dump, the player in the back — to throw to, she said.

Most teams will reach 13 to 15 points in an hour and a half game, Allen said. But he said scoring is not necessarily easy. Teams must win by two points in order for the game to be

over, which could prolong the game, Wilcox said.

At Western, Ultimate is a club sport, meaning the team members must pay \$35 each year and they must pay for their own uniforms and all other fees associated with the team, Allen said.

The teams travel to multiple tournaments throughout the spring season and Allen said sometimes trips cost \$1,500 for the entire team. He said that would be the average cost for a trip to California, which they drive to, and stay in host houses for the weekend.

"It's pretty grassroots," Allen said. "A lot of people are willing to have 20 guys stay over at their house."

Allen said occasionally they stay with the players from the host school or with family or friends of people on Western's team who live in the area. The team will rent two or three vans and drive to wherever the tournaments are.

The Western Ultimate teams play in four or five tournaments a year and then move on to sectionals, regionals and possibly nationals in May, Allen said. In each tournament the team will play anywhere from four to seven games, he said.

To pay for uniforms and entry into the tournaments, the teams must participate in fundraisers in addition to paying dues, Herold said.

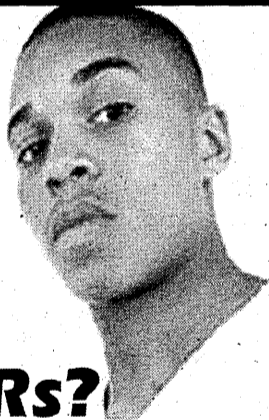
Allen said the men have done fundraisers such as working at University of Washington football games or being bouncers at a Green Day concert. The women's team organizes bake sales on Vendors Row outside the Viking Union as well as car washes in the spring, Herold said. Both teams sell custom Frisbees as a fund raiser as well, Allen said.

The men's team, named Dirt, along with the women's team, Chaos, will play host to a tournament the weekend of April 2. They are still working out the details, Herold said, but it is called "Dirty Deeds/Girly Needs" and will either be in Blaine or Burlington. This will be the first time the women will have played host to a tournament here, Herold said. The men played a tournament on its home field last year.

Allen said they hope to have 16 men's teams and eight women's teams, but Herold said they anticipate at least 10

see ULTIMATE, page 16

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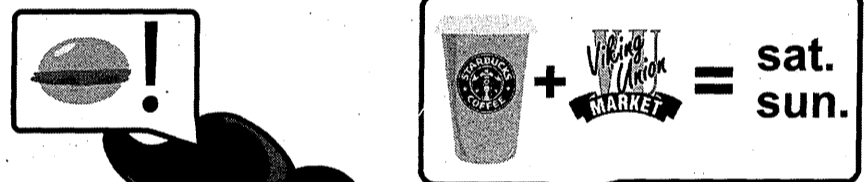
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Ultimate: Any school — no matter size, level — may choose to compete against one another

CONTINUED FROM PAGE 16

women's teams.

The teams also are preparing for an upcoming tournament at Pacific Lutheran University in Tacoma. Allen said. They look forward to this tournament each year. It begins in two weeks, starting on March 12, and Wilcox said the women's team is learning new offenses. The women's team is taking both teams — A and B — this year.

Most tournaments the Ultimate teams compete during spring quarter, Herold said. Last year, the women's team finished tenth in regional play, which includes all the schools in Washington, Oregon and Northern California, regardless of division.

"We want to do a little better this year," Herold said.

She said the team got more competitive this year, and for the first time the members broke into two teams, A and B, for tournaments, in hopes of doing better. The teams were broken down based on commitment level and length of time the players have been playing, Herold said.

The men's team has the same goal, Allen said. It ranked 50 out of 400 teams in the nation last year. Although they could always improve, he said.

"We are a competitive team," Allen said. "But there are a lot of teams, mostly in California, that have 30-year teams, and ours is only six."

He said they would like to do better than they did last year. The men's team is also split into two squads, similarly based on commitment and ability, Allen said.

Players on the B squad are committed, he said, but are not ready to compete at the highest level. Allen said Western's Ultimate team to making it to nationals is unrealistic, but they could do well in this area.

