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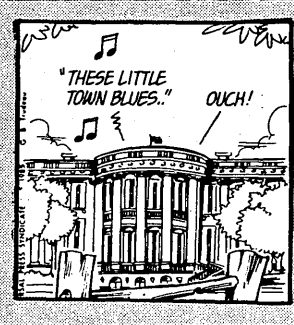


A look at Western's drinking problem

Sports 9

Golf team's sixth win is District I title

Arts 10



Doonesbury slams Sinatra and others

The Western Front

VOL. 78, NO. 29

WESTERN WASHINGTON UNIVERSITY, BELLINGHAM, WA

FRIDAY, MAY 16, 1986

Board objects to positive check-off box

By Monica White
staff reporter

A proposed fee-collection policy, which could cripple the Washington Public Interest Research Group but exempts the Washington Student Lobby, has raised objections from members of the Associated Students Board of Directors.

The proposed policy, drafted by a Board of Trustees sub-committee, asks that students check a "yes" box on registration cards to contribute money to off-campus groups instead of checking a "no" box to not contribute.

"It's almost obscene, especially if it comes under the guise of them looking out for students' interests," George Sidles, AS vice president for Internal Affairs, said at Wednesday's meeting. "It's a hypocrisy."

According to the proposed

policy, groups would lose their slots on the fee-billing cards if they failed to maintain a 25-percent donation rate. The trustees would have the option of reinstating them.

Doyle said according to WashPIRG data, it is unlikely 25 percent of the students would contribute money to WashPIRG through a positive check-off system.

The sub-committee, made up of AS President Jeff Doyle, Western President G. Robert Ross, and Trustee Craig Cole, will present its proposal to the trustees next month.

Doyle, who disagreed with Ross and Cole on the fee check-off issue but was outnumbered, will present the AS Board's position at the trustees' meeting as well. The board will discuss its position further at next week's meeting.

But he said sub-committee members "added a clause so that a decision made at the trustees level would not be retroactive against WSL." He explained WSL would keep its negative check-off system.

"It seems Craig Cole likes WSL and that's fine. That's a good thing. But he doesn't like WashPIRG and made an arbitrary decision," Sidles said.

Doyle said the clause was added to protect groups already on the fee-billing cards.

WashPIRG lost its spot this year and still needs to have the trustees reinstate it. The students' vote in last week's election to reinstate WashPIRG will be a consideration.

Doyle said the sub-committee's stance is that "it is a privilege and not a right for students to be involved in the fee-billing process."

Sidles disagreed, saying, "Stu-

dents have a right to tax themselves."

Sidles also said he thought the proposed fee-collecting policy is worded poorly.

He said the AS Board submitted its own fee-collection policy to the trustees more than a year ago, but the trustees tabled it.

"We have received no criticism or complaints about that policy," he said. "It has been entirely overlooked and they've gone onto this."

"I just feel railroaded," he said.

In other business the board unanimously voted to recommend to the trustees June 5 that student representation on the Service and Activities Fee-Split Committee be increased to six from four.

The fee-split committee is responsible for distributing S & A fees, which are taken out of students' tuition payments. Since

1977 four students and three administrators have sat on the committee, Doyle said.

The board said the increase would bring more students into the S & A fee-split process and the distribution of student funds.

Earlier this quarter the University Service's Council recommended the student-membership change. Upon talking to Ross, however Doyle initially had agreed to recommend keeping student membership at four.

Ross and Vice President for Student Affairs Joan Sherwood had said they believed a nine-member committee is cumbersome, has more scheduling conflicts and a harder time reaching an agreement, than a seven-member committee.

Tuesday Doyle will talk with Ross about the AS Board's recommendation to increase the student membership to six.

Clinic caters to women's needs

By Erin Earles
staff reporter

The Women's Health Care Clinic is not just another birth control clinic, said Jennifer Roy, of Student Health Services.

The clinic opened at Western's health center in April and is designed to provide health services specific to women's needs.

