



SEEING BLUE

Dodger closer takes on league for Cy Young award. Sports, Page 9

OLD BREWS

View old bars. Accent, Page 5



LOCAL BARS

Stumble around the seven-day guide to the Bellingham scene. Accent, Page 6

SCORES

Viking Soccer	
Seawolves	1
Vikings	2

Western Washington University, Bellingham, Washington

ISSUE 2
VOLUME 127

The Western Front

FRIDAY
SEPT. 26, 2003

Revak pleads guilty to lesser charges in federal deal

BY IAN ALEXANDER
The Western Front

Former Western student Paul Douglas Revak pleaded guilty to a lesser crime of attempted receipt of explosives Sept. 19 in federal court in Seattle.

The plea bargain Revak accepted carries a maximum sentence of 10 years, although it is likely he will receive only 12 to 16 months, said Tim Lohrass, Revak's assistant defense attorney.

"Both sides were in agreement that this plea was appropriate to the conduct committed," he said. "This is a lot more appropriate charge for what the circumstances were."

Federal agents arrested Revak June 10 and indicted him for solicitation of another student to commit a crime and threats to use weapons of mass destruction.

It is unlikely Revak will receive the maximum sentence because this is his first offense, Assistant U.S. Attorney Andrew Hamilton said.

Hamilton said Revak will not be able to own weapons or break any laws as a part of his supervised release; any violations could result in more jail time. Hamilton also said Revak will need to check in with a parole officer.

"If you go to trial and lose, you can get eight to 10 years," Lohrass said. "You always maintain your innocence

SEE Charges, PAGE 4

Daycare center to get grant aid



JUSTIN MCCAUGHAN/THE WESTERN FRONT
Carina Robinson helps her daughter, Sierra Robinson, with a piece of cake at the Child Development Center. The center recently received a \$7,000 grant.

\$7,000 grant largest in center's history

BY JENNY ZUVELA
The Western Front

Western senior Martin Coonen juggles a double major in biology and anthropology while caring for his 2 1/2-year-old daughter.

This is his third year at Western and his first year sending his daughter to Western's Child Development Center, a daycare facility located on campus. Although he works part-time while going to school, he says child care still is expensive.

"It's almost not worth working when you have to pay for child care," Coonen said. "My wife also works, and we have a lot of loans, too."

Coonen is one of two students to receive a child care grant at Western from the Norcliffe Foundation, a private organization that donates money to non-profit organizations in the Puget Sound region.

The \$7,000 donation — the center's largest donation in 30 years — will fund child care for Western students who are parents.

Coonen's daughter will attend child care 22 hours each week this quarter; the grant will cover 10 hours.

"It will make it more affordable to have her in child care," Coonen said. "When you have a kid, whatever you can get helps."

Jules McLeland, director of the Child Development Center, said 70 percent of the 57 children at the center have parents who are students. The rest are children of faculty and staff.

"I would estimate that over half (of student-parents) need financial aid," McLeland said.

Financial aid comes from federal funds, private

SEE Aid, PAGE 4

Level III sex offender molests boy after seeking help

JOSHUA FEJERAN/
THE WESTERN FRONT
Jimmy Johnson, a homeless man from Las Vegas, lives in a makeshift camp where Level III sex offender Rory Woodell lived until he was arrested last week after molesting an 8-year-old boy.



BY ANNA SOWA
The Western Front

Nearly a month after Rory Woodell cried wolf, Bellingham Police allege that the registered Level III sex offender re-offended.

"(Woodell is charged with) inappropriately touching a young male in a house he was staying at," Bellingham Police Lt. Craig Ambrose said.

Police arrested Woodell Sept. 19 after he left the scene and charged him with first-degree

child molestation.

City Prosecutor Royce Buckingham said Woodell, 29, is in custody at the Whatcom County Jail on \$50,000 bail. A judge will set a trial date at his indictment today.

Woodell confessed Aug. 25 to the department of corrections that he molested a 6-year-old boy, Ambrose said. Police investigated the claim Sept. 11 and determined the confession to be false when

they found no victim.

Williams College psychology professor Saul Kassir, said a false confession may still be a sign of guilt.

"Sometimes the goal is to protect a friend or relative," Kassir wrote in his 1991 research study, "Confessions: Psychological and Forensic Aspects." "Other possible motives include a pathological

SEE Deviant, PAGE 4

UP-Front

Western considers using online match-making service for dorm roommates. News, Page 3

Columnist dismisses claims of true tragedy Sept. 11 shifts attention away from atrocities. Opinions, Page 10

\$12 million grant to benefit state schools

BY SARAH A. FREEMAN
The Western Front

Western's science department received a \$12 million grant to implement new science curricula, improve programs and encourage science education at all grade levels.

The North Cascades and Olympic Partnership will join 26 school districts and five higher education institutions in Washington to share the money during the next five years. Western is the lead partner and in charge of the grant, according to the grant proposal.

"We put together a really powerful force," said Stephanie Salzman, dean of Woodring College of

Education. "The grand vision is for not only Western's science and education department to see benefits, but from elementary school age through teachers themselves."

Participating schools will use the grant money to recruit teachers in science education, redesign the curriculum and provide professional development and opportunities for current teachers, Salzman said. This is the largest grant Western has ever received, she said.

Salzman said Western's science department will offer new general university requirements to the undergraduate and graduate programs in the science department. Schools will

SEE Grant, PAGE 4

For news tips, call (360) 650-3162 or e-mail The Western Front at wfront@cc.wvu.edu

Get your news online at
www.westernfrontonline.com

COPS BOX

University Police

Sept. 23, 2:13 p.m.: Officers stopped and arrested a 25-year-old male for driving with a suspended license. The man was cited and released.

Sept. 23, 5:03 p.m.: Officers responded to a report of a hit-and-run in the Ridgeway Complex parking lot.

Sept. 23, 5:50 p.m.: UP found several books and a class schedule in the Ridgeway Complex parking lot.

Sept. 24, 7:17 p.m.: Officers received a report that a person driving a blue Chevy Suburban was unloading trash in the Buchanan Towers parking lot.

Bellingham Police

Sept. 24, 12:38 a.m.: Officers responded to a possible court order violation in the 1500 block of G Street. Upon arrival, officers arrested the suspect on suspicion of burglary.

Sept. 24, 2:14 a.m.: Officers responded to a request for a ride by an intoxicated individual. Officers took the individual to a Detox facility in the 300 block of Alabama Street.

Sept. 25, 1:22 a.m.: Officers stopped and arrested a 22-year-old male for driving under the influence in the 2300 block of James Street.

Sept. 25, 1:31 a.m.: Officers responded to a neighbor's complaint of a loud party in the 2200 block of Michigan Street.

Compiled by Meagan McFadden.

Viking Voices

Would you ever try to find a roommate through an online matchmaking service?

Compiled by Porfirio Pena.



Cash Cranson
Senior,
American Cultural Studies

No, not normally, but I would if I needed to, if I didn't already have people lined up.



Maya Tomlin
Senior, Management

I would use it as a starting point, but I'd have to meet the person first.



Kurt Hildahl
Junior, Undecided

I'm just not into those online things. I'd find one on my own.

AP Wire

news briefs

STATE NEWS

Government approves energy rate increases

Natural gas rates will soon rise for Puget Sound Energy and Northwest Natural Gas customers. The Washington Utilities and Transportation Commission approved rate hikes for the two companies Wednesday. As Puget Sound Energy's second increase for the year, the change will boost the average residential customer's monthly bill by 12.5 percent, totaling approximately \$70.21 per month.

The Puget Sound Energy rate increase will affect more than 645,000 customers in Pierce, Thurston, Lewis, Snohomish, Kittitas and King counties.

Northwest Natural Gas' increase will boost the average customer's monthly bill by 16 percent, totaling approximately \$55.53 per month. The change will affect 51,000 people in Clark and Klickitat counties.

Judge upholds agreement between Times and P-I

A Seattle judge ruled Thursday that the Emerald City will remain a two-newspaper town.

King County Superior Court Judge Greg Canova said The Seattle Times could not end the joint-operating agreement that has been in place for 20 years with the Seattle Post-Intelligencer.

The Times wanted to end the agreement because it has lost money during the past three years.

NATIONAL NEWS

Ohio couple imprisoned for faking daughter's illness

An Ohio couple was sentenced to prison for faking their daughter's leukemia for donations.

Teresa Milbrandt was sentenced to six and a half years. Her husband Robert Milbrandt received four years and eleven months.

Teresa Milbrandt shaved her daughter's hair and gave her

sleeping pills to appear like she was receiving chemotherapy. The Milbrandts were able to scam 65 people and businesses into donating approximately \$31,000.

House and Senate protect do-not-call list

Congress approved legislation to support the Federal Trade Commission's do-not-call list after an Oklahoma judge attempt ed to block its release scheduled for Oct. 1.

