

# The Western Front

## Students of color give Western mixed reviews

By **Brittany Sadler**  
THE WESTERN FRONT

Of Western's 11,700 students, 13.3 percent, or roughly 1,500, are students of color. This statistic lumps several minorities into one all-encompassing group. But the students within this group come from places as local as Redmond and as distant as Ethiopia.

These students not only have different backgrounds, but different perceptions of ethnic issues and diversity on Western's campus, depending on their individual experiences and personalities.

**“I've learned you just don't talk to white people about ethnic issues. They get all fidgety.”**

**Andrew Rogge**  
Western student

Andrew Rogge, 21, a Western junior, went to a predominantly white high school in Redmond. Rogge, who's half-Filipino, half-white, said he never really felt like he fit in there.

“They called me ‘sticky rice’ — the football players with their monster trucks,” Rogge said.

Rogge said he reserves all conversation regarding ethnicity for his minority friends.

“I've learned you just don't talk to white people about ethnic issues,” Rogge said. “They get all fidgety.”

He said he usually modifies his topics around white people and minorities who have assimilated to talking about “football and chicks.”

Rogge said he perceives most people's attitudes as thinking

they don't need to know about other people because they have better things to do.

“The average student doesn't need to think about diversity,” Rogge said. “If you are the mainstream, you're represented everywhere. There's nothing really to think about.”

Rogge is involved at Western's Ethnic Student Center, attending meetings each week for Movimiento Estudiantil Chicanos De Azatlan (MEChA), the Khmer Club for Cambodian students and the Filipino American Student Association.

Rogge said he was a little hesitant about joining FASA at first.

“A room of 20 Asians, it's just not natural here,” Rogge said. “You have to plan that.”

He said he has met most of his good friends through the ESC and has found that a diversity of people equals a diversity of experiences, which leads to a diversity of conversation topics.

“Anything of substance in my life is related to the Ethnic Student Center,” Rogge said.

Associated students Vice President for Diversity, Bruno Cross said many programs at Western promote diversity.

“The atmosphere at Western provides an opportunity for diversity discussion, but publicity and attendance are not as strong as they could be,” Cross said.

He said there could also be better coordination between programs serving similar functions, so that members of the different groups could come together forming a stronger effort.

Cross said he thinks Western as a whole is not doing enough to promote diversity, but that many groups and individuals are working on it.

As for Western's International Programs and Exchanges Office,

See **COLOR**, Page 12

## Eateries using high fat beef



Crystal Purdy serves up some pizza in the Viking Commons' new pizza kitchen. The VC is one of three on-campus dining halls that cater to students living in on-campus housing, and is operated by the Sodexo-Marriott corporation along with all of the smaller eateries sprinkled around campus.

Isaac Sherrer/  
The Western Front

By **Paul Olund**  
THE WESTERN FRONT

When Amy Flores came to Western in 1998, she lost more than 20 pounds.

“I didn't eat,” she said. “I wasn't used to the types of foods they were serving in the campus dining halls.”

St. Joseph Hospital registered nutritionist Kristine Duncan said eating vegetables and avoiding fried foods are the most important things for people to do when establishing a well-rounded diet.

“Eating a variety is the best way to ensure a complete diet.”

**“With anywhere from 23-26 percent fat content, (Regular lean beef) is not really safe to eat every day.”**

**Jerry Rosendall**  
Albertson's meat specialist

Duncan said. “It's important not to get stuck eating hamburgers for every meal.”

Sodexo-Marriott Corp., which runs Western's campus dining facilities, uses 100 percent USDA approved lean ground beef.

“Regular lean beef is pretty wastey,” Albertson's meat specialist Jerry Rosendall said. “With anywhere from 23-26 percent fat content, it's not really safe to eat every day.”

Sodexo-Marriott purchases food products from national wholesaler Food Services of America.

See **FOOD**, Page 4

## Unconventional prof questioned

By **Kristie Aukofer**  
THE WESTERN FRONT

One marketing professor's alternative teaching styles will be questioned during an upcoming faculty evaluation. Farrokh Safavi's teaching method will be under the microscope at the end of winter quarter.

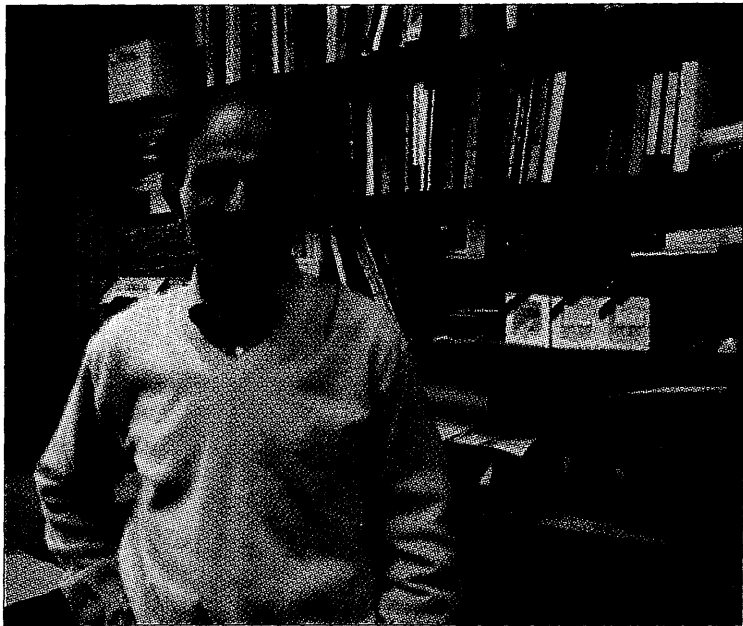
“The conventional approach is mainstream here at Western,” Safavi said. “Some people don't like the way I teach.”

Safavi's teaching methods include casual references to partying and alcohol.

“On some of his tests, he'll list option D as an answer,” Western student Seth Myers said.

“That answer will read something like, ‘I don't

See **PROFESSOR**, Page 3



Terrill Simecki/ The Western Front

Marketing teacher Farrokh Safavi's unconventional teaching style will be reviewed at the end of this quarter.

## Stock market slide nothing to worry about says professor

By **Camille Penix**  
THE WESTERN FRONT

Wednesday's stock market slide may have caused investors to panic, but it is currently stabilizing.

The stock market went down 3-4 percent on Monday, and then again on Wednesday.

“Usually a drop like yesterday's — 3-5 percent — isn't going to have a real significant impact on the economy,” Earl Benson, a finance professor at Western, said.

“A drop of 3-5 percent is

See **MARKET**, Page 4

### IN THIS ISSUE

#### Western prepares for Elite Eight

Shelton Diggs is leading the Vikings' title run, while recruiting practices aid the basketball program into greatness.

See **Story**, Page 8.

#### Henry Rollins will speak

Need we say more? The notorious Black Flag former-front-man to give spoken-word performance at the Mount Baker Theatre.



See **Story**, Page 6

## COPS BOX

### University Police

**March 9, 4:57 p.m.:** Police responded to a female's report of assault in which she complained a man had tried to stick his bare foot up her dress. The suspect was arrested and booked into Whatcom County Jail on charges of fourth degree assault.

**March 11, 1:28 a.m.:** Police arrested and cited a man for DUI in the 2600 block of Bill McDonald Parkway.

**March 12, 11:35 a.m.:** A non-student reported that her car was damaged in Lot 21C during Friday night's basketball game.

### Bellingham Police

**March 12, 9:18 p.m.:** Four vehicles' tires were slashed in the 600 block of 32nd Street.

**March 13, 5:26 p.m.:** A woman reported an ongoing problem with a juvenile neighbor. The latest incident was the discovery of dog feces in her mailbox. Police spoke with the suspect, who admitted to the prank.

**March 14, 1:40 a.m.:** A man was arrested for a drug related offense in the 2900 block of Yew Street.

**March 14, 2:40 a.m.:** Officers arrested a woman for DUI after a traffic stop in the 2300 block of Elm Street.

Compiled by Karlee Rochon

# AP WIRE NEWS BRIEFS

## STATE NEWS

### Des Moines murder suspect may face death penalty

SEATTLE - The 19-year-old man being charged with aggravated murder in the deaths of four people in Des Moines is being held without bail. Leemah Carneh of Spanaway will be arraigned next Thursday in King County Superior Court.

Carneh also is accused of stealing a car that belonged to 17-year-old Taelor Marks, one of the victims. The other victims were Marks' grandparents and a 17-year-old girl thought to be his girlfriend.

Prosecutors found bloody clothes and a gun in Carneh's home when he was arrested Monday. They have 30 days to decide whether to seek the death penalty.

### Sibling rivalry leads to stabbing death

RENTON - Two brothers who lived in a quiet neighborhood near Renton fought so

much over the years that neighbors grew used to ignoring them. Now one is dead and the other is being investigated for murder.

