

Up in the air
'Suspended Momentum' takes dancers off their feet.
See Story, Page 9.

Skimming the Sound

Bellingham residents find satisfaction in skimboarding.
See Story, Page 11.



FRIDAY, April 18, 2003

The Western Front

Western Washington University

Volume 125 Issue 5

Bellingham, Washington

City officials respond to anti-Canadian acts

By Katie Grimes
THE WESTERN FRONT

On March 30, Canadian citizen Charlene Badock returned to her van after shopping at the Meridian Cost Cutter to find an unwelcome surprise. On her windshield was a note from an unspecified person reading, "We in America are disappointed in Canadians and your gov-

ernment. You are not welcome in America. Go back to where you belong and stay there."

Badock, 44, of Richmond, B.C., and her daughters, 8 and 11, were visiting Badock's sister for the weekend. After receiving the note, Badock said she and her family returned home immediately.

"The States are not the place for my children right

now," Badock said. "I made the mistake of reading the note aloud, and they are scared."

The note left on Badock's car last month has brought Bellingham into the international spotlight. Though Badock never reported the note to officials, she said she sent an e-mail to Canadian television network Global TV the day after the incident. Global TV received

Badock's story and ran a news brief on April 1 during the 6 p.m. news that highlighted Bellingham as an area of high anti-Canadian sentiment. Global TV cited Canada's stance on the war as a possible reason for Badock's note.

"After people learned about the note, I was flooded with calls," Badock said. "I received

See CANADA, Page 4

Communication Facility nears completion for fall quarter 2004

By Matt DeVeau
THE WESTERN FRONT

Now a mere steel skeleton, the new Communications Facility will resemble a completed building from the outside when students return to classes next fall, project manager Ed Simpson said.

Simpson said the facility, located south of the Environmental Studies building, is on schedule to be ready for fall 2004. The building, which will house the communications, journalism, physics and computer science departments, is also under its allotted budget of \$40,473,400, said Renée Roberts, Western director of capital budget.

"Things are going well so far," Roberts said. "It's still early, but (the budget is) in very good shape."

Simpson said the construction, headed by lead contractor Hoffman Construction, is following the project plans, and the exterior of the building should begin to take shape this summer.

"Right now the most significant (development of the project) is getting the exterior walls framed and sheeted so we can start doing the finishes," Simpson said.

He said the exterior framing will be completed by mid-May when brick, pre-cast concrete and copper siding will be installed. The concrete roof slab for the south section will be completed next week, allowing the building to be "dried-in" so work on the interior of the building can begin.

Simpson said a minor concern arose when Fairway Mechanical, the mechanical sub-contractor on the project, broke its contract with Hoffman Construction, citing financial concerns. Hoffman hired another mechanical sub-contractor, Diamond B Mechanical, a Bellingham company that has already started work on the site.

George Pierce, Western vice

See CONSTRUCTION, Page 6

Women lead march to end violence

By Leslie Sugiura
THE WESTERN FRONT

Chanting "Claim our bodies. Claim our rights. Take a stand. Take back the night," and holding signs reading "Love your Vagina," approximately 100 women marched through the streets of downtown Bellingham and Western's campus Thursday night as part of the annual event Take Back the Night.

Western Women's Center sponsors Take Back the Night every year as part of a way to end violence against women.

The march is traditionally a women-only event, but most women said they encouraged men to attend the rally and a candlelight vigil.

The biggest misconception men have is that they think it's an anti-male event, said LesLee Bickford, co-coordinator of Take Back the Night. The meaning of the event becomes which gender is superior instead of recognizing the common goal of ending violence against women, she said.

"We want to encourage men's participation because we don't think that anything can be done without their help," Bickford said. "But at the same time, we want to be sure that it is a safe spot for women."

In the past, men's attendance at Take Back the Night was difficult to balance, said Brian Pahl, Men's Violence Prevention



Christina Tercero/The Western Front

Western students and Bellingham community members joined to march in the "Take Back the Night" rally Thursday night. Approximately 150 men and women participated in the night's events.

project coordinator. Men want to show women that they do care, but some are wary about attending because they think it is about anger against men, he said.

"I get questions from a lot of men asking about why women are so angry and why do they need to do this," Pahl said. "I believe that if we listened to women and honor their experiences, there would be a lot less anger."

Men want to honor the fact that the march is a women-only event, but they want to be a presence so women know that men care about them and support them in their struggle, he said.

"I thought that I would come and give my support and hear the speakers," Western senior Connor Clark said. "It seemed like a great idea. I am more nervous about other women feeling uncomfortable about

having a guy here than feeling hated by women. I don't feel that way at all."

The event this year included a rally at the Performing Arts Center with guest speaker Emi Koyama, a self-defense demonstration and a skit from the Vagina Monologues called "My Short Skirt."

Bickford said the theme of the night was, "If you had one thing that you could tell people

See RALLY, Page 3

Pastor clarifies Bible's references to homosexuality

By Ian Alexander
THE WESTERN FRONT

Christianity and homosexuality have conflicted in the past, but Lutheran Campus Pastor Christopher Berry dispelled these religious taboos Tuesday.

Berry was invited to speak about the topic "Combating Bible Thumpers" as part of a weekly Tuesday night series organized by Western's Lesbian Gay Bisexual Transgender Alliance.

"I grew up telling every gay

joke I knew," Berry said. "Then when I was 20 or 21, my best friend came out to me, and I had to choose what really mattered."

As a philologist, one who studies the historical aspects of language, Berry is one of approximately 40 in the world who can translate ancient Syriac, the language in which original Biblical texts were written.

Berry said he and two colleagues spent six years re-translating all of the Biblical texts that address homosexuality.

"There are no legitimate reasons for society to be anti-homosexual on the basis of Christian and Hebrew writings," Berry said. "It never ceases to amaze me at how much the Bible is mistranslated."

Words such as "adam" and "havah," Adam and Eve respectively, were not proper nouns in Hebrew text but were made proper nouns after translation.

Berry said when the Bible was translated into English, much of

See PASTOR, Page 4



Ian Alexander/
The Western Front

Western sophomore Shey Hurlbut discusses homosexuality and religion with Lutheran Campus Pastor Christopher Berry at "Combating Bible Thumpers" Tuesday.

Corrections

"Western women lose in first round," April 4, 2003. Sara Nichols' name was misspelled.

The Western Front apologizes for this and any other mistakes.

Viking Voices

How do you feel about daytime TV talk show sensation Dr. Phil?

Compiled by Melena Eaton.



Sean Baughn
Education, graduate

He seems like a nice enough man, but it seems like he's capitalizing off other people's problems.



Courtney Glover
Management, sophomore

He has to be rude to get a response from the audience to make his show more entertaining.



Graham Mooney
Business, sophomore

When I think of Dr. Phil, I think of a big waste of time.

Online Poll Results: 25 percent of voters said he is legitimate. 58.3 percent said he is trash. 16.7 percent said they didn't know who he was.

www.westernfrontonline.com

The Latest In Iraq

Bush asks United Nations to help improve Iraq economy

ST. LOUIS — President Bush urged the United Nations today to lift sanctions that have choked Iraq's economy for nearly 13 years, as he toured a fighter jet factory that he said helped defeat "a ruthless enemy."

Bush was careful not to declare the war over, and he cautioned that coalition forces still face serious risks. But he basked in the success of a military campaign that had stirred such fierce opposition, noting battlefield successes, Iraqi political prisoners freed, statues of Saddam Hussein torn down and a fledgling government assembling.

"Just one month ago, the forces of our coalition stood at the borders of Iraq with orders to advance hundreds of miles through hostile territory against a ruthless enemy," Bush told approximately 1,000 Boeing workers and military personnel on the factory floor.

STATE NEWS

House Democrats' taxes-for-kids plan stirs opposition

House Democrats are drawing praise from social service and education advocates for a budget plan that includes a tax increase of more than \$650 million. But House Republicans, Senate Budget Chairman Dino Rossi, R-Sammamish, Gov. Locke and tax-foe Tim Eyman quickly shot down the plan.

Wednesday, House Democrats on rolled out a \$23 billion state budget plan that increases a variety of taxes and cuts spending by \$1.7 billion.

No DNA link to sniper suspects

DNA tests on a shell casing found at the scene of a Tacoma shooting two years ago found no link to Washington, D.C., sniper suspects John Muhammad and Lee Boyd Malvo.

Investigators said they were hoping to find new evidence in

the killing of 21-year-old Keenya Cook at her aunt's home.

Prosecutors said DNA was found in addition to the victim's blood. Muhammad is a suspect.

Cook's aunt, Isa Nichols, had helped Muhammad's ex-wife in the child custody dispute when they lived in Tacoma.

Conoco Phillips plans to install equipment

The Northwest Air Pollution Authority fined Conoco Phillips \$17,000 for not installing emission reduction equipment at its Ferndale refinery.

The refinery owners said they expect to have the emissions control equipment installed some time this summer.

NATIONAL NEWS

Flag burning gets out of hand, endangers mother and child

Ashland, Ore. police arrested two anti-war protesters on reckless endangerment charges after

they threw a burning flag toward a mother and her son.

The mother and her 11-year-old son said they never felt as if they were in danger. They attended the men's arraignment to defend them. The mother also contacted police.

Mother Paula Sohl, 43, said she believes the flag burning was done carefully.

Scientists use environmental study to cure human disease

Scientists in Bethesda, Md. are not yet ready to say they have solved the riddle of human disease, but they said they are one step closer to it.

At the National Institutes of Health in Maryland, experts said they have completed the first phase of the Environmental Genome Project. In it, they have taken a close look at the effect exposure to various substances has on the advent of disease in some patients.

Doctor Samuel Wilson says the five-year study has produced more

than a thousand DNA research tools for the investigation of exposure-disease relationships.

INTERNATIONAL NEWS

United States invites help from Russia in rebuilding Iraq

Despite what he said are "some fundamental disagreements" over the war, the U.S. ambassador to Moscow said he hopes to see Russia play a role in rebuilding Iraq.

Ambassador Alexander Vershbow said there is no effort to keep Russia from taking part in that process. In fact, he said Russia's participation would be welcomed.

Echoing other administration officials, he said the U.N. will play a vital role — but not the central role — in restoration efforts. Vershbow said after investing lives, the United States "is not simply going to tomorrow turn over all the keys of the car to the United Nations."

Compiled by Jordan Lindstrom. AP Wire courtesy KUGS 89.3-FM

COPS BOX

University Police

April 16, 11:26 p.m.: UP responded to a report of landscape damage in the bird sanctuary.