The list will prevent telemarketers from calling people who requested not to be called.

New York police officer faces sex-abuse charge

A New York City police officer will travel to Oregon to face charges of sexual abuse of a high school girl from Linn County.

Police Officer Matthew DeGennaro visited Oregon last year to talk to students about Sept. 11 and his experience at

Ground Zero.

A grand jury indicted DeGennaro on charges of encouraging child sexual abuse and using a child in a display of sexually explicit conduct.

INTERNATIONAL NEWS

Earthquakes rock Japan, tsunami advisories issued

Three powerful earthquakes hit Hokkaido in northern Japan early this morning, injuring 240 people and generating a 7-foot-high tsunami.

The first quake had a preliminarily registered magnitude of 8.0, making it the biggest earthquake since 2001.

Tsunami advisories have been issued for much of the Pacific region, including Japan, Russia and the Philippines.

Compiled by Megan Lewis.
AP Wire courtesy KUGS 89.3-FM.

In the next issue

- Western football players arrested on suspicion of burglary appear in court.
- Teen BMX-er builds a professional-style racing track on his parent's property.
- Viking football team faces off against Saint Mary's College.

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

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

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

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

WWU Official Announcements

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

Announcements should be limited to 50 words. Announcements may be submitted by e-mail to pubs@cc.wvu.edu. The subject line should contain a brief topic title and clearly state that the item is for official announcements. Items sent by e-mail should be sent separately from submissions to FAST.

Announcements that are typewritten or legibly printed also may be sent through campus mail to "Official Announcements," MS 9117, sent via fax to X/4343, or brought in person to Commissary 113A. DO NOT SEND ANNOUNCEMENTS DIRECTLY TO THE WESTERN FRONT OFFICES. Phoned announcements will not be accepted. All announcements should be signed by originator.

PLEASE POST

TESTING SCHEDULES FOR 2003-04 can be viewed at www.ac.wvu.edu/~assess/tc.htm.

MATH PLACEMENT TEST (MPT). Registration is not required. Students must bring photo identification, student number, Social Security number, and a No. 2 pencil. A \$15 fee is payable in exact amount at test time. Allow 90 minutes. Fall test times and dates are at 9 a.m. Oct. 2, 9, 16, 23, 30, Nov. 6, 13, 20, Dec. 4 and 11; and 3 p.m. Sept. 29, Oct. 6, 13, 20, 27, Nov. 3, 10, 17, 24, Dec. 1 and 8.

SCHEDULE AND SAMPLE PROBLEMS for the Math Placement Test may be found at www.ac.wvu.edu/~assess/tc.htm.

MILLER ANALOGIES TEST (MAT). Registration, limited to 16 students, is required in OM 120 or call X/3080. The MAT is not administered individually. A \$42 fee is payable at test time. Test takes approximately 1 1/2 hours. Testing is in OM 120 at 2 p.m. Oct. 14, Nov. 4; and Dec. 2.

WEST-B. State-approved educator preparation program applicants and persons from other states seeking a Washington residency teaching certificate need a minimum passing score on basic skills assessment. Residency teaching certificate applicants who completed an educator preparation program outside Washington and have not passed WEST-B may be granted additional time. Testing: Nov. 22, Jan. 10, March 13, May 1. To register, see www.west.nesinc.com.

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

STUDY ABROAD. The International Programs and Exchanges application deadline for studying abroad during winter or spring of 2004 is Oct. 15. For more information, see www.ac.wvu.edu/~ipewwu or stop by HS 25.

A HUMAN SERVICES MAJOR OPEN HOUSE will be held from 11 a.m. to 2 p.m. Oct. 7 in MH 403. Drop by program offices and find out more about the Woodring College of Education human services major, or call X/7759 for more information.

FOR INFORMATION ON BUS ROUTES AND SCHEDULES, call 676 RIDE (676-7433), or go to www.ridewta.com.

CAMPUS SHUTTLE. Western's campus shuttle operates from 7 p.m. to midnight seven 7 days a week. The shuttle route circles Western residence halls, the Birnam Wood Apartments, and Sehome Village shopping center every 20 minutes, with the last trip leaving the VU at midnight.

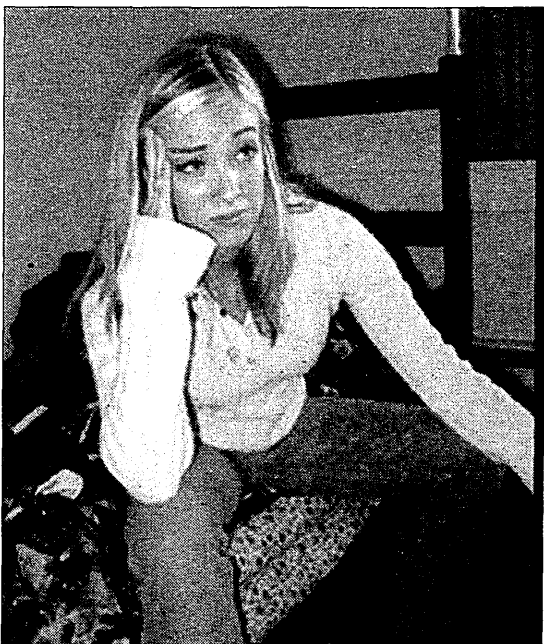
VIKING XPRESS PASS. Fall 2003 and academic year 2003-2004 Viking Xpress passes are available at Parking and Transportation Services in the Campus Services building. Cost is \$20 per quarter or \$50 for the 2003-2004 academic year. For more information, call X/2945 or see www.ps.wvu.edu for information.

ENTERTAINMENT 2004 books may be ordered through the alumni relations office. Both Seattle area and North Puget Sound books are available for \$30. Call X/3353 or stop by 709 High Street to purchase a book.

FALL QUARTER LIBRARY HOURS through Dec. 12 are 7:30 a.m. to midnight Monday-Thursday; 7:30 a.m. to 6 p.m. Friday, 10 a.m. to 6 p.m. Saturday, and noon to midnight Sunday. The Wilson wing closes at 11 p.m. on nights the Haggard wing is open until midnight.

THE LIBRARY WILL CLOSE AT 5 P.M. NOV. 26 for the Thanksgiving recess and remain closed through Nov. 29. Regular hours are scheduled to resume at noon Sunday, Nov. 30.

Online matchmaking may alleviate roommate stress



JUSTIN MCCAUGHAN/THE WESTERN FRONT
Western freshman Catherine Ayers said she is unhappy with her living situation in Nash Hall. Ayers said she and her roommate are complete opposites and should not have been paired.

BY MELENA EATON
The Western Front

Western students living on campus may not have to put up with messy or loud roommates much longer. In the near future, University Residences will match Western students with potential roommates using a system similar to online dating services.

Assignments Manager for University Residences Karen Walker said the new Web site is still in the planning stages. Once complete, the site will allow students to choose a roommate.

Similar to the University of Washington Web site, Western's site may also offer students a way to find a new roommate during the year if their current roommate moves out.

"If someone doesn't find a roommate using the Web site,

Housing Assignments will do it for them," Walker said.

Associate Director of University Residences Peter Rosenberg said he does not want to see students use a matching Web site to encourage bias because it may limit the experiences they can have in college.

The service is not meant to be a way for students to discriminate against potential matches, Rosenberg said.

"Students should challenge any preconceived notions or ideals they have," he said.

Despite efforts by Housing Assignments to find appropriate matches for students living in the dormitories, Western junior Beth Fulwiler said the housing questionnaire needs improving.

"I do not think the questions they ask are enough because you can't judge much about a person from

them," Fulwiler said. "I think they could have done a better job finding me a better match, but I understand that they have a lot of students to match, which makes it hard to give everyone a good match."

The questionnaire asks students about seven different habits, including alcohol consumption, neatness and study preferences.

Western senior Mark Sherman said an online matching system will help students find roommates with similar interests and habits.

"I think Western could use an online questionnaire to branch out in the types of questions it asks," Sherman said.

Web site users will have the option of listing interests and preferences in addition to the information on the current questionnaire.

Former Fairhaven Resident Adviser Valene Ledesma said many roommates matched randomly did not get along very well because their personalities clashed.

"I think the type of questions that are asked on Western's questionnaire would be ones that the roommates should ask each other when they have already moved into the residence hall," Ledesma said.

Currently, the largest problem in matching roommates is that University Residences places students in residence halls and then matches them with a student who is living in the same building. This decreases the pool of possible roommates.

Walker said the Web site may help alleviate the problem once the housing department launches the site. The service will be available as soon as next year.

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Grant: Multi-million dollar gift eases burdens

CONTINUED FROM PAGE 1

also use the money to establish science-based scholarships.

"The goal is to have an infrastructure in place so things going in a positive direction will continue to do so after the money is spent in five years," said George Nelson, the grant's principal investigator and Western's director of science, math and technology education program.

