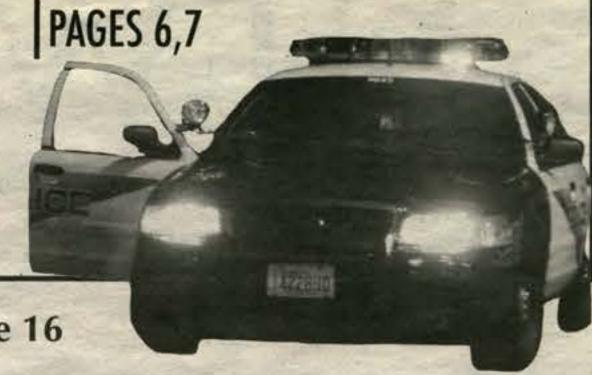


CRUISIN' WITH THE BELLINGHAM FUZZ



Tuesday, November 17, 2009 | Volume 148, Issue 16

HE WESTERN FRONT

U.S. border policy under question

Visiting experts at Western say northern border too strict

> **Keegan Prosser** THE WESTERN FRONT

The current immigration policy of the United States is one of the most severe and restrictive policies to date. But the limitations associated with such a strict policy may lead to big problems on the U.S.-Canada border.

Earlier this year, Secretary of Homeland Security Janet Napolitano said in order to manage immigration more effectively, the actions being taken on the Mexican border should also be taken on to the Canadian border.

On Thursday, Nov. 12, Western's Border Policy Research Institute and the Center for Canadian American Studies hosted a forum titled "Immigration Reform: What's at Stake for the Northern Border."

The forum featured speakers Margaret Stock and Edward Alden.

Stock is a visiting professor from the U.S. Military Academy at West Point and expert on immigration policy for the U.S. Army. Alden is the project director for the U.S. Council on Foreign Relations'

see BORDER page 5



photo by Carey Rose THE WESTERN FRONT

Edward Alden and Margaret Stock discuss borders and national security Nov. 12 at Western.



Western sophomore forward Greg Parsons maneuvers the puck around an opposing University of Washington player during a match against the Huskies Friday.

SEE STORY ON PAGE 11

SEE THE ICE HOCKEY SLIDESHOW ONLINE

www.westernfrontonline.net

AS board streamlines committee governance

Chelsea Kennedy THE WESTERN FRONT

The Associated Students Board meeting on Wednesday, Nov. 18, will mark the finalization of one of the last charges and charters for student fee committees.

When more than \$600,000 disappeared from the Associated Students technology fee reserve fund last spring, the AS Board of Directors decided not to let that happen again.

The green renewable energy fee is one of the last fees to receive a committee and be given a finalized charge and charter. The green energy fee has existed since the 2005-06 school year but is just now coming under stricter AS control, said Mike Pond, vice president for student life, who will likely chair the renewable energy fee committee after the drafted charge and charter is passed.

A charter is a drawn out set of rules, and the charge expresses the mission responsibilities and purpose of a committee.

Since Sept. 30, the AS has reviewed 13 charges and charters for committees in accordance with the Sunset Clause. The Sunset Clause, created by Virgilio Cintron, AS vice president for business and operations, states that charges and charters for all committees, councils and task forces established by the AS must be reviewed annually. Specifically, the AS will review the charges and charters summer



photo by Hailey Tucker THE WESTERN FRONT

Western senior Mike Pond, Associated Students vice president for student life, and junior Lauren Squires, coordinator of the Environmental Center, stand by a model wind turbine. The AS recently established a new charter for green energy fees on campus.

quarter, and they all must be reviewed by the third meeting of fall quarter. They are drawn up so the AS, and ultimately students, have more control and also so there is something to refer back to in case problems arise.

"I feel like every student fee should have some semblance of a student-based committee," said Morgan Holmgren, vice president for governmental affairs.

"Our purpose would be to review the fee and make recommendations," Pond said. "Eventually, there could also be a task force created for the fee that would have even more responsibility."

According to the draft for the renewable energy fee's charges and charter, which is similar to many other fees' charge and charters, there will be a variety of representatives on the committee. It will be comprised of AS representatives, possibly a faculty representative, people from Students for Renewable Energy and

see CHARTER page 2

21NEWS

Tuesday • November 17, 2009 | The Western Front



photo by Rhys Logan THE WESTERN FRONT

The draft includes proposed member-

The AS charge and charter is cur-

ship requirements, authority, responsibili-

rently being drafted and will be viewed by

the Board of Trustees in February 2010,

after going through all the necessary ap-

plication steps.

ties and powers of the AS.

The Ladies Who Wear Red Hats and Purple Skirts visited the planetarium on Western's campus Nov. 12. The Ladies are part of a social club that meets to organize educationally based group outings.

CHARTER: Revisions improve AS board accountability

from 1 nety reason the annual port of shared snace

the Office of Sustainability and two students at larger

Students at large are student representatives from anywhere on campus, Pond said. They will be selected after an application process and might come from other groups that are already concerned with Western's environmentally friendly efforts.

"By having this committee, with students involved, we could change the whole mission of this fee," Pond said.

The recent upsurge in the creation of charges and charters by the board is due entirely to what transpired last year, Cintron said.

In the fury of budget cuts this past January, the administration noticed the unusually high amount of funds in the technology fee account, which were kept in reserve for project proposals.

The amount was so high because the money kept rolling in every quarter from students, but project proposals do not happen until the end of each school year.

The money in the reserve fund was supposed to be used if the money for the technology fee proposal fund ever ran out, Cintron said.

The money was taken by the university to be used in other financial areas. However, even though the technology fee consists strictly of student dollars, no one from the AS was notified of that budget decision.

"It was hard to tell how much money we even had in that account," Cintron said. "Basically, it was a mess."

The money was reimbursed, but it was nonetheless a wake-up call for AS Board members. Students need to know when their money is being shuffled around, Cintron said.

Under former AS President Erik

... More than \$600,000 disappeared from the Associated Student technology fee reserve fund...the AS Board of Directors decided not to let that happen again.

Lowe, charges and charters for all student fees were implemented, which includes everything from the recreation center fee to the transportation fee.

"The student fee committees are to promote both transparency and student voice on decisions on the dollars they pay," Cintron said.

The AS is also currently creating a charge and charter of its own, Holmgren said. As of now, the AS has no actual recognition of its specific tasks and rights. This means the Board of Trustees has the right to change its responsibilities, and the AS has no power to argue.

"There is nothing official that formalizes what we do," Holmgren said.

CORRECTIONS

An article in the Nov. 13, issue of The Western Front titled "Baker's Back" quoted Stacie Smith as saying Steven's Pass does not offer a student rate. Steven's Pass offers a \$299 College Pass.

An article in the Nov. 13, issue of The Western Front titled "Poets compete for slam champ title" said Jack McCarthy was 66 years old; he is 70.

Cops Box

University Police

Nov. 14

Nov. 14

• At 4:52 p.m., University Police responded to a harassment complaint call from a student in the Birnam Wood Apartments. The student reported receiving unwanted text messages.

Nov. 15

 At 10:26 p.m., University Police arrested a 32-yearold man on suspicion of stalking. The man was cited and booked into the Whatcom County Jail.

Bellingham Police

Nov. 13

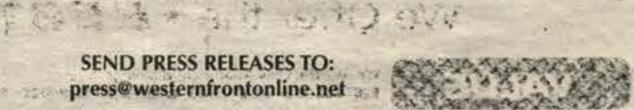
At 11:51 a.m., Bellingham Police arrested a man outside Rite Aid at 1400 Cornwall Ave. on suspicion of shoplifting a \$5.99mechanical pencil. Police say he had more than' \$600 in cash on his person. When questioned as to why he reportedly stole. the pencil even though he had money to pay for it, police said he replied "I don't know, being stupid I guess." The man was cited and released by police; he was also issued a lifetime ban from all Rite Aid stores.

Cops Box compiled by Carey Rose

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THE WESTERN FRONT WESTERN WASHINGTON UNIVERSITY COMMUNICATIONS BUILDING 251 BELLINGHAM, WA 98225

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Campus transportation seeks sustainable future

Reiko Endo Emily Linroth THE WESTERN FRONT

The future of transportation at Western will focus on sustainability and shared space as new projects and policies are implemented during the next year.

This summer, crews continued the ongoing process to widen brick pathways on north campus to accommodate bicyclists and pedestrians, said Ed Simpson, assistant director of facilities design and planning administration for Facilities Management.

The university built new, more convenient bicycle and pedestrian routes on south campus to encourage walkers and bikers to go through campus instead of taking East College Way, which is primarily used by cars and construction vehicles for Miller Hall. Simpson said. This summer, the pathway north of Fairhaven College was widened and realigned to better the approach to the rest of campus.

Bike and pedestrian paths will also be built around the new addition to Buchanan Towers before it opens in fall 2010, Simpson said. The paths will support both pedestrians and bicycles like the other new routes, but Simpson said he is not sure how many bicycles will travel along the ridge behind Buchanan Towers because of its steepness.

Western plans to put in a sidewalk between Buchanan Towers and Birnam Wood apartments next summer or fall. The city is putting in a traffic light at the intersection of 25th and Bill McDonald Parkway next summer, and the university

To share your views about the future of transportation on Western's Campus, attend:

AS Transportation Advisory Committee meeting

4:30 p.m. Monday, Nov. 23 Viking Union room 714

The committee meets every two weeks.

will wait until this project is finished so it can match the city's design, Simpson said.

Western has been working on creative ways to make transportation more sustainable throughout the last decade, said Carol Berry, the Sustainable Transportation Program manager.

Western's Sustainable Transportation Program is creating an "all-pass" that would combine the student ID card with the bus pass, said A.J. Garcia, the Associated Students alternative transportation coordinator. The new cards would have two stripes: one for housing and dining and one for transit. The Sustainable Transportation Program hopes to implement the new passes by fall 2010.

Western currently pays WTA for actual bus passes rather than bus service, Garcia said. WTA gives Western a limited amount of bus passes each year, however thousands are lost each year. Students can get new bus passes for free, but ID cards cost \$8 to replace. Garcia said he hopes fewer cards would be lost if the ID and bus pass were combined because it would

still cost money to replace them.