The clinic was proposed by Roy, who perceived a need for

women's health care services at Western greater than she alone could handle. Roy, a nurse practitioner, had been taking care of women's health care needs, but couldn't continue to do so with her other duties as center director.

Among services the clinic provides are PAP smears to check for cancer, pelvic and vaginal examinations to check for infec-

tions, and instructions about how to give a breast self-examination.

The clinic also gives advice about women's general health care questions and contraceptives, but doesn't give out or sell contraceptives.

Staffed by Nurse Practitioner Catherine Lewis, the clinic is open 1 p.m. to 4 p.m. Mondays and Wednesdays.

Gordon, Wheatley win run-off contests

The votes have been tallied from the Associated Students Board of Directors run-off election Wednesday, and the board now is complete.

Trent Wheatley is the new director-at-large for University

Gordon said she didn't realize what went into an election campaign until she became involved with her own.

"(The election) was really time consuming, but it was a lot of fun. I learned a lot from it." She said the campaign made her more aware of the election process, and she learned something about herself.

"You realize who knows you and what they think of you."

The 1986-87 AS Board members are: Terri Echelbarger, president; Stephani Lourie, vice president for Internal Affairs; Michael James, vice president for Academic Affairs; Dan Wood, vice president for External Affairs; Brent Arndt, vice president for Activities; Jeff Chandler, director-at-large for Communications; Todd Isakson, Secretary/Treasurer.



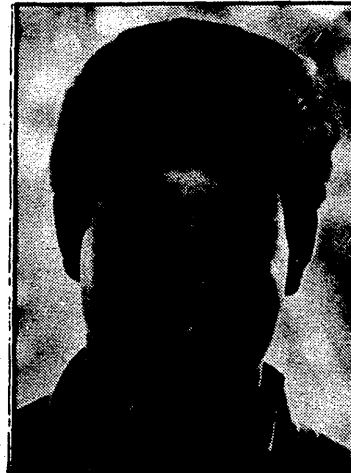
LISBETH GORDON

Services Council, and Lisbeth Gordon is the director-at-large to University Residences.

Wheatley won the USC board position with 182 votes, or 53.2 percent of the total votes. The director-at-large for USC works with students and the Board of Trustees and relays information about the USC to the AS Board.

Wheatley was unavailable for comment at press time.

Gordon received 223 votes, or 62.5 percent of the total votes. The director-at-large to residences works with the AS Board and the university residences, acting as a liaison between the two councils.



TRENT WHEATLEY



TIM CHOVANAK

High and inside

Jeff Weber, captain of the Bucky Brigade, tries to swing a victory as Lynn Hunter, catcher for the Hard Ballers and umpire Kelly Welton watch. The Hard Ballers won.

Western Front Editor Summer Quarter '85

NEEDED: Western Front Editor, Summer Quarter 1986. Pay : \$750 per quarter. To apply: submit resume' and personal statement letter by 5 p.m. Friday, May 30, to chair, Student Publications Council, c/o Journalism Department, College Hall 107. All applicants will be interviewed at 4 p.m. Thursday, June 5, in College Hall 131.

Western Front Editor Fall Quarter '85

NEEDED: Western Front Editor, Fall Quarter 1986. Pay : \$750 per quarter. To apply: submit resume' and personal statement letter by 5 p.m. Friday, May 30, to chair, Student Publications Council, c/o Journalism Department, College Hall 107. All applicants will be interviewed at 4 p.m. Thursday, June 5, in College Hall 131.

Klipsun Editor Wanted

NEEDED: Klipsun Editor, fall quarter, 1986. Pay: \$531 per quarter. To apply: submit resume' and personal statement letter by 5 p.m. Friday, May 23, to chair, Student Publications Council, c/o Journalism Department, College Hall 107. All applicants will be interviewed at 4 p.m. Thursday, May 29, in College Hall 131.

Klipsun Business Manager

NEEDED: KLIPSUN BUSINESS MANAGER for 86-87 academic year. Pay: \$1,288 per year. To apply: submit resume and personal statement letter by 5 p.m. Friday, May 16, to chair, Student Publications Council, c/o Journalism Department, College Hall 107. All applicants will be interviewed at 4 p.m. Thursday, May 22, in College Hall 131.