Nelson said he hopes to see the awareness and importance of science increase each year and to

acquire high quality teachers at Western in the end. He said he hopes this grant will create a positive shift toward science education that will continue as time progresses.

Each institution in the partnership will participate in similar training to create guidelines that will achieve the best benefits for everyone, Nelson said.

Chris Ohana, co-principal investigator and Western's assistant professor of elementary education, said she evaluated the best ways to optimize the benefits of the grant.

"Accountability is key," Ohana said. "We want to be able to look back and know the money was used appropriately."

Nelson said the grant must be viewed as if it were a real-life experiment due to the scope and importance of the grant.

"How science is best learned, the current research, content and effective instruction were, and still are all being looked into," Nelson said. "It is important that all citizens have a basic understanding of science in our personal and social lives."

Aid: Student parents get help

CONTINUED FROM PAGE 1

grants and scholarships. McLeland said 10 students received Pell grants in addition to the two Norcliffe grants. Other student parents may receive grants, depending on their child's enrollment in the day care.

"I try to award whoever I can," McLeland said.

The Norcliffe Foundation donates to organizations that support health, environmental and educational causes, such as the Fred Hutchinson Cancer

Research Center, Northwest Burn Foundation and the Seattle Parks Foundation.

Foundation Manager Arline Hefferline said other childcare centers, including Bellevue Community College's center, have received similar grants.

"The grant will benefit students by making attending school possible for them," she said.

Coonen said his daughter is already enjoying the benefits of the center after only a few days.

"On her first day, she didn't want to come home," he said.

Deviant: Woodell reached out

CONTINUED FROM PAGE 1

need for fame, acceptance, recognition or self-punishment."

Ambrose said police can detain suspects and recommend professional psychiatric help only if they are legally determined to be an imminent danger to themselves or others — even those who admit to committing a crime.

"We are not the law makers; we are not the judicial system," Ambrose said. "We do what we can within the parameters of the law."

Currently, 386 registered sex offenders live in Whatcom County. The 1990 Community Protection Act requires that sex offenders must register and notify law enforcement of where they are living at all times.

Failure to inform police of his or her whereabouts may result in a warrant for the offender's arrest, Ambrose said.

Woodell is classified as a transient because he did not register an address with the BPD.

The Police Department Web site reports that Woodell has struggled with assault charges since 1988, when authorities convicted him of indecent liberties with an 11-year-old boy. Authorities also convicted him of assault in the third degree in 1999 and assault in the fourth

'We are not the law makers; we are not the judicial system.'

Craige Ambrose

Bellingham Police Lieutenant

degree in 2002.

"There is more support out there than (the police)," Ambrose said. "They only have to report to us where they live and if they are moving."

Charges: Prosecutors accept plea bargain deal

CONTINUED FROM PAGE 1

until you plea down."

Western sophomore Sarah Schwartz said she and Revak socialized in the same group, often going to dinner together and spending late nights at Denny's. Schwartz said she and a group of friends were at the Puyallup Fair when Revak called and told them about his plea bargain.

"To me, he said they basically plead guilty, and he was hopefully going to get out around Christmas," Schwartz said. "A few of us were surprised because of the enormity of the case."

Schwartz said the phone call was the first time she had talked to Revak since his arrest. She also said she and her friends had different reactions to Revak's arrest.

"We had lots of mixed feelings," Schwartz said. "He's our friend, and we're very close to him, but at the same time, I feel like he betrayed our trust."

Hamilton said he does not think people will oppose the plea

bargain because of Revak's clean criminal record.

"People will be fine," Hamilton said. "Revak is not the type of threat people feared at the time of his arrest."

Revak's plea bargain came just days before U.S. Attorney General John Ashcroft adopted a new policy concerning sentencing and plea bargains.

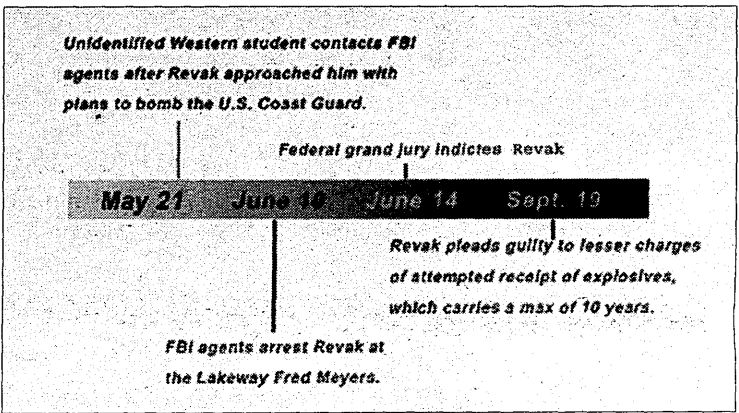
According to Ashcroft's memo sent to federal prosecutors, it is the policy of the Department of Justice for federal prosecutors to charge

and pursue the most serious and easily proved offenses in the case.

"Our understanding of the policy is (the charges are) at the discretion of the district attorney and his immediate supervisor," Hamilton said.

Schwartz said that when Revak leaves federal prison, she and her friends will still support Revak.

"We all decided we'd stay friends with him and help him in any way we could," Schwartz said. "I just hope he learns from this."



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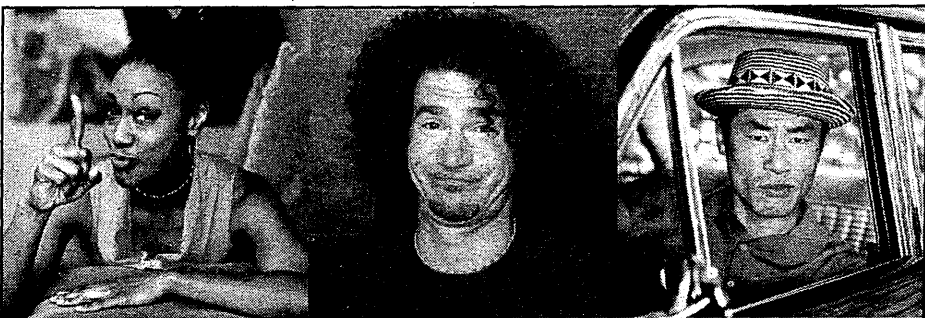
1102 Nevada Street - Screaming deal! Less than 5 minutes from campus. 6 bedroom, 2.75 bath.. Pets ok. \$1395 per month 12 month lease. \$100 off your first month's rent!

1315 Lakeway Drive-WOW! - 5 spacious bedrooms, 2 baths. Large kitchen, living room and foyer. \$1750 per month, 12 month lease. 1/2 off 1st month's rent. Tenant pays all utilities and maintains yard. Must see to believe!

2591 North Shore Rd. - Amazing! 4 bdrm, 2 bath, located on Lake Whatcom and has a dock with a low-bank beach, Large kitchen with newer appliances. Tenants pay all utilities. No pets, no smoking. Yard care provided.

511 E. Chestnut, 3 bdrm, 1 bath - No smoking (FIRM), no pets (FIRM). One apartment is on the main floor (hardwood floors), and one is on the second floor (carpeted). This was a house that was converted to a victorian four-plex with lot's of character that is located between WWU & downtown with security entrance. There is off-street parking and on-site coin-op laundry, Both units have a Large kitchen with newer appliances including range, fridge and dishwasher.W/S/G paid. \$785 per month

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An Old Brew on View

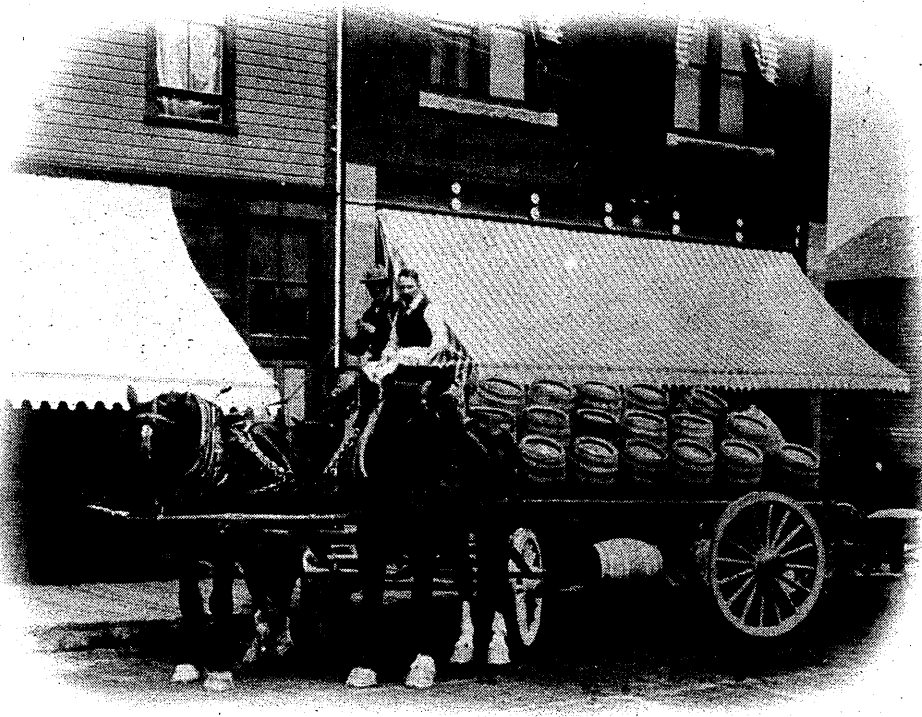


PHOTO COURTESY OF WHATCOM MUSEUM OF HISTORY & ART
A brewery wagon sits in front of the William Tell Bar (now the Beaver Inn). Brewery wagons once delivered beer to Bellingham residents, replacing their empty kegs with new ones.