Western is currently testing the bus passes for durability, Garcia said. Student IDs are thicker than bus passes and have an extra protective layer on each side. In theory, the combined passes should last longer than the current cards. The difference in width is being solved by WTA manually widening its card readers.

"The technology exists," Garcia said.

"It's just a matter of making sure everything works with WTA and Western before we start handing them out to 10,000 [or] 12,000 students."

The structure of campus has restricted on-campus transportation in the past. There still is not an efficient north-south bike route through campus, Wynn said. Motor vehicles have few options to get around campus, and pedestrians and bicyclists often take the fastest route, which can put them on roads with cars, Berry said.

Many new paths on south campus have been constructed to guide bikers and walkers away from roads for safety while still getting them where they need to go. In response to demand, the university has also put in more bike racks, which have been well received, Berry said.

Efficient transportation at Western comes down to sharing space. For example, on High Street, bicyclists, pedestrians, buses and motor vehicles must all interact in a narrow space. The Sustainable Transportation Program is making small changes to areas such as north campus that subtly tell drivers they are sharing space with pedestrians and vice versa, Berry said. Lower streetlights shine on sidewalks and under

STOP

photo by Rhys Logan THE WESTERN FRONT

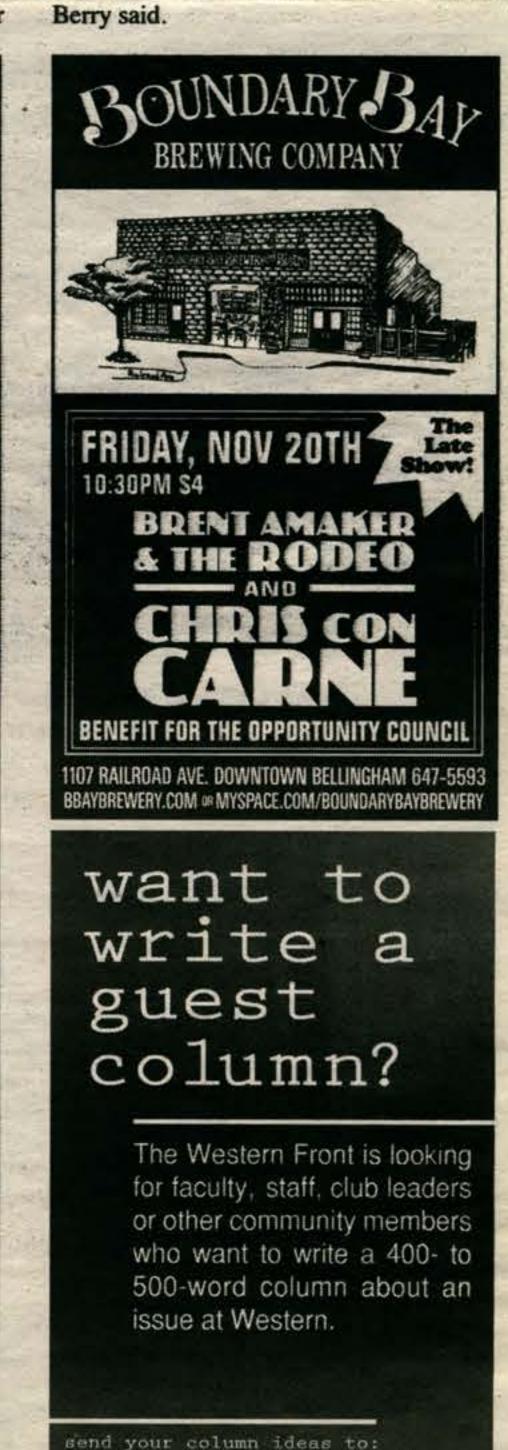
Western's Facilities Management installed a crosswalk that connects to the new bike path north of Fairhaven, which provides a more direct route through campus for bikers, during summer 2009.

bushes rather than on streets, encouraging pedestrians to walk there. Crosswalks with creative designs could be an option, because they remind drivers to share the road and last longer because they are embedded in the pavement, Berry said. Reaction to the cues may not be conscious, but they help create the atmosphere of shared space, Berry said.





AA/EO Institution



opinion@westernfrontonline.net

Steam Plant to test blow 'Big Ole'

Chief engineer Paul Hughes explains the necessity of Western's emergency steam whistle

> Anna Atkinson THE WESTERN FRONT

Western's historic whistle, called "Big Ole," was cast in 1899 in Bellingham, said Paul Hughes, chief engineer of Western's steam plant. The whistle is owned by the Whatcom County Museum and was placed at Western's steam plant with the museum's permission, he said. Big Ole has been at Western since 2007.

Western Front: Why is the steam whistle being tested?

Paul Hughes: Some of it would be for the mechanical function because there are control valves that control the steam for the whistle, because it's done remotely. Every once in a while you want to have the controls exercised and tested to make sure they operate.

If you don't operate them for a long time, then you don't know if they're going to stick or something like that. I think the larger reason why it's tested periodically is so people on campus get used to it to some degree, but there's a mechanical function to it also.

WF: For what kind of emergency would the steam whistle be used?

PH: Whenever the campus authorities, the police or whoever, would want to get everybody's attention. Everybody can hear this campus wide, probably within most building spaces I assume. They would know that they had to check their text messages and e-mails.

The primary notification, from what I understand, is going to be through a text message or an e-mail or something like that. But how do you know to look at it? And this came about after, if you remember, back on the East Coast the Virginia Tech shooting that they had. So that was I think what triggered Western to say we need to have this in case some kind of emergency happens here. God forbid it's a shooting or something like that, but it could be an earthquake or anything that happens that for safety you want to get everyone's attention.

WF: What will happen on Wednesday?
For how long will the whistle blow, and
how are people expected to respond?

PH: Once it gets to the right tone we're going to make sure it blows for probably close to two minutes. It takes about 15 seconds or so before it comes up to the right tone, once the pressure equalizes and all that, because it's a control valve that opens, and it takes a little bit of time for it to open. It's kind of a test to see if there's any spots where people didn't hear it.



photos by Hailey Tucker THE WESTERN FRONT

Paul Hughes, chief engineer of Western's Steam Plant, poses amid an array of pipes inside the Steam Plant on Monday.

WF: In the event that the whistle would blow and it was not a test, how should people respond?

PH: That's something that you should follow what the University Communications has put out. What you're supposed to do is after the whistle blows, you're supposed to, if you're signed up to receive a text message, you're supposed to look at that, or you're supposed to find out what's going on. So that just tells everybody, hey we're getting your attention, go look and find out what's going on.

Emergency steam whistle and alert system test:

9:45 a.m. Wednesday, Nov. 18

Students who hear the whistle are asked to e-mail news@wwu.edu and state where they where when they heard the whistle blow.

Students and faculty who are signed up for Western Alerts should receive alert text messages during the whistle testing.

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BORDER: Northern border policy could hurt U.S. economy, experts say

from 1

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Task Force on U.S. Immigration Policy and author of "Closing the American Border: Terrorism, Immigration and Security Since 9/11."

Alden and Stock said U.S. immigration policy focuses too heavily on problems associated with the southern border. while neglecting the northern border.

Cooperation between the U.S. and Canada has become even more of a focus as the 2010 Vancouver Winter Olympics near.

"The Olympics is a big immigration problem, because whenever you have an Olympics you are bringing thousands of people from all around the world in to one location," Stock said.

It will benefit the U.S. economy if Olympic travelers visit Bellingham or Seattle, but if they feel like it will be too much of a barrier to cross the border than they might not want to go, Stock said. .

In order to have good security, the U.S. needs to have a vibrant economy and keep people employed, Stock said.

The Immigration Reform and Control Act of 1986 sought to improve U.S. immigration policy through worksite enforcement, increased border security and granting legalization to illegal immigrants who have lived in the U.S. since Jan. 1, 1982.

. "People point back to the 1986 amnesty, and they say, 'that didn't work; we shouldn't do that again'," Stock said.

Stock said the U.S. needs a way to allow people to come into the country le-



photo by Carey Rose THE WESTERN FRONT

Edward Alden and Margaret Stock focused on the Canada-U.S. border policies during the public forum Thursday, Nov. 12.

gally and allow temporary and permanent workers to come here somewhat easilya component that was left out of the 1986 act.

"We have to be able to facilitate travel and immigration into the U.S. [of] people [we] do want and need, or [we will] do lasting damage to the country," Alden said.

Alden said the U.S. is putting all its effort and money into keeping people out, and forgetting about allowing people in who could have a positive effect on the country.

"For the secretary of Homeland Security to say both should be managed

the same way... you could actually make things worse by trying to manage the Canadian border the same way you are managing the Mexican one," Stock said.

Stock said the relationship the U.S. has with Canada is much different than its relationship with Mexico.

While some attempts at cooperation between the U.S. and Mexico have occurred, the U.S. does not have the same trust with Mexican authorities, Stock said.

"You can't have an atmosphere of corruption," Stock said. "Mexico has been having some pretty big problems in its law enforcement. And Canada doesn't have the same level of issues."

Don Alper, director of the Research Institute, also attributes the openness of the border to the strong interdependencies that have been established between the people of the U.S. and Canada as a result of cultural-likeness.

"If we have a wall outside of San Diego, it doesn't mean we should have one outside of Bellingham, just on principal," Stock said.

She said if the U.S. were to apply the same immigration tactics to the northern border that it does to the south, it would be detrimental to the U.S. economy.