King County sheriff's deputies say 61-year-old Alfred H. Kiltau was stabbed to death Tuesday evening in the Fairwood district. Deputy Bob Conner says Kiltau's 60-year-old brother was arrested after calling authorities and saying "there's been a stabbing here."

Conner said investigators had not yet determined whether the killing resulted from one incident or a long buildup of hostilities.

### Seattle Mardi Gras rioting arrests continue

SEATTLE - Police have now arrested 11 people in connection with Seattle's Mardi Gras violence. One man was arrested Wednesday for inciting a riot and assault also is accused of pulling clothes off a woman and groping her.

Police think other sex crimes occurred, but few victims have

stepped forward.

## NATIONAL NEWS

### Florida 15-year-old gets life sentence

PALATKA, Fla. - Another Florida teen will spend the rest of his life behind bars. Fifteen-year-old John Silva, convicted of first-degree murder, was given the mandatory life sentence without the possibility of parole.

He was found guilty in the murder of a playmate whose body was found hog-tied at the bottom of a septic tank.

Last week, 14-year-old Lionel Tate was sentenced to life in prison without possibility of parole by a judge in Fort Lauderdale for murdering a 6-year-old friend.

### Muhammad Ali apologizes for remarks made 30 years ago

NEW YORK - It happened in 1971, but boxing legend Muhammad Ali is apologizing now for comments he made about rival Joe Frazier.

Before a historic bout in

New York's Madison Square Garden, Ali called Frazier an "Uncle Tom" and said he was "too ugly to be the champ." Before another fight, he compared Frazier to a gorilla.

Ali told the New York Times he's sorry for his comments, which were intended to promote the fights. Frazier, who was bitter for years about the comments, said he's accepted Ali's apology.

## INTERNATIONAL NEWS

### Russian plane hijacked in Middle East

AL-KHOBAR, Saudi Arabia - A Russian plane with more than 170 people on board was hijacked Thursday morning by terrorists identifying themselves as Chechens demanding that the plane be flown to Afghanistan.

Authorities said the plane went into a terrifying plunge as the hijackers attacked it, but pilots were able to regain control.

Compiled by Greg Woehler

## EVENTS CALENDAR

### March 16

-The Steelewaters Duo will play Irish standards and original tunes at 11:45 a.m. at the Parkway Chateau. The show is free.

-Violinist John Konigsmark and harp-sichordist Julia Gennert will play music ranging from Baroque to contemporary standards at 7:30 p.m. at the Resort.

-Rumba Calzada from Vancouver, B.C., will play at 8:30 p.m. at the Wild Buffalo. The cover charge is \$10.

### March 18

-3 Plays, a local band, will perform

blues music at 11:30 a.m. at The Breakwater.

### March 19

-The Outdoor Center will present an open kayaking session from 7-10 p.m.

No sign up is necessary, but participants must bring their own kayaks. Call 650-3112 for more information. The session is free.

### March 20

-The CEO of Kemper Development Company, Kemper Freeman Jr., will speak at Western's annual Seattle

Business Forum luncheon at 11:30 a.m. at the Westin Hotel Grand Ballroom in Seattle. Western's Vehicle Research Institute's experimental vehicle will be revealed at the forum, along with a presentation by the students on its design.

Tickets cost \$35. Call 650-6825 for more information.

### March 21

-Western men's basketball team plays its first game in the NCAA Division II Elite Eight tournament, in Bakersfield, Calif.

Compiled by Heather Baker

## THE WESTERN FRONT ONLINE

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

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

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

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

## WWU Official Announcements

Deadline for announcements in this space is noon 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/7287, 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

**STUDENTS WHO INTERRUPT THEIR STUDIES** at Western, other than for a summer quarter, must complete an application for readmission, available from OM 200, X/3440, by the appropriate priority deadline. **Deadlines are: summer continuing to fall, April 1; fall quarter, April 1; winter quarter, Oct. 15; and spring quarter, Jan. 15.**

**SUMMER QUARTER 2001 DEGREE APPLICATIONS** must be on file in the registrar's office by today, March 16. Fall degree applicants must have applications on file by June 8. Winter 2002 application deadline is Aug. 24; spring evaluation is encouraged since many major advisers are unavailable summer quarter. See OM 230 for applications/instructions.

**THE MATH PLACEMENT IS OFFERED** in OM 120 at 3 p.m. Monday, March 19 and at 9 a.m. Thursdays on March 22 and 29. Registration is not required. Students must bring picture identification, student identification, student number, Social Security number, and a No. 2 pencil. A \$10 fee must be paid in the exact amount at time of testing. Allow 90 minutes. Sample problems may be found at [www.washington.edu/oea/aptp.htm](http://www.washington.edu/oea/aptp.htm).

**NOW IS THE TIME TO APPLY FOR SCHOLARSHIPS.** Hurry into Western's Scholarship Center in OM 260. Application deadlines vary, but most are due April 2. For more information, see [www.finaid.wwu.edu/scholarships](http://www.finaid.wwu.edu/scholarships).

**THE ARK AND WINIFRED CHIN LITERACY SCHOLARSHIP** is open to juniors, seniors or graduate students majoring in education or a related field. Priority deadline is April 16. For more information or applications, stop by OM 275B or call Ariel at X/7542.

**SUMMER SESSION 2001** at [www.wwu.edu/~summer](http://www.wwu.edu/~summer). Summer session offers educational opportunities for all. Bulletins will be available in April. For more information, contact [Summer.Session@wwu.edu](mailto:Summer.Session@wwu.edu) or X/2841.

**OFFICIAL ANNOUNCEMENTS MAY BE SUBMITTED** to MS-9117, sent by fax to X/7287 clearly marked for Official Announcements, or brought in person to Commissary 111. Do not send announcements directly to the Western Front. Announcements are limited to 50 words, typewritten or legibly printed, and should be signed by the originator.

**THE WESTERN FRONT  
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don't hurt us**

<http://westernfrontonline.com>

**Professor may be fired because of unorthodox instructional methods**

From PROFESSOR, Page 1

remember. I drank too much last night," she said.

The students like this casual interaction with Safavi and that should count for something, Myers said.

The evaluation is a review process that involves the end-of-quarter student evaluations and the opinions of several college administrators, Safavi said.

The Business of Economics Dean Dennis Murphy is one of

the members on the committee that will either give Safavi merit and allow him to continue teaching, or fire him, Safavi said.

"The administration likes professors who don't rock the boat too much," Safavi said.

Andrew Bodman, Western's

**”**

*'Different styles of teaching should be embraced if the students are learning and enjoying themselves at the same time.'*

Shannon Killgore  
Western student

provost and vice president for Academic Affairs, was unavailable for comment at the time of publication.

"Western is known to be a pretty liberal campus," said Western student Shannon Killgore, who hopes to take a class from Safavi.


"Different styles of teaching should be embraced if the students are learning and enjoying themselves at the same time," she said.

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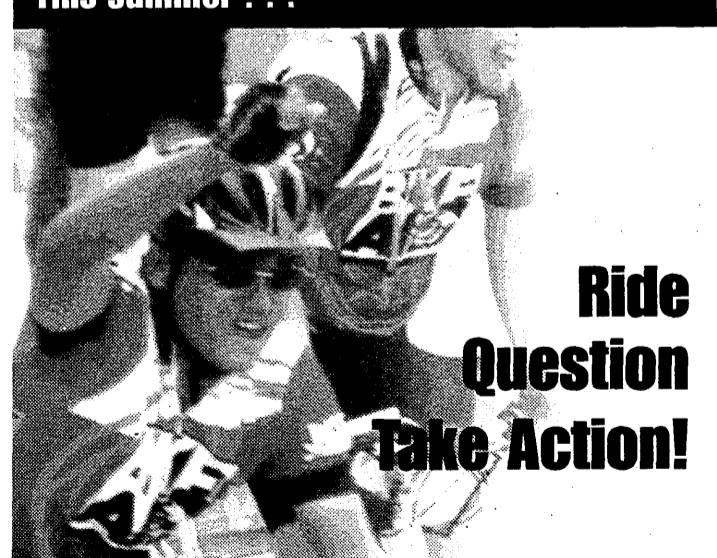
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## Marriott uses type of beef dangerously high in fat according to butcher; prices close to competitor's



Isaac Sherrer/ The Western Front

**Jeremy Totten and Becky Gunsauls get their lunch at the Viking Union eatery. Many students who live on campus eat three meals a day in the eateries operated by Marriott.**

From FOOD, Page 1

"We meet all the minimum requirements set by our contract with Western," Sodexho-Marriott campus manager Nori Yamashita said. "We make sure that students get the best food for their money."