"It is realistic that we could be seventh or eighth in the region," Allen said.

Allen said when it comes to Ultimate clubs regular programs devised as varsity sports go away. Every school can compete against every school, regardless of size, he said. It creates situations where really large schools compete



AMANDA WOOLLEY/The Western Front

The Western women's Ultimate Frisbee team, Chaos, scrimmages against the Bellingham women's Ultimate team on the turf field on Monday night.

against really small schools, Allen said.

He said part of why Western's team cannot compete at a national level at this point is because the team is still new. The team started with a lot of enthusiastic players in 1998, but once they graduated the enthusiasm left from the players.

"In about 2000, the team basically went extinct," Allen said.

Allen said he and a few other players worked to spearhead the effort to encourage more players involved in Ultimate again. Now, roughly 50 men come out each fall to begin practices with the team.

Allen said throughout the course of time, as practices get harder and the weather gets worse, the team is whittled down to what it is now, 25 or 26 dedicated guys.

The women's team is the best team in the club's history this year, Herold said. The 26 women on the team get along really well, she said.

"We know each other very well," Wilcox said. "When we see each other on campus we say, 'hi,'

and I feel like I have a core group of friends who are going through the same things I am."

Allen said Ultimate is a great sport to get involved in because many students are familiar with a team sport in high school and want to get back into a competitive atmosphere, but want an alternative setting so Ultimate is perfect for them.

"I really missed the 'team' idea freshman year," Wilcox said. "I played a lot of team sports in high school and I missed the connected feeling."

Wilcox said Ultimate is the most fun sport she has ever played.

Ultimate games are played throughout the course of an hour and a half to an hour and 45 minutes, Wilcox said. Scoring occurs when the Frisbee is thrown for a touchdown, Allen said.

Allen said the men's team plays with a lot of intensity, but the women's team plays with a lot of spirit.

"We are able to push each other," Wilcox said. "We know what our potential is."

The women's team has cheers that they perform, and Wilcox said they all get really into the game yelling for its team.

"It's really a blast," Wilcox said. "It is all about spirit of the game."

The teams have students who range from freshman to graduate students, Allen said.

He said the university's only criterion is that a player must be pursuing a degree. He also said in the past they have had players practice with the team from Whatcom Community College and from Bellingham Technical College, but they are not allowed

to compete.

All the backgrounds, ages and skill levels of the men's team create a dynamic group of people, Allen said.


"We are a pretty interesting bunch of guys," Allen said.

The teams share practice time occasionally and interact with each other regularly, Herold said. The teams also hold get-togethers with all the players, she said.

The teams do not make cuts, so anyone who comes out and shows dedication to practicing and a commitment to the game can be on the teams, Allen said.

Every year most of the players who are not seniors return to the team the following year, Herold said.

The teams consistently have players returning for multiple years, Herold said.




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Frontline

Mental disorders need to be classified as legitimate illnesses

The mentally ill finally are getting the treatment they deserve.

The Washington State Legislature passed a bill this past Thursday requiring insurance companies to treat mental and physical diseases with equal importance.

Supporters of the bill lauded its passage both as a step toward reducing the stigma often applied to those with mental illnesses and toward helping them deal with mounting medical bills, according to a March 4 Seattle Times article.

They are right. Mental diseases — such as bipolar disorder, schizophrenia and obsessive-compulsive disorder — affect a person's ability to hold a job and to function socially and can lead to physical problems. The treatment required for improving these issues is expensive and beyond the means of most state residents. And if the law views, say, narcissistic personality disorder as no different than influenza, people eventually will stop placing the blame for mental diseases on the afflicted person.

If Gov. Christine Gregoire signs the bill into law, it would cost the state roughly \$8 million per year and could raise many residents' insurance rates by 1 percent to 5 percent, according to the article.

Opponents of the bill say the cost increase is too much, and the ballooning insurance rates may prompt employers to cover less of their workers' share of the bill.

Washington state, however, already requires health insurance to cover too many things, such as acupuncture and massage, according to the article.