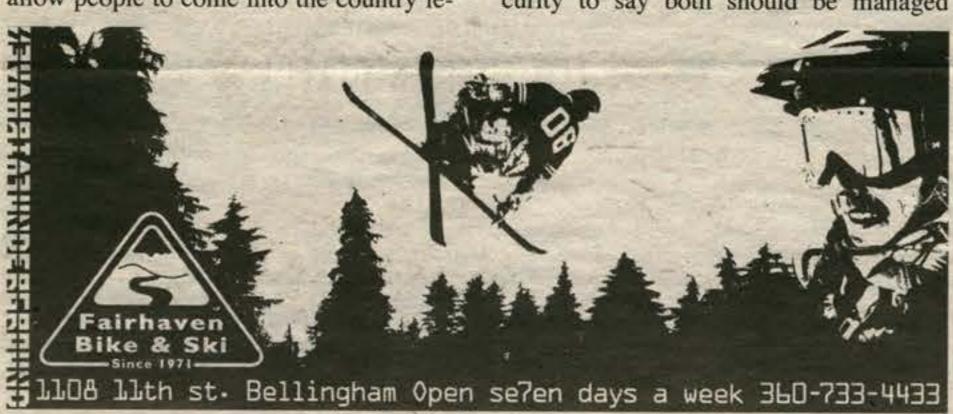
The northern and southern borders also differ in relation to the Integrated Border Enforcement Team program-a binational partnership comprised of both Canadian and U.S. law enforcement agencies.

The program works to intercept potential threats of terrorism and stop the trafficking of people and contraband along the northern border.

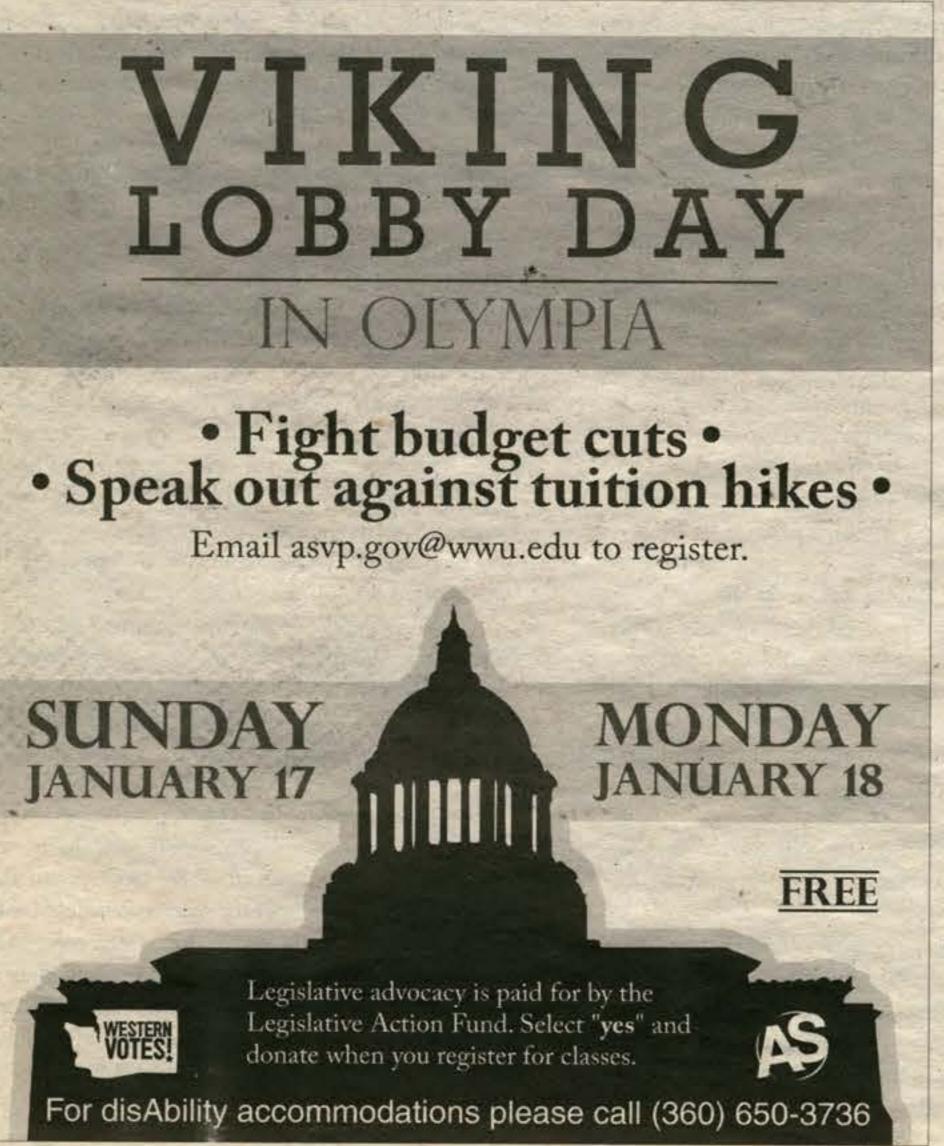
Although the teams are proving to be successful up north, they would not be as effective on the southern border, Stock said.

"One of the reasons [the program] works well [on the northern border] is because there is a high degree of trust between American and Canadian law enforcement," Stock said.

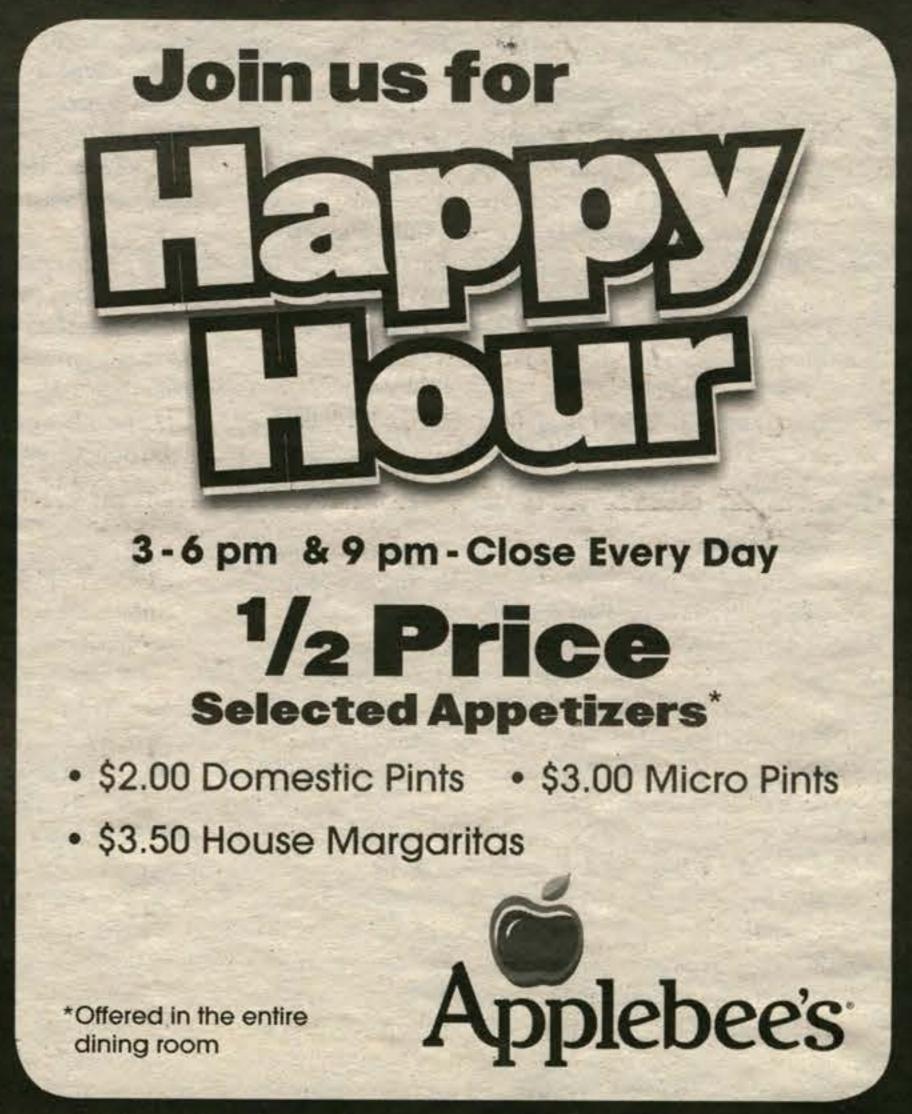
Because this type of trust does not exist on the southern border, Stock said the U.S. needs to build a common-sense framework that will fit the conditions of · each border individually.











ARTS & LIFE

OM PATROIT

The Western Front takes an exclusive ride with Bellingham Police



photo by Jordan Stead THE WESTERN FRONT Three unnamed victims of an attack by a suspected Bellingham gang are questioned at

the Shell gas station on Samish Way Friday.

Brulan

Ben Woodard THE WESTERN FRONT

the stars were bright in the clear skies of Friday, Nov. 13.

At 8:13 p.m., I pulled open the first set of doors to the Bellingham Police Department, just north of downtown.

Through the second set of doors a custodian swept the dimly lit lobby. The doors were locked, so I picked up the phone on the wall to my left. It rang automatically. I told the woman on the other end I was there for a ride-along in a patrol car.

I hung up the phone after she told me someone would come to let me in. I waited and blew air into my numb hands.

Briefing - 8:20 p.m.

After waiting a few minutes, Sgt. Scott Grunhurd came to the door and led me to the patrol briefing room where the night patrol meets before each shift. The shift started at 8:20 p.m. and ended at 7 a.m. Saturday.

Five officers sat around the table while Gunhurd gave the briefing. Just above the table, against a far wall, a dozen small monitors showed real-time surveillance of downtown Bellingham.

Grunhurd said there was nothing new on the police agenda, and he congratulated Officer Craig Brewer for arresting a man in possession of 60 grams of black tar heroin the previous night.

Shortly after, I was assigned to a patrol car with Officer Dustin Bruland, who has worked for the Bellingham PD for two-and-a-half years. Bruland navigated the hallways and locked the doors of the station. We eventually ended up in the back lot behind the station where the patrol cars are parked.

Adjacent to the exit, Bruland entered a room and grabbed the black assault rifle patrol officers carry strapped to the bulletproof glass that separates the front and back seats in the patrol car.

First call - 8:43 p.m.

Bruland conducted the pre-patrol equipment check before we left. He checked the sirens and lights and booted the computer, which runs software capable of searching a vast database of names and addresses Bellingham Police have come in contact with. For example, if an officer goes to a house due to a loud party, the software records the address and the people directly involved for future reference.