**"We price all of the products we sell by doing price comparisons with the surrounding community."**

**Nori Yamashita**  
Sodexho-Marriott  
campus manager

Marriott runs eight major vendor areas across campus, including a Pizza Hut-affiliated space in Arntzen Hall and the Sub Connection located in the front entrance of Carver Gym.

"We price all of the products we sell by doing price comparisons with the surrounding community," Yamashita said.

Prices for Marriott products first must be approved by the Facility Services Council before the change can be passed to the consumer.

"Changes and prices for new products are approved by the council first to safeguard students from unfair increases," Yamashita said.

Although many Marriott products are cheaper than competing outlets, hamburgers and convenience goods are often more expensive on campus than at retail stores around Bellingham.

According to Yamashita, Marriott also attempts to provide students with nutritious menus.

"All of our meals are made based on information from students," Yamashita said. "We have made a lot of changes based on student suggestions."

"Avoid using lots of condiments and things high in calories like pop," Duncan said. "Also, by keeping healthy snacks in the dorm room, you can limit eating unhealthy foods during meals."

Duncan advises students to ask food providers to include foods to help them stay healthy.

"Eat lots of beans, whole grains, seafood and lean meats," Duncan said. "And if they don't serve them already, ask them to."

## Marriott vs. The World

**How do Western's prices measure up?**

**Footlong turkey sub sandwich**

- Subway — \$5.17
- Sub Connection — \$4.89

**Personal pan pizza**

- Pizza Hut — \$2.99
- Arntzen Hut — \$2.99

**16 oz. Starbucks mocha**

- Cruisin' Coffee — \$2.91
- Miller Hall — \$2.21

**Hamburger**

- Burger King — \$.99
- Viking Union — \$2.00

**20 oz. bottle of Pepsi**

- Texaco — \$1.19
- On campus — \$1.25

## Western Foundation not worried about recent stock market crash

From MARKET, Page 1

unusual and doesn't happen that often," he said. "Usually the changes are within the half percent to 1 percent range at most."

The decline was due to problems firms are having in the United States and Europe, Benson said. Also, the slowdown in demand for industrial products he said.

A world-wide financial crisis like Wednesday's usually causes investors to pull their money out of the less-stable stock market and invest in safer items such as bonds, Benson said. This reaction causes the stock market to drop even more.

On Thursday, the Dow Jones increased about .5 percent and NASDAQ lost 1.5 percent from Wednesday's close.

"There's not much change today relative to what happened earlier in the week," Benson said.

The Western Foundation, a nonprofit corporation that administers money donated to Western, is not reacting to Wednesday's stock market fluctuations.

"We don't ever look at it on a one-day basis," Stephanie Bowers, executive director of development and the Western Foundation, said. "We review our investments on a quarterly basis and certainly were in touch with our advisers and investors."

The Western Foundation, like many other educational foundations, invests for the long-term,

Bowers said.

"Even if things turn south for the short term, we hold on in a wise investment policy manner because we are really here for the long haul," Bowers said. "We take the viewpoint that the good years and the bad years provide a balance, so we see our investments in a very steady line."

Benson said advice to investors depends on how long they plan to invest and how quickly they want to see results.

"For people who are interested in building portfolios for the long-term, it doesn't make sense for them to take their money out and put it under the mattress," Benson said. "They should stay the course and invest on a regular basis."

Benson advises intermediate investors who want their returns within 5-15 years not to panic if the market is down.

"The biggest mistake that many individual investors make is to sell when the market is down and buy when the market is high," he said. "What you would prefer to do is buy when the market is down."

People who need their money within a year or two shouldn't invest in the stock market, Benson said. It is not unusual for the market to go down 10-20 percent in a year, he said.

"You just can't predict what will happen within the next 12 months," Benson said. "So people who can't take that risk shouldn't be in the stock market in the first place."

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## Sparring contemporary society

By Camille Penix  
THE WESTERN FRONT

The anarchists-criticizing-consumer society book "Fight Club" was written in the back of a car as a big joke, said Chuck Palahniuk, author of the book.

Many of the stories in Palahniuk's book are illustrations of his friends' experiences.

He wrote the book as a sort of scrapbook or manuscript for only his friends to own, he said.

"It was never supposed to go this far," Palahniuk said. "Cut it loose. Let it die."

Hundreds gathered, some lined up along the back walls of Fraser Hall, last Friday to watch the multi-million dollar movie adaptation of "Fight Club" and hear Palahniuk speak.

The tanned and masculine author joked with the crowd and explained where he got some of his ideas for the novel.

He said he knew someone who used to splice pornography into Disney movies. He learned how to make soap in a friend's basement. He heard Canada had a problem with burning the human fat from liposuction surgeries.

He received a call from a friend who was a banquet worker, who said, "I am at an Easter party where people are wearing \$800 hats. I am peeing on everything."

All of these scenarios eventually worked their ways into the book.

Palahniuk wrote a few short stories, one about a fight club, another about a man addicted to self-help classes and others based on stories about his friends.

He realized that he wrote the stories about the same two men and woman. He then put the stories together and created the novel.

Palahniuk had very little input in the making of the movie "Fight Club," because he never thought it would actually happen.

The only problem he has with the movie is that it ignores the scene in the book where the main character returns to the self-help classes.

The movie should have come full-circle to the point where the protagonist is dismissed by the people he was deceiving, Palahniuk said.

Overall, he thought the movie

was an incredible adaptation.

"To watch people do a better job with it than I did was sort of torturous," he said.

Audience members were interested in the philosophies of the book and many asked Palahniuk to explain the main philosophies.

**“***To watch people do a better job with it than I did was sort of torturous.***”**

**Chuck Palahniuk**  
Author of 'Fight Club'

"The truth is that there is not a uniform philosophy throughout the book," Palahniuk said. "My personal philosophy is that if it's scary and it hurts, that's the place to be."

"I was really struck by how similar the themes were in 'American Beauty' and 'Fight Club,'" said Adam Larios, Whatcom Community College student. "There's a form of anti-materialism and destruction of societal structure (in both movies)."

Palahniuk responded by saying 'American Beauty' was the story he would have told by using a normal white family.

Instead, he chose unusual characters to tell the unusual story.

One of the similar themes of both movies is that the main characters take control of their lives despite society's pressure to go along with the established culture.

One audience member criticized the revolution aspect of the book, and said he felt Palahniuk was putting his peers down for generational apathy.

"The 60s tried to fix everything and change the world," Sumas resident Trevor Carsley said. "It didn't work. They bought into society. Our slacker rebellion is the revolution because we are living our own life and rejecting what society says."

"Rather than seeing people against something, I would like to see them for something," Palahniuk said.

"More entertainment is becoming people sitting back and waiting for professionals to do things for them," he said.

He would like to see people doing the things they pay to watch someone else do.

Project Mayhem, a combination of anarchist plans carried out by members of the fight club, was created to test self-identity.

It forced the members to realize their capabilities are far greater than they expected, Palahniuk said.

"Project Mayhem was to empower everyone to be a leader," he said. "That is why it was decentralized."

"Fight clubs have sprung up, but I am an opportunist who put a label on something that has been around for a long time," he said.

Some screenplays are in the works for Palahniuk's latest three novels, although he said he wrote them with the vision that no one would read them.

"You can smell the desperation when a book is written to be made into a movie," Palahniuk said.

Palahniuk has written three books about nihilism, mutilation and destroying the identity that Western society lives by: "Fight Club," "Survivor" and "Invisible Monsters."

While the three books illustrate nihilistic characters, his latest novel, "Choke," finally shows a character standing to change society.

"It's a hard leap to jump from nihilism to actually standing for something," Palahniuk said.

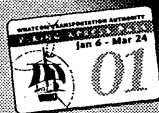
We all know that some of society's rules are ridiculous, but no one steps forward to try something new, Palahniuk said. "We have become a nation of cynics and sarcastic assholes."

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# So you wanna make pictures?

By Melissa Evavold  
THE WESTERN FRONT

When Andrew Hu applied to Western, he believed the school would have a film club.

"I wanted to make my own movie and I needed a place to show it," Hu, now a Western freshman said.

So he took it upon himself to start the A.S. Film Club.

With a few friends and a little bit of support from A.S. films, he set a date for what is to be the first Western Film Festival.

"The Film Festival is a venue exclusively for students," Hu said.

"A couple of people have done it before, but it has always died in the past," Professor Perry Mills said of why no campus film club previously existed.

"We (the members of the Film Club), thought we were the only ones interested, but there are a lot of students interested in film," Hu said. "Some classes in Fairhaven. We want to promote the aspect that the interest is here."

What started out as some friends enthusiastic about filmmaking has turned into a club with 30 to 40 members.