Ronald Bachman of PricewaterhouseCoopers conducted a study that found the average cost of insurance premiums will increase by only \$2.93 per month, according to the Times article. And in Vermont, which recently enacted a similar law, the U.S. Department of Health and Human Services found only a 4 percent increase in mental health spending by Blue Cross Blue Shield of Vermont, according to a March 7 Des Moines (Iowa) Business Record article. That is a small price to pay for a set of diseases that will affect as many as 900,000 residents who will benefit from the law, according to the Times article.

The law's opponents might say if the law is to treat mental and physical ailments the same, then those afflicted by depression or paranoia might start using it as an excuse to call in sick to work.

But mental illness can affect others in the workplace just as much as a physical illness can. Either way, the mentally ill should feel that they're treated the same as those with stomach viruses or common colds. It's high time everyone treated them the same, and this new law is a huge step toward that goal.

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

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

And we quote:

"American consumers have no problem with carcinogens, but they will not purchase any product, including floor wax, that has fat in it."

— Dave Barry, syndicated columnist



Ban on employee weight-gain unethical



STEFANI HARREY

Using laxatives, purging or taking illegal drugs to curb one's appetite are not healthy activities.

But the new policy at one New Jersey casino is likely to encourage its employees to use them.

The Borgata Hotel Casino in Atlantic City, N.J. that MGM MIRAGE and Boyd Gaming Corp. owns, created a new policy under which employees who gain more than 7 percent of their body weight can be fired, according to a March 3 Associated Press article.

Many upscale casinos go to extraordinary lengths to attract customers.

And the Borgata casino's efforts now include weight requirements for employees, including cocktail waitresses and bartenders.

Policies attempting to control the weight of employees, however, violate equal opportunity, age-discrimination and disability laws and should be illegal.

Nowhere has the casino specified how long the weight restriction will hold.

Weight gain is a natural occurrence, especially in women as they age and handle pregnancies and changing estrogen levels.

Employees cannot be expected to maintain the same weight for an undetermined amount of time.

The Borgata owners said the idea behind the casino was to capture the cleaned-up image of shopping and family fun, mixed with gambling, that has made Las Vegas successful in the past 15 years, according to a March 5

Chicago Tribune article.

Forcing cocktail waitresses, dubbed the "Borgata Babes," to fit into skimpy uniforms and prance through the rows of slot machines, however, is not necessary to hold up a family-fun image.

Further, it is teaching the youth of America who venture to such places on family vacations to look above intelligence and do whatever it takes to achieve a certain look — even if it means adopting seriously unhealthy behavior such as bulimia and anorexia. It also teaches them skinny people have better job security.

Michael Facenda, a spokesman for the Borgata, said in the Tribune article that customers of the casino have come to like what the Borgata offers in service and appearance, and the weight-gain ban is one way to make sure

see **WEIGHT**, page 18

Bill would extend a woman's right to divorce



BETHANY GRONQUIST

House Bill 1171 clears up confusion regarding pregnant women's rights to divorce in Washington state.

In the past, some Washington state judges have misinterpreted state law to mean judges can deny a woman a divorce if she is pregnant.

Last November, Spokane County Superior Court Judge Paul Bastine denied Shawna Hughes' divorce from her abusive husband, who had been convicted of beating her in 2003 and served time for the crime.

The judge denied Hughes' divorce because she was pregnant and had not informed her husband of her pregnancy, according to a Feb. 5 Seattle Times article.

Denying a woman's right to divorce violates a fundamental freedom that all women should be guaranteed regardless of the circumstances to maintain their independence and safety.

Not passing the law would mean women who are

abused will not be able to break legal ties to their abusive spouses.

This potentially could drag out their exposure to abuse, if they are in a physically or psychologically harmful union. In addition, prolonging a situation that can be risky to a woman and her unborn child is inhumane and unfair to the child who may be born with injuries sustained while in the womb.

She also may become frantic and terminate her pregnancy out of desperation if she feels that no longer being pregnant is her only escape from mistreatment.

She also may terminate the pregnancy out of her child's well-being as she would not want the child to be raised in an abusive household, Hughes' attorney,

Terri Sloyer, said in the Times article.