As soon as we pulled out of the station, the police



photo by Ben Woodard THE WESTERN FRONT

After a suspected gang-related brawl between at least a dozen people Friday night, Officers Dustin Bruland (left) and David Johnson (right) questions three people involved at the Shell on Samish Way.

radio was buzzing with dialogue between the dispatcher and other officers on duty.

"Fight at the Leopold," the dispatcher said over the radio. "Outside the Leopold, 1224 Cornwall, two males hitting each other."

Bruland began to drive more hastily, speeding through downtown.

The dispatcher described the scene seconds before we arrived: "One subject is a white male in his 30s wearing raggedy clothes; another male was spitting in his face."

We pulled into the Leopold Retirement Center and parked behind Officer Kevin Freeman's patrol car. Bruland jumped out. The radio buzzed with more information, most of it spoken in police code, and I quickly followed Bruland.

The fight was over, but tempers were still high in the dark alleyway. Apparently, a man working for the Leopold went to the alleyway to ask three transients warming themselves on a heating vent to move along. One of the men reportedly spat on the employee's face, and the employee allegedly hit the man's lip with his elbow.

"He needs to go to jail. If he wants to box, I'll box him. You here what I'm saying?" the transient said. "He assaulted me. He cracked me in my lip for no fucking reason. If I wanted to assault him, I would have had him up against the wall and beaten his ass; that's my nature."

The transient's friend, Edward Borsey, 39, was the only one arrested at this incident in connection with an outstanding warrant from not showing up for a court date from a previous criminal trespass charge. Freeman, the first on the scene, booked him into Whatcom County Jail downtown.

The other transient was issued a trespass, meaning if the police find him on Leopold property again, even warming up by the external heating vent, he can be arrested.

Motel 6 II:OI p.m.

We were back patrolling. The warm patrol car loosened the nerves I built up at the Leopold.

An alert popped up in red text on the computer screen. The radio chirped a few more times and Bruland sped to the next call: a noise complaint at the Motel 6 on Byron Street behind IHOP.

Bruland said employees at establishments such as the Motel 6 can call the police if guests are too loud in a room. Guests can be booted out of their rooms at the request of the employees.

Nobody around. We pulled in behind Officer David Johnson's patrol car in front of the motel lobby.

The woman at the front desk said room 216 was registered to someone named Candy and had been loud for hours.

However, the room at the back of the motel was quiet when we arrived. The lights were out. Bruland nocked, but no one answered. He knocked again. Finally, a woman cracked the door open. She denied anyone was there with her, and she denied knowing Candy.

Bruland insisted the reports from earlier in the night said more people were in the room. Again the woman denied the allegations. Finally, she cooperated and opened the door. Shortly after, 11 people poured out, all wearing ill-fitted jeans and black shirts, one with a black bandana hanging from his right back pocket.

They filed down the steps, off to somewhere else. The room was trashed. Empty Budweiser cans and pizza boxes littered the room.

Bruland said it was a 426, which is police code for gang-related activity.

"We'll see how long it takes until we have to deal with them again," Johnson said.

The brawl - II:19 p.m.

Back to the streets. We patrolled for a few more minutes. We drove up Samish Way toward downtown, then turned around and drove toward the overpass near Haggen and Bill McDonald Parkway.

Just as we pulled into the intersection of Samish and Bill McDonald, Bruland saw something I didn't and flipped on his lights and sirens, while he whipped through oncoming traffic. My eyes darted to the left, down Byron Street leading to the Motel 6.

A dozen people were brawling in the street. One man, wearing a red shirt and red hat, was swinging his fists wildly into the face of a man I saw moments ago walking out of room 216 at Motel 6.

In a split second, half of the men in the brawl bolted across the street toward Blockbuster and the Shell station in reaction to the sirens and lights. A few ran toward the motel. It was the definition of scatter.

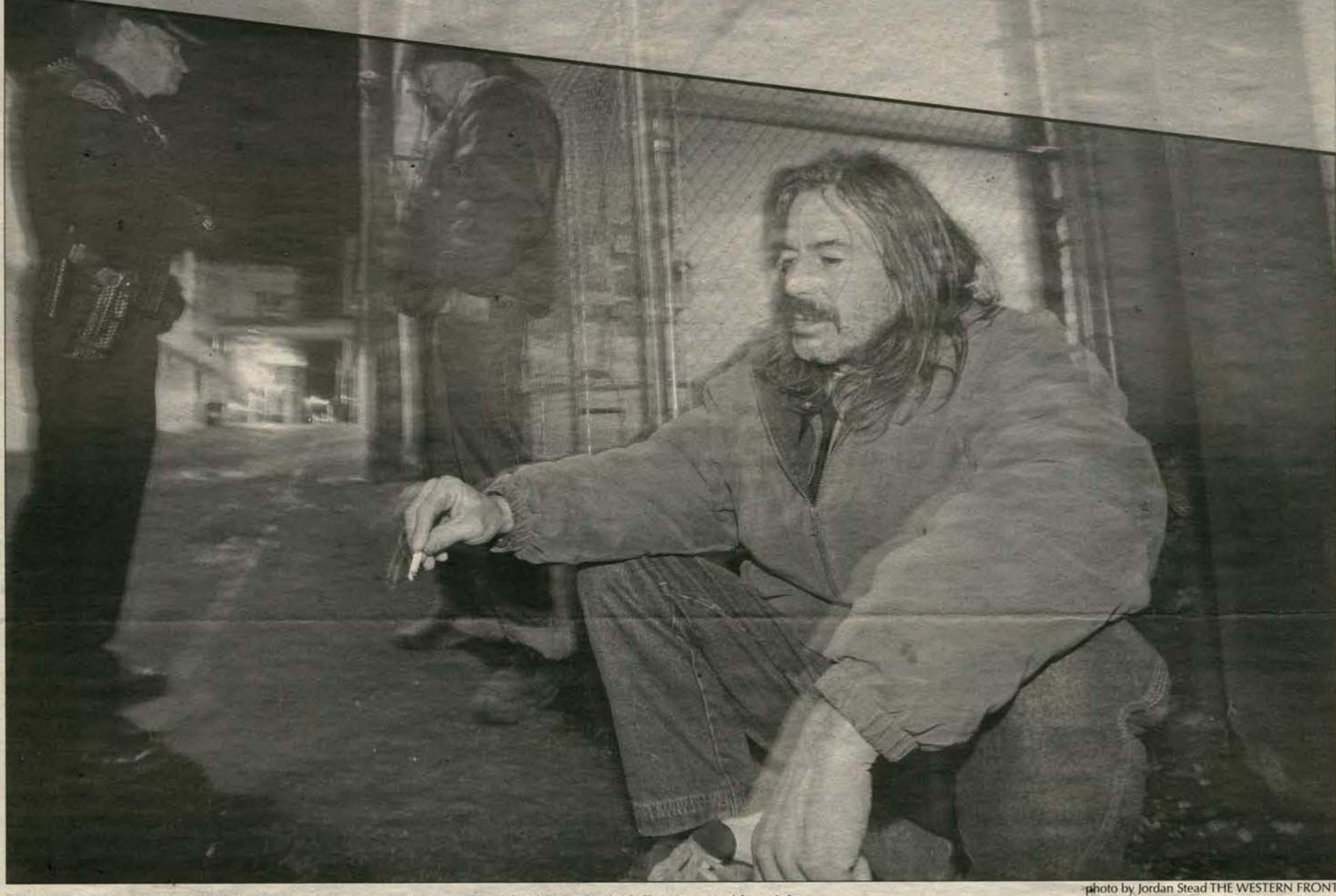
Bruland threw the car in park and ran after the men who headed toward the Shell station.

Two men and one woman remained on the curb in front of me. All three were in room 216 earlier. One was bleeding from a gaping cut on his forehead.

He sat for a while with his girlfriend while his friend yelled in Spanish. They were angry. They wanted payback because the brawl was cut short, so they took off in the direction of Bruland and the rest. I was petrified at first, but finally jumped out of the patrol car and followed. Johnson pulled into the Shell station and cut off the bloody man and his friends from chasing after the men responsible for his wound.

Bruland and Johnson sat the heated men and the woman down on the curb outside the Shell station as more police cars arrived. Bruland and the other officers tried to get the story of what happened to them after they left the Motel 6, but they wouldn't say who it was who jumped them

In order for police to conduct an investigation, they



Bellingham Police Officer Kevin Freeman (left) questions two men involved in a physical dispute on Friday night.

need a victim and someone to press charges, but the man who was hit didn't want to press any charges.

They were released, Bruland told me that even though they wouldn't say, they knew exactly who jumped them.

"It might be taken care of tonight or next week, but with a 426 like that, it will be taken care of," Bruland said. "They don't want us to take care of it, but someone will pay."

Party bust - I2:38 a.m.

After the brawl, the streets were quiet for a while. We backed up Johnson at a traffic stop as a precaution. A woman was arrested on suspicion of driving with a suspended license on Bill McDonald Parkway. We came from downtown and drove 55 miles per hour up Lincoln Street.

On the way, we whizzed by car after car, but as we approached a silver Subaru hatchback, it accelerated to at least 60 miles per hour in a 30 miles-per-hour zone. Bruland let him go. The speeder was lucky we were on our way to back up Johnson.

"Your brother is more important than any traffic ticket you'll ever write," Bruland said as the Subaru made a left turn in front of us.

We backed up Johnson without incident, and shortly after we received another alert on the patrol car's computer screen for noise complaints from a loud party on 31st Street.

As we rolled by, people were standing on the front patio, and it was loud. The people outside scattered when they saw our patrol car. Some went back inside. Others started walking down the street.

Johnson went to the front door, and Bruland and I went around to the back of the house. We jumped down a muddy embankment and came around the corner to the backyard. One person was urinating off the back patio. He heard us walk up, and he turned his head to see who it was. He stumbled sideways, obviously startled. The man looked underage, but Bruland said nothing to him as the young man awkwardly hid his beer behind his legs and shuffled back inside the house through the sliding glass door.