April 16, 10:48 a.m.: UP responded to a report of a person damaging booth materials in Red Square. Officers cited and released a 20-year-old male for disorderly conduct.

April 16, 9:33 a.m.: UP responded to an alarm in Haggard Hall. Technicians in the area activated the alarm.

April 14, 7:50 p.m.: UP responded to a report of disorderly conduct in Fairhaven residence halls. People removed toys from the childcare center and were playing with them in the courtyard.

Bellingham Police

April 17, 1:48 p.m.: Officers responded to a report of a vehicle prowl in the 1200 block of Nevada Street. The vehicle's window was shattered and personal items were taken.

April 16, 11:00 a.m.: Officers responded to a hit-and-run auto accident in the 2500 block of Douglas Avenue.

April 16, 8:01 a.m.: Officers responded to a trespass report in the 1300 block of N. Garden Street.

April 15, 3:53 p.m.: Officers responded to a report of a liquor law violation in the 1300 block of Railroad Avenue.

Compiled by Matt DeVeau.

WWU Official Announcements

Deadline for announcements in this space is noon Friday for the Tuesday edition and noon Wednesday for the Friday edition. Announcements should be limited to 50 words, typewritten or legibly printed, and sent through campus mail to "Official Announcements," MS-9117, via fax to X/4343, or brought in person to Commissary 111. DO NOT SEND ANNOUNCEMENTS DIRECTLY TO THE WESTERN FRONT. Phoned announcements will not be accepted. All announcements should be signed by originator.

PLEASE POST

THE MATH PLACEMENT TEST is offered in OM 120 at 3 p.m. April 21, 28, May 5, 12, 19, June 2 and 9, and at 9 a.m. on April 24, May 1, 8, 15, 22, 29, June 5 and 12. Registration is not required. Students must bring photo identification, student number, Social Security number, and a No. 2 pencil. A \$15 is payable in exact amount at test time. Allow 90 minutes.

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

SUMMER QUARTER DEGREE APPLICANTS: Students who plan to graduate fall quarter must have an application on file by June 6. Applications and instructions are available in OM 230.

THE MATH PLACEMENT (MAT) schedule and sample problems may be found at www.ac.wwu.edu/~assess/tc.htm.

WEST-B TEST. Applicants 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 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. Test dates are May 17 and July 19. Western is a test site, however, registration is required through www.west.nesinc.com.

THE WRITING CENTER IS RECRUITING staff for the 2003 academic year. If you have such a passion for words that you write even when you don't have to, you're encouraged to pick up an application in WL 389 or online at www.wwu.edu/~writepro/staff.htm.

THE MILLER ANALOGIES TEST (MAT) is offered in OM 120 at 2 p.m. April 15, May 13, and June 3. Registration is required in OM 120 or by calling X/3080. The MAT is not administered individually. A \$42 fee is payable at test time. Registration is limited to 16. The test takes about 1½ hours.

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

On-campus recruiting

Employers hiring students. Cintas Corp., Enterprise Rent-A-Car and Mervyn's are hiring for internships and permanent management trainee positions. Interviews begin May 2, sign up starting April 1 in Career Services Center, OM 280, or call X/2944 or see www.careers.wwu.edu/recruit3.asp.

Camp Fire Sealth. Interviews April 23 for summer camp positions on Vashon Island. For more information or to sign up for interview, stop by OM 280 or call X/2944.

Rally: Western students dispel past years' misconceptions to find unity among sexes

Continued from Page 1

about what you learned or what they can do to combat the issue, what would it be?"

Most speakers included the theme in their speeches at the rally, she said.

"One of the huge goals this year is unification because problems and misconceptions have occurred in the past that seem to be because the group is not unified," Bickford said. "Everyone seems to have their own agenda, and that sometimes can be problematic."

Peacekeepers were recruited this year to help keep the crowd positive and unified, Bickford

said. They also distributed handbills of the cheers, she said.

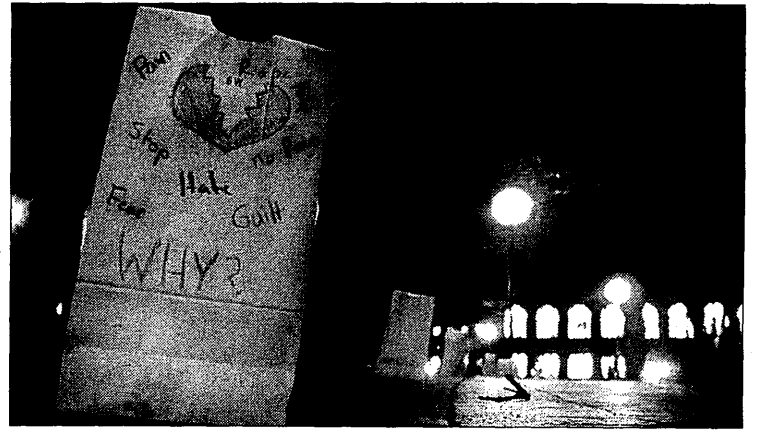
"It's good to have the contrast between the police," said Holly Mattson, a peacekeeper for the march. "Women see our orange vests and know that they can come to us if they need help or feel uncomfortable."

As the rally ended, the women gathered in front of the PAC with signs and drums while the men went to Old Main to conduct the candlelight vigil. As the women marched back to campus, they were greeted by candles, men and Blonde Ambition, a belly dancing group.

The march ended in Red Square where some marchers jumped into the fountain, chanting and dancing to the drums.

The rally and march promote ending violence, so negative responses to the march are not going to be dealt with in violent ways, Bickford said. Those in charge prepared careful steps to stop anything before it occurred, she said.

"I think that when we don't need Take Back the Night, we are taking care of survivors the way they need to be (taken care of)," Pahl said.



Keith Bolling/The Western Front
Members of Western Men Against Violence lined the paths in front of Old Main with bags containing lit candles.

Come see these companies...and many more at the

WWU SPRING CAREER FAIR

www.careers.wwu.edu

Full time employment and internships are waiting to be discovered by graduating and current students, from all areas of study.

Each day different companies will be waiting to offer students jobs. Dress for success and come prepared with 20-35 resumes.

For a complete list of the companies attending the career fair, visit the Career Center in Old Main 280, or visit the website at www.careers.wwu.edu.



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For Men and Women

Hidden Valley Camp in Granite Falls, WA needs resident staff from 6/14/03 to 8/22/03.

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Interviews available on campus.

Visit our booth at the **CAREER FAIR** on **May 1** for more info. or contact us directly:

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"Star Gazing or Career Searching?"

Spring Career Fair

Thursday, May 1, 2003

10:00 a.m. – 3:00 p.m.

Viking Union Multipurpose Room

Meet with hiring managers from a broad range of employers to research the job market, explore internship opportunities and develop a strong job search strategy.

Research company information, bring copies of your resume and dress for success!

Be prepared for the Career Fair and plan to attend:

"Preparing For a Career Fair" Workshop

April 22nd 4:00-5:00 p.m. VU 567 or

April 28th 12:00-1:00 p.m. VU 567

For a complete listing of participating employers, visit the Career Services Center web site www.careers.wwu.edu (see Special Events) or call 360-650-3240.



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Canada: Bellingham residents cope with anti-Canadian sentiments

Continued from Page 1

calls from KOMO, KING 5 and CBC, all wanting to run a story."

Media personnel were not the only people interested in the note. After hearing about the incident, John Cooper, executive director of the Bellingham/Whatcom County Convention and Visitor's Bureau, called to apologize to Badock on behalf of Bellingham.

"We want to dispel the idea that there are anti-Canadian sentiments in Bellingham," Cooper said. "The media has sensationalized and made assumptions from one isolated incident."

Bellingham Police Sgt. Dave Richards said he agrees with

Cooper. According to Bellingham police files, Richards said no Canadians have made recent reports regarding being threatened.

"There are always a few little bar scuffles between Canadians and Americans," Richards said. "But there has been no noticeable increase in any sort of crimes towards (Canadians) since the war broke out."

Richards did not know about the incident until the Bellingham Herald ran a story about it days later.

After the Bellingham Herald story about Badock ran, Surry resident Scott Rizneck sent a letter to the editor that read he also received a similar letter on his

car. Rizneck was unavailable for comment.

Western freshman and Canadian citizen Mike Jasklowski said he is not convinced that the problem of American and Canadian friction is obvious enough to call it a threat, but he said anti-Canadian sentiments do exist in Bellingham.

"It's not anything people will say outright," Jasklowski said, "but when people learn I am Canadian in classes and casual conversation, the vibe just changes. It's a bad vibe."

In an attempt to combat future incidents of prejudice, Cooper and officials at the Bellingham Visitors Bureau said

they provided local businesses with some ways to make their Canadian customers feel safe.

"We have asked that they beef up security and patrol their parking lots more often," Cooper said. "We stress that employees be good to their customers and show them they are welcome."

Cooper also put together a gift basket for Badock filled with gift certificates from local businesses, but Badock said she declined the gift.

"People have started calling me from all over Western Washington telling me how sorry they are about the note," Badock said. "An apology was all I really needed."

Pastor: Opinions split on religion

Continued from Page 1

the text's original meaning was not interpreted correctly.

He said the German translation of the Bible does not mention homosexuality, but once translated into English, the Bible contains 12 references.

"The church did not actively discriminate against same-sex relations as far as we can tell until the King James Version was published," he said.

Berry said he felt the Victorian ideas of sex influenced the translation. For an updated translation of the Bible, he said The New Revised Standard Version, Second Edition is most accurate.

LGBTQA programs coordinator Shey Hurlbut said the event was organized to teach members of the lesbian, gay, bisexual and transgendered community what it means to be gay and religious.

"It's important for people of the LGBTQA community to see that just because you're gay, you're not excluded from the Christian faith," Hurlbut said.

Western sophomore and Lutheran parishioner Teresa Sjoström said she attended the meeting to discuss what God intended in the Bible for gays.

"It's helpful for someone with that much education and credibility to tell us what the Bible really meant," Sjoström said.

Hurlbut said the discussion was not an attack on Christians, but a deconstruction of arguments used by some against homosexuality.

Berry said his office in the Shalom Center is a safe place for anyone to come and talk. He also said he would like to show people that not all of the church members are homophobic.

"I'm a pastor of a church that teaches love," he said. "I believe the church is about blessing love."

Influential economics professor dies at age 85

By Andy Aley
THE WESTERN FRONT

Michael K. Mischaikow, influential Western economics professor and co-founder of Huxley College of the Environment, died April 13. He was 85.

"He was a man who had very high standards that he set for himself as well as for other people," said David Nelson, Western economics professor and chairman of the economics department. "He always had a glimmer in his eye. He was a very charming individual."