The abusive partner also may use pregnancy as a tool to prolong the relationship and as a means of continuing the abuse, Sloyer said in the article.

In addition, abusers may attempt to impregnate their spouses as a guarantee that she will not be able to leave them, Sloyer said.

Hughes' divorce originally was denied because her husband did not know she was pregnant and the child's

paternity had not been established, according to the article. But these are not valid reasons for denying a woman her right to divorce.

The determination of paternity and establishment

see **DIVORCE**, page 19

'If a pregnant woman is denied her legal right to divorce, she may become frantic and terminate her pregnancy out of desperation.'

Robotic soldiers are no longer just science fiction



JACINDA HOWARD

Armies of robots killing men should not be considered science fiction anymore, thanks to the United States pentagon.

The Department of Defense plans to send 18 remote-controlled robots to Iraq by early March or April, according to a Jan. 24 USA Today article.

The robots — called SWORDS, an acronym for Special Weapons Observation Reconnaissance Detection Systems — will

be the first armed machines sent to do a soldier's job in U.S. history, according to the article.

Although many benefits exist, robots are not without their drawbacks. Robots do not have, for example, the intellectual capacity to see mistakes and make corrections.

The robots are able to fire on a target but cannot properly identify a target without the help of humans. Distancing a soldier from battlefield surroundings increases the likelihood that someone will be hurt or killed by mistake.

Using gun-toting robots in the U.S. military is likely to create a game-like situation on the battlefield; soldiers may be more likely to kill an enemy without acknowledging their actions will end a human life.

Supporters claim they will save soldiers'

lives and reduce the costs of war, according to a Feb. 16 New York Times article.

They do not need food, sleep or shelter and will not disobey orders, according to the article. Military officials will not have to bother with sending letters informing families of a son's or daughter's death.

The soldier operating the robot will be able to see the terrain through the robots cameras, but he or she will have no way of hearing, smelling or feeling the presence of an enemy from half a mile away. The robot may save the life of its operator but risk the lives of the soldiers on the battlefield.

One problem is the robots run on lithium-ion batteries and, though they can be recharged, only last from one to four hours at a time, according to the USA Today article.

Soldiers often are required to be in the

field or on duty for periods of time exceeding four hours. If the mission lasts longer than the batteries, the robot will not be of much use to the military. Instead, soldiers may be distracted by the responsibility of making sure the robot arrives back to base in a functional mode.

The idea of incorporating robots into the U.S. military as soldiers is something military officials need to think more about.

The incorporation poses a threat to mankind and is morally questionable.

If the U.S. military plans to take the plan more seriously, it ought to reconsider the roles robots will play in the defense of the United States.

Robots should be used only in areas in which they will not pose a threat to either American or foreign lives.

Weight: Casino's weight-gain ban reinforces homogenous standard of beauty in women, men

CONTINUED FROM PAGE 17

customers get what they want.

The new policy applies to more than 200 employees, including costumed cocktail waitresses and bartenders. Approximately three weeks ago, all qualified employees were weighed to establish what the casino is calling a baseline weight, according to the Tribune article.

The baseline weight is simply what the employee weighed that day and will be used as the weight from which they create a target weight range.

If employees go above that amount, they will be put on

an unpaid 90-day leave of absence and given access to a company-sponsored and -funded weight-loss program, according to a Feb. 23 Associated Press article.

If an employee still cannot lose the weight in those 90 days, however, he or she will be fired.

In addition, employees who apply for positions in the jobs under the weight ban could be excluded from the hiring process just for their "baseline weight."

The casino also said they are rejecting the company union's grievance that the policy potentially could result in age discrimination, according to the March 3 AP article.

The Borgata is setting a homogenous standard of beauty

that should not be allowed. Rather, the Borgata should work with better costume designers to create costumes that can emphasize individual beauty.

In fact, many employees should probably go on a weight-gain diet.

In such a case, the casino might be forced to rethink its policy when all 210 waitresses and bartenders start to plump up, and the casino will not be able to fire them until after their 90 day "weight-loss" suspension.

Then they will not have the staff to prance between the slot machines and serve drinks to the masses, seduced into the casino by skimpy outfits and skinny waists.