By ANNA SOWA
The Western Front

Bellingham has a long history of brewing beer. Nearly 100 years ago, more than 60 saloons were operating in the city, said Jeff Jewell, photo historian for the Whatcom Museum of History & Art.

"(Saloons) were more prevalent than espresso stands are now," Jewell said.

Jewell oversees the organization and exhibition of "Brewed in Bellingham: 1900-1911," a free exhibit at the Whatcom Museum of History & Art, which is on display from Sept. 26 to Jan. 4.

Jewell said the exhibit consists mainly of photography of bars, saloons and breweries in the area, as well as 50 artifacts gathered from the early 1900s, such as beer bottles, wooden kegs and bar tokens.

The exhibit is interesting because it is local history that does not receive much attention, Jewell said.

"It is an unexplored area of history because saloons were thought of as evil and dirty in their day," Jewell said.

Jenna Schrengohst, interim registration technician for the museum, said the exhibit attracts an audience that usually does not frequent museums.

"This will attract people who don't normally go to museums and don't think they're interesting," she said. "This is something that is an interest because it's about breweries."

Howard Kittel, who volunteers at the museum, said he thinks the exhibit will be popular.

"It's going to go off very well," Kittel said. "It's a side of Bellingham most people don't really know about."

'It is an unexplored area of history because saloons were thought of as evil and dirty in their day.'

Jeff Jewell
Whatcom Museum of History & Art
photo historian

SEE Exhibit, PAGE 6

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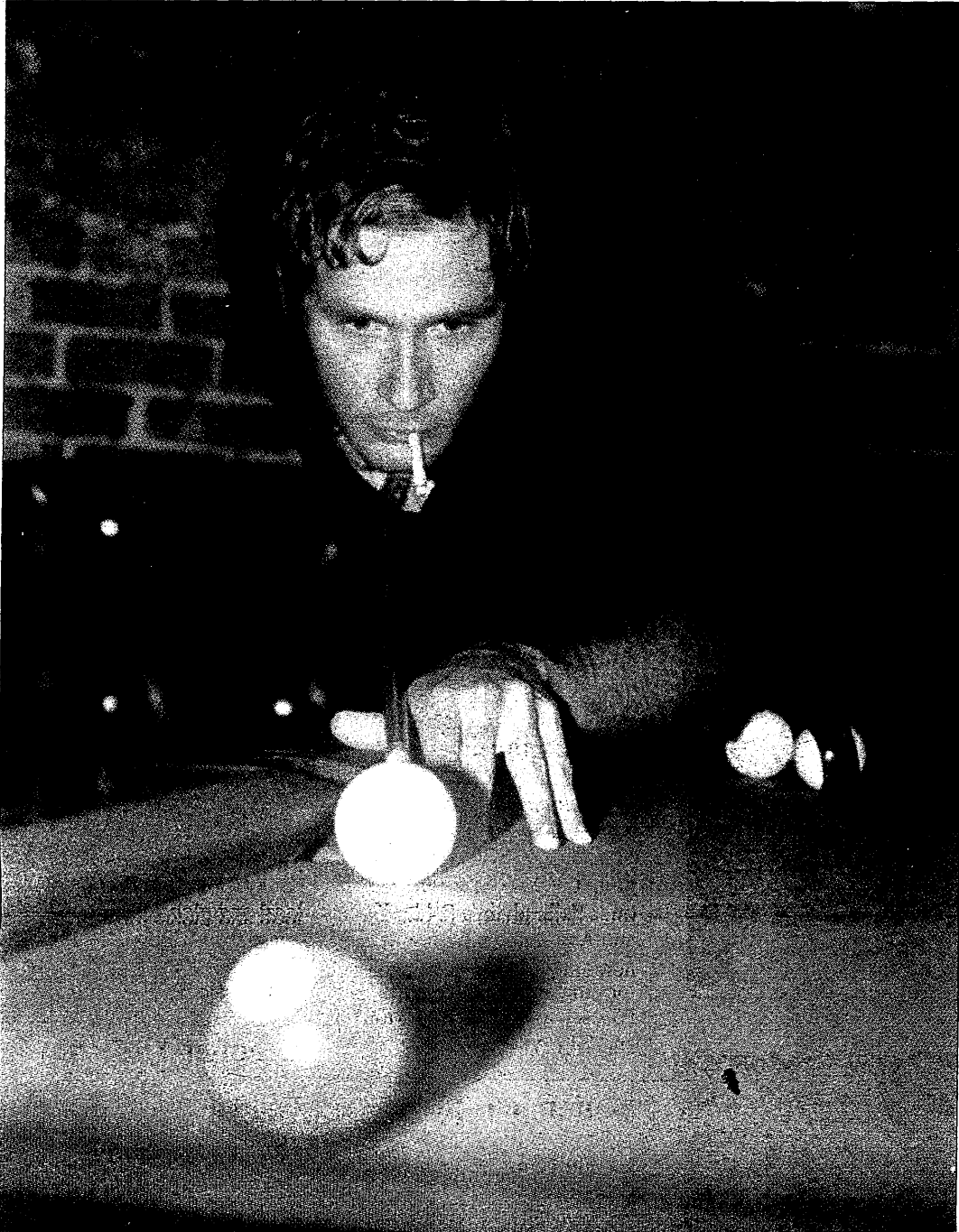
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NIGHTLIFE 101 : BEER



JUSTIN MCCAUGHAN/*The Western Front*

Bellingham resident Brad Victor squares up for a pool shot at the 3B Tavern. The 3B offers patrons a quirky atmosphere and interesting theme nights throughout the week.

BY MELISSA VANDEWEGE

The Western Front

The list of necessities for the new school year includes textbooks, backpacks, pens, espresso and, of course, bars, clubs and restaurants with entertainment and cheap drinks.

"It's great to go out on any night of the week to unwind from classes and drink for cheap," Western senior James Hillegas said.

Every night, Bellingham bars, clubs and restaurants draw college students into the night with drink specials, games and live entertainment.

"Going to clubs and bars is a great time to hang out and get to know more people and just have fun," Western junior Trent Gordon said. "It's a way to unwind after a hectic week of school."

Dos Padres begins the week Monday night with \$2 margaritas. The Fairhaven Pub offers "College Night" on Tuesday, with any beer pitcher for \$6, said Western senior Colleen Seffernick, who visits the bars every night.

For a variety of drinks, Black Angus offers \$2.50 off all drinks on Wednesday night, Seffernick said.

3B Tavern features "Funk Night" on Wednesdays, serving \$5.25 pitchers of Busch and taking a dollar off any pint of beer, 3B Tavern bartender Nick Kovalenkl said.

"Funk night has '70s dance music, and people dance 'til closing," Kovalenkl said. "It's always packed."

Thursday features music from the next decade at the 3B with "80s Night," he said.

Besides dance music, clubs and restaurants, such as the Wild Buffalo House of Music and Boundary Bay, often have live bands, including the popular local band Barbedwire Cutters, Western senior Pam Kobylarz said.

"The Barbedwire Cutters are awesome, and I always go to Wild Buffalo or Boundary Bay whenever they're playing," Kobylarz said. "Wild Buffalo and Boundary Bay have great live music and good dancing."

Friday nights mean a house party for Gordon.

"House parties are more low-key, and it's good to just chill with a closer bunch of friends," he said.

"It's a really laid-back atmosphere, like you're hangin' out in someone's basement."

James Scripture
Former Western student

Former Western student James Scripture said he likes to go to the Beaver Bar on State Street any night of the week.

"It's a really laid-back atmosphere, like you're hangin' out in someone's basement," Scripture said. "They've got free popcorn, pool, air hockey, dart boards and \$3.50 pitchers of beer."

Saturday is martini night, Seffernick said.

"Poppy's at Lakeway Hotel offers the best martinis I've ever had," she said. "They're around \$8, but they're absolutely worth it."

She said Sunday is not a day to stay sober or go to bed early.