Hu uses a Hi-8 milliliter camera and digital camera for filming. The movie Hu is submitting is called "For Heather."

"It's an unconventional love story, more about college students and their lives," Hu said.

Hu said making a movie takes a considerable amount of time.

"You need a script, actors, equipment, you have to deal with sound problems and rewriting the script, it's a huge project," he said.

"Above The Knees" is another movie that will be shown at the Film Festival. It was made by Vince Felice, another co-founder of the Film Club.

"It's a 'mockumentary' about a

famous racquetball player, his fall from glory and his return," Hu said.

Felice filmed the movie during winter break using a Hi-8 camera. Hu is still in the stages of shooting his film. "I'm behind in my movie but it will be done by April," he said.

Hu said the Film Club needs entries for the Film Festival. To enter a film, students can send a copy on a VHS tape no later than April 3 to:

WWU Film Festival Club  
Viking Union, Box I-8  
WWU Bellingham, WA 98225

Most anything is accepted, short films, feature length films, animation, and one minute films.

"The only requirement is that it has to be entertaining and it won't land me in jail," Hu said. "We want to show as many films as we can. We have two right now; one that is 90 minutes and the other is 25 minutes."

The festival will be the week of May 14. Admission is free. During the week, Hu will show movies at 7:30 p.m. at Arntzen Hall 100. "Lost Highway," "Crouching Tiger, Hidden Dragon" and "Bandits," are some of the movies to be featured.

"It's a nice idea," Mills said. "I hope to get students excited about it."

The Western Film Club's Web page, [www.wwufilm.uni.cc](http://www.wwufilm.uni.cc), has listed a number of Web sites to help any Western students get started.

Hu says filmmaking equipment is getting cheaper and cheaper.

"It's true, you really can make your own movie," Hu said.

Mills said if students needed advice on making a film, they can stop by his office.

Hu plans on being at Western for all four years and hopes to make the film festival an annual tradition.

"Western has a lot to say," he said.

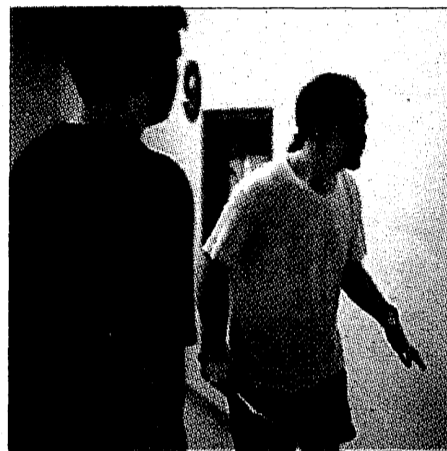
## Festival Guidelines

- Entries are due: March 23 for the early deadline \$15 or the regular deadline April 3 \$20
- Entries must be submitted on VHS tape
- Must be a Western student
- All films must be in English or subtitled in English
- Must be an original production
- Have completed entry form. (Details on Web page)



In these scenes from Vince Felice's movie "Above the Knees" was filmed at University of Washington's racquetball courts.

The protagonist, bottom left is the famous racquetball player whose tragic struggle ends in glory.

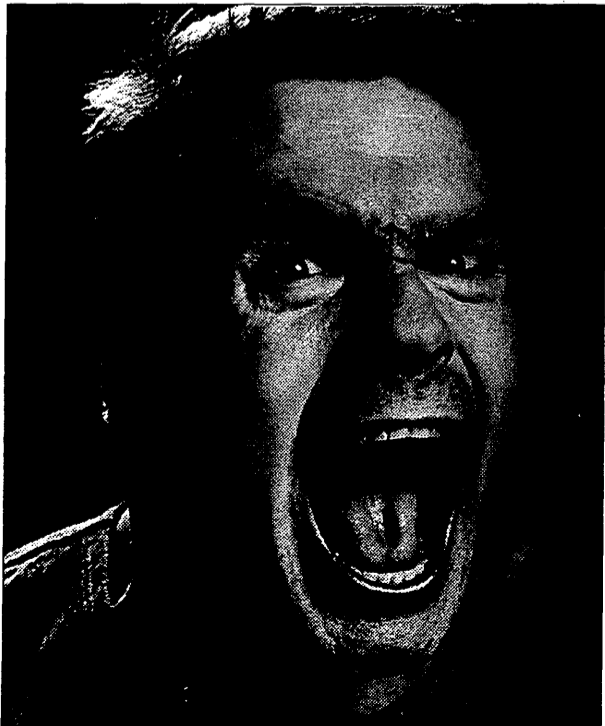


# The mad man Cometh

By Greg Woehler  
THE WESTERN FRONT

Is Henry Rollins schizophrenic?

That's one possible explanation for the razor-sharp contrast between the two disparate stage personas living inside his tattooed body.



The one that'll be onstage April 4th at Mount Baker Theatre is his spoken word persona. This Rollins is charming, self-effacing and very, very funny. Oh, and fully clothed.

The Rollins that comes out during his music performances is a completely different animal.

Usually dressed in nothing more than a pair of black shorts, Rollins the musician is a brutal, sweaty beast prowling the stage.

He and his band punish the audience with a sludgy blend of punk and metal as he shout-sings his way through song after song focusing on self-examination and sometimes straying into self-loathing.

But perhaps these two personas aren't so different after all. They both approach every performance with the honesty of a steroid-addled Abraham Lincoln.

Every Rollins performance is a session on the leather couch, with the audience playing psychoanalyst. Each night on stage, Rollins performs an exorcism, ridding himself of his demons of self-doubt, rage and alienation.

His words are sometimes heavy-handed, but no one can doubt Rollins' sincerity in such brutally frank songs as "Just Like You," where he confesses his fear that he is following in the footsteps of his abusive father:

"I am the man from a human choke hold/ I am the product of your restraint/ Now I watch myself explode/ Now you get to taste my rage/ You should see the pain I go through/ When I see myself in you."

Rollins' spoken word performances are a combination of monologue, storytelling and poetry, though he has said in the past that he prefers the term "talking shit" to "poetry." Topics in his performances, which are sometimes as much stand-up comedy as anything else, range from politics to stories about life on the road to his love life, or sometimes, his lack of a love life.

So what would the Rollins of old think of the Rollins of today? In the early '80s, he was the "singer" in the pioneering SoCal punk band Black Flag howling aggro-sarcastic lyrics attacking sellouts and mainstream America.

The modern-day Rollins does voice-overs for car commercials, drives a BMW and has bit parts in bad Hollywood movies (anybody remember "The Chase?" How 'bout "Johnny Mnemonic?"). He's even done some VJ-ing for MTV.

Rollins is something of an entertainment mogul these days. He has his own publishing house called 2.13.61 Publishing (his birthday) and he's written more than 15 books.

He also has his own record label, Infinite Zero, on which he re-releases out-of-print albums from such influential bands as Gang of Four and Devo.

Some might criticize him for becoming exactly what he once hated — a rich, contented businessman.

Some would simply call him a tireless Renaissance man constantly seeking out new challenges.

Either way, he's an energetic performer who gives his all every night, no matter which Rollins is on stage.

# 24-hour slump

By Christina Schrum  
THE WESTERN FRONT

Slump. What is slump? It could be a state of mind, a person's last name or an acronym. But last Saturday night, it was the theme of a 24-hour play.

The purpose of the 24-hour play was to have six writers each come up with a script, all using the same theme, to have directors work with actors in rehearsing lines to create a character and then perform the plays, all within a 24-hour period.

The play process started last Friday night when six writers were given the theme and sent off to write a 10-15 page play in roughly eight hours.

The writers worked throughout the night while listening to music, eating candy and conversing with each other about the problems they faced while writing their scripts.

"I'm surprised to find I'm having such a hard time," English major Jessica Johnson said a few hours into the process.

Johnson said it's a difficult task, but she would rather stay up until the last minute and turn in a well-written story.