Mischaikow was born in Bulgaria and moved to Germany after the communist takeover. He came to America in 1956.

Mischaikow taught at Western for 24 years before retiring in 1988. During his time at Western he had a profound influence on the college of business and economics and Huxley, Nelson said. He served as interim dean at Huxley from 1977 to 1978 and received the Outstanding Teacher Award, Western's highest recognition of teaching performance, in 1984.

"He had probably the most active mind that I've ever seen," said Robert Monahan, professor emeritus of geography at Western. "It ran night and day, and it ran right through pain."

Mischaikow never compromised the quality of his teaching and always sought to bring out the best in his students, said Huxley geography professor Debnath

Mookherjee. Although he was known as a critical grader and demanded top effort from his students, he was dedicated to them and gave them the same respect in return, Monahan said.

After he retired, Mischaikow traveled to the eastern part of the former Soviet Union to help in the transition from communism to capitalism and western democracy, Monahan said.

Dennis Murphy, dean of the college of business and economics, said Mischaikow will be remembered for his devotion to the mission of teaching, his contribution to scholarly and scientific inquiry and as a teacher who would often tell students, "If you won't sleep in my classroom, I won't lecture in your bedroom."

Western men show support with candlelight vigil

By Shanna Green
THE WESTERN FRONT

The paper bags which line the walkway to Old Main were covered in messages. "I will stand with you" and "healing is possible" were written on two bags. These bags were filled with candles and lit by men who say they want to support the women marching in the Take Back the Night rally.

"Each bag represents a woman who can be saved," Western junior Lance Culfane said.

Culfane was part of the men's Candlelight Vigil, which took place Thursday night while women marched from Western to downtown Bellingham for Take Back the Night.

"It's an opportunity for men who support women to come out," said Brian Pahl, Men's Violence Prevention project coordinator.

Culfane said he was inspired

to come to the vigil because one of his friends told him how much the candles had meant to her when she saw them at the end of the march last year.

"For the women, it will be symbolic," Culfane said. "They represent hope."

Western senior Tony Seaward said he attended the vigil because it is important for people to understand that assault is not just a women's issue.

"It's a people issue, whether it's sexual violence or violence in general," Seaward said. "Not all men are like that."

Western sophomore Tony Russo said the thought of anything violent happening to his little sister inspired him to attend the event.

"Every woman is someone's daughter, sister or mother," Russo said. "Our hope is the next generation; it's so important to educate them."

The men not only supported women taking part in the rally, but also said they did not mind that they were not allowed to march.

"I'm glad there's an event only women can go to," Western freshman Andrew Hedden said. "We live in a male-dominant society where things like men's sports are popular."

Pahl said it is often difficult for men to show their support for women because they feel like they are being blamed for the problems.

"Most men do care about this, but they hear blame," Pahl said. "Most men don't step out and take that risk, but men against violence and the men who attend this vigil are courageous. A lot of men care about this but they don't think other men do."

Western senior Phil Pesheck said he felt such sympathy before he attended the men's vigil but

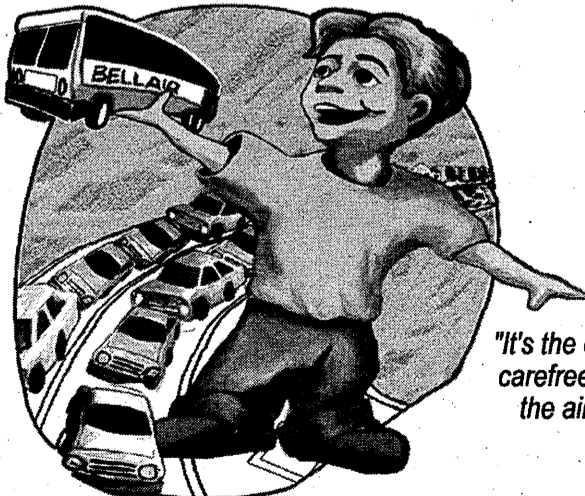
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BOARDWALK APTS-1002 21st ST. Newer 1 Bed/1Ba suites blocks to WWU! Dishwasher, disposal, on-site laundry, washer & dryer hook-ups, & decks w/ views. Starting at \$595 WSG & storage included.

SAMISH HEIGHTS APTS-1009 LENORA CT. Large studios & 2 Bed suites blocks to WWU! Dishwasher, disposal, deck & on-site laundry. WSG pd. Studios starting at \$485 2 Beds starting at \$625.

MILL & HARRIS APTS-2000 MILL AVE. & 2001 HARRIS AVE. 1 & 2 Bed suites just blocks to WWU! Decks, on-site laundry, & radiant heat. Some units remodeled. 1 Beds starting at \$525, 2 Beds starting at \$625.

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Network leads campaign to promote TV Turn-Off Week

Bellingham teachers use anti-TV promotion in class

By Torhil Dunham
THE WESTERN FRONT

The average American watches more than four hours of television in one day. By age 18, the average American child sees 200,000 violent acts on television, according to TV Turn-Off Network, a Washington, D.C.-based organization that advocates reduced television watching.

TV Turn-Off Week is a national campaign from April 21 to April 27 created to curb America's television-watching habits.

Organizations all over the country will promote turning off their televisions and take part in other activities.

This is the ninth year for TV Turn-Off Week, said Frank Vespe, executive director at TV Turnoff Network.

"It was started by people who looked at educational underachievement and violence and saw TV as a big part of that," Vespe said.

He said many organizations, including the American Medical Association and the American Academy of Pediatrics, participate in the week to promote healthy alternatives to TV watching.

Adbusters, a Vancouver, B.C.-based magazine and advocacy company, promotes TV Turn-Off Week. Matthew Sasaki, distribution manager and campaign coordinator at Adbusters, said it became a part of international TV Turn-Off Week in 1994.

"The idea behind it is getting people to think about their TV viewing," Sasaki said.

Americans, especially young children, have become addicted to television, Sasaki said.

"We are challenging people to

step away for a week, find other ways to get information and bide their time," he said.

"Hopefully people will curb their TV watching. Even if they don't do the entire week, if they try it for one day they might think differently."

Matthew Sasaki

Adbusters distribution manager and campaign coordinator

rate agenda, Sasaki said.

"As a network that makes its money on commercials, that kind of goes against MTV in general," said Lisa O'Keefe, MTV ad sales representative, in response to Adbusters.

CNN, however, agreed to run one of the "uncommercials."

Sasaki said although more cable channels are running "uncommercials" than ever

before, the number of perspectives is limited.

He said he has heard from people who cut their cable cords after participating in the campaign.

"Hopefully people will curb their TV watching," Sasaki said. "Even if they don't do the entire week, if they try it for one day they might think differently."

Several Bellingham residents are working to get information out about TV Turn-Off Week.

Geraldine Reitz, teacher at the Whatcom Hills Waldorf School in Bellingham, said the school heavily limits media, but this is the first year the private school is participating in the national campaign. Reitz said many of the students and parents at the school already limit their television. A limitation on media is one of the philosophies of the private school, he said.

Reitz said she limits the amount of television her own children watch. They did not see any war coverage or coverage of Sept. 11. Her children knew what was happening, but they did not have the visual images to go along with the news, she

said. "I feel very strongly about my kids having their own internal pictures," Reitz said.

Andrea Roper, a second-grade teacher at Larrabee Elementary School in Bellingham, is also participating in the campaign. Roper had her students keep track of their television viewing, and her class will informally make the effort to abstain from watch television next week. She said approximately half of her class would not give up television for anything.

Roper said the students who will give up television for the week come from families that have already decided not to watch much television.

"A lot has to do with the family environment," she said.

The families who do not watch as much television spend time reading and going outside and doing physical activities, Roper said.

She said she sees the impact television has on kids in their schoolwork.

"I wanted kids to be aware of how much time they're spending watching TV," Roper said.

Peace Corps lists Western grads fourth among nation's colleges

By Jenny Maag
THE WESTERN FRONT

Western ranked fourth on the 2003 Peace Corps list of the "Top Producing Colleges and Universities" among medium-sized schools.

The Peace Corps ranks schools in three size divisions according to the number of the school's alumni who are currently serving as Peace Corps volunteers.

Peace Corps recruiter and Bellingham resident Emma Spenner has worked on Western's campus for two years. She said her job is to find volunteers who are qualified to serve and to explain to students what the Peace Corps is. Spenner said Western, which currently has 46 Peace Corps graduates, should be proud of its ranking.

"Those 46 people are really making a difference in people's lives," Spenner said. "Those 46 people made it through a screen-

ing process. It's not just quantity; it's also quality."

The Peace Corps also ranked Western 22nd among all schools in the nation based on the number of alumni serving as volunteers in 2002.

Spenner said she estimated that at least 12 Western professors and 12 graduate students have served as Peace Corps volunteers. She identified several reasons why so many Western alumni serve as volunteers.

"It's really showing a sense of altruism and a sense of service that's representative of Western's student body," Spenner said. "For example, there are strong volunteer organizations and lots of extra-curricular activities. The volunteers we see have often worked with the service learning center."

Spenner said Huxley College of the Environment trains students in areas for which the Peace Corps actively recruits

volunteers.

"The Peace Corps is experiencing a need for graduates with environmental degrees," Spenner said. "Huxley professors have an international perspective on issues that also sparks interest in students to go abroad. Our students share the same values the Peace Corps is putting forward."

Tom Roehl, Western professor of international business and adviser to the international business club, said he encouraged returning Peace Corps volunteers to speak at the international business club's meeting on Wednesday because many of Roehl's students expressed a desire to work for non-governmental organizations.

"The Peace Corps is a model case of this career path," Roehl said. "It's an opportunity for students to gain responsibility and work experience very quickly after they graduate."

Construction: Communications Facility project nears completion under budget and on-time

Continued from Page 1

president for business and financial affairs, said the sub-contractor switch did not cause any delays in the project.

"We weren't at the stage of construction where a mechanical sub-contractor would have been critical," Pierce said.

Simpson said that although the building will appear complete from the outside, a great deal of time must be spent

installing mechanical and electrical systems and other interior fixtures before the building is ready for occupants.


"I think people always get anxious when they see the exterior shell get completed and then it seems like nothing happens," Simpson said. "Actually most of all the other sub-contractors go to work inside of the building."

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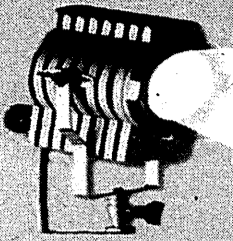
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In the spotlight

April 18

Independent rock show

Viking Union Multipurpose room; \$6; 733-9357

Community members can demonstrate support for patients with HIV by attending the on-campus "Independent Rock Show" to benefit the Sparrow Rainbow Village, Sean Humphrey House and The Slum Doctor Programme.