Jeopardy Editor Wanted

NEEDED: Jeopardy Editor for 86-87 academic year. Pay: \$1,320 per year. To apply: submit resume' and personal statement letter by 5 p.m. Friday, May 23, to Chair, Student Publications Council, c/o Journalism Department, College Hall 107. All applicants will be interviewed at 4 p.m. Thursday, May 29 in College Hall 131.

FOR YOUR INFO

Grads speak

Five Western speech/communication graduates will speak from 1 to 3 p.m. today in the Sasquatch Room, Viking Addition 350. Refreshments will be served.

Job opportunities and life after Western will be discussed by Carla Higginson, attorney and municipal court judge; Katherine Roddy, account executive for Pacific Institute; Sharon Seifert, Seattle Hyatt sales manager; Richard Schoen, sales representative for Standard Steel Company; and David Moore, Junior Achievement account executive.

Prepare for a Pow Wow

The Pacific Northwest Golden Eagle Pow Wow is Saturday and Sunday in Carver Gym. Dance competitions and other events are free, and food and crafts will be sold.

For information on this celebration of Native American culture, call the Cross-Cultural Center, 676-3460, ext. 47.

Help the hungry

May 19 to 25 is National Hunger Awareness Week. The public can help one out of every 10 people in Bellingham who use the food bank on a daily basis by donating to the Bellingham Food Bank.

Donation boxes also are

available at Ennen's grocery on Lakeway Drive and Hayden's Phase II in Fairhaven.

Welcome to Lakewood

The Associated Students Outdoor Program is sponsoring the 1986 Lakewood Open House from noon to 5 p.m., May 31 at the Lakewood facility on Lake Whatcom.

Team competitions in volleyball, canoeing and relays, plus individual sailing and sailboarding are scheduled.

For information on the Lakewood Open House, call the AS Outdoor Program, 676-3460.

The heart of the matter

Free blood pressure screenings will be offered from noon to 1 p.m. daily next week in the main lobby of Carver Gym by the Adult Fitness Program of the physical education department.

Also, hydrostatic weighings to determine percentage of body fat will be conducted Saturday. Cost to Western-related personnel is \$5, reduced from the usual \$20.

For an appointment and information, call 676-3056.

Hypertension help

High blood pressure, or hypertension, will be addressed at a lecture "Diet Rx for Hypertension" at 2 p.m., Thursday in the St. Luke's Hospital board room. Renee Belfor, hospital dietitian, will speak.

Blood pressure screenings also will be available at the lecture. For information, call 734-8300.

Volunteers needed

People with graphics experience and ideas are needed to lay out and organize a brochure for a non-profit agency that teaches safety to children.

A local convalescent home and a service organization for seniors needs visitors and people to help with errands and housecleaning.

For information about these and other volunteer opportunities, call the Voluntary Action Center, 676-8727.

Books for sale

Friends of the Bellingham Public Library will conduct their annual used book sale next week in the Lecture Room of the library. Hours are: 10 a.m. to 9 p.m., Tuesday and Wednesday, and 10 a.m. to 6 p.m., Thursday, Friday and Saturday.

Proceeds will be used to provide library services and equipment.

Staff benefits

Health-service representatives will be available to all faculty, staff and their spouses to discuss insurances and services 10 a.m. to 4 p.m. Tuesday in the Old Main Registration Center.

For information, call Western's Retirement and Insurance Office, 676-3779.

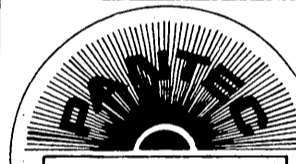
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WESTERN WASHINGTON UNIVERSITY OFFICIAL ANNOUNCEMENTS

PLEASE POST

Deadline for announcements in this space is noon Monday for the Tuesday edition and noon Thursday for the Friday edition of Western Front. Announcements should be limited to 50 words, typewritten or legibly printed, and sent through campus mail or brought in person to the Publications Office, Commissary 108. Do not address announcements directly to the Western Front. Phoned announcements will not be accepted. All announcements should be signed by originator.