"It's comedy night at Fairhaven Pub, and I go every Sunday," Seffernick said. "They

Exhibit: The Whatcom Museum of History & Art showcases local historic bars and breweries in a new mixed-media show

CONTINUED FROM PAGE 5

Kittel said he expects the exhibit to appeal to Western students.

"I would think they'd be very interested," Kittel said. "Everybody likes beer at that age."

Western senior Tyler Snow said the exhibit interests him.

"I like learning history about beer and the Bellingham culture," Snow said, as he sipped on a can of beer. "I like historical stuff, and I like beer too, so let's put the two together and call it good."

Snow said the exhibit will be a

good social activity for students.

"It sounds like a new good dating concept—dinner and the beer exhibit," Snow said. "Sounds sweet, huh?"

Jewell said the best source of information for the exhibit was obituaries. He also collected pieces from old saloon advertisements, newspapers, souvenir booklets and promotional brochures from the bars.

Most of the pictures are prior to 1910, when Prohibition outlawed drinking establishments. But since it was legal to drink at home, Bellingham breweries

offered door-to-door service.

"The breweries had a wagon that would come to your house like a milkman," Jewell said. "They would take your old bottles and replace them with full ones."

Western senior Hans Anderson said he also thought the exhibit would be worth seeing.

"I would be very interested in going to the exhibit," Anderson said. "I feel this is a way for students to experience some of the culture Bellingham has to offer. It really has potential to captivate students at Western, because students at Western like beer."



COURTESY OF WHATCOM MUSEUM
A group of patrons gather inside Doc & Dicks Place in 1905. The photo is on display for the Whatcom Museum exhibit, "Brewed in Bellingham."

STUDY HARD



have a regular stand-up group come in, and it's some of the best comedy I've ever seen."

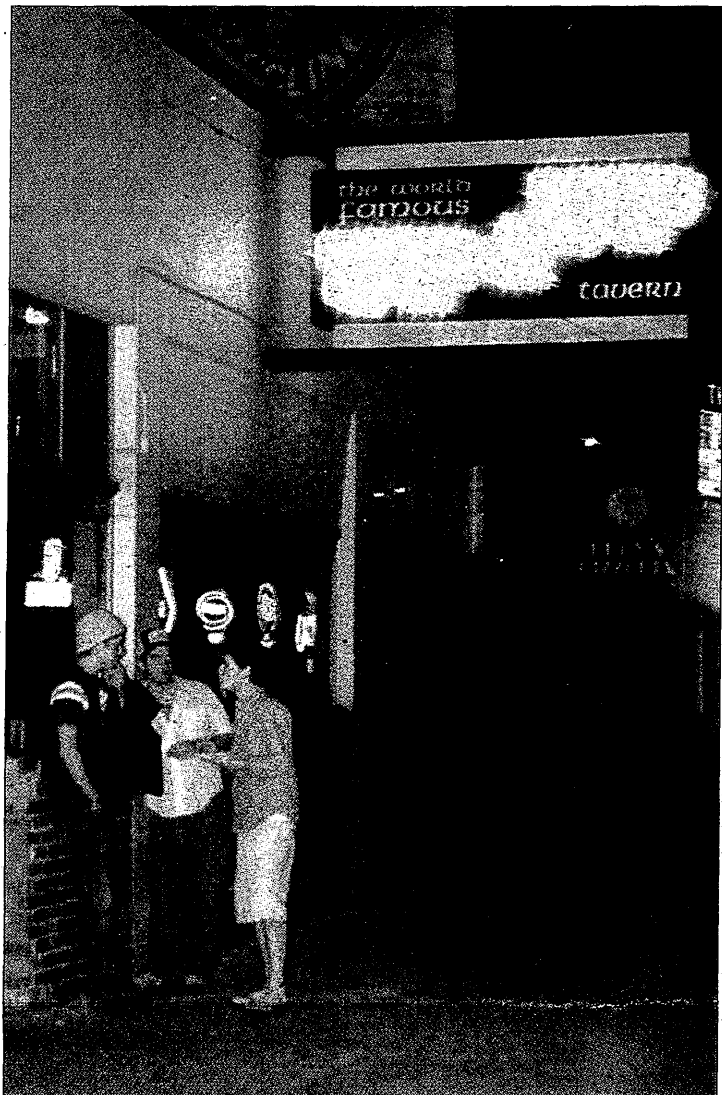
Bars and clubs are not the only places students crowd into at night. Many students pile out of the bars and into the Pita Pit.

"My friends and I always hit up the Pita Pit afterwards," Gordon said. "It's a remedy for a heavy night of drinking, and if I could afford it, I'd live off those things."

Recent Western graduate and Rudy's Pizzeria employee Melissa Owen said people like to come in to Rudy's before or after a night at the bars.

"People come in and grab a \$2 piece of pizza, and when you're drunk, that sounds really good," she said.

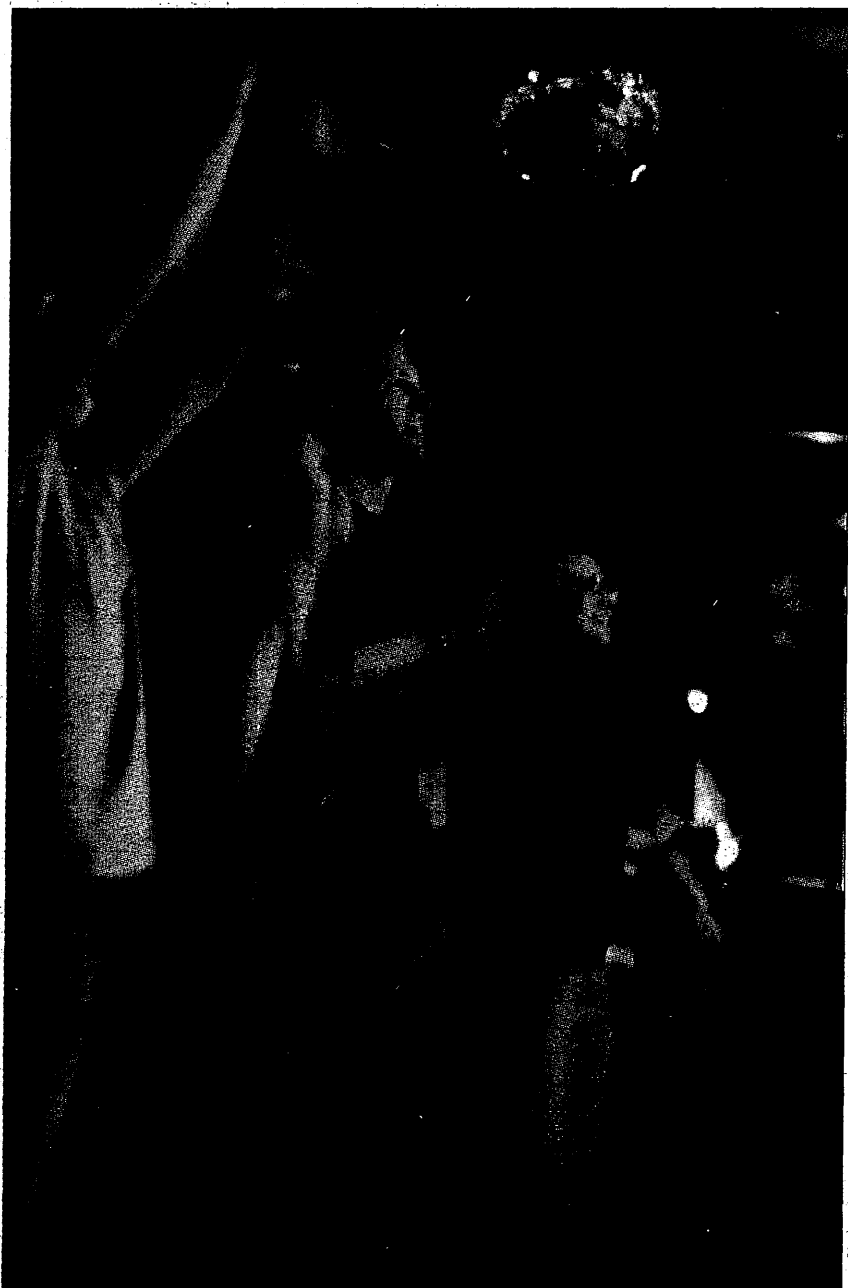
No matter what night, Western students can enjoy alcohol without breaking their budget.



JUSTIN MCCAUGHAN/
THE WESTERN FRONT

Western senior Dan Letrzelka, Western junior Alex Gravley and Bellingham resident Nick Woll, above, hang out outside The World Famous Up & Up Tavern.

Patrons get down on the dance floor of The Fairhaven Pub & Martini Bar, below, while Western senior Jaida Kimmerer sings to the crowd during a recent karaoke night.



in the spotlight

a calendar of local music, arts and entertainment

September 27

Book reading

Village Books; 11th St; free; 671-2626

Village Books will feature award-winning author Frances Itani as part of its Literature Life program at 7:30 p.m. on Saturday. She will discuss her book "Deafening," which is set during Word War I.