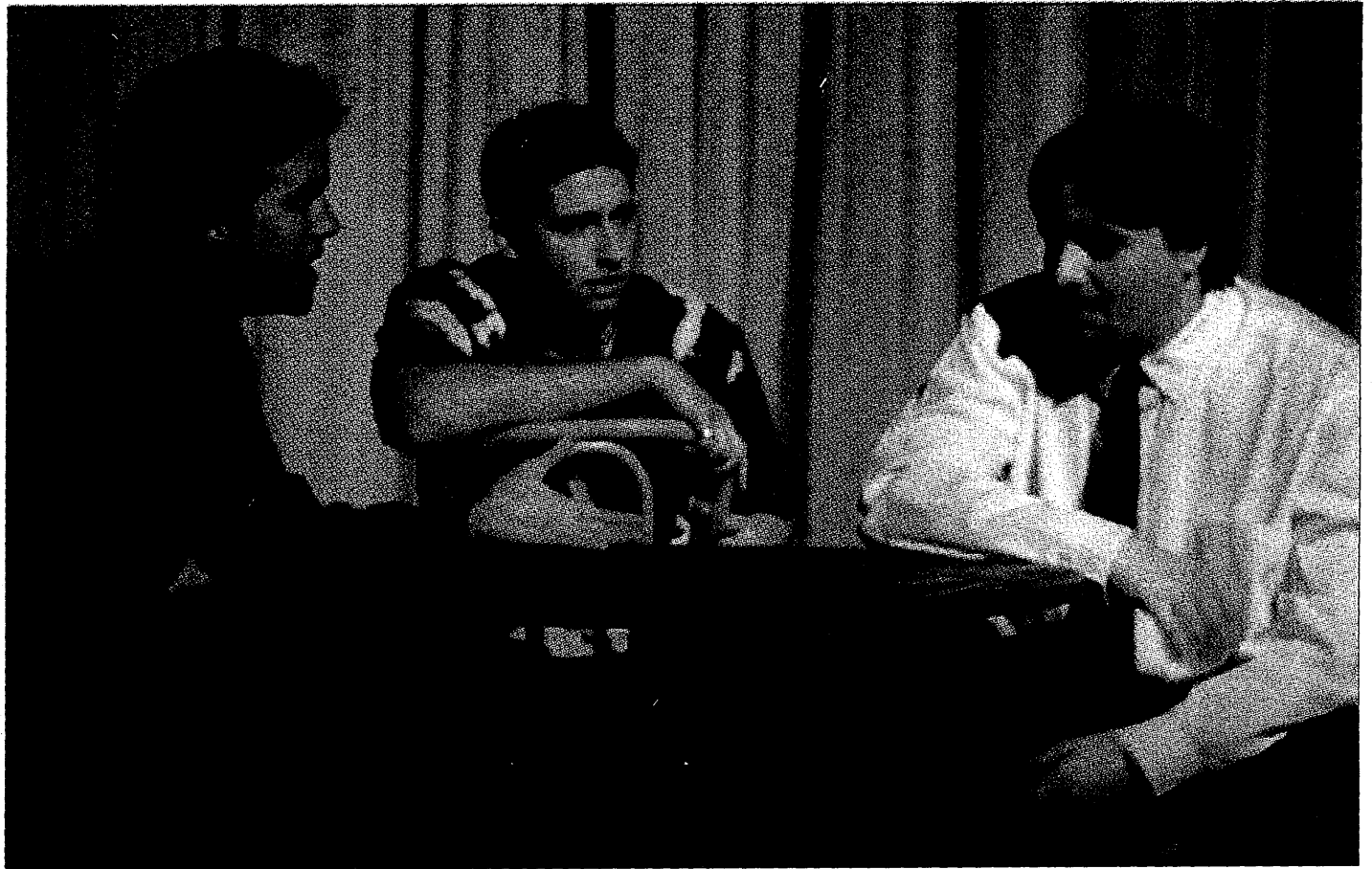
Writer and actor Peter Doolan said this is another opportunity for him to playwright and act, and that's why he got involved again.

"I don't care if it's the greatest thing in the world or if it stinks on ice," Doolan said. "I just want as many people as possible to experience it."

While the writers worked diligently on their scripts, the directors put on auditions in Fraser Hall. The auditions consisted of groups performing one-minute improvisations.

By 5:20 Saturday morning, the writers turned in scripts, and the directors met with one another to start casting their plays.

The directors took turns choosing which actors they wanted to work with. Several times directors would argue about an actor if more than one wanted to cast them. In these cases, they would bargain with each other to come to an agreement, said production manager Shannon Sindelar.



Photos by Christina Schrum/The Western Front

In "The Bunny and the Least" written by Caleb Martin Stengal and directed by Shannon Sindelar, actors Neal Bailey and Justin Poland reminisced about their wild night at the Playboy Mansion while actor Kevin Beck complains about not being invited.

Sindelar, who brought the idea of the 24-hour play to Western, got the idea from a Eugene Lang College Catalog.

At 7 a.m., the directors informed actors which plays they would perform in later that day. The actors then met with their directors at 8 a.m. to get scripts and start rehearsing.

Veteran actress Corinne Wilson said being part of a production like this is probably an actor's worst nightmare.

"It gets you over the stage fright," Wilson said.

When actors are on the stage and start to forget lines, they may get stressed out. So this environment of learning lines and

performing forces you to act, Wilson said.

At noon, after a few hours of rehearsing, actors took a lunch break while the directors met with Sindelar and stage manager Dayna Littlejohn. They discussed lighting cues, the order in which the plays would run and how long each play would be.

Rehearsals took place in empty classrooms and in the halls of theater wing in the Performing Arts Center. Actors ran lines while practicing where they would place themselves on the stage. Directors also gave their input on what actors should wear and how they should develop their characters.

Brock Madden, who began acting at the age of seven, said to develop his character, an 80-year-old man, he gathered images from television and his personal life.

"You kinda do what comes naturally and put your own little spice into it," Madden said.

This was Madden's first time acting in the 24-hour play. He said the hardest part about the whole process was remembering that his character was 80 years old.

He said he found himself holding back a lot and not being so forceful with his character.

At 4:30 p.m., each director was given 20 minutes to run through a cue-to-cue with the cast to test lighting and work on scene changes. This time around, Sindelar set aside an extra hour for the cue-to-cue because she said last time the crew found themselves working on stage right up until the house opened.

At 8 p.m., more than 80 students filled the Old Main Theatre to see the performance.

"I was shocked," Sindelar said of the crowd that came to see the play.

This was the first time the play was publicized other than some poster hanging up around the PAC. Last fall about 25 people showed up, Sindelar said.

Each play ended with roaring applause from the audience and even a few laughs from the actors.

"It was an entertaining train wreck," Doolan said of the play he wrote. Doolan used the theme, slump, as an acronym for the Strategic Lethargy to Undermine a Moronic Presidency. The few times during the play in which the acronym was mentioned it wasn't always said accurately.

"They (actors) stuck with it and I give them credit for that," Doolan said.

Besides a few missed lines and a prop falling out of place, most of the people involved said they felt the play turned out to be a big success.

"I think it was the best yet," Sindelar said. "I'm always amazed."

"We weren't all completely 100 percent to the script," actor Denise Michelsen said. "But I think it still worked really well."



Elizabeth Victoria Baldwin and Cassandra Murphy portray Siamese twins in a 24-hour play. This particular play, written and directed by Robbie Wachs, takes the audience on a journey through the adventures of Siamese twins Irma and Ima Slump.

## Digging for a title

By Kevin Bailey  
THE WESTERN FRONT

"How did we let this guy get out of California?" a Cal State-Bakersfield radio announcer said at last Saturday's West Regional championship game in Carver Gym.

The guy he was talking about was Western guard Shelton Diggs.

After graduating from Long Beach Poly High School, Diggs was recruited by several schools, including NCAA Division I Pepperdine. In his final two high school seasons, Diggs led his team to a 58-6 record and was voted an all-league selection his senior year.

However, he wanted to get away from California and focus on academics and basketball.

"I just wanted to go to school where I could get away from all the hustle and bustle," Diggs said. "I can just relax and hang out here in Bellingham."

Playing in his third season for the Vikings, Diggs has taken on a leadership role in his first year as a full-time starter.

"Jared Stevenson scored a lot, so I had to come in to this season with some leadership," he said.

Stevenson, the older brother of former Western guard Jacob

Stevenson, graduated last year after starting for four years with the Vikings.

"Shelton does a lot of things for our basketball team," head coach Brad Jackson said. "He's one of the smartest players I've had the privilege to coach."

Diggs is in the top five of every statistical category for the Vikings and is one of six Vikings to average double-digit points. He averages 13.9 points in 30 minutes per game.

Diggs also leads the Vikings in steals, 3-point field goals attempted and 3-point field goals made.

"Not only can he drive to the basket, but he is a great 3-point shooter and an extremely good defender," Jackson said.

Diggs enjoys not having to score 30 points a game.

"I love getting everybody the ball," Diggs said. "If everybody stays happy, we win like a team."

"He's so easy to coach because he is very aware of what he's doing and what everybody else is doing," Jackson said. "He really is a floor leader."

One main reason Diggs knows so much about the game is because he comes from a family of basketball players. His younger brother is the backup point guard at the University of

California, and two of his cousins play for the University of Missouri and Stanford University basketball teams.

When Diggs' career at Western ends, he hopes to play in the NBA.

"Playing professionally has always been a dream of mine," Diggs said. "I would love to play in the NBA or somewhere overseas."

But the NBA is going to have to wait for Diggs, because this year he is busy working to bring home a championship for the Vikings.