Local bands Racetrack, The Gift Machine, Aveo, The Prom, The Long Winters and Carissa's Weird will perform to raise money for AIDS patients and AIDS hospices.

Informational meeting

Viking Union 432; free; 650-7557 or 650-2235

The "Walk with Ease" wellness program is an organized six-week program that is open to all staff and faculty and suitable for all fitness levels. The walks offer a chance to socialize, relieve stress, learn how to use a pedometer and strengthen the heart, bones and muscles. The introductory meeting begins at noon and runs until 1 p.m.

Author reading

Village Books; 1210 11th St.; free; 671-2626

Fairhaven's Village Books will

be housing author readings from, April 18, through April 22. Featured author John Gierach, author of "At the Grave of the Unknown" Fisherman, will present his work at 7:30 p.m. Friday in the Village Books Readings Gallery. Saturday April 19 will be Ann Christi with her book "Cravings of the Soul." Also Judith Freeman will present "Red Water" at 7:30 p.m. on Tuesday April 22 in the Readings Gallery.

Documentary

Pickford Cinemas; 1416 Cornwall Ave.; \$7 general, \$5 matinee; 647-1300

Pickford Cinemas will present a documentary on landscape artist Andy Goldsworthy at 4 p.m., 6:15 p.m. and 8:30 p.m. Saturday and Sunday. Matinees at 2 p.m. Friday April 18 to Thursday May 1. The film is unrated and suitable for all ages. Goldsworthy is known for his work with nature by using items such as stones and leaves to construct intricate artwork.

April 19

Professional wrestling/concert

Carver Gym; \$4 student, \$6 general; 650-2846

Associated Students Productions presents the second

annual Rock 'n' Wrestling event, pairing rock music with professional wrestling. Local bands performing include The Cheeps, Whatcom Falls! and the U.S.S. Horsewhip.

Egg hunt

Mount Baker ski area; free; 734-6771

Open to all ages with a valid lift ticket or season pass, Mount Baker's "Golden Egg Hunt" begins at 9 a.m., with more than 1,100 hidden eggs and \$8,600 in prizes. All official eggs are labeled with a Mount Baker sticker. Hidden among the slopes is the golden egg containing the coveted prize of a 2003 to 2004 season pass. Other eggs include candy, first-come, first-served prize coupons and clues to the location of the golden egg. Mount Baker employees are ineligible to participate.

April 21

Debates

Viking Union, 552; free; 650-6803

Come learn the views of Associated Students candidates before the AS elections April 29. The debates will begin at 5 p.m. and continue on April 24. Candidate discuss issues they find relevant to Western's campus.

April 2

Reading

Barnes & Noble; 4099 Guide Meridian; free; 647-7539

Come hear Richard Purtill as he explores J.J.R. Tolkien's popular works beginning with "The Hobbit" starting at 7 p.m. Purtill's book takes an in-depth look at Tolkien's private letters.

April 23

Concert

Mount Baker Theatre; 104 N. Commercial St.; \$32, \$40, \$44 plus a \$1 service fee for non-members, reception \$30; 734-6080

Mount Baker Theatre presents the Best of Broadway: Marvin Hamlisch at 7:30 p.m. on Wednesday and Thursday night. Hamlisch has written major works for film, stage, recordings and the concert hall. He has conducted great orchestras around the world and performed as a pianist with ensembles. A reception with wine and desserts follow both concerts, starting at 9:30 p.m.

Film

Viking Union 552; 25 cents; 650-6130

Come see Flight of the Navigator from 8 p.m. to 10 p.m.

and relive your memories of this '80s classic sci-fi. Starring Joey Cramer, Sarah Jessica Parker, Howard Hesseman and Paul Reubens.

April 24

Rock concert

The Wild Buffalo; 208 West Holly St.; \$8; 752-0848

Below Average Productions, the winner of this year's Band Slam, will be playing at 9 p.m. Below Average Productions is a local favorite and plays frequently in Bellingham.

Techno show

Christo's Club; 110 N. Samish Way; \$5; 733-4880

Tacoma native and Bellingham favorite DJ Donald Glaude returns to Bellingham. Glaude brings the funk in support of his new mix CD, "Mixed Live 2nd Session," starting at 9 p.m.

Vegan fest

Viking Union 565; free; 201-6589

The Western Animal Rights Network presents "Vegan Fest," a night with free food, a vegan fashion show and music. This event is open to the public and will last from 5 p.m. to 8 p.m.

Compiled by Leslie Sugiura.

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Making music visual

By Sarah A. Freeman

The Western Front

Vibrant, flashy, eye-catching rock art posters saturate the lower level of the softly lit antique Village Books in Fairhaven, which displays the hand-painted art of San Francisco residents Ron Donovan and Chuck Sperry.

The two artists travel around the world under the name Firehouse designing metallic-like posters for famous music groups to help promote concerts and shows. Their work includes artists such as Pearl Jam, Madonna, The Beatles and Limp Bizkit.

Donovan and Sperry began working as a team in 1994. Three years later, they moved into their first private studio, an old abandoned firehouse that would later be the inspiration for their company name.

"It was just an empty old firehouse with a pole in the middle," Donovan said. "But it was free, so of course we took it."

With little cash flow and a lot of creative talent, the two said they focused on poster making and started experimenting.

"We discovered there is no guidebook to this process," Sperry said.

"We just figure out the rules together, and that's what makes it so great."

Donovan and Sperry hand paint, design and print every poster and mix the colors individually. They said that

although the process is slow and tedious, their method of hand painting each poster provides the best visual result.

"We keep the old-world craftsmanship, but sustain the new world technology to achieve the perfect look," Sperry said.

He said the image is first designed, then scanned on to a computer. A clear film is used as a template. Each color is layered strategically and hand painted on every poster, averaging one hour per color. The next step is printing, which can take more than eight hours. They work on three to four posters at one time.

Village Books employee Jasmine Valandani said she is astonished at the exclusivity of their work compared to a mass-produced poster.

"It is amazing how the ink sits on the paper," Valandani said. "You can really tell the quality of the color and overall appearance."

Valandani is a print-maker who primarily does etchings, so she said she can appreciate their work.

"The old-fashioned, handmade method provides something extra that other posters cannot," she said.

The artists did not always receive recognition for their efforts. Sperry said he remembers going to concerts and shows displaying their work, and only a few people would take notice. Eventually, after persistence and



Sarah A. Freeman/ The Western Front

Poster artists Chuck Sperry and Ron Donovan explain the process of making their posters to viewers at the Village Books in Fairhaven.

dedication, they said people started to recognize the difference in quality and appearance.

"We like to help out the little bands to help promote their gigs," Sperry said. "A nice visual helps the community recognize their existence. But people ended up taking them from displays and store windows because they wanted to keep them. It was flattering."

Sperry said, on average, they produce 250 posters per show or concert. Twenty-five are placed around the city including in windows of businesses. The remainder are sold at the concert for a discounted price of approximately \$10, or they are given to the band.

"We feel that if you pay money to see

the concert, then you have earned a discounted price," Donovan said. "After the concert, we sell it at wholesale, and the price goes up, sometimes by \$10."

The demand and value of Sperry and Donovan's artwork has increased and they have become a well-known name in the rock art world.

Sperry said the best part about their experience together is meeting people who bring them inspiration for their work. Firehouse plans on touring Europe May 15 to June 15 where they will exhibit, sell and talk about their artwork.

"It is an amazing privilege to do something that we love and travel and meet so many cool people," Donovan said. "It just rocks."

PRESERVING UN[CENSORED] SPACE

By Brianne Cross

The Western Front

As Arlan Lackie and Dylan Rieck, otherwise known as Cryin' Shame, play onstage, their vivacity is reflected in the once-docile and now-attentive crowd watching below.

Western's B gallery organized a joint-cover benefit at



Brianne Cross/ The Western Front

Arlan Lackie, singer and guitarist, performs as half of the duo Cryin' Shame which includes cello player Dylan Rieck.

the 3B Tavern and The Factory on April 11, packing both bars in hope of raising money for the gallery.

In addition to Cryin' Shame, a side project of one of Bellingham's rising bands Colville Melody, seven other local bands including Chris Con Carne, Everybody's Debbie, the Wastelanders and the Narrows played.

"We chose a benefit concert to better include the rest of the community and recognize other forms or art, not just visual, but music as well," said Western senior Andrea Tjoelker, co-coordinator for the benefit.

The B gallery, a student-run organization, is an uncensored gallery offering students a space to show experimental work of all media that might not be shown in other galleries.

"Students can do whatever they want in order to integrate themselves into the community," said Barbara Miller, assistant professor of art history at Western. "It's not just a space, but an idea. University is the time where you experiment with what works and what doesn't."

The gallery formed during fall 2001 after receiving a \$500 grant from the fine and performing arts department at Western to start operations.

Fairhaven senior Dave Mosier, event co-coordinator, helped organize the show as part of his senior project to let students and community members know about the uncensored gallery on campus.

"It separates art from bureaucracy and red tape from the university setting," Chris "Con Carne" Lamb, a musician and childhood friend of Mosier's said.

"You don't have to be well established to show your work. It provides another outlet for young artists to show what

they have."

All forms of rock 'n' roll infiltrated the bars. The music ranging from Cryin' Shame's cello, accented by Lackie's harmonica and Con Carne's blues and the country, blues and garage mix of the Wastelanders, who closed with Billy Idol's "White Wedding."

The benefit raised more than \$1,200, which will primarily go toward the production of future shows, electronic equipment and maintenance in the gallery.

The coordinators are pleased with the amount raised, yet funding is still limited, Miller said.

"We are constantly needing supplies to repair walls, update equipment, (money for) show openings and bringing in speakers for the students," she said.

Currently showing is the art department's student exhibitions, including Dinah Daniel and Ruthie Nicklaus' "Sweet Dreams" running from April 14 to April 28.

The gallery provides a venue for focusing on local artists rather than art brought in from other areas, said Western graduate Samantha Ring, one of the founders of the gallery.

"There's a large mass of artists in Bellingham who have stuff to show," Ring said. "It's important for the community to know their local artists."

One common complaint of students working at the B gallery is the community's lack of awareness of the it, Mosier said.

"It'd be great if people could see students' work, for they act as interpreters for our society and how it functions, one reason why we're so adamant about censorship," Mosier said. "We don't censor on content but rather on how (the art) flows together."