Hip-hop music

VU multipurpose room; \$3 with student ID, \$5.00 without

Jump Off 2003, at 9 p.m., features Bellingham's Bobby K. and Amir, who will sing their new single "Tell Me." Also performing are Dre Dizzle and Focus-1, as well as Facx Murda and Flipstylz.

September 28

Comedy

The Fairhaven Pub & Martini Bar; 1114 Harris St.; fee varies; 671-6745

Guest comics from all over North America will perform every Sunday night at 8 p.m. One headline act and two comics will perform. A free appetizer bar is open to those who arrive early.

Blues music

Pioneer Restaurant and Lounge; 2005 Main St., Ferndale; free; 384-2982

Laurette Langille sponsors the Early Sunday Blues Jam at 3 p.m. The event is open-mic and features professionals and performers from the Northwest. The show is open to all ages.

September 29

Music

Stuart's Coffee House; 1302 Bay St.; free; 752-2024

Stuart's Fringe Festival of Music and More begins Monday, Sept. 29 and continues through Friday, Oct. 5. Performances ranging from a cappella singing

to poetry will start at 7:30 p.m. each evening. For more information call Stuart's Coffee House.

Movie

Fraser Hall 4; \$0.25

ASP Films presents the classic fraternity movie "Animal House." Go to learn about college life, or to enjoy the free pizza.

September 30

Local music

The Factory; 1212 N. State St.; free; 714-8154

The Factory presents Foundations, a collection of local and global music every Tuesday at 9 p.m. House DJ D-Fresh and weekly guests provide music.

October 1

Improv

Christo's Club; 110 N. Samish Way; free; 733-4880

The Dead Parrots Society presents free improv comedy shows at Christo's Club every Wednesday at 8 p.m. during September and October. At 10 p.m., after the show, Christo's will have free live music for those 21 and older.

Acoustic music

The Wild Buffalo House of Music; 208 W. Holly St.; free; 752-0848

The Wild Buffalo features an acoustic artist and nearly a dozen other acoustic acts during its Acoustic Oasis Open Mic at 7 p.m. Anyone interested in playing can sign up before 7 p.m.

Movie

Arntzen Hall 100; \$2

ASP Films is presenting "Pirates of the Caribbean," starring Orlando Bloom and Johnny Depp. Go to watch the swash-buckling adventure as Depp, as Captain Jack Sparrow, searches for his ship the Black Pearl.

Compiled by Melena Eaton.

SPORTS

8 • SEPTEMBER 26, 2003

The Western Front

www.westernfrontonline.com

VOLLEYBALL

Tuesday, Sept. 25 @
Northwest Nazarene

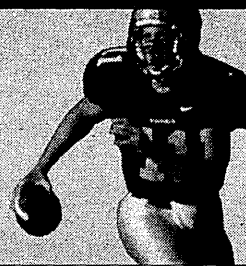
Vikings def. Crusaders
30-24, 30-24, 30-22

FOOTBALL

Saturday, Sept. 20 @ University
of Nebraska-Omaha

Vikings 28
Mavericks 52

Josh Shimek 20-37, 267
yds passing, 1 TD, 0 INT

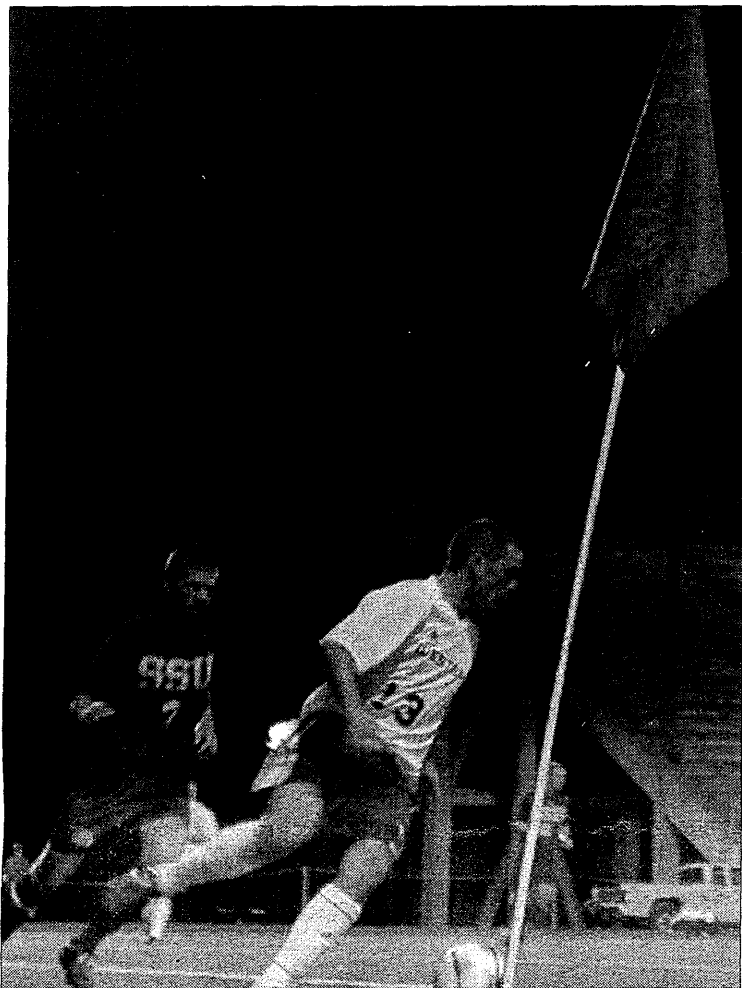


Women's Soccer

Wednesday, Sept. 24 @
Seattle University

Vikings 0
Redhawks 1

Viking men defeat defending national champs



JOSHUA FEJERAN/THE WESTERN FRONT

Western junior forward Ryan Hopp attempts to center the ball against a Sonoma State University defender. The Vikings defeated the Seawolves 2-1 Thursday night at Civic Field.

BY KEVIN BRUAW
The Western Front

No stranger to slow starts, the Western men's soccer team took advantage of its opponent's sluggish beginning and upset the defending national champions.

The Vikings defeated 2002 NCAA Division II champion Sonoma State Seawolves 2-1 Thursday at Civic Field. The victory, Western's fourth in a row after going winless in their first six games, improved the Vikings' mark to 4-5-1.

"We started slow last year too, and we knew we could (turn the season around)," Western junior midfielder Ian McLeod said.

Despite three yellow cards in the first half, Western fought off Sonoma's eight first-half shots on goal.

"(Sonoma) came out slow and we took advantage," Western Head Coach Travis Connell said.

Deadlocked after the first half, McLeod scored on a 20-yard strike that sailed over the head of Sonoma goalkeeper Matt Bernard in the 16th minute, giving Western a 1-0 advantage.

After the goal, Sonoma picked up its defense, forcing the Vikings to respond. Sonoma could not capitalize on a chance to score when they drew Western sophomore goalkeeper Ben

Dragavon out of the goal. Western freshman midfielder John Hoogestraat stepped in and blocked a shot by Sonoma, preserving Western's lead.

"It felt good to hold (Sonoma) off and keep them scoreless," Western senior defender Joel Saulter said.

Later in the half, Saulter put the Vikings on the board for a second time on an assist by junior midfielder Jeff Lane in the 38th minute.

Sonoma came out shooting in the second half, scoring in the 58th minute. Sonoma defender Kai Edwards scored the goal on an assist from midfielder David Ower.

Sonoma continued to threaten in the second half, but Dragavon and Saulter stepped up and held off the Seawolves. In the 73rd minute, Sonoma earned a free kick, but a wall of Viking

defenders set up to block the shot and knocked the ball down.

Sonoma had another scoring chance late in the game, but the shot bounced off the post, and the Vikings were able to clear the ball.

Sonoma out-shot Western 23-9, but Dragavon kept the Vikings' net clear for the most part, collecting nine saves.

After losing to Sonoma the last three years, Connell said it was good to win one.

"It was a matter of getting guys who were tired out and fresh ones in," he said.

Beating the defending national champions leads fans to believe the Vikings are capable of winning a national championship themselves, McLeod said.

The Vikings ride their win streak into Civic Field Saturday, facing San Francisco State University.