The Vikings head to Bakersfield, Calif. next week to play in the NCAA Division II Elite Eight tournament.

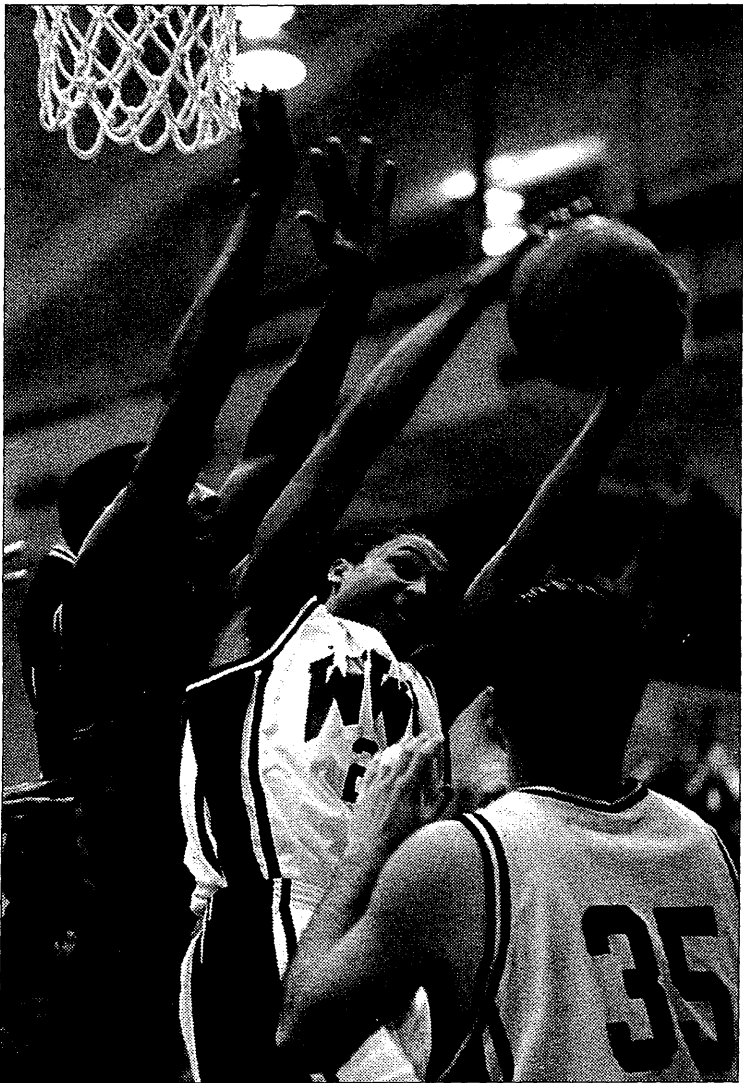
"We're looking to go down there and win it all," Diggs said.

"All of the teams left are in the top 10 in the nation, and we are going to show them that we are the best."

### Stat Corner

Shelton Diggs 2000-01

Points:	13.9/game
Game High:	27 points
Steals:	42*
3-point shots:	44 made*
*Leads team	



Daniel J. Peters/The Western Front

Junior guard Shelton Diggs powers his way inside for a rebound against Cal State San Bernardino Saturday as the Vikings clinched the West Regional championship. Diggs took on the role of a team leader this season.

## Western recruiting for championships

By James Lyon  
THE WESTERN FRONT

The Viking basketball program is quickly becoming a powerhouse in NCAA Division II play in only its third season after moving up from the NAIA. Both the men's and women's teams qualified for the NCAA Division II national tournament this year.

The men won the West Regional championship last weekend and earned the right to move on to the Elite Eight tournament in Bakersfield, Calif. where a national champion will be

crowned.

To put out talented and successful teams each year, the coaching staffs must recruit players to fill their roster spots when players graduate or leave for other reasons.

While most recruiting is done during the summer, when coaches can attend various summer tournaments and can watch a handful of players, recruiting

is an ongoing process.

"It's a year-long process," men's head coach Brad Jackson said. "We write letters and make phone calls all year long."

See RECRUITING, Page 9



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# Western's jump to NCAA essential in attracting higher caliber players in and out of state

From RECRUITING, Page 8

"We are always trying to expand our network and contacts all the time so we can get the best player at our university each year."

Both the men's and women's teams are allowed by the NCAA to offer 10 full scholarships each year to the players on their rosters. But due to the athletic program's budget concerns, not all scholarships are used every year.

Following NAIA rules, scholarships were very limited. But since the Vikings' move to the NCAA, the teams gradually

have been working their way to the maximum of 10 scholarships allowed.

The women's team has 12 players from Washington. Head coach Carmen Dolfo has emphasized trying to get the best players Washington has to offer.

Dolfo said in-state recruiting helps create a family atmosphere where players can relate to each other.

The only player on Dolfo's roster who is from out of state is freshman Jenn McGillivray from Salem, Ore.

McGillivray came to the basketball team's summer camps

"A lot of players we recruit could have gone Division I. It's just a matter of the right fit and situation for the player."

**Brad Jackson**

Western men's basketball coach

every year, so she was very familiar with the program and the coaching staff.

Many schools contacted McGillivray including the University of Washington, but

she said she felt like she found a home at Western.

"They were so straightforward during the recruiting process," she said. "They constantly kept in contact and took the time to make me feel special."

"It made coming here a lot easier. I felt like part of the family right away."

While Jackson said he certainly wants to get players from Washington, his team has a California flavor to it.

At the beginning of the season, the Vikings' men's roster consisted of five players from California.

"California is certainly a fertile basketball region, and we're just trying to get the best players possible," Jackson said.

After the jump to the NCAA, the Vikings were able to attract higher caliber players.

"A lot of the players we recruit could have gone Division I," Jackson said. "It's just a matter of the right fit and situation for the player."

Freshman Jason Burrell had a lot of interest from Division I schools but he said he felt at home when he visited Western.

"When I visited, I just fell in love with Western," he said. "I just felt like it was the right place for me."

Members of Western's first Division II recruiting class in 1998, now juniors, are leading both Viking teams to national prominence.

The women's 1998 recruiting class of Jodie Kaczor, Ruth Taylor and Julie Walker has proven to be a successful one for the women's team.

Walker has become one of the leaders of the team, which despite losing its top players from the national semi-finalist team of last season, were right back in the national tournament this year.

In the fall of 1998, Jackson welcomed a highly touted freshman class. Jacob Stevenson, Shelton Diggs, Chris Stevens, Brian "Yogi" Dennis and Mike Palm came with the high expectation of bringing Western to the pinnacle of Division II dominance.

"We knew that with this young group, we would have a chance at something special," Jackson said. "And it's all come together this year."

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## Frontline

### Joke-making professor unnecessarily scrutinized

Professors have little in common with students and most do little to bridge this gap. At least one professor did something, and now he's got his feet in the flames because of it.

Farrokh Safavi, a professor in the College of Business and Economics, will be reviewed at the end of this quarter because of his unconventional teaching methods. He uses references to alcohol and drinking to liven up lectures and tests and to help him relate to students.

Because of this effort to make his class more casual and fun for students, Safavi will face the lengthy and bureaucratic process of official review that could potentially lead to his dismissal – all for a few wisecracks about beer.

Professors have a responsibility to give a good example for students and to present themselves in a professional manner. But we're all adults here. Safavi isn't going to corrupt anyone or say anything they haven't already heard by peppering his class with jokes about keg stands and hangovers.

Although this review may have been spurred on by a complaint lodged by a student, the truth is that most students enjoy his relaxed style. It may even make students more likely to actually go to class, instead of skipping when they have that mean hangover.

Safavi should be judged on his ability to teach and whether or not students in his classes are learning, not the quality of his humor.

Safavi got to the heart of the matter when he said, "The administration likes professors who don't rock the boat."

He's exactly right. The administration's decision to put Safavi under such scrutiny shows just how unwilling it is to take risks. The administration likes what it knows and what's safe. If that safety comes at the price of boring students to sleep, it's apparently a price the university is willing to pay.

Western should open its eyes to a method that works for at least one professor. Safavi should be commended for making an effort to reach out to students that most professors don't bother to.

And since Safavi has made this effort to reach out to students for our benefit, it's time we repaid the favor. Students who have had and enjoyed classes from Safavi should write to or call Western's Provost Andrew Bodman and the Dean of the College of Business and Economics, Dennis Murphy, to tell them that they support Safavi's teaching methods.

Bodman can be reached in Old Main 460 or phoned at 650-3480. Murphy's office is in Parks Hall 419 and his phone number is 650-3896.

If the administration is going to silence the boat-rockers among the faculty, maybe it's time we did some boat-rocking of our own.