In addition to the art exhibits, each Wednesday at 3 p.m. the gallery shows movies, often choosing a monthlong theme such as the upcoming B film month in May.

The B gallery is open 10 a.m. to 4 p.m. Monday through Thursday and is located in room 118 of the Fine Arts Building.

SUSPENDED in space

Faculty, student works explore pauses in motion

By Shanna Green

The Western Front

The dancers have just finished practice, and most are tired and heading home. They have been practicing for the past few hours and look ready to leave, but a few stick around to talk to Andy Noble, a dancer in Miami and guest choreographer for the show "Suspended Momentum."

Noble begins to discuss details, especially the length of the silent pause he should leave in one sequence of the dance.

"I want them to feel just a little bit uncomfortable," Noble explains to Sarah Kanick, assistant stage manager and person in charge of handling the music. "Just when they start to move in their seats, then bam!"

Noble slaps his hands together in a loud snap, and an amused smile spreads across his face.

"It's kind of like getting sucker punched when you're not expecting it," he said.

Noble is putting the finishing touches on "Fish Outta' Water," one of seven new pieces created and performed by Western students and staff for the Western dance concert, "Suspended Momentum."

Concert director Pam Morrison said the concert has been an annual event at Western for more than 10 years. Although the faculty choreographed the performance, Morrison said the dancers are students and staff.

"It's a chance for the students to present their creative works," Morrison said.

Everyone who is a part of the production has worked to make the dance come together, Morrison said. Western recently presented the American College Dance Festival, and the dancers have been consistently busy for the past several months.

"They danced straight through winter quarter and spring break," Morrison said. "They've danced nonstop."

Western junior Cate Kimball, who was part of the dance festival and is also dancing in "Fish Outta' Water," admitted that it can become tiring.

"I'm looking forward to a break," Kimball said. "It's fun, but it's exhausting."



Photo courtesy of Kelly Heese.

Western student dancers shape their bodies into various expressive poses for "Suspended Momentum," a collection of faculty choreographed works.

Although all of the choreography for the seven dances is original work by faculty members, Morrison said the students helped to create her piece.

"I asked the dancers to come up with different body movements and material, and then we molded them into a dance," Morrison said.

Western freshman Diana Lane said dancing at Western has been a new experience for her, but she likes the focus of the program.

"I'm used to dancing in a studio," Lane said. "Here they care more about the effort than the costumes."

All of the dances are considered modern dances,

Morrison said. The goal of each piece is to create or convey a feeling, idea or mood, or to tell a story.

Noble said he is looking forward to seeing "Fish Outta' Water" come together. He said it is a combination of theater and dance because it begins with acting and is followed by dancing. It also tells a story that can be taken on many different levels.

Noble said the piece begins humorously but becomes melodramatic and then sad — a theatrical formula which Shakespeare was famous for.

"Shakespeare could always combine tragedy and comedy; that's what made his work so great," Noble said.

Noble said he has used this formula to increase the power of the dance.

"It's one goofy piece after another, and then it's really intense," Noble said. "The music is so quiet and powerful. It's pure emotion. You can't put anything on top of it."

Gabriel Lukeris, a dance faculty member who is performing in the dance concert, said he enjoys working with a professional choreographer and performing.

"It's always such a thrill to perform," Lukeris said. "There is nothing like it. I would go crazy if I wasn't involved in something."

Lukeris said that when students are able to produce something they actually want to do for a living, it is important for the community to take notice.

"We're not pretending to make dances," Lukeris said, emphasizing that what the students do is artwork.

One of the unusual parts of this dance, Western senior Tyler Miller said, is that he will be dancing on the edge of the stage, known as the apron.

"They don't generally use the apron in modern dance," Miller said.

Noble said he wanted Miller to perform his dramatic solo on the apron to give more detail to the audience.

"I try to create work which is intimate, and when you deal with subtlety, you can lose facial expressions," Noble said.

By dancing on the edge of the stage with the lights on only him, both Miller and Noble hope the effect will be a more compelling ending.

The performance begins at 7:30 p.m. Thursday, April 17 through Saturday, April 19 and 2 p.m. Sunday, April 20, all shows at the Performing Arts Center. Tickets are \$10 for general admission, \$8 for seniors and staff and \$6 for students.

Noble said almost anyone can identify with his work.

"If you know anything about fishing, being ostracized or being a child, you will get it," Noble said.



Photo courtesy of Kelly Heese.

Dancers Tyler Miller, Diana Kemppainen Cartwright, Erika Olson and Briana Lobbett experiment with the limits of gravity during a rehearsal for "Suspended Momentum."

Hoeschen makes softball comeback

By Jennifer Segadelli
THE WESTERN FRONT

After taking a break from the sport she loved to pursue a career in athletic training, Western senior Bethany Hoeschen, who returned to the Viking lineup this season, came to the realization that everything comes back to softball.

Hoeschen was introduced to softball at a very young age, and it has remained an important and prevalent aspect of her life since then.

"My dad bought me a mitt, so I just started to play," Hoeschen said. "I played some other sports too, but I love softball because it's slower, so you have to think."

After beginning her softball career at Western, Hoeschen knew a future career in athletic training and sports education depended on the completion of a strenuous internship program required prior to graduation.

"I only had 60 hours of the 1,500 required in the training room after my freshman year, and most people have 500 to 600," Hoeschen said.

Western head coach Lonnie Hicks said he was sympathetic to her difficult position and respected the decision Hoeschen made.

"She was put in a situation where she had to make a choice," Hicks said. "For an athlete to give up her sport to reach academic goals is a tough decision."

Teammates and coaches missed Hoeschen's .311 batting average and defensive play at first base, teammate Amanda Grant said.

"Initially, I was disappointed because we had played together for so long, and she is such a great athlete," Western senior pitcher Grant said. "She has a great attitude and a great bat.

She's so positive and brings such a good persona to the team."

Despite her year-long absence from the softball team, Hoeschen said she is confident that she made the right decision in pursuing her career.

"My coaches and teammates were very understanding and supportive," Hoeschen said. "They understood that it was a career choice and how important that is."

After a year in the training room working in athletic training and rehabilitation of athletic injuries for the track, volleyball and football teams, Hoeschen became the trainer for a familiar group of athletes: the softball team.

"This year, she became our trainer, and I had been teasing her," Hicks said. "I kept saying 'We have a uniform for you,' and I don't think she thought I was serious. But I have seen Hoeschen play for a long time, and I knew she was a good ballplayer."

Hoeschen rejoined the Vikings halfway through the season. She looks to be right at home in the sport she left only one year ago.

Amanda Grant
Western senior pitcher

there," Hicks said. "Bethany is driven and will put up with a lot of hard work to accomplish the things she wants to accomplish."

Hoeschen said she hopes to attend and receive her master's degree from Springfield College in Massachusetts following her graduation in spring.

She said she looks forward to teaching high school physical education and coaching softball.

"I want to be able to impact people at a younger age to take care of themselves, especially with the huge problem of obesity in America," Hoeschen said. "I



Bryan Sharick/The Western Front

Western senior first baseman Bethany Hoeschen takes a cut at a pitch during the Vikings' practice Wednesday. Hoeschen recently returned to Western's softball team after taking time to pursue a career in athletic training.

don't know where I'll end up, but I can see myself coming back to Washington to teach."

Her return to the lineup may have signified the start of a brand-new season for this year's softball team.

At the Tournament of Champions in Modesto, Calif., Western's softball team upset nationally-ranked University

of California Davis and placed third out of 20 teams.

"The kids work really hard and haven't been catching a lot of breaks," Hicks said. "Last weekend, everything came together. The attitude was one of confidence, and that's big for us."

Starting her season last weekend with one hit and a few innings of playing time, the future for

Hoeschen remains bright.

"(Hoeschen) is not a carbon cut-out," Grant said. "She does things her own way. She's very patient and intelligent. I think she will be successful at whatever she chooses to do."

Softball started it all, and softball will still remain as Bethany Hoeschen closes out her last days at Western.

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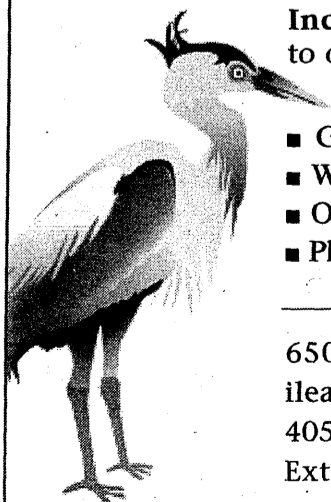
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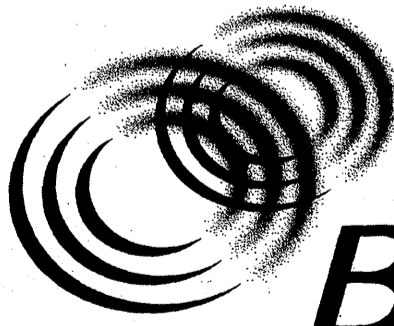
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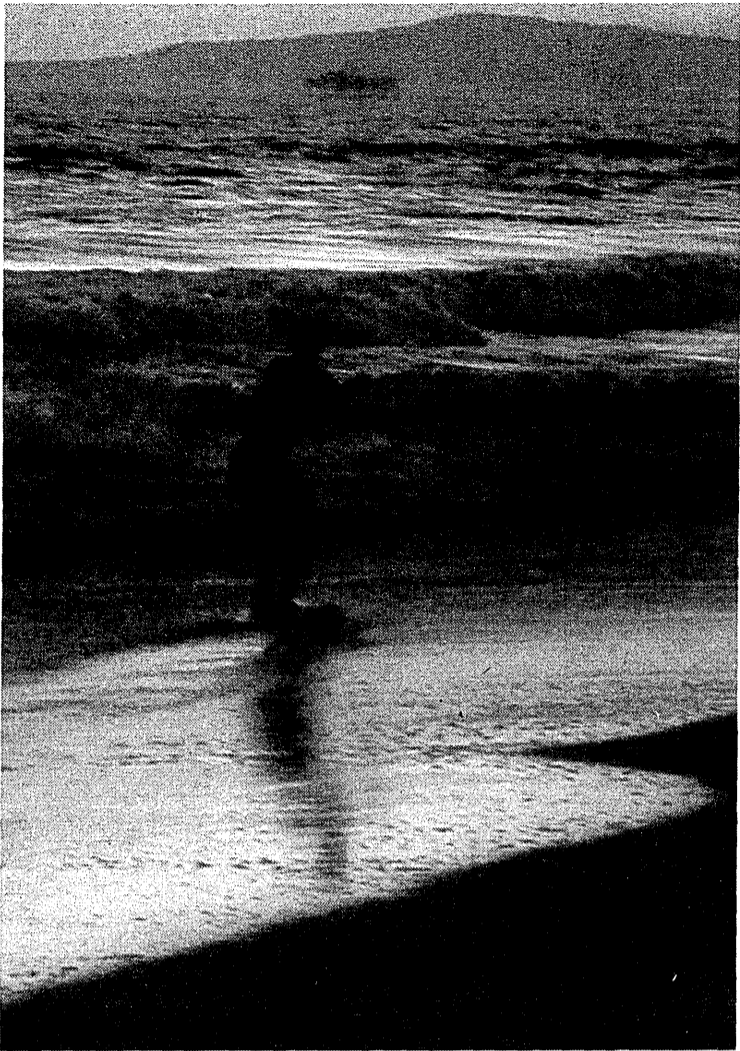


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Students skim the shores of Bellingham



Matt McDonald/The Western Front
Whatcom Community College senior Ben Craig skims down a beach and prepares to hit a wave. Bellingham's Clayton Beach is the best local place to skimboard, Craig said.