SPRING BACHELOR DEGREE & INITIAL CERTIFICATE CANDIDATES: Pay degree and/or certification fees to Cashier by May 30 if you have not already done so. List of fees required for spring graduates is on file at Cashier, VU Plaza, 9 a.m. to 4 p.m. Questions on graduation requirements outstanding should be directed to Credit Evaluation section of Registrar's Office, OM230. Candidates are reminded that adjustments to evaluations on file must be approved in writing and submitted to evaluator in OM230.

MATH PLACEMENT TESTS (intermediate algebra, pre-calculus, basic algebra) will be given May 21 in Old Main 120. Fee of \$7 is payable at time of test. Students must pre-register in OM120. Bring picture ID.

MILLER ANALOGIES TEST will be given at 3 p.m. Thurs., May 22, in OM120. Registration required in Testing Center, OM120, 676-3080. Fee of \$23 (U.S.) payable at time of test. Allow 1½ hours for test.

COMPUTER SHUT DOWN: Power will be shut off to all computers in the Bond Hall Computer Center for the entire day Sat., May 24. This includes VAX-1, VAX-2, RJE, IBM 4341, Ivory, Gray, Green and the MICOM.

CELEBRATE SPRING during the Rites of Spring celebration May 20-22! Tues., May 20, is "Crazy Shorts Day." Wed., May 21, features free showing of *The Graduate* at 7 p.m. in the VU Lounge. First 100 people get free popcorn! Wed., May 22, flowers will be sold on vendor row for \$1 and Beth Margolin will be singing love songs in the VU Plaza courtyard.

HAVE FUN, MEET PEOPLE & EXPERIENCE LAKEWOOD! An open house at Lakewood is planned for noon to 5 p.m. Sat., May 31, and all campus groups and organizations are invited to participate in team competitions. Events will include volleyball, canoe races, relays and more. To enter a team, sign up at the Outdoor Program, VU113, by Mon., May 19.

IDENTITY & CULTURE FORUM presents its third session, "The Filipino Experience," from 3-4:30 p.m. Wed., May 21, in VU408. Presentors are Christina del Rosario, Pacific Lutheran University international ethnic minority adviser; Liz Partolan, WWU coordinator of support programs and services; and Consuela Dela Rosa, a senior at WWU and A.S. Volunteer Center coordinator. Final forum is May 28—"The Black Family: What Is the Crisis?"