Spilled beer dripped on my shoulder from the porch overhead as Bruland knocked on the sliding glass door.

Another young man opened it. Once his eyes adjusted to Bruland's flashlight, he realized he was facing a cop and muttered an awkward "sorry" before going back inside.

"Where are the renters?" Bruland asked the teeming crowd inside. A girl tried to pull the blinds closed, but it was too late for hiding.

I observed the crowd of at least 60 people inside, and as the word spread through the room, the beer pong stopped and the music was turned down.

"Your brother is more important than any traffic ticket you'll ever write."

David Johnson, Bellingham Police officer

Eventually one of the renters came to the door.

Bruland took him around to the front of the house where
Johnson was talking to the three other renters.

The party was broken up. Eighty-nine people filed out the front door, while about a dozen bolted out the back. Most looked under 21 years of age, but no one was given a citation. Johnson gave the renters a stiff warning before leaving.

The quiet, affluent neighborhood was filled with peo-

ple from the party. Most drove off, but some lingered for a while in the streets. The warm patrol car was welcoming again. The smell of cheap alcohol filled the cab from my beer-soaked shoulder.

Downtown - I:40 a.m.

We stopped downtown with three other officers to observe the bars as they stopped serving alcohol around 1:45 a.m. East Holly Street was filled with drunken bar-goers, mostly 20-somethings. A few were puking in the streets, and one man fell face-first on the sidewalk after tripping on the curb. I heard the distinct thud of bone against concrete from 50 feet away, but he seemed to shake it off.

The crowd outside The Royal nightclub dispersed by 2:30 a.m.

We patrolled up North Garden Street after hearing reports of people kicking cars, but we didn't see anything, so we decided to head back to the station.

"After about 2:30 a.m. the calls really start dying down," Bruland said.

To the station - 2:43 a.m.

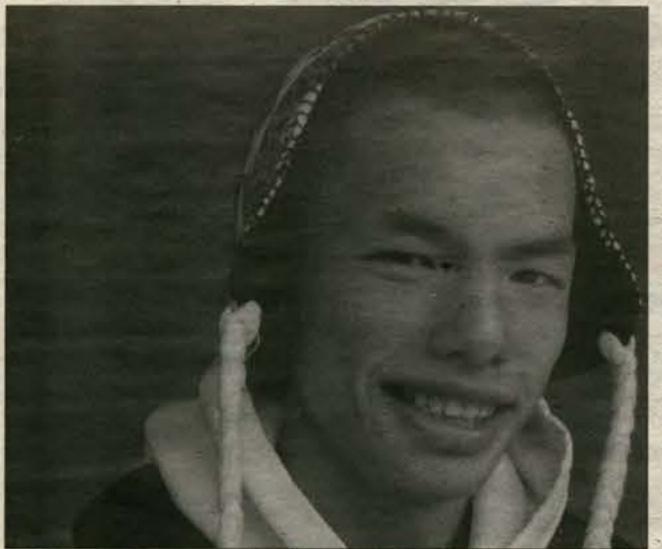
We arrived at the downtown station at 2:43 a.m., and I thanked Bruland for taking me on patrol. We talked about the night: the 426 brawl, the party and all the patrolling, but were interrupted by a report coming through his earpiece from the police radio.

He rushed back down the hall. I could have followed and discovered where he was going, but it was late. And the smell of beer from my shoulder was making me nauseous.

I left through the front doors of the station where my adventures started six hours ago and scraped the ice off my windshield.

Weekend of storytelling features tales of self expression





photos by Rhys Logan THE WESTERN FRONT

Western's Black Student Association President BreAnna Jones (top) and Chinese Student Association President Kevin Ng (bottom) attended the Ethnic Student Conference Center on Whidbey Island. The artistic expression and storytelling themes of the conference were designed to bring together ethnic groups from across campus.

Kayley Richards THE WESTERN FRONT

For thousands of years, storytelling and performance art have allowed members of diverse cultures to express themselves and connect with each other and their communities.

Western's Ethnic Student Center gave students the opportunity to do just that at the 19th annual Ethnic Student Center conference, which was held Saturday and Sunday at Camp Casey on Whidbey Island.

The conference drew 150 members from all 12 of Western's ethnic student organizations as well as Western faculty, staff and administrators.

The popularity of the conference led to a 20-person waiting list, said Amy Sanford, Western senior and public relations assistant coordinator for the Ethnic Student Center. Eventually, the Ethnic Student Center had to stop accepting student requests to be added to the list. Jones said the waiting list is proof of how important the conference is to students at Western.

"Lots of people were excited to go this year, but it was first-come, first-served," Jones said. "The waiting list just shows how excited everyone is and how much they want the Ethnic Student Center to succeed."

The theme of this year's conference was storytelling, with many of the workshops centered around learning how to tell personal and cultural stories.

"The conference is an important time for all of the clubs to get oriented and bond," Western senior and Black Student Union President BreAnna Jones said. "We usually don't have the time for everyone to get together, and this gives us all the opportunity to sit and talk with each other and express our cultures in artistic ways."

Western junior Kevin Ng, president of the Chinese Student Association, has attended the conference three years in a row. He said he hoped the storytelling theme of this year's conference will help members of the Chinese Student Association feel more comfortable sharing their stories.

"Diversity is really important, and that's not some-

thing that everyone's aware of," he said. "It's our job to tell other people our stories and let them know that we're an important part of Western and the community."

On the first day of the conference, Ethnic Student Center members performed a shortened version of "The Naked Truth on Stereotypes" - a three-part production designed to give marginalized groups a chance to be heard. The production presents stereotypes, deconstructs them and engages the audience in an open dialogue.

[Conference attendees] had known each other for less than a day, and it was so...poignant to hear them share truths from their own lives.

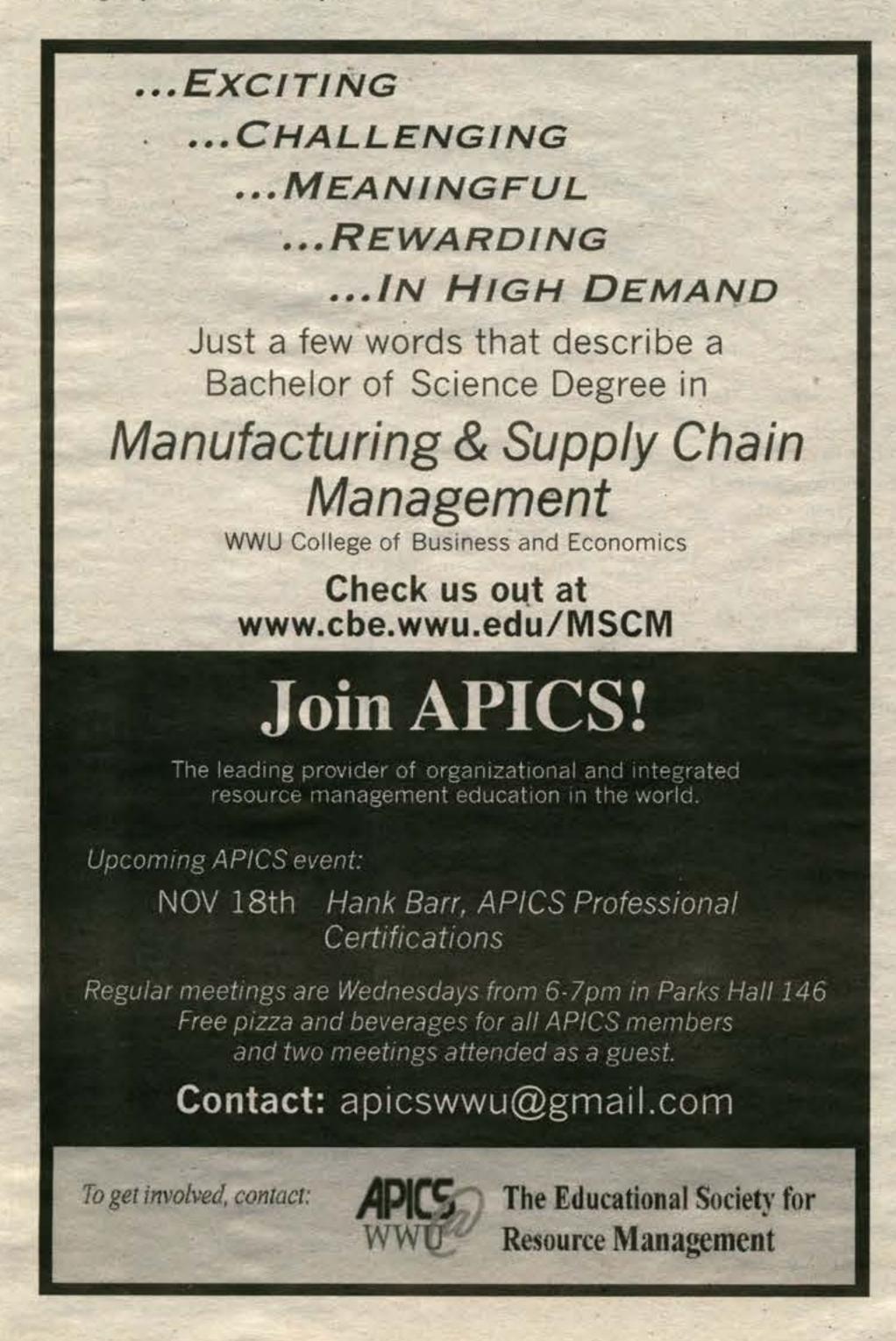
> - Sarah Tran, Ethnic Student Center Program assistant coordinator