By Brad Nehring
 THE WESTERN FRONT

Summer and trips to the beach traditionally go together, and for watersports fanatics, surfing can also be an element to this equation. In addition to surfing, another aquatic activity is becoming increasingly popular with the beach-going crowd: skimboarding.

Surfing and skimboarding, or skimming, are typically popular with the same crowds, but the two activities are different, said Brian Bower, Western junior and third-year skimmer.

"Skimboarding is different from surfing," Bower said. "(When you skim), you run down the beach with your board and catch a shore break. In surfing, you paddle out away from shore to catch waves. Also, skimboards are smaller and flatter than normal surfboards."

Because of the compact board size, skimmers are capable of performing different tricks. Skimmers can execute moves much like those done on a skateboard, Bower said.

Skimboards are usually either made of foam or plywood with a coating of fiberglass, Bower said.

Wood skimboards cost approximately \$100, and foam boards cost \$200 to \$400, said Ben Craig, Whatcom Community College senior and second-year skimmer.

Craig said the finest local spot to skim is on the beach in Westport, west of Aberdeen. The beaches in Westport are well maintained and allow easy access to good waves for skimming, he said.

For skimming hopefuls without easy access to a car, Craig said he recommends Clayton Beach in Bellingham.

For people who want to skim, but do not have the money to purchase a skimboard can also construct a homemade board, Bower said.

"It's pretty easy (to make your own board) if you know what you're doing and you have the right materials," Bower said.

An important factor is the material of the board. Foam boards are lighter and easier to guide, but wooden ones are stronger, he said. Board material depends on personal preference, Bower said.

Another factor to consider when constructing a skimboard is overall size.

The board should be proportionate to the owner's body, he said. The height and weight of the skimmer should determine the length and width of the board.

Bower said an important feature to include on the model is a "rocker," which is surfer slang for an arc or a curvature.

The rocker should be positioned on the nose, or front, of the board. With an adequate rocker, the board will glide across the water instead of sinking, he said.

Bower said the only dangerous aspect of skimboarding is having to dodge objects in the water.

"You have to be careful of rocks and objects in the water and garbage if you're skimming at Clayton Beach," he said.

For skimmers seeking a less hazardous environment, Scott Schneider, Western junior and fifth-year skimmer, said he recommends a more unconventional spot for skimming in Bellingham.

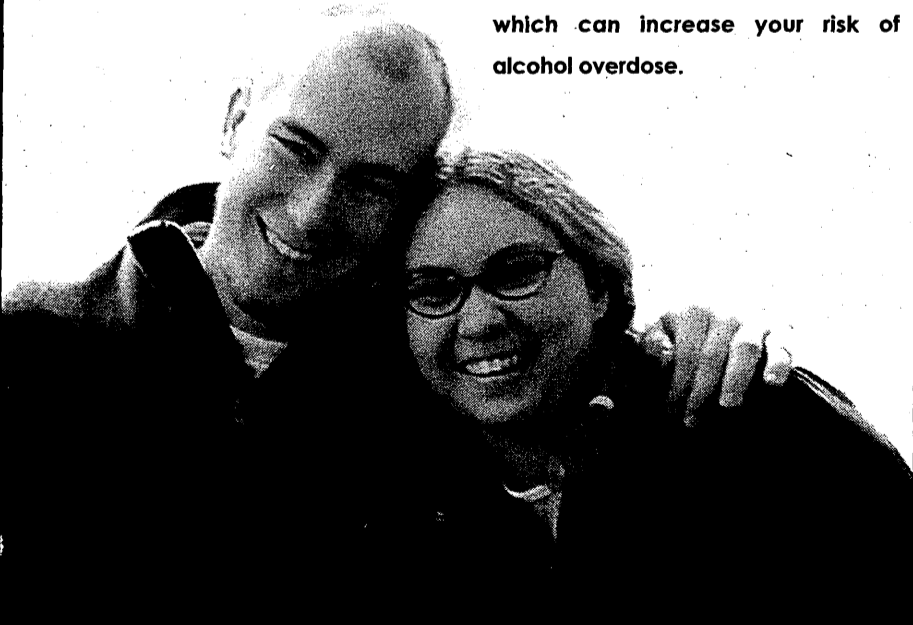
"Me and my buddies go to the mud flats sometimes," Schneider said. "The river will dump water on the flats, and when the tide picks up, you can skim on that. You have to shower two or more times, but it's fun."

”
‘Skimboarding is different from surfing ... skimboards are smaller and flatter than normal surfboards.’

Brian Bower
 Western junior and skimboarder

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The summer financial aid application is available in alternative formats.

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Baseball, fans to blame for violence at ballpark



Jennifer Segadelli

COMMENTARY

Major League Baseball is reviewing security measures at ballparks nationally, following a fan attack on an umpire in Tuesday's Chicago White Sox versus Kansas City Royals game.

Responsibility for future safety measure lays in the hands of Major League Baseball. Safety also lies with the people partaking in such deplorable actions that are causing the degradation of America's pastime.

For fans, Tuesday's attack must have felt like déjà vu.

The recent attack on first base umpire Laz Diaz came almost one year after a fan attack near the same spot at Comiskey Park, now U.S. Cellular Field in Chicago.

Now, fans, players and coaches doubt the safety of professional baseball. Major League Baseball, fans and lawmakers need to take steps to protect those who are involved in and enjoy baseball.

Major League Baseball is responsible for ensuring safety, and the first step in doing this is to increase security measures at ballparks.

The White Sox have already taken steps to prevent another violent incident from happening, including adding two security

guards along each foul line, checking ticket stubs more carefully to ensure that fans are seated in the appropriate areas and instituting more frequent public-address announcements to remind fans of the penalties for entering the field of play.

Realistically, the addition of two ballpark employees as security and a strict warning are not going to stop the lunatics from partaking in future unacceptable behaviors. Baseball is instead considering removing alcohol from ballparks and adding Plexiglas walls surrounding the field.

What a shame it would be to have to watch America's pastime like a fish in an aquarium.

Major League Baseball does not bear the brunt of the responsibility, though it may seem so. Fans need to re-evaluate the meaning of baseball and the role they play in the game. Spectators are just that — individuals who sit, cheer, wave pennants and never directly partake in the game.

Baseball used to be simple; peanuts and cracker jacks, soda pop and rally caps. Now, the simplicity of America's greatest sport is shadowed with beer and money, salary caps and violence.

No one can consider himself or herself a fan if he or she participates in violent actions that

hurt the reputation of baseball.

Fans need to take responsibility. Individual fanatics should recognize his or her fallacies, then the law should deal with violent acts accordingly.

If the lack of consideration for fans and the game of baseball continues, baseball as America knows it will no longer exist. No child will be able to sit up in the stands

with his father and watch hundred-year-old records being broken and history being made.

A simpler solution always exists. Diaz, 40, served in the U.S. Marine Corps Reserves. When he was attacked, he simply grabbed his assailant in a militaristic manner and removed him as if swatting away an annoying fruit fly.

The hand-to-hand combat training Diaz received in the military allowed him to return to the game unharmed, while his attacker was treated for minor injuries at St. Anthony's Hospital in Chicago.

Some day, all of baseball should be equipped with militarily-trained umpires. If that does not discourage violence, nothing will. Baseball represents the coming together of all different types of people with a united passion.

Baseball is about exhilaration and adrenaline; it's about camaraderie and personal connection.

What a disappointing day it will be when metal detectors and Plexiglas become a part of the great American pastime.

“What a shame it would be to have to watch America's pastime like a fish in an aquarium.”

“... the simplicity of America's greatest sport is shadowed with beer and money, salary caps and violence.”

No. 12-ranked Vikes finish 5th at invite

By Jenny Maag
THE WESTERN FRONT

Western freshman Tim Feenstra finished fifth overall to lead Western men's golf team to a second-place finish Tuesday at the California State University Stanislaus Invitational. The Vikings are currently ranked 12th in the Golfstat/NCAA Division II.

Western head coach Steve Card said the consistency of his players and the leadership of Feenstra combines to help his team compete every week.

“In golf, some weeks you get it, some weeks you don't,” Card said. “When you don't have it, it's nice to have other people step up.”

The Vikings ended day one in fourth place behind Cal State Stanislaus, Chico State University and Grand Canyon University.

The Vikings shot the best round of the day on Tuesday at 291, three-over-par.

“After the first day, we didn't expect to beat Chico,” Feenstra said. “To place second was better than we expected.”

Card said the second-place finish was important because it secured winning records for Western against Chico State and Grand Canyon.

Western's top-five golfers also fared well at the invitational.

In addition to Feenstra's fifth-place finish, Western sophomores Josh Immordino finished in a three-way tie for sixth, John Richer finished 16th, Chris Anderson finished 17th and Western freshman Luke Bennett tied for 23th.

Since finishing third Feb. 25 at the California State University Bakersfield Invitational, the Vikings have finished in the top four at their last seven tournaments.

Feenstra has finished in the top five in Western's last seven tournaments.

Western sophomore Chris Anderson said having Feenstra on the team is beneficial.

“We all want to be that good,” Anderson said. “Playing with Feenstra motivates you to play better.”

The Vikings will compete in the NCAA II West Regionals May 5 through May 7 in Littleton, Colo. The NCAA will invite the winners to the NCAA II National tournament May 20 through May 23.

“Regionals is our most important tournament, and we need to do well there, but securing winning records over those teams was crucial,” Card said. “We have a solid argument for a national selection because of our record.”