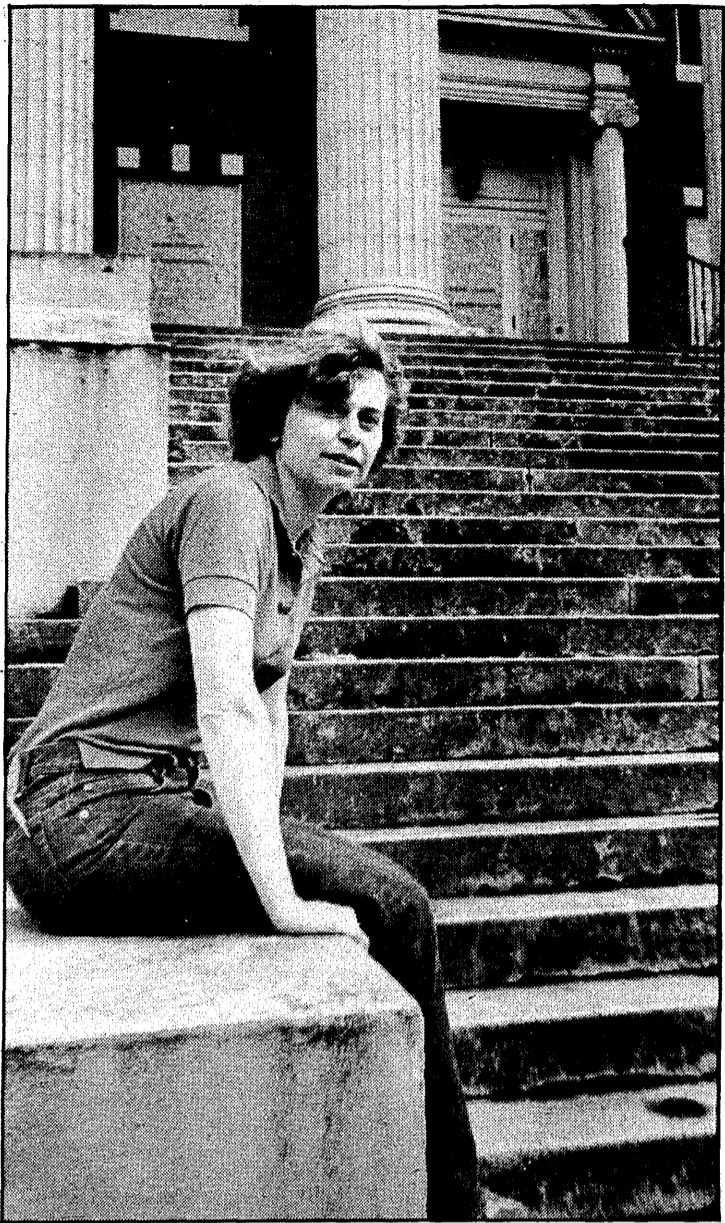
BOOK OF THE QUARTER presents its final panel, "The Schizophrenia of Neglect: Family Survival Skills and Social Action," from 4-5:30 p.m. Tues., May 20, in the WL Presentation Room.

STRATA is open daily from 8 a.m. to 4 p.m. in VU216. • **Brown-bag lunches:** noon to 1 p.m. each Wed. in VA460. • **Fifth annual STRATA cruise** is from 1-5 p.m. Sat., May 17. Tickets, at \$13 per person, include cruise aboard Rosario Princess, hors d'oeuvres, mixers, coffee and tea. Purchase tickets in VU207.

Career Planning & Placement Center Recruiting Schedule

Seniors must have their files established in the Placement Center prior to sign-up for interviews.

- Wasco Union (CA) School District, Mon., May 19. Elementary, math, science, engineering, special resources majors. Sign up on OM280.
- EMI Co. (Lynnwood, WA), Tues., May 20. Technology majors. Sign up in OM280.
- U.S. Army Officer Programs, Wed., May 21. All majors. Sign up in OM280.
- Washington State Department of Revenue, Thurs., May 22.
- Edmonds School District, Fri., May 23. Elementary education majors only. Sign up in OM280.
- First Investors Corp., Fri., May 29. All majors. Sign up in OM280.



TERRI ECHELBARGER

TIM CHOVANAK

New President urges student involvement

Echelbarger's ready for office

By Lori Robinson
staff reporter

After two years of serving on the Associated Students Board of Directors, Terri Echelbarger believes she's ready to take charge. And apparently so do the voters.

Echelbarger, who swept last week's AS election with nearly 83 percent of the votes, will begin testing her readiness during finals week when she takes over as AS Board president.

Echelbarger will work this summer with one other board member. They will be working for student concerns and preparing for the AS training sessions she initiated last year. Echelbarger said she hopes the sessions will create better working relationships.

One of her goals for the AS next year is to keep communication open between the members. "It's OK to disagree, as long as you talk," she said.

Part of the communication Echelbarger would like to improve is between board members and students.

She said it bothers her that

students don't come into the AS offices very often and that people have a hard time realizing the board members also are students.

"I get very frustrated with the impersonality of the office," she said. "I'd really just like to be another human being. I like to have fun too."

Echelbarger said she is an open and available person. She's trying to get students to come visit her in the office and find out how they can work with the board to help the university.

"Please get involved," she said. "There are volunteer opportunities in the AS. It's positive for a resume and it's positive experience."

Echelbarger said she's been working with current president Jeff Doyle, trying to create a smooth transition. But concentrating on completing her duties as vice president of Activities and being a student are priorities.