*Frontlines are the opinion of The Western Front editorial board: Andrea Abney, Heather Baker, J.R. Cook, Alex P. Hennessy, Jessica Keller, Levi Pulkkinen and Matt Williams.*

## The Western Front

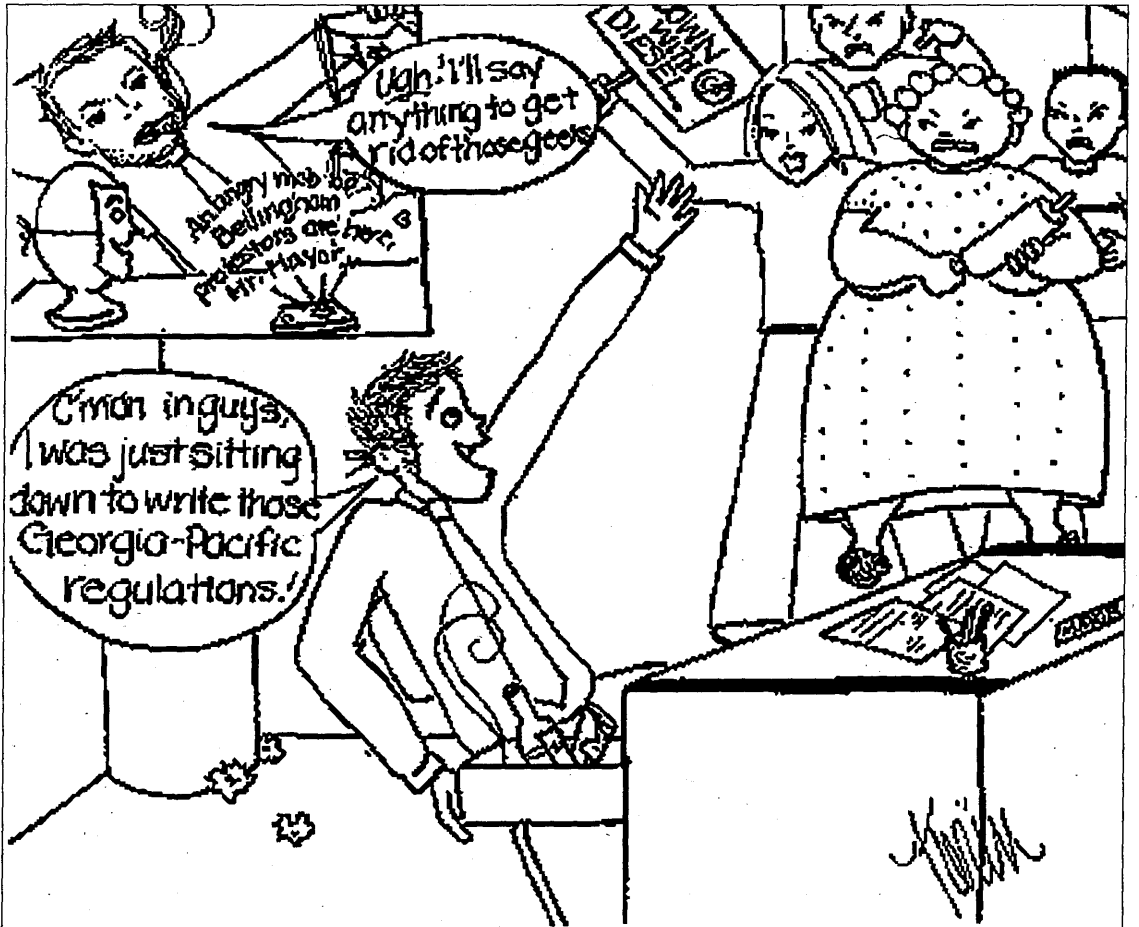
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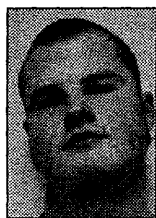
### And we quote:

"With anywhere from 23-26 percent fat content it's not really safe to eat every day."

Albertson's Meat Specialist Jerry Rosendall referring to the meat served by Marriot at Western everyday.



## City should stop coddling big business, stick up for citizens



J.R. Cook

COMMENTARY

So the city of Bellingham has dropped its case against Georgia-Pacific West, Inc. – what a surprise.

Congrats to the city for standing up to one of Bellingham's worst polluters.

It is good to see that government will step in on behalf of citizens. The system works. G-P is no longer using diesel generators and will soon be a "clean green" operation.

"I will continue to work with Georgia-Pacific in their pursuit of clean energy supplies and to find ways that those employees who are now laid off can return to work," Bellingham Mayor Mark Asmundson said after the announcement of the agreement between the city and G-P. Yeah, right.

Kudos to the City for selling

out its citizens yet again to a dinosaur industry.

This allegiance to outdated companies like G-P and the Olympic Pipe Line Co. does nothing but harm the citizens of Bellingham.

Why be so lenient with companies who have so often exhibited blatant disregard for the well-being of anyone but themselves?

The Olympic Pipe Line Co. was given extension after extension to repair its faulty line.

But all the company did with the time was hire more lawyers to figure out a way to get out of the whole deal.

Every three months, Olympic showed up at a city council meeting with some reason why it didn't complete repairs.

It would ask for another extension and the council, would in turn, grant one.

This ability of the municipal government to bend over backwards for irresponsible companies is amazing.

In the case of G-P, the city justifies its coddling by citing G-P's economic importance to the region.

True enough. G-P is one of the city's largest employers.

However, G-P has not shown the same allegiance to the citizens of Bellingham or even to its own employees.

The second the going got tough and electricity prices began to rise,

G-P dropped employees in order to stay profitable.

Is that the action of a community-oriented company?

That being said, why does the municipal government stand so steadfastly behind this company?

The simple fact of the mat-

See CODDLING, Page 11

“Why be so lenient with companies who have so often exhibited blatant disregard for the well-being of anyone but themselves?”

## LETTERS TO THE EDITOR

### Student glad to see Curdy go

After reading the most recent, quite frankly, ALL of the articles by Lisa Curdy, only one question comes to mind: WHO CARES?!!!

The answer: not a single person on campus! No one wants to hear about her lack of success in the dating scene or how she failed miserably in a "wet T-shirt" contest.

In regards to that contest, what did she expect, anyway? Sure, she might be a good writer, but write something of interest instead of a public diary.

The G-P diesel generators are

much more interesting than Lisa's little "adventures."

Admittedly, I am a male and Lisa's articles seem to be targeted toward females. I'll end the sexist bit right there I guess and let you figure it out.

Ruben Alanis  
Western student

### Advert funny, not offensive

I thought the ad for the Klipsun, featuring our wonderful president "Dubya," was hilarious!

I don't think the ad implied people who voted for Dubya can't

read.

I thought it just implied that Dubya, himself, might not be able to do so. And who are we to know?

Hooray for freedom of speech!

Marie Magnotti  
Western student

### Attempted suicide article misleading

Your March 13 front page article, "Suicide Threat Answered by Faculty," was of great concern to me. Most troubling is that the

See LETTERS, Page 11

### It's time for Bellingham's economy to be modernized

From CODDLING, Page 10  
ter is that diesel generators are still running at G-P.

Pat yourselves on the back, city council members and Mayor Asmundson. It may have taken some prodding, but you all showed that you do have backbones.

However, a hollow threat is not much of a threat, and

when a moratorium can't even pass unanimously, it is obvious where the council stands.

G-P saw through the political charade and called the city's bluff.

As has been par for the course, the city backed down.

The only real solution to the problem is to update the city's economy and move away from

industries whose heyday was in 1900.

If half the energy expended by the city to help companies bend rules and regulations were put toward real economic development, Bellingham might end up with fish in the bay and streams that don't blow up.

# Jeopardy Magazine

*A literary journal featuring poetry, short stories, essays, and visual art*

Jeopardy Magazine, a student-run annual publication, is now ACCEPTING QUALITY SUBMISSIONS from local writers and visual artists to be considered for our upcoming 36th Anniversary issue.

There is no theme for this year's issue, but our goal is to include the best work from established national and international writers and artists, and have it coupled with the best work from the Pacific Northwest, primarily Bellingham.