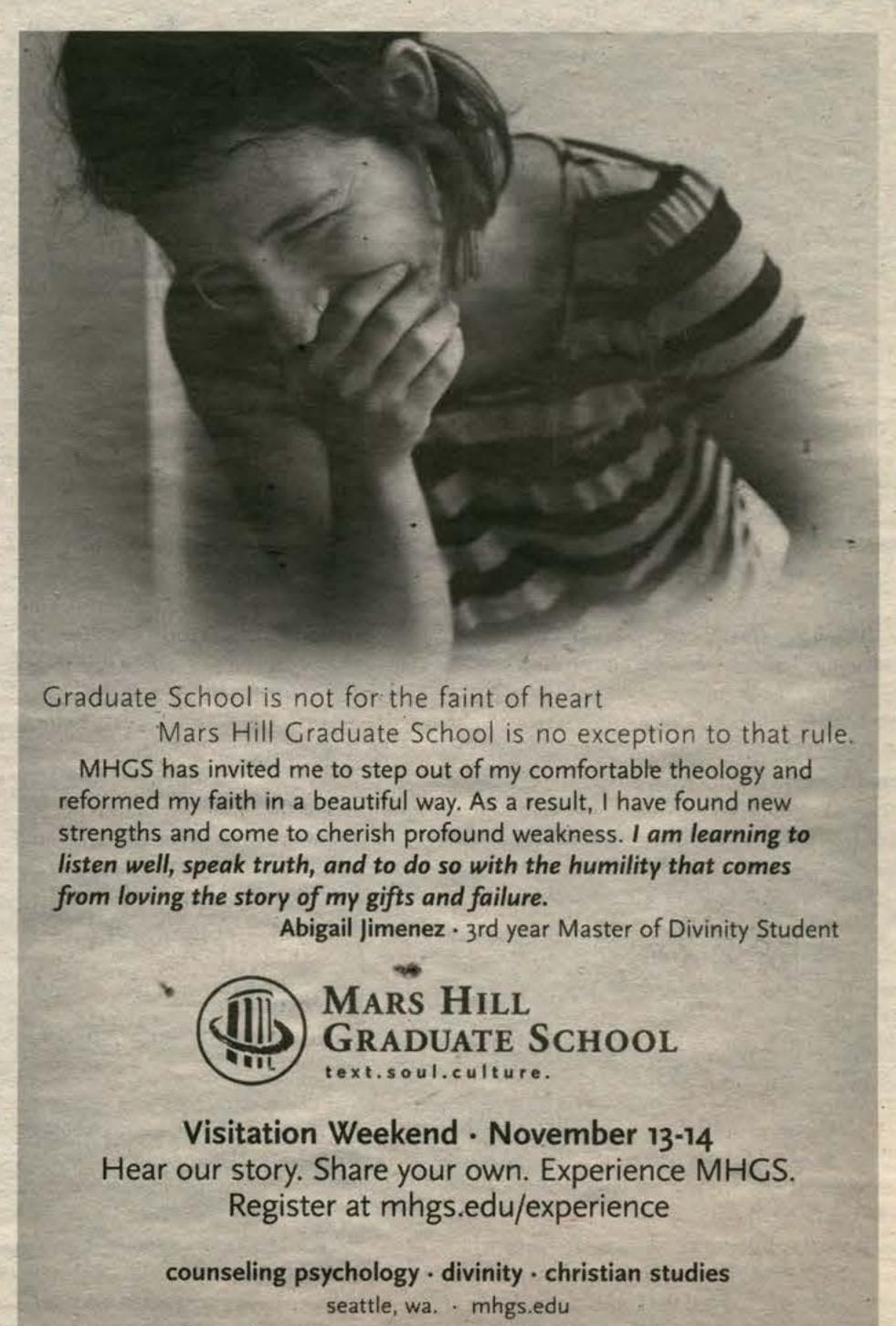
The energy and enthusiasm attendees had was phenomenal, Western senior and Ethnic Student Center Program Assistant Coordinator Sarah Tran said. She was the emcee for the conference. Tran said the most powerful moment of the weekend was the dialogue-that followed the performance of "The Naked Truth on Stereotypes."

"It was very empowering to see how 'The Naked Truth' impacted people," she said. "[Conference attendees] had known each other for less than a day, and it was so great and poignant to hear them share truths from their own lives and see that kind of openness."

Attending the Ethnic Student Center conference gives students of color a support network and an anchor on which they can depend when they return to campus, Tran said.

"You meet students to exchange ideas with and have a good time with, and you meet staff, faculty and administrators who genuinely care about you," Tran said. "And then when you come back to campus, you're more likely to go to those administrators and seek out the services they offer on campus."



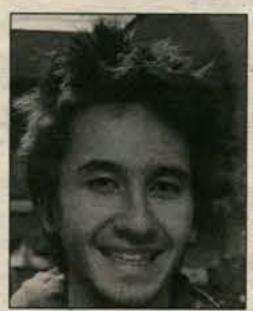


OPINION 19

Viking Voices Opinions from around campus

How do you feel about veterans having to wait for federal aid?

Compiled by Renee Davies



Sean Leonard Sophomore

"I think veterans have been through so much already that to not give them this would be another slap in the face, just like Vietnam."



Lindsey Grimshaw Junior

"My husband has been waiting a year...
and it's been a long process. Every day
we go to the mailbox and say, 'oh, is there
going to be a letter in the mailbox?'
and each day there hasn't been."



Jordan Yentzer Sophomore

"When people are waiting for a long time that's enough time to rack up enough debt, or to basically break a person. I don't think people should have to wait if they're signing up for something that's life-threatening."



Zach Brown Senior

"I think that, being veterans, they are the people who shouldn't have to wait."

Be critical of stalking, abuse in 'Twilight' series

Frontline
Opinions of the Editorial Board

The next installment in the "Twilight" series, "New Moon," will hit theaters Friday. Undoubtedly it will be a box office success, like its 2008 predecessor, which grossed nearly \$200 million domestically. Thousands of teenagers will flock to see the continuing love story between a young woman and a vampire.

However, what viewers of the movie seem to not realize is how a dark undercurrent of sexual assault and abuse runs through the movies and the books on which they're based. Author Stephenie Meyer has constructed a story that is more about abuse and sexual assault than romance of any kind.

For those interested in watching the movies with a more critical eye, the Women's Center is presenting a panel on "Twilight" called "A Feminist Response to Pop Culture: Twilight" at 7 p.m. on Thursday, Nov. 19. Those who want to disscuss the issues the series raises should swing by Academic Instructional Center West room 204.

In the "Twilight" series the main male character, the vampire Edward Cullen, is shown obsessively stalking a high school girl named Bella Swan. He creeps into her room and watches her sleep, follows her around their school and generally takes an unhealthy interest in her activities.

For some reason Bella finds his obsession attractive. It's not. Stalking is not romantic and it is not the basis for a healthy relationship. Young women need to realize that being stalked is a very serious thing and is not to be encouraged at any point. If someone is being stalked, even over an online forum like Facebook, they need to inform a law enforcement member immediately.

In the series, Edward informs Bella that he wants to drink her blood because, hey, it's what vampires are known for. She stays with him anyway, even with the threat of pain and death hanging over her head.

Assault Services of Whatcom County (DVSAS) Web site defines domestic violence as a relationship where physical, sexual, psychological and emotional abuse are used to control one's intimate partner. The relationship between the main characters of the "Twilight" series seems to fit within this definition. Edward establishes his dominance over Bella by describing how he could use his unnatural strength to kill her instantly. He tells her she is powerless against him, and she goes along with it. He uses verbal abuse to control her.

This is not the kind of material that teen readers should be interpreting as romantic and desirable. The main female character of "Twilight" is shown as fundamentally powerless and dependent on her vampire boyfriend.

Perhaps there is a good story buried beneath all the misogyny, but fans of the books and movies should bear in mind how unhealthy the relationship they idealize really is. By all means, enjoy the material, but understand that when looking for a good relationship, vampire-stalkers shouldn't be setting the bar.

The Editorial Board is comprised of Editor-in-Chief Rebecca Rice, Managing Editor Audrey Dubois-Boutet and Opinion Editor Tristan Hiegler.

Letters to the editor

Anti-abortion protest goes too far

America is built on a foundation of freedom of speech. We all have the universal right to speak our minds without censorship or any kind of limitations. We also have a right to universal expression. One of the greatest things about this country is that we have this freedom.

However, when this right imposes on other individuals, freedom of expression may become limited. The question is, where do we draw the line?

A group of pro-life protesters came to Western and set up in Red Square this week. They displayed disturbing and repulsive images to the public. The group evidently has a right to express their views, and although their objective is to impose and intrude on other people's beliefs and perceptions and make people uncomfortable, pro-life or pro-choice, these images are really disturbing. Just like the group has a right to put up their posters, passersby should have a right to choose whether or not to view the presentation. There were no signs this week that the exhibit would be in Red Square, and it is difficult to avoid when quickly shuffling between classes. I often see a group of preschoolers

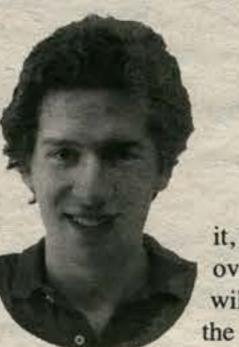
walking through Red Square, I wonder if they walked through and saw the horrible huge images faced toward the center of the square.

In 2007, Western banned a women's swimsuit calendar from Vendors Row. The calendar was banned because it implied that Western endorsed objectifying and degrading women. Telling a woman what to do with her body and reproductive choices is equally if not more degrading. The people selling and promoting their calendar lost their freedom of expression. They were banned from Vendors Row, while groups like this continually set up and project their exhibits to the public. Dead fetuses and masses of mangled bodies are offensive to most people, leaving them with an uncomfortable feeling.

Although this is the reaction Genocide Awarness Project wants to get out of people, it crosses the line. If Western decides to ban a female swimsuit calendar, they should rethink how they choose to deal with issues such as this.

Juliana DeBurgo Western junior

New advances propel science forward in 2010



Scott Burger
Guest Science

Columnist

Before we know it, November will be over and fall quarter will end, ushering in the year 2010. Over the past months, the

American Chemical Society looked into 34 of its journals and two national meetings for a total of 52,000 reports on advancing technologies to keep a close eye on 2010 and beyond. Most of the time I'm bored stiff by chemical compound names with a thousand syllables in them. However, some of these technologies can make even those who are the most apathetic toward one of the major branches of science very excited.