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Crosswalk citing ensures safety



Jordan Lindstrom

COMMENTARY

University Police, working with the Bellingham Police Department, have recently started ticketing people at intersections around Western's campus for failing to obey the pedestrian and motor vehicle traffic signals. This practice has angered many students and faculty receiving citations, but the tickets help ensure the safety of those on and around campus.

The stricter enforcement of the laws was the result of a push by the Washington State Traffic Safety Commission and a prominent concern in the police department about the dangerous conditions existing at campus intersections.

According to Washington State law, when pedestrians see a "Walk" symbol on the pedestrian traffic signals, they may cross the roadway in only the direction the signal indicates. When pedestrians see a "Don't Walk" signal, they must not enter the roadway, and motorists must stop for any person who has yet to completely cross the intersection, regardless of the signal.

When police ticket motorists for rolling through intersections pedestrians have yet to cross, and when they ticket pedes-

trians entering intersections on "Don't Walk" signals, they are acting completely within the law. Anyone saying such actions are unjust is either uninformed or bitter that he or she was caught breaking the law.

According to the UP Web site, the employees of the Department of Public Safety at Western are dedicated to providing a safe, secure and accessible educational environment. Enforcing the laws of campus intersections is a step toward this goal, and those who believe this is an unfair operation are condoning acts of irresponsibility.

"There's an ongoing problem in and around Bellingham with pedestrian signals not being observed," UP Chief Jim Shaw said. "We've had some near misses."

If Western students and faculty expect the police department to ensure the safety of those coming and going from school should accept the enforcement

of the laws as a needed precaution. It is important for University Police to make Western a secure place to attend school. When they do more than just hand out parking tickets, they should be applauded, not scolded.

Some might argue that the pedestrian laws are petty and have no real application at crosswalks near campus. Others say the reason for their enforcement is simply to give UP something to do when not handing out speeding tickets. All it

See LAWS, Page 15

“It is important for (University Police) to make Western a secure place to attend school.”

Lynch is not the only war hero



Heather Reynolds

COMMENTARY

Pfc. Jessica Lynch, the prisoner of war who was rescued from a hospital in Iraq on April 1, is now a familiar name. Some said she is the face of the American side of the war, but while American media focus on this one woman, they forget that many other military men and women deserve their interest.

As if Lynch has not had enough publicity showered on her, NBC announced April 10 that it will make a movie based on the events surrounding her rescue.

According to CNN, an anchor on NBC said "her inspiring story is one that provides a message of hope despite great odds."

Although this may be true, making this movie lessens the credibility of the inspiring stories that other American soldiers have to tell. If Lynch's family decides to sell the rights to Lynch's story, it degrades an emotional, intense account of war into just another Hollywood money-maker like "Saving Private Ryan" or "Tears of the Sun." Not to mention the reaction of the other soldiers who sacrificed just as much as Lynch and defended America just as wholeheartedly, yet received not even

half of the fame and praise.

This media's barrage of information about Lynch creates another cover as well. It covers the horror of the POWs who are not found or who are found dead. By focusing on an inspiring story of freedom and life, America is diverted from the reality that soldiers are still missing in action and soldiers are still brought home in body bags. Americans should not be shielded from these facts. These are the realities of war. War costs lives. As of Wednesday, the total dead reached 126.

Some people point out the sex and age of Lynch as a justification for the hype. At

19, Lynch is young, but even younger soldiers fighting the war exist who do not receive recognition. Eighteen-year-old Lance Cpl. Andrew Aviles not only fought in the war, he died in battle. Yet he received no media coverage. As for

Lynch being a woman, that is a whole other debate in itself. For now, it suffices to say that she enlisted and fought in the same manner as any male soldier, and she should not get special treatment upon returning home solely based on her gender.

Others say the intense media coverage of Lynch is expected and justified because she was the first POW rescued. This gives the impression that she is the only soldier worthy of attention. This, of course, is ridiculous. All the men and women who fight for America, who live and die to uphold the values of America, deserve America's respect and notice.

See MEDIA, Page 15

“... (Lynch) should not get special treatment ... based on her gender.”

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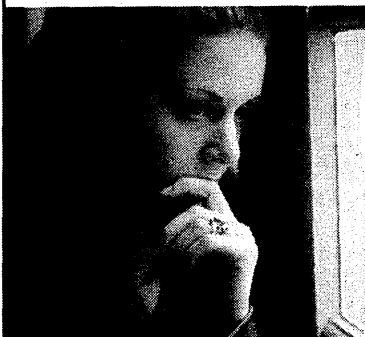
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A coffeehouse church?

BELLINGHAM - In today's culture, cafés have become friendly gathering places for meeting and discussing things with others. "So, why not consider 'church' a friendly place to gather and discuss our faith journey?" asks David Korsen, pastor of Fourth Corner Community Church. "And what better place to do that than in a café-style setting?"

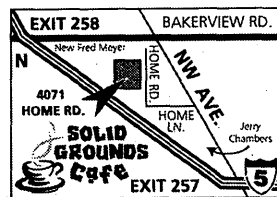
Beginning Sunday, April 13, Fourth Corner is "revisiting" their Sunday AM worship gathering as a coffeehouse they are calling the **SOLID GROUNDS CAFE**. Worshippers will have the option of sitting at coffeehouse-style tables or "traditional seating."

"Some may think this sounds 'sacrilegious,'" says Korsen. "But from a scriptural standpoint, 'table fellowship' has always been central to Christian gatherings. In fact, in the

early years of Christianity, churches met in the informal setting of homes."

Also, in order to bring a missions focus to **SOLID GROUNDS**, Fourth Corner will be serving **Pura Vida Coffee** whose net profits benefit at-risk children in coffee growing regions of the world.

Fourth Corner is located at **4071 Home Road**, near the intersection of Bakerview and Northwest. Worship is at 10:00 AM Sundays. For more information, call **647-LIFE** or visit www.fourthcorner.net.



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Frontline

Take Back the Night needs more attendance

As Thursday night's march and rally commenced, many Western students could be heard saying, "Take back the night? Where did it go?" Take Back the Night is a powerful annual event for students and Bellingham residents to combat sexual assault, but not enough people attend it. Last year, more than 600 women attended the rally and march. This year, only approximately 150 women showed up.

According to the National Institute of Justice, for every 1,000 women attending a college, 35 are victims of rape or attempted rape in a given year. Based on this statistic, an average of 225 of Western's 6,420 women are rape victims every year.

Nighttime is dangerous for women. Most rapes occur at night, so women must take extra care when alone. Take Back the Night is an attempt to help Western women reclaim the dark hours. By taking action with many other people, women can re-affirm their right to walk down a dark street without fear.

Take Back the Night boasts many activities for people on campus and in the community to take advantage of. Wednesday night featured a night of testimony for sexual abuse victims to speak out. This event has been part of Take Back the Night for the past four years. It is a forum for people to discuss their experiences in a safe environment. A rally took place on in Red Square, followed by a march and candlelight vigil to take action against rape and sexual assault. The program is not widely publicized, however, so people who would benefit from attending are not aware of the events.

The Women's Center should take more measures to promote Take Back the Night, such as advertising in community-wide forums and canvassing the campus with posters and flyers. This year the Women's Center set up a table on vendor's row where they sold T-shirts and buttons advertising the events. Promoters put signs up around campus, but Associated Students election propaganda overshadowed the advertisements.

Even when people are aware of the events taking place, certain stigmas are attached to Take Back The Night. In the past, it has been associated with "femi-nazis." This is because of a few eccentric people who ruin the event for everyone else. Most people who plan and take part in the event intend to partake in a cooperative evening for men and women to take action on an important issue. Take Back the Night is not a male-bashing free-for-all.

The event also offers an outlet for men to speak out against violence. Although the march is women-only, men can take part in a candlelight vigil in Red Square after the rally. This gives men an opportunity to show their support of women's empowerment and autonomy. It is important for men to have a voice against sexual assault.

In any given year, 3.5 percent of college women are victims of rape or attempted rape, according to the National Institute of Justice. Sexual assault is an important issue for people to speak out about. Take Back the Night gives people an opportunity to be proactive, if they choose to attend.

Frontlines are the opinion of The Western Front editorial board: Paul Nicholas Carlson, Brienne Holte, Peter Louras, Brandon Rosage, Josh Dumond, Kellyn Ballard, Katie James, Jeremy Edwards, Shauna Bakkensen, Michele Girard, Meagan McFadden and Joshua Fejeran.

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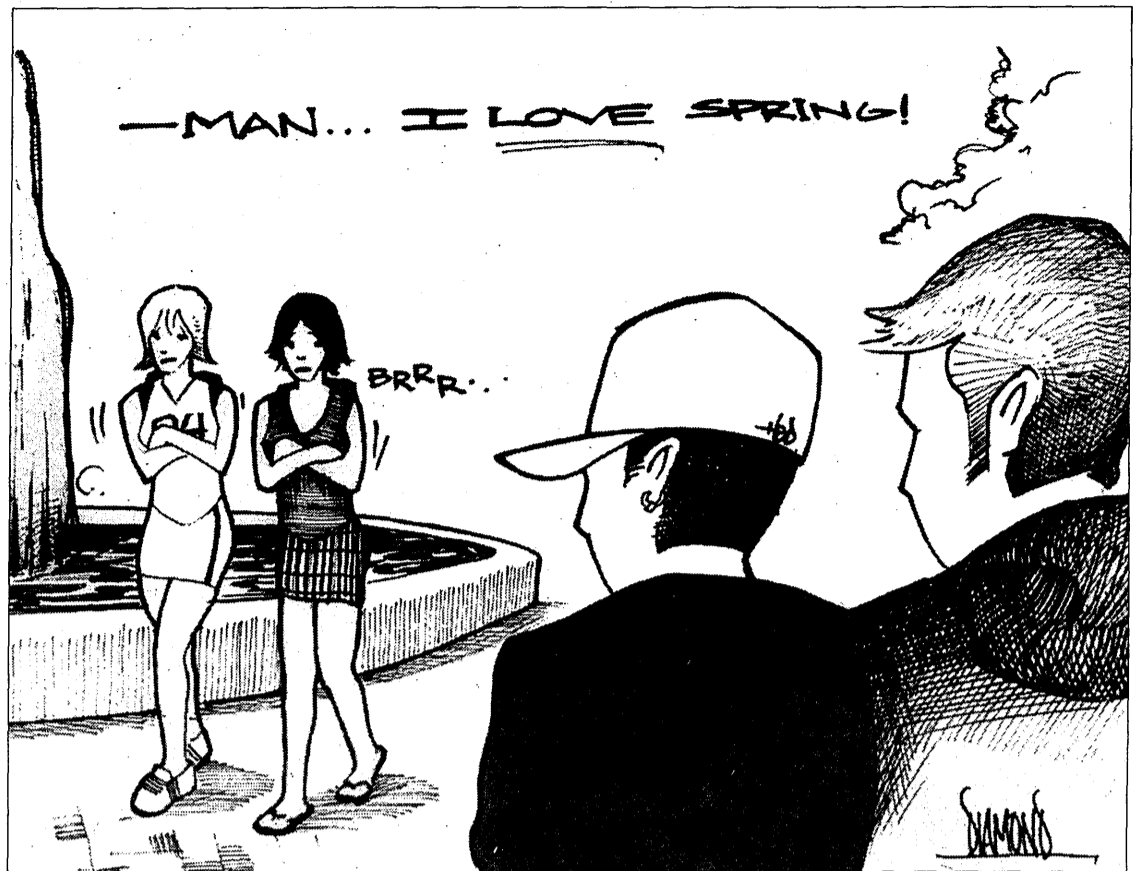
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Members of the Western community are entitled to a single free copy of each issue of The Western Front.