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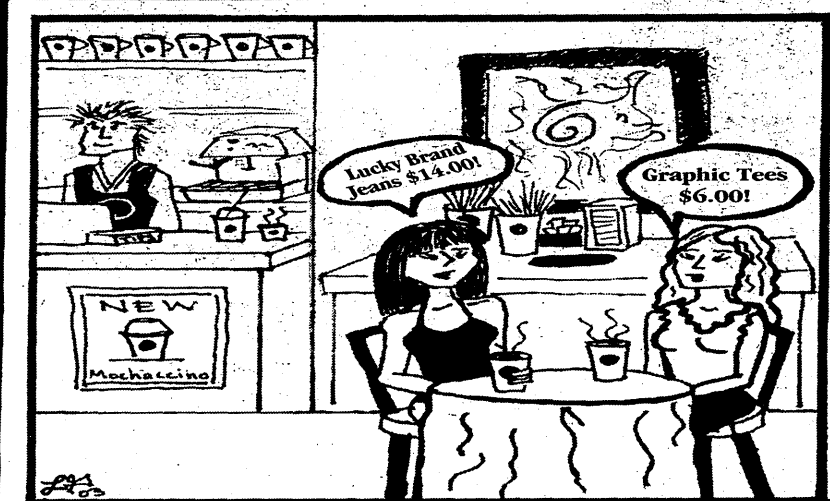
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Dodger closer deserves Cy Young award



Travis Sherer

COMMENTARY

Normally, when the scoreboard flashes "game over" at a baseball game, the crowd is leaving and the only roar fans hear is from traffic leaving the stadium. But these words appear on the Dodger Stadium scoreboard at the beginning of the ninth inning when Los

Angeles Dodgers' closer Eric Gagne steps on the mound.

The glare caused by the sun setting on the careers of Randy Johnson, Greg Maddux and Tom Glavine blinds the voting media to whom should be this year's National League Cy Young award winner. These three pitchers have split 10 of the last 12 National League Cy Youngs, but because of old age and injury to those players, the spotlight should shine on someone else this season.

The National League has yet to produce a dominant starter with

enough wins to warrant this award. Slowly, talk of Atlanta's Russ Ortiz and Chicago's Mark Prior is fading. Many around the National League hear a new voice, a voice for the closer. The Dodgers' closer, Gagne, who has yet to blow a save opportunity this season, is the rightful owner of this season's Cy Young.

Since the introduction of the award in 1956, the National League has seldom awarded the Cy Young to a closer. Dennis Eckersley, the most recent, saved 51 games with a 1.91 earned run average and 93 strikeouts in 80 innings. This was good enough to win pitching's highest honor during a year in which Chicago White Sox starter Jack McDowell went 20-11 with a 3.18 ERA and Red Sox starter Roger Clemens went 18-11 with a 2.41 ERA.

Gagne's competition is less dominant. The National League's only 20 game winner, Ortiz, has a 3.89 ERA and 7 losses. Prior, 23, has many years left to win. This may be Gagne's only year to take home the hardware. He is concluding arguably the best season for a closer in history. He is leading Major League Baseball in saves and has struck out 135 batters in 80.1 innings. His ERA is a miniscule 1.23, and

his team is in playoff contention.

Last year, Gagne had a breakthrough season. He saved 52 games and blew four with a 1.97 ERA and 114 strikeouts in 82 innings. Eckersley won the Cy Young with similar numbers while Gagne tied for fourth. Of course, Johnson and Curt Schilling had outstanding years, but Gagne's season was nothing to

sniff at. Some voters say closers are not worth as much as starters because they pitch less

'If Gagne does not receive the Cy Young, it will be a slap in the face to all closers.'

innings, and sometimes they do not pitch for a week. But Mariner fans have seen what happens to a team without closer, or worse yet, a Bobby Ayala-type closer. Gagne is the type of pitcher who shortens games, which is especially integral to the Dodgers, who have produced the least amount of runs this year in the league.

If Gagne does not receive the Cy Young, it will be a slap in the face to all closers. Unlike a position player or a starter, this position is stressful during every game. To not give this award to a man who is 54-0 and could not have played his position better sends the message to closers throughout the league that no matter how good their season, it will not compare to a starter.

Viking Sports Briefs

Western sophomore wide receiver Andy Olson received co-Great Northwest Athletic Conference Player of the Week honors for the week of Sept. 14. Olson caught seven passes for 187 yards and two touchdowns in the Vikings' 52-28 loss to University of Nebraska-Omaha.

Following sweeps of two home league matches last week, the Western volleyball team moved up one spot to No. 5 in the latest American Volleyball Coaches Association/NCAA Division II Top 25 Poll. The Vikings, 10-1, matched their highest ranking in school history.

Western senior Kelly White shot a 3-over par 76 to tie for second-place in the medalist standings and help the Vikings finish fourth among 19 teams at the Cal State Monterey Bay Lady Otter Invitational Women's Golf Tournament, which ended Tuesday at the Black Horse Golf Course in Seaside, Calif.

Information courtesy of the Athletic Department.

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OPINIONS

www.westernfrontonline.com

The Western Front

SEPTEMBER 26, 2003 • 10

Frontline

Sex offender's cries for help should have prompted police response

When a sex offender admits to a crime, even if the police can prove the admission is true, it is imperative to prevent him or her from committing another offense.

Level III sex offender Rory Woodell admitted to the Bellingham Police Department on Aug. 25 that he molested a 6-year-old boy in a bathroom at the Bellingham Public Library. While Woodell later admitted it was a false admission of guilt, the incident should have prompted the police force to enact safety measures to prevent a repeated offense.

If suicidal people approach the BPD claiming that they plan to inflict harm upon themselves, the police will take preventative action. Yet, when a known sex-offender who is already highly likely to re-offend admits to committing a crime police cannot prove, the police can do nothing because they claim there is no crime, only intent to commit a crime. According to state law, unless someone commits a crime or is about to commit a crime, an arrest will not happen.

In the case of Woodell's admission, police could not find a victim. Without this, the police had no proof of a crime and simply turned him away. Police arrested Woodell three weeks later when he was accused of molesting an 8-year-old-boy. The boy's mother reported that the alleged molestation took place at a condominium approximately one half-mile from where Woodell lived in a hobo camp by Boulevard Park.

During his release from Western State Hospital, Woodell requested the community notification include a statement directing anyone who saw him with children to call the police. This is ineffective in halting molestation, and further action is needed to help someone who feels he cannot control himself. If someone has stated he or she has committed a crime or intend to, it should be within the police's power to detain the soon-to-be perpetrator in an effort to ensure the public's safety.

Bellingham police could argue that since Woodell was living in a hobo camp, he could have admitted his guilt simply for room and board. While it is not possible for the BPD to detain a person whom admits to a crime he or she possibly did not commit, the police still should still find some a social service to deal with someone who is obviously reaching out for help.

It is crucial that police take action to seek the necessary help for those whom admit to crimes and are already highly likely to commit a crime in the future. If sex offenders feel they cannot control themselves, police should find a way to house them or find them help instead of simply waiting for them to commit a crime.

Frontlines are the opinion of The Western Front editorial board: Brandon Rosage, Katie James, Jeremy Edwards, Jenny Maag, Mugs Scherer, Justin McCaughan, Abi Weaver, Eric Berto, Matt DeVeau, Bryan Sharick, Kellyn Ballard, Shanna Green, Joe Mack, Matt McDonald and Josh Fejeran.

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And we quote:

"Beer is proof that God loves us and wants us to be happy."

— Benjamin Franklin



Tragedies happen everywhere



Carl Weiseth

BLUNT VIEWS

Ever since the recent anniversary of the Sept. 11 "tragedy," I have been unable to suppress my ever-growing disgust with the ceaselessly self-centered American public. For the past few decades, most Americans have happily ignored the daily suffering in the rest of the god-forsaken world, content to remain isolated from global tragedies in return for a nice car, a spacious house and an unjustifiably clean conscience.

But on Sept. 11, America's naive view of domestic safety was suddenly shattered with the crash of American Airlines Flight 11 into the north tower of the World Trade Center. As the rest of the day's "horrific" events unfolded, citizens throughout the country wept in front of their television sets, praying to God to aid injured survivors and punish the perpetrators of this "cowardly" attack on our sovereign nation.

Well, I have news for you. Sept. 11 was nothing more than a miniscule tragedy in which a few innocent people lost their lives — most of them in relatively painless ways — considering the atrocities throughout the rest of the world. Sure, smoke inhala-

tion, burning alive and suffocating in building debris don't sound like particularly pleasant ways to end one's existence, but compare that to starving to death, having your limbs chopped off one-by-one or being tortured and raped as you watch your family executed. Not really much of a comparison at all, in my opinion.

If methods of death don't interest you, we can always compare the overall death tolls. The Sept. 11 terrorist attacks resulted in the death of approximately 3,044 people, according to New York City officials' final tally. At first glance, this may look like quite a few people. Compared to

SEE Tragedies, PAGE 12

Pot initiative clouds touchy subject



Porfirio Pena

COMMENTARY

Seattle's Initiative 75, making marijuana the lowest enforcement priority for police officers, creates more problems than it proposes to solve. The initiative meddles with affairs of the police and merely symbolizes an ideology, but in reality it has no positive impact.

"Individual possession by adults for personal use has always been a low priority," said Duane Fish, public information officer for the Seattle Police Department. "It was mostly symbolic that Seattle voters want to see marijuana as a low

priority."