Now, the ACS didn't list all 52,000 technologies, but took the top 250 and published them in the ACS News Service Weekly Presspac. Even sampling through a modest pool of about 10 warrants a closer look that can lead you into a world of whimsy for hours. One of the articles, "Removal of Oil from Water by Inverse Fluidization of Aerogels," published in Industrial & Engineering Chemistry Research, argues that the use of super-lightweight solids could help absorb oil contamination in water. But, it goes way beyond just oil tanker spills. Some 200 million gallons of used oil makes its way into backyards and streams each year, but materials similar to the NASA-developed Aerogel seem to be an excellent oil sponge. Aerogel looks like a faint blue glowing gas, but is actually a solid. It is mostly air and thus makes for excellent insulation, but instead chemists could use it to fight pollution as well.

An even more applicable technology to college students is research that was presented at the American Chemical Society's 237th National Meeting. By harnessing low-frequency vibrations ranging from body movement to the wind or beating of the heart into electricity, you could literally charge your iPhone or laptop with the wave of a hand.

But just think, if those are two of 52,000 advanced technologies produced by the chemistry world just in the past year alone, then you can't help but feel a little bit on the edge of your seat that a select few of those will wind up in your pocket, on your head or in your ears a few years more down the road. Personally, I can't wait for the "personalized solar energy" options published in ACS' Inorganic. Chemistry journal. Some of these include using solar panels to separate hydrogen and oxygen from water tanks during the day, then recombining them to get some energy back at night or during cloudy days. Think of it like a big water battery. From what I've gathered of technology that one could opt to use at home, the need for depending on gigantic coal-fired power plants for your home energy may be (I hope) a thing of the past. Thanks, chemistry!

Scott Burger is a Western senior majoring in physics.

Tuesday • November 17, 2009 | The Western Front

Warthogs scrapped in Surrey



photo courtesy of Andrew Winch

Western senior and team president Brian Jensen (above left) and the Warthogs engage in a scrum with the Surrey Senior Men's club Saturday in Surrey, B.C.

Surrey: 40 Western: 0

Willy Delius THE WESTERN FRONT

The Western Warthogs traveled to Surrey, B.C., to test their mettle against the experienced Surrey Senior Men's club Saturday and ended up on the losing end of a 40-0 shutout.

"We were certainly outmanned out there today," Western assistant coach Craig Brown said. "But it was great because we stayed positive and got a lot out of it."

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The loss dropped the Warthogs to 2-2 for their fall season, following last weekend's 31-0 shutout victory over Seattle University.

Brown said the score got out of hand from the start.

"Our opponent jumped out to an early lead, scoring a few trys right out of the gate," Brown said. "I told the guys there are a few things you need to do to play with them, and we didn't do those things."

Western senior and team President Brian Jensen said the Warthogs went into the game knowing it was going to be a tough match against an experienced team such as Surrey.

"We thought we played well consid-

ering the experience level of our team versus the experience level of theirs," Jensen said.

Brown echoed Jensen's responses about the team's performance.

"[Surrey's] players have all been playing 10 to 15 years," Brown said. "When you take that into consideration, I think we played pretty well."

Brown said there is a considerable gap between the quality and style of Canadian rugby versus the rugby played in the Pacific Northwest, Brown said.

"Our opponent just really knows how to play the game, and they play at a really fast pace," Jensen said.

The Warthogs are gearing up for their

"[Surrey's] players have all been playing 10 to 15 years. When you take that into consideration, I think we played pretty well."

Craig Brown, Western assistant coach

next game against University of Washington at 3 p.m., Nov. 21, on the Wade King Student Recreation Center turf field. Brown said the Surrey game should help the Warthogs prepare for the Huskies by applying what they learned from the loss.

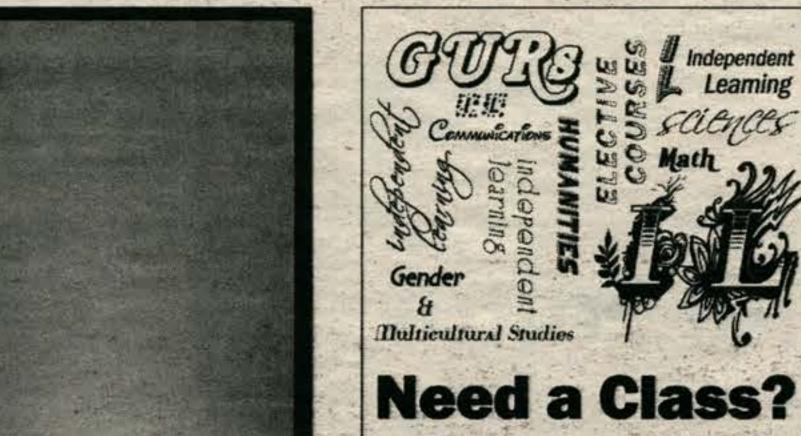
"At the end of the day we are preparing to play UW next Saturday," he said. "We feel ready for them."

Jensen said this game is especially important to the team.

"We lost a close one to [UW] last year, we want to beat them really bad," Jensen said. "We know a lot of their players, and they know a few of ours. It should be a good game."

After strong crowds during their last two home games against University of Puget Sound and Seattle University, the Warthogs are looking for fans to root them on against UW.

Jensen said he hopes a lot of people will come out to cheer the Warthogs on to a win. After this Saturday's game, the Warthogs will not lace up the cleats again until Feb. 6, when they face Chuckanut Bay club in the George Crittenden Memorial Cup in Bellingham.



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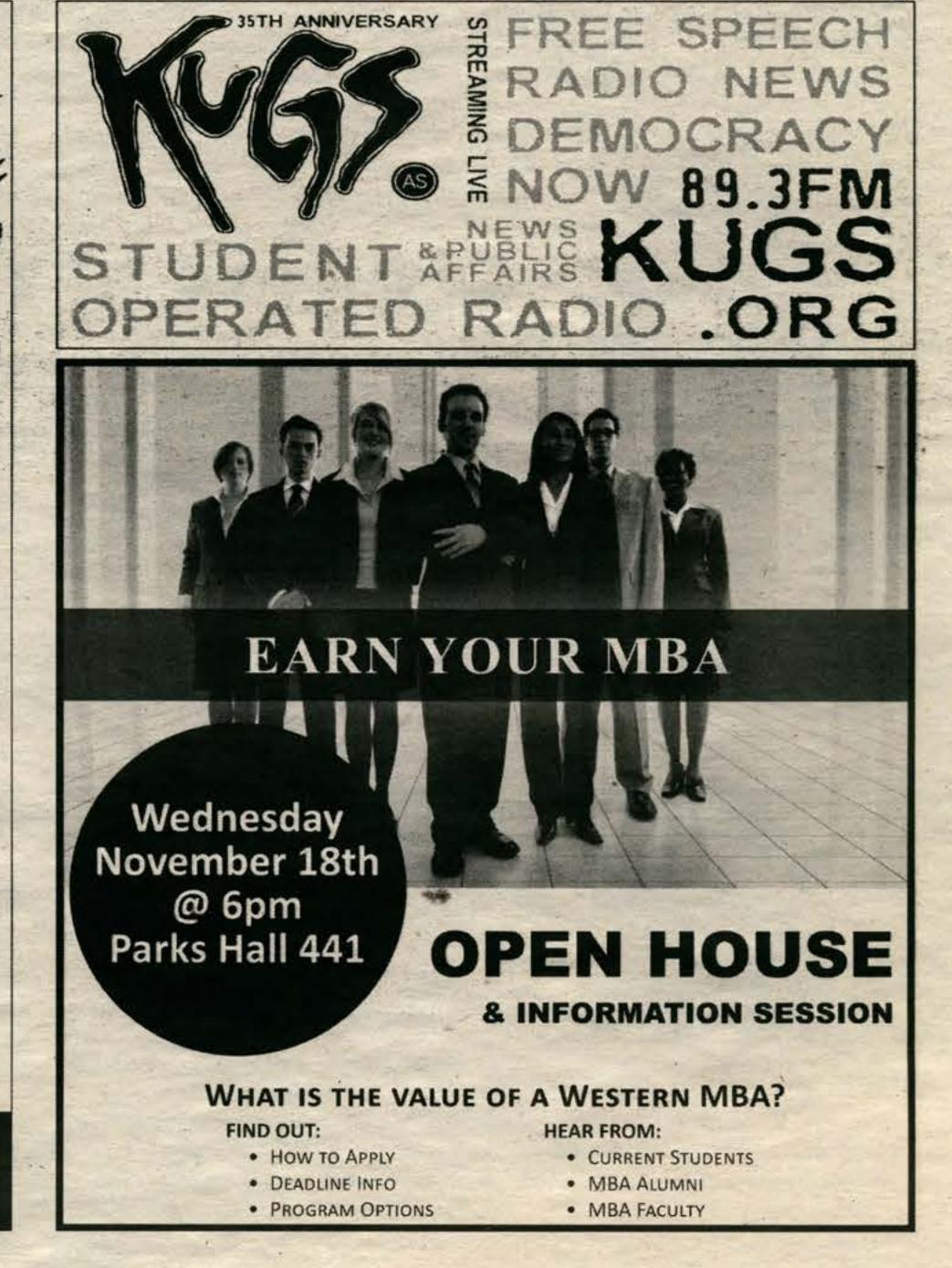




photo by Mark Stayton THE WESTERN FRONT -

Vikings coach John Dougan looks on as his team celebrates their first goal against the University of Washington Friday, Nov. 13, in the **Bellingham Sportsplex.**

Hockey sticks it to rival UM

Mark Stayton THE WESTERN FRONT

As the "Star-Spangled Banner" drew to a close, the crowd surrounding the ice at the Bellingham Sportsplex erupted. Over the deafening roar of raucous cheers, stomping feet and hands banging on Plexiglas, the starting lines of Western's and the University of Washington's ice hockey teams took their positions in and around the faceoff circle.