"Right now I'm trying to get things wrapped up where I am," she said. "Because of the elections, I'm behind in my homework." When board members return from summer break, they will work in the training session Echelbarger began last year, which allows them to work together and become familiar with their jobs.

She also is excited about her program, "What to do at WWU," which is designed to get new students involved with the school. Echelbarger began the program last year and had a lot of response from incoming freshmen. Her goal this year is to send surveys to all new students, including transfer students that last year's survey missed.

Echelbarger transferred to Western two years ago, after attending five different colleges.

While in Bellingham, she has worked with local non-profit organizations, including the United Way, where she served as an intern for six months.

She said she also enjoys working with high school students, and probably will work with them after she graduates next year.

She worked for seven years at the YMCA and still keeps in contact with people there. Next month she will take a week off to help train summer camp counselors.

Echelbarger said she wants to enact policies based on student concerns, but before she can act on the problems she has to know what they are. The only way she can learn about the complaints is for the students to tell her.

"Get involved," she said. "Make an investment because it's worth it."

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Frontline

Aren't two deaths important enough?

Death is pretty severe. It comes only once in a lifetime.

And when a death is as tragic as the two that have occurred at Western in the past two years, we should learn something from them.

Jeffrey Mohn and Michael Kushins died because they had too much alcohol in their bodies. They died in vain.

Their deaths might not have been in vain if they had changed something, but they didn't affect us. We still drink and party while others look the other way. Death didn't affect the others, either.

Western's administration cares enough about the problem to recognize its existence and create the Committee on Alcohol and Substance Abuse to investigate the university's apparent alcohol-abuse problem. Yet Peter Elich, dean of the College of Arts and Sciences and chairman of the committee, said he has every reason to believe what Western is doing now is "perfectly fine."

Perfectly fine? Tell that to the families of Mohn and Kushins. Tell that to their friends.

The committee formed six months ago, yet Elich said, "We are collecting information and that's all. We have no recommendations or conclusions at this time. We're in no hurry to finish."

Neither were Mohn and Kushins in any hurry to die.

How many more will have to die until we think it's important enough to really respond?

Who has to find the solution? If Elich's attitude is typical of those who have the power to implement policies and reforms then what can we expect? How severe must it become?

It's more than requesting recommendations and creating committees to investigate and discuss. It's firmly setting policies that will prevent future tragedies.

The memories of Mohn and Kushins demand it.

Voters need to pay to go to WSL polls

Apparently the poll tax didn't go out with the 14th Amendment of the U.S. Constitution.

In May 25's Washington Student Lobby elections, only students who paid the \$1 donation to the WSL by not checking the box on their fee-billing cards will be allowed to vote.

Candidates for the five local WSL chapter positions also must have paid the \$1. They will argue in the legislature for the benefit of all students, so all students, not just those who doled out an extra dollar at tuition-paying time, should have the chance to select who to put in the lobbying boxing ring.

WSL elections have not drawn a substantial proportion of the student body in the past. In 1984, 12 people voted. Last year, nine votes were cast in a tally that gave Western President G. Robert Ross two write-in votes.

This year's restrictions could make the nine votes look like a mandate.

Maybe the WSL is using the \$1 as a carrot to tease us into the right to participate in the spring elections. The trick probably won't draw a donation from some mules.

Limiting the voting requirements is an exclusive move that slams the door on students who may have useful and influential contributions for the WSL.

The kind that don't come out of the pocketbook.

The Western Front

Karen Jenkins, *editor-in-chief* • Andy Perdue, *managing editor*
Jackie Soler, *news editor* • Tricia Meriwether, *opinion editor*
Judy A. Averill, *features editor* • Ann Evans, *sports editor*
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Lyle E. Harris, *adviser*

Editorials reflect the majority opinion of *The Front* editorial board: the editor-in-chief, managing editor, news editor, opinion editor and copy chief. Signed commentaries and cartoons are the opinions of the authors. Guest commentaries and letters are welcome. Four pages of *The Front* are funded by student fees. The rest