#### Submission Requirements:

##### Fiction

##### Creative Non-Fiction

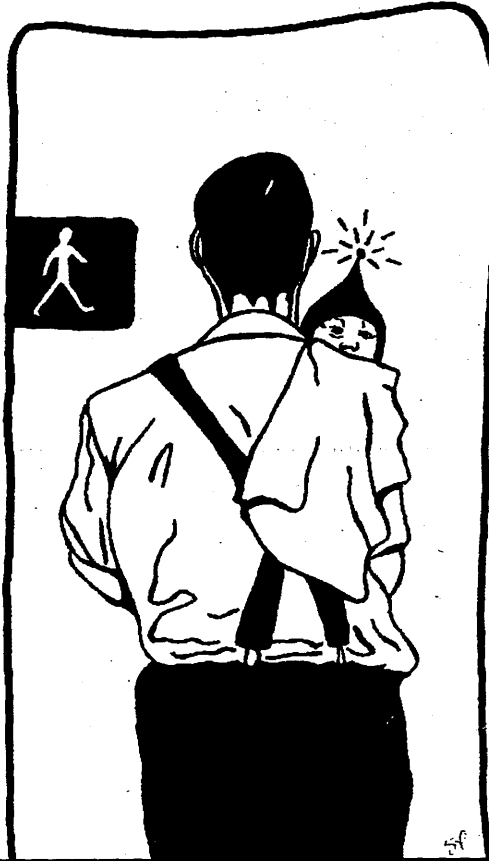
(Prose should be limited to 20 pages)

##### Poetry

(No more than 6 poems or 10 pages)

##### Photography, Prints, and Drawings

(Color or b/w. Camera ready. No larger than 11" X 17". May be returned upon request)



#### General Information:

All entries must include your name, address, title of submission, and a SASE.

Send all submissions to **Jeopardy Magazine, Carter Hasegawa, Editor-in-Chief, 132 College Hall, Western Washington University, Bellingham, WA 98225**

**Deadline is May 15, 2001**

<http://jeopardy.wvu.edu>

### MORE LETTERS TO THE EDITOR

From LETTERS, Page 10  
headline needlessly sensationalized a subject that warrants far greater care and sensitivity. Depression, anxiety and suicidal ideas are very real and serious issues that may be of concern to students at some time during their college careers.

Educating the Western community how to respond with support or intervention, how to identify signs of serious depression and how to access counseling services are topics of potential value in such articles.

It is unfortunate and irresponsible that this opportunity for helping

students access information, support and intervention was missed.

I am particularly concerned that the article and its juxtaposition of quotes from me with details of a specific incident may give the false impression that our services are not confidential.

The Front editors need to demonstrate greater responsibility and sensitivity in dealing with issues of such a personal nature.

I hope no one will be deterred from coming to the Counseling Center due to this article.

Nancy Corbin  
Counseling Center Director

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Friday Paper = previous Wednesday, 3:00 p.m.  
Summer Quarter:  
Wednesday Paper = previous Friday, 3:00 p.m.

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#### FOR RENT

**\$325 Unf.** Rental to share. 2Bl, WWU. Pri; Rm; Ba; Frid; o/s pkg; male/n/s/p 647-8260. [IZMA@aol.com](mailto:IZMA@aol.com), pager # 758-9777

**1 ROOM** for rent in a 3 room apartment \$315 a month, starting spring quarter 527-3634.

**4BD DUPLEX**-2 rooms avail., 2ba, w/d, \$327.50/mo, Mar. rent paid. 738-7628.

#### WANTED

Winter graduation tickets, need six, e-mail: [megh@cc.wvu.edu](mailto:megh@cc.wvu.edu), if you have extras.

#### HELP WANTED

**RECREATION**- Boys and Girls Club is now hiring for summer camp staff for camp located in Kirkland/Redmond. Must be 18+. \$7.50-\$10.50 per hour. DOE. For more info [www.onepositiveplace.org](http://www.onepositiveplace.org) or (425) 836-9295/(425) 827-0132.

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**LOOKING FOR** 1-2 roommates to live in spacious house w/3 males, recently remodeled, hot tub, 1,200

sq. ft. deck, cable internet, utilities paid, rent depends on bedroom. Call 734-8231 for more info.

**ROOMMATE WANTED.** Christian Community Living and Discipleship House seek 1 or 2 roommates for total of 9 to 10. 325 per/mo. includes utilities, 3 community meals a week, cable modem, and fun times. Specifically looking for people who want to learn about God while living in a Christian community. Half acre of lawn, bunny, library, Bible Studies, worship. Call Rob @ 647-1686, [Haskellrob@home.com](mailto:Haskellrob@home.com), or visit our site [www.members.home.com/lifetogether](http://www.members.home.com/lifetogether).

Housemate wanted to live in spacious, but funky house w/two males. \$300 and worth it March already paid! 714-1995.

#### ANNOUNCEMENTS

**RIVER GUIDE** training beg. March 17. Call 1-800-553-7466. Orion...the good guides in the white rafts.

**VOLUNTEER AT** Alderwood Park Care Center. Adopt a grandparent and assist with recreation programs. Call Jennifer @ 733-2322.

**FREE ICE CREAM** w/student ID, details in store, Baycity Ice Cream Co. 1135 Railroad Ave.

#### VACATION

**Maui Condo** May 1-30 May 2B/2B in Kihei, MauiNext to beach/park \$400/week (Sat-Sun) msg. 671-0290.

# Some international students of color find Western to be friendly, if minimally diverse

From DIVERSITY, Page 1

Cross said he thinks the staff and faculty do a good job with the resources available. He suggests, however that cultural differences of international students be addressed and programs should be created to help these students succeed according to their cultures and what they know.

Western freshman Abdiwali "Abdi" Mohamed, 20, was raised in Kenya and Somalia. When he moved to the United States in 1995, he knew how to speak Arabic, Swahili and a little Italian. As he learned English, though, he forgot how to speak the other languages and now can only recognize some words.

He traveled to the United States with his aunt, leaving his parents in Somalia. He spent six years in Seattle and attended Ballard High School. Mohamed said when he came to America, he knew it was a predominately white country. Mohamed said he doesn't have a problem fitting in, as he makes friends easily with all different races.

"The people I surround myself with accept me for who I am," Mohamed said.

He said many people come to chat with him and ask him questions about his background. About 10 of his Caucasian friends expressed their interest in registering with him for a Modern Africa class spring quarter.

Mohamed said he recognizes Western's attempt to attract minorities through programs such as Western President Karen Morse's Kaleidoscope Project, as

an attempt to take an active role to improve its diversity relations.

"I honestly have to say I like it here," Mohamed said. "I want to spend four years at Western."

Both Mohamed and Rogge said they think cultural knowledge could be expanded by increasing the number of Comparative, Gender and Multicultural Studies credits required.

**"I didn't really come here looking for black people."**

**Menbere Kelemework**  
International student

Menbere Kelemework, 23, is an international student from Ethiopia in her senior year at Western. In Ethiopia, Kelemework attended an international high school near the country's capital. She said many ambassadors' children from all different countries attended her high school, allowing her to interact with a variety of people.

Kelemework said Western is not as diverse as the town she grew up in, but she still has enjoyed herself.

"I wouldn't change a thing," Kelemework said. "This has been one of the best experiences of my life."

"I've learned to be more independent, and I've gained a higher value for my culture and background. You have a tendency to take things for granted. It's when you step out of your comfort zone that you notice how beautiful

your people and your culture are."

She said many of her friends from the United States have pointed out that Western doesn't have many minorities, but she doesn't really mind.

"I didn't really come here looking for black people," she said.

Kelemework said she approaches diversity and race on an individual basis.

"We're not the same," she said. "I'm different than my Ethiopian friends."

After Kelemework graduates from Western, she said she would like to work in the United States to gain work experience before returning to Ethiopia to help her father with his business. She plans to major in International Business.



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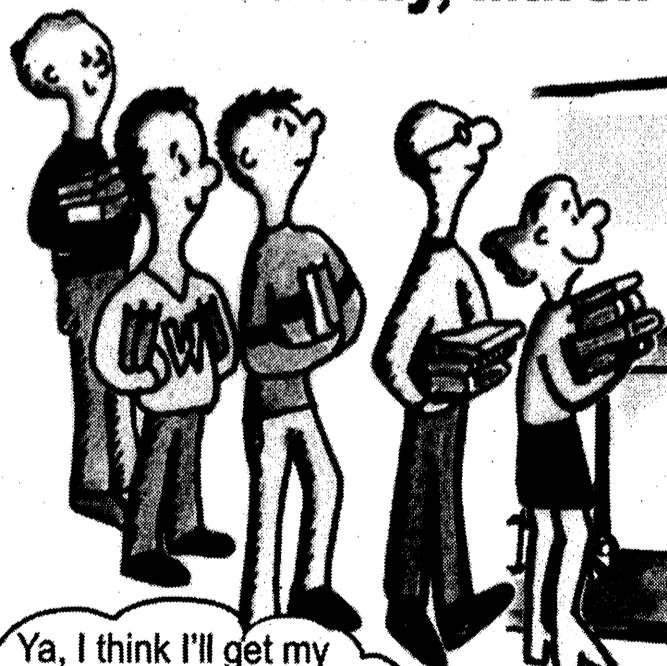
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