It was just after 10:45 p.m. Friday when the puck dropped for the first of

a two-game series that would establish bragging rights for either Western or UW. Western would proceed to skate circles around UW's defense, fully earning those rights.

Following a hard-fought but scoreless first period, Western went on a streak in the second, tacking four unanswered points on the board. UW managed to score in the third period on a four-on-three power play, resulting in a 4-1 victory for Western.

The Vikings' puck movement was superb, allowing them to break out of the defensive zone and quickly move to an offensive position, outshooting UW 67-32.

The last time these teams clashed, wins were split one and one, with Western winning at home and losing as visitors in Seattle. This season the Vikings also beat UW on their home ice on Saturday night 8-1, giving the team an 11-1-1 record for the season.

Western coach John Dougan said he was impressed with his team's performance over the weekend.

"I think everything worked," he said after Saturday's game. "The guys

Two-game series

Friday - Western: 4, UW: 1 Saturday - Western: 8, UW: 1

who score, scored. The guys who check, checked. I think it was one of the best team efforts I've seen so far."

The rivalry these teams share may have as much to do with player histories as it does with close geographical location. UW's starting goalie, Danny Dougan, is John Dougan's son.

Before the game, Danny Dougan said he was excited to meet his dad's team on the ice.

"Hove doing it," Danny Dougan said. "[My dad] taught me everything I know in goal so it's kind of interesting to play him when he's coaching, because I love him when he's a coach."

Apart from his son, Dougan said freshmen Phil Harezlak and Dan Herda, both starting forwards for UW, were once on his team playing in Bellingham before they went to college.

Western sophomore Dan Pershe said he encouraged more than 20 of his friends to attend the game with him Friday.

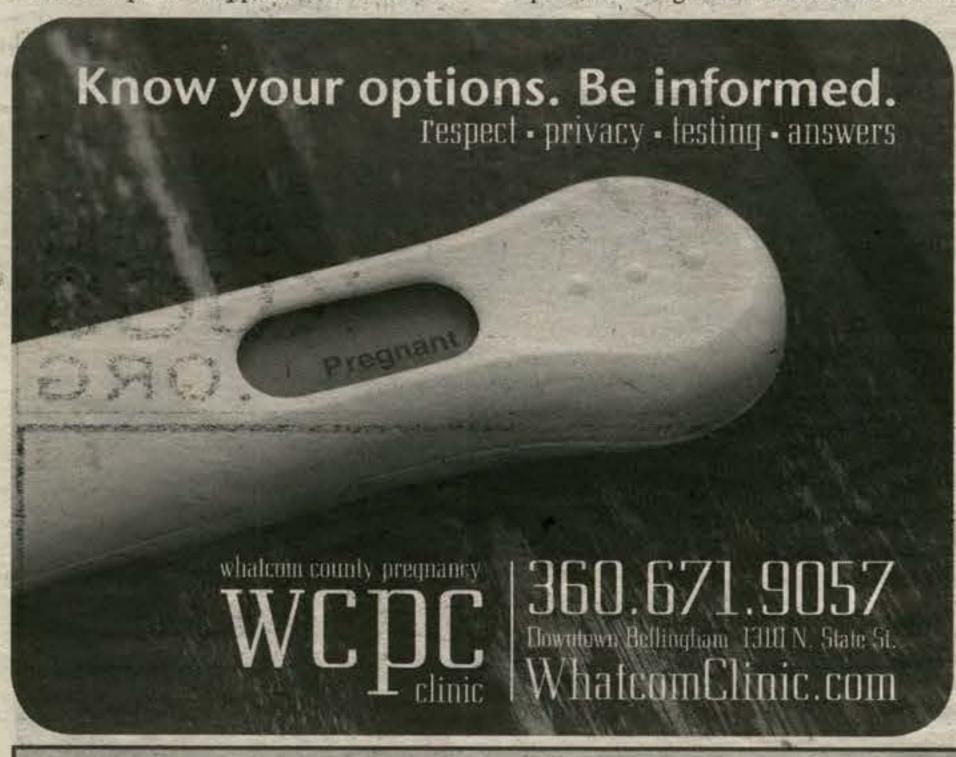
After the second period, Pershe said he was ready to revel in UW's defeat.

"We can beat 'em at this sport," he said. "We can't prove it in football anymore."

John Dougan also said the team's next four games, against Walla Walla University in Tri-Cities and against University of Puget Sound in Bellingham, have been cancelled. The other schools called off the games due to players going home for Thanksgiving break and students' final exams, respectively.

"It's frustrating," John Dougan said. "We're working on more [games] so hopefully we'll find something else."

Current updates on the schedule are available at wwuicehockey.com.





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Volleyball sweeps final season match

Andrew Barrows
THE WESTERN FRONT

The Vikings closed out their regular season Saturday night at Carver Gymnasium against the Yellowjackets of Montana State University Billings. With playoff hopes on the line, Western came into the match ranked eighth in the NCAA Division II West Region polls.

Carver Gym was packed—more than 500 boisterous fans came out to support their Vikings. Western played a solid defensive match, crushing the Yellowjackets in a straight set sweep 25-22, 25-19 and 25-21.

The Vikings wrapped up their season at 17-10 overall and 10-6 in the Great Northwest Athletic Conference. They finished tied for third place with the Yellowjackets.

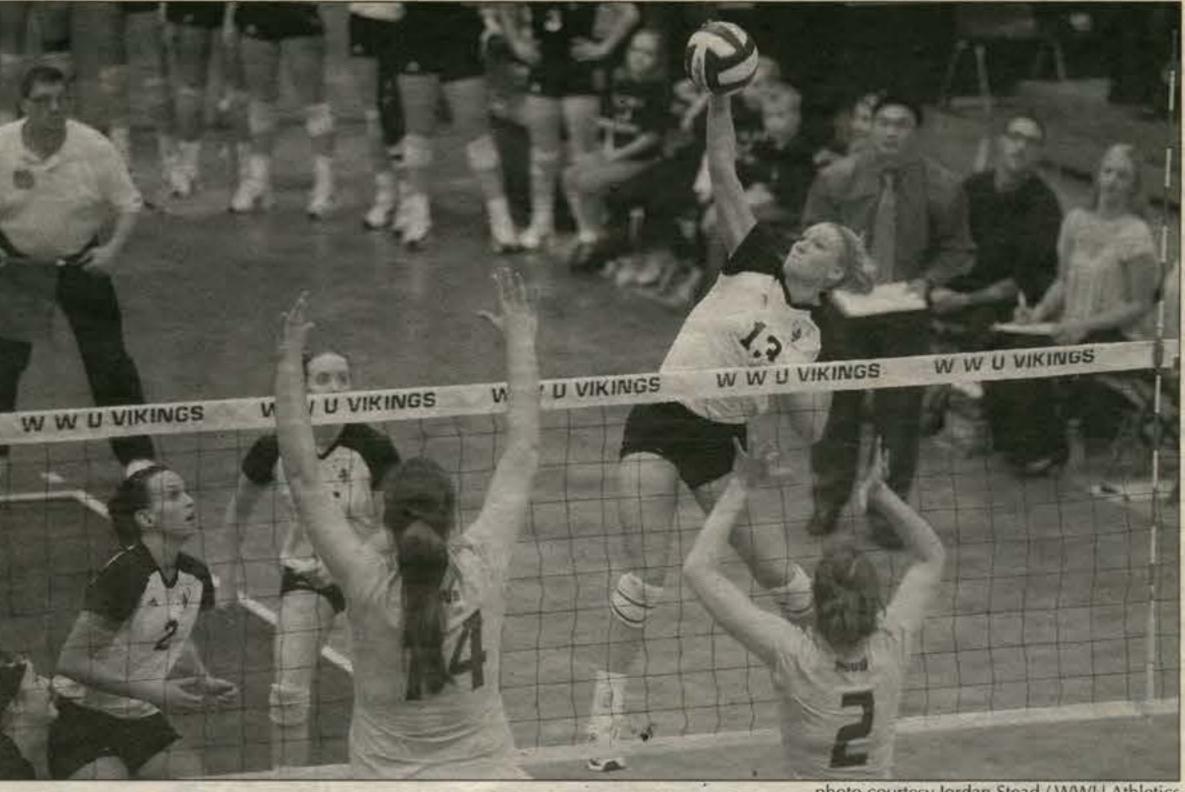
Despite the victory, it was announced Monday that the Vikings will miss out on one of the eight NCAA national playoff berths, effectively ending their 2009 season.

Western freshman outside hitter Marlayna Geary finished the regular season with her 13th double-double and her 23rd match recording more than 10 kills.

"She [Geary] always gets in a groove out there, and it's hard to shut down a competitor like her," Yellowjackets head coach Steve Smith said.

Both teams staged rallies to keep the first set evenly matched. After a Yellowjacket rally closed Western's lead to one point at 16-15, the Vikings pulled it together to edge out Montana State at 25-22.

"We were consistent with our offense and defense, and we stayed calm and relaxed. [We] just had fun," Western junior libero Allison Gotz said.



Western freshman Marlayna Geary drives home a point for the Vikings Saturday in Carver Gymnasium. Geary scored 10 points against Montana State University Billings.

The second set was similar to the first, as both teams traded point for point until the Vikings began to gain momentum half-way through the set. Western held on to run away with the victory 25-19. The third set was the closest of the night, with no team separating themselves by more than three points until a late Western rally finished off the Yellowjackets at 25-21, securing the match victory for the Vikings.

Western sophomore middle blocker Emily Jepsen had a team-high of 11 kills and recorded 10 digs for her ninth doubledouble this season.

The victory sealed the Vikings' season with a 7-5 record at Carver Gymnasium, the first time they have had more than three losses on their home court in more than six seasons.

MEN'S BASKETBALL COVERAGE ONLINE

www.westernfrontonline.net

Club sports update

Men's Ultimate Frisbee at the Oregon Midfall Games Nov. 7-8 in Corvallis, Ore.

Tourney results

Dirt—X squad: 1-3

Dirt—Y squad: 3-4 Dirt—Z squad: 3-4

Next tournament
Nov. 21-22 in Burlington

image courtesy of WWU Athletics





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