In 2001, police recorded 143 misdemeanor marijuana cases; in 2000, 199; and in 1999, 212, according to a Sept. 18 Seattle Times article.

The city's marijuana enforcement resources are used for pursuing more marijuana felonies, which are not covered under the initiative. Contrary to how some may interpret the initiative, the Seattle Police Department will enforce marijuana laws as before, Fish said.

Proponents of the initiative say the diversion of the city's resources from marijuana enforcement would create funding for enforcement of more serious crimes.

At best, the money saved by the initiative's instatement would pay for the bureaucracy necessary to implement it, ren-

dering its existence useless. At worst, it would cause further dents in the city's budget.

Another impact of this legislation is its potential to condone marijuana use. While the law does not forgive or grant amnesty to those arrested for smoking pot, it does give that impression.

"All (I-75) really does is confuse individuals on the legality of marijuana," Fish said.

This allows advocates of marijuana to take advantage of voters' permissive views, laying the groundwork for further pro-marijuana legislation.

This process is similar to how Canada gradually eased its marijuana laws. As published in The Times, White House Director of Drug Control Policy John

SEE Pot, PAGE 12

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Do-not-call list necessary for privacy



Kaitlin King

COMMENTARY

The Federal Trade Commission created the national do-not-call list to end the frequent disturbances telemarketers cause. It advertised "a quieter home — especially around dinner time" for all people who registered their phone numbers.

Millions of Americans signed up, hoping to forever remove their phone numbers from various call lists. The recent decision by the U.S. District Court for the Western District of Oklahoma to dismiss the list, allowing telemarketers to continue calling citizens, violates the wishes of millions of Americans.

The Federal Trade Commission's decision to create the national do-not-call registry resulted from three years of telemarketing research in the United States.

According to the registry's Web site, 64,000 Americans favored

ending calls to their homes. After the registry, more than 50 million phone numbers appeared on the list.

Frequently bombarded with advertising, consumers are tired of calls regarding products they do not want. They should be free from advertising in their homes.

The list gained support after the Consumer Protection Agency

recognized telemarketing as an extreme disturbance to the American public and said the national do-not-call list was a right Americans should have access to.

Many states already have do-not-call registries separate from the national list. If courts approved the registry at the state level, then federal courts should apply the ruling on the national level.

President George W. Bush praised the registry in June 2003 and urged Americans to sign up for it.

Bush also released a statement saying he is looking forward to signing the measure to ensure that the millions of people who registered for the list would not receive the annoying calls.

Telemarketers claim that the list does not let them express their freedom of speech. The courts said the Federal Trade Commission overstepped its boundaries by putting the list into effect.

While freedom of speech is a right every American is entitled to, solicitation should not enter people's homes if they do not want it.

The national do-not-call list supported Americans seeking to end the annoyance of telemarketing. The more than 50 million registered phone numbers on the list proves telemarketing is something that the American public wants eliminated.

It is the public's right to determine whether solicitors can call their homes, and people should

'While freedom of speech is a right every American is entitled to, solicitation should not enter people's homes if they do not want it.'

Bead Bazaar

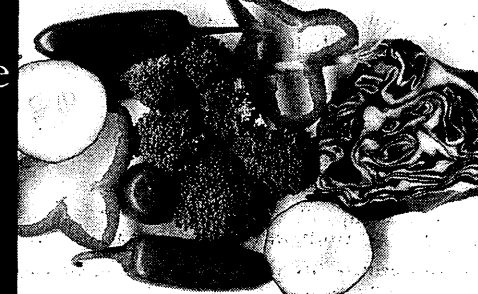
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It Pays to Advertise in the Western Front

Tragedies: U.S. is not the only place they occur

CONTINUED FROM PAGE 10

the millions of needless deaths that have taken (or are taking) place in other parts of the world, however Sept. 11 is barely even newsworthy.

Sure, these suffering people in distant countries may not have Fox News crews standing by to "bring us up-to-the-minute, unbiased news coverage," but that hardly seems like a good reason to emphasize the loss of innocent American lives over the death of equally guiltless foreigners.

In genocidal massacres and famine in Sudan, Time magazine reported that approximately 1.5 million people were brutally murdered, tortured to death or starved. I doubt one in 15 Americans could point to Sudan on a map or tell you what the hell all that fighting was about in the first place.

In the relentless famine ensuing after Ethiopia's brutal civil wars, The New York Times estimates that more than 1 million people died.

I haven't seen a single bumper-sticker promoting aid for the thousands of children dying of starvation, malnutrition and dehydration. Oh, but wait, they weren't white, and they didn't speak English. Nevermind about them. Flip the channel on the annoying aid-workers yapping and twig-like children eating garbage to stay alive. I'm sure they're just after my hard-earned money like everyone else in the world. Get back to the models and music videos.

In Rwanda and Burundi, PBS listed more than 800,000 mur-

dered in genocidal massacres.

In the eastern Congo, the Times lists 1.7 million excess deaths due to civil war.

In Mozambique, the Dictionary of 20th Century World History estimates 1 million civilian killings in South African violence.

In Afghanistan, home of al-Qaeda and the notorious Osama bin Laden, USA Today reported in April 1992 the deaths of more than 2 million people due to bat-

les between the Afghan guerrilla (Mujahidin) movement and the government. Few Americans were outraged. Few Americans were sad. Few Americans even cared at all. Kind of makes

you want to fly a plane into a building or two, doesn't it?

"Spiderman" was one of the hottest movies of 2002, yet despite making more than \$400 million in profits, the film obviously failed to communicate its main point. What was that cheesy line again? Oh yeah, "With great power, comes great responsibility." For the first time ever, Americans could actually learn a thing or two from their own shallow commercial entertainment.

We are the most wealthy, influential nation in the world, and we have a moral obligation to help countries less fortunate than ours.

Just think: instead of driving a new sport utility vehicle (which you never take off-road) and fur-

ther polluting our already degraded environment, you could instead drive a fuel-efficient Toyota Camry and donate that extra money to feeding starving children in foreign countries.

Better yet, take the bus or ride a bike. Then you can afford to inoculate a couple of Ethiopian newborns against the rampant diseases infesting the wastewater they drink and use to bathe every morning.

Unfortunately, the bottom line is that average Americans really do not give a rat's ass about anyone but themselves. They take misguided solace in the knowledge that a miniscule portion of their taxes goes toward helping the suffering masses abroad, yet refuse to even acknowledge the lifetimes of wretched affliction millions of foreign citizens are forced to endure.

If there is truly any equality in the value of human life. Every tear shed for dead Americans on Sept. 11 should have been preceded by fountains of anguish for the deaths of millions third-world citizens comparatively ignored by modern media.

If Americans truly believe in "justice," as they so audibly espoused after the terrorist attacks, then every dollar donated to "help the victims and their families" should have followed fortunes devoted to ending genocide, starvation and crimes against humanity abroad.

'I doubt one in 15 Americans could point to Sudan on a map or tell you what the hell all that fighting was about in the first place.'

Pot: initiative misleads public

CONTINUED FROM PAGE 10

Walters criticized the initiative, calling it a "con" and a "silly and irresponsible game."

The initiative's proponents claim that the current legislation is unfair to misdemeanor offenders, which costs the state money and fills jail space. Their main oversight is this legislation does nothing but confuse

the issue and justify criminal behavior.

If the writers and supporters of this initiative really cared about Seattle's resources and the lives of individuals punished under drug laws, they would leave law to the legislature, the enforcement in the discretion of the police and offenders in the criminal justice system, where they would be rehabilitated.

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Letter to the Editor

I felt compelled to write to you after reading Ms. Lyle's article on body modification and finding some extremely erroneous information printed. By the second paragraph, she has stated that there are three shops in Bellingham right across from my shop's full page ad. In fact, there are five shops currently in Bellingham and I find it ironic that the two that were excluded from Ms. Lyle's article are the only two that have ads placed in your newspaper. Secondly, Lyle states that "Body Artists" must complete extensive training programs. No they do not. Some states require licensing, but the actual requirements vary from state to state. Currently, all the state of Washington requires you to have is a clean needle. This means any yahoo with a convincing smile can get your money off you and put you in serious risk, or just leave you with a really bad tattoo. Finally, Ms. Lyle says that infections are a normal reaction to tattooing. No they are not. They are a possibility if the person does something foolish like go mud wrestling right after, but definitely not a normal reaction. You can expect a small amount of scabbing due to the "small injections" (also wrong) under the skin. Perhaps in the future when Ms. Lyle goes to write about something she knows nothing about, she will do her homework and verify her facts. I suggest she look up the APT (Association of Professional Tattooists) and the APP (Association of Professional Piercers), and maybe she will become a professional journalist.

Thank You,
Gabrielle Snider
Owner, Mutiny Tattoo & Piercing

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