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People younger than age 18 should be exempt from death penalty



MICHELLE ACOSTA

The U.S. Supreme Court ruled March 2 to make the execution of minors convicted of a crime illegal. The court made the correct decision. The death penalty is an irreversible, serious punishment that should not be applied for all cases.

The United States is known for having a history of executing murderers who committed their crimes while under the age of 18, according to an Aug. 27, 2002 article on the Christian Science Monitor Web site.

But it wasn't until 1988 that the U.S. Supreme Court ruled that children younger

than age 16 no longer could be sentenced to the death penalty.

Before the ruling, 17 states, including Alabama, Idaho and Nevada, set 16 as the minimum age for death penalty, five states set the minimum age at 17, and several others, such as Washington state, have kept the age at 18, according to the article.

In Texas, two-thirds of those executed in 2002 were juvenile offenders, according to the same article.

Lee Boyd Malvo, the teenage sniper who lived temporarily in Bellingham, was only 17 when he committed his crime and now will fall into the category of the new execution laws.

Malvo was sentenced to life in prison in 2003, but could be sentenced to further punishment from other states, according to a March 1 article on CNN's Web site.

Children and adolescents are considered to be in a transitional phase, where

their cognitive abilities, judgment, impulse control and emotions still are in development, thus separating them from adulthood, according to an April 16, 2000 San Francisco Chronicle article.

Making it illegal to execute those younger than 18 is a step toward the right direction because, according to the article, executing those as young as 16 is a violation of the Constitution's Eighth Amendment that forbids cruel and unusual punishment.

Putting a child on death row is as bad as killing a baby, because not all children can clearly make decisions on their own. A child's mind does not function as elaborately as an adult's, which already is fully developed through years of aging and experience.

Opponents of the law argue that if a

person is old enough to kill, then that person is old enough to die.

But death row is more severe and, therefore, it should be considered a punishment for adults only.

But the fact that America no longer will execute children does not mean the justice system will be soft on crime.

Children and adolescents, depending on the severity of the crime, should be punished in juvenile detention centers or juvenile jails for extended periods of time.

This would allow them to understand what they did wrong and why the act was wrong and give them a chance

to correct their behavior. After all, they are still at a young age, where learning from their mistakes is more important than death.

'A child's mind does not function as elaborately as an adult, whose mind is already fully developed through years of aging and experience.'

Divorce: Washington state law that prohibits divorce in case of pregnancy should be overturned

CONTINUED FROM PAGE 17

of custody and child visitation rights also could be used as a means for the abuser to continue

terrorizing the victim, said Joyce Coffee, executive director of Family Rescue Inc., a domestic violence shelter and support system based in Chicago, Ill.,

according to the article.

If a woman is in an abusive relationship, anything that causes a delay in the divorce process can cause considerable anguish to the woman as well as her unborn child.

Advocates for fathers' rights agree with Bastine's original ruling, saying that a man should be given notice when it is possible

he is the father, according to the Times article.

He should also be allowed to have paternity established as his right to know whether he is a parent before divorce proceedings are allowed to continue, Chicago lawyer Jeffrey M. Leving said, according to a Jan. 12 Chicago Sun Times article.

But abusive husbands should lose

their right to know if their wives are pregnant, at least until the divorce is complete.

No woman or child's life should be put at risk just to maintain a spouse's right to know.

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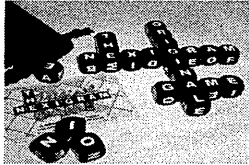
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ALASKAN FISHING lodge. Lodge Hostess Position. Kain's Fishing Adventures fishing lodge currently has openings for the 2005 summer season (May-Sept) for Boat Deckhand. The lodge is located in

Sitka, Alaska. Must be self-motivated and be able to work well with others. Job Description: Airport transfers, house cleaning, serving meals, meal preparation, washing dishes, etc. Our days start early; a positive attitude and being a team player are a must. If you're not a morning person, don't have a cheerful outlook and cannot work well with others, please don't apply. Monthly Salary \$1,500.00 includes lodging. Email Resume to: Greg Kain Email: email@kainfishingadventures.com Phone: 253-229-1674.

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