4/20: A time for bunnies and bong hits



Carl Weiseth

BLUNT VIEWS

Since the early history of civilization, societies have commonly entwined spiritual experience with the use of mind-altering substances. Ancient Aztecs ate peyote cacti, Inca societies chewed the leaves of the cacao plant and tribes in the Congo used iboga root, all in an effort to achieve spiritual states of altered consciousness.

This Sunday on 4/20, many will follow in the traditional footsteps of our societal forefathers by celebrating the resurrection of Christ with a fatty Easter blunt and a couple bong hits. As pastors and priests preach to the glazed eyes of the herbally-inclined parish members, many will disapprove of such immoral conduct and claim that altering one's consciousness with chemicals is a sin.

Immediately following this unfounded judgement, they will proceed to partake in communion

by drinking alcohol, a drug directly responsible for 100,000 deaths per year, according to the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention. They will then follow up their service with a cup or two of coffee, which contains caffeine, an addictive mind-altering drug historically used as a replacement for cocaine in Coca-Cola, and correlated with increased blood-pressure, hypertension, pancreas and bladder cancer and distinctly unpleasant withdrawal symptoms.

Happily buzzed from the fresh stimulant they have ingested, middle-aged soccer moms will climb into minivans sporting bumper-stickers blatantly proclaiming their drug addiction with slogans such as "Outta my way, I need a Latte." Slightly more controversial clergy members will wander around the side of the church to inhale burning tobacco smoke containing nicotine, a drug responsible for 440,000 gruesome deaths per year, according to the CDCP and upon which 32 percent of its users become addicted, according to the Institute of Medicine — as compared to 17 percent for

cocaine.

Elderly members of the church suffering from illness or injury will most likely return home to the comfort of prescription painkillers or other addictive pharmaceutical drugs, responsible for more than 30,000 deaths each year, according to the CDC. But not before taking a couple aspirin or other anti-inflammatory drugs for their arthritis, which is responsible for more than 6,000 deaths each year.

Those few church-goers lucky enough to have chosen a safe drug such as pot will return home to a freshly rolled joint of marijuana, which the Office of National Drug Control Policy states is responsible for zero deaths each year. They can take solace in the fact that the book "Marijuana Myth, Marijuana Fact" concludes that marijuana has a low — if debatably any — physical addiction rate, with few long term side-effects, the worst of which are slight and temporary (yes, temporary) short-term memory impairment and potential respiratory problems associated with the

See BONG, Page 16

Students deserve health, dental plan



Eric Berto

COMMENTARY

As Western students struggle with tests, papers and passing grades, they should not have to worry about teeth, polyps and psychosis. Students must receive expanded medical and dental coverage while enrolled at Western.

Currently, Western students pay \$48 per quarter for the Student Health Center fee as part of their tuition. This is to cover the cost of doctors, nurses and a brand-new building. According to the University Operating Budget Office, 12,493 students were enrolled spring quarter and 12,056 students were enrolled winter

quarter. If each person is paying his or her \$48 per quarter, Western has taken in \$1.2 million in student health fees for the year.

What students are not told is that on top of the fee, they are required to pay for any medical service rendered. A student should not have to pay fees above and beyond the quarterly fee for visiting the doctor.

In a story published Tuesday in the Western Front, Michael Schardein, Western judicial officer and coordinator of the Hardship Committee, said 70 to 80 students withdraw per quarter for physical or emotional health-related reasons. Health problems that are so serious that a student has to withdraw from school have tremendous financial costs that most students cannot afford by themselves.

Comprehensive medical coverage would greatly reduce the number of people who have to drop out of school because they cannot pay for adequate medical attention. If more comprehensive medical care is available, students will be able to concentrate on school.

While Western students pay for health care, dental coverage is not included in that fee, and it needs to be. When a student stays up nearly all night and gets only one hour of sleep, brushing his or her teeth generally does not take precedence over getting a cup of coffee.

Most Western students who are lucky enough to have a job get paid close to minimum wage. It is difficult to obtain dental coverage on a minimum-wage job. According to a report released by the

See HEALTH, Page 15

Laws: Police are just doing their job

Continued from Page 13

takes, however, is one distracted motorist talking on a cell phone, or one pedestrian watching the clouds instead of the road for an accident to occur. Giving citations to people who create dangerous situations is not a popular practice among those affected, but it is necessary to raise awareness and help ensure the safety of Western students.

Creating a safe environment on and around campus is UP's primary concern. When they give tickets to those not following intersection laws, it's not for

entertainment or to kill time, but rather to do a job and make Western a place where motor vehicle-related accidents and injuries are not a problem.

The rules of intersections are often disobeyed and until now, UP rarely enforces it. Because of this, people who are ticketed often become upset and feel singled out. Instead of being angry, they should be thankful that the police are doing something productive. They are lawfully ensuring the safety of Western's students and faculty.

Media: Portrayal of Lynch is unfair to other soldiers

Continued from Page 13

The media should give coverage to more of the fighting soldiers and fallen soldiers, whose belief in American ideals led them to fight in the war.

Instead of creating a single face to represent America's side of the war, the media should present the entire spectrum of soldiers as America's united front. They should maintain that no

soldier deserves less attention than his or her equal. They should furthermore refrain from sensationalizing a celebrated event to cover the tragedy of reality.

Health: Plan would lessen health worries for students

Continued from Page 14

National Institute of Health, Americans spent approximately \$60 billion in 2000 on dental care. A student will have a difficult time paying his or her share while only earning \$7 per hour.

It is expensive to run a medical clinic the size of Western's. This makes it difficult to provide the level of in-depth care that most expect of a clinic. Western has a brand new, state-of-the-art clinic that provides students with daily care that must be paid for. Having a larger facility requires a bigger staff that must also be paid for.

The money generated from the student health fee goes toward paying for these services. In order for an increase in the services

offered, an increase in the fee would have to be instituted.

Larger schools, such as the University of Washington, are able to offer dental care at a cost that is 20 to 40 percent less than that of a traditional dentist's office. If Western is to grow in the future, it should consider establishing a school of dentistry or a medical field. Western does not even offer a nursing program.

As long as students must strive to succeed at a university and risk their health in doing so, they must be protected by a health care system. With such a system, students will spend the majority of their time worrying about how to get a passing grade instead of how to pay for a routine annual exam.

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Letter to the editor:

Feeling 'uncomfortable' is inevitable in society

Ms. White,

I must admit that I found your commentary amusingly absurd ("City Needs to Ban Panhandling April 15, 2003). I will not go into every detail of your argument, as it is mostly a matter of opinion. However, I would like to dissect the following statement:

"Pulling up in a car next to a homeless sign-holder is an uncomfortable experience. Not making eye contact or locking the door are both typical reactions ... causing unwanted feelings of guilt or pity. Being uneasy when coming to a stop ... is something Bellingham residents should not have to experience."

Let me ask you something, Ms. White: Do you really think that anybody should care about your "feelings"? Do you think that the world should bend its back for you or anybody else every time you feel "uneasy"? Do you think that it is an inherent right to not feel "uncomfortable"? I feel "uncomfortable" whenever religious folks in search of a convert approach me. Does this mean that religious freedom should be subjugated? I feel "uneasy" whenever feminists' spout off statistical lies in order to blame men for all of society's woes, as well as theirs. Does this mean that freedom of speech should be censored?

The statement made by Ms. White is a blatant reflection of the attitude of the members of this society to sanction anything that makes one "uneasy." If you do not believe that a person holding a sign at an intersection deserves food or money, then don't give them a hand-out. I gave a fellow two double cheeseburgers and a root beer last Friday, and I'll do it again next time I feel the need to be generous. I hope this does not make you "uncomfortable."

Yours,
Isaac J. Drum, Bellingham resident

*Do these opinions reflect yours?
Are we full of crap?*

Write us and let us know.

Submit a letter of no more than 250 words to:

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The Western Front reserves the right to edit all material for length, style, grammar and libel. Include name and telephone number for verification.

Bong: Marijuana should be researched thoroughly to prevent biased misconceptions

inhalation of any type of smoke.

Of course, none of this will matter if law enforcement officers discover their illegal hobby and bust them along with the more than 734,000 other marijuana offenders arrested each year, according to FBI Uniform Crime Reports. It will not matter that, according to the ONDCP, approximately 47 percent of the population, including past presidents, government officials and even police officers, have admitted to trying marijuana at some point. Most importantly, it will not matter that numerous comprehensive, objective government commis-

sions have examined the marijuana phenomenon throughout the past 100 years and have recommended that adults not be penalized for using marijuana.

I would like to say that I wish students a happy 4/20 this year, but unfortunately, amidst the societal hypocrisy surrounding the issue of marijuana, I instead wish you a thoughtful one and urge you to familiarize yourself with your legal rights.

Admit to yourself and to others that the search for altered consciousness is an inherently human drive supported by

numerous examples. Little kids from all over the world spin around in circles for five minutes at a time just to enter an altered state of consciousness. It's neither bad nor unnatural, nor

does it have anything to do with morals or ethics. It is simply an intrinsic urge built into us as human beings.

Marijuana is currently one of the

safest and most pleasurable ways to satisfy that urge, which explains its predominance in society despite extensive measures taken to erase it. Do some thinking, post this article in a window or doorway, write a letter to the editor, but don't just go on accepting the illogical conclusions about pot that deceptive or misinformed authority figures have fed you ever since you were in D.A.R.E. Do your own research, form your own opinion, then make a decision for or against marijuana based on education rather than the predominantly common misconceptions.

"I ... urge you to familiarize yourself with your legal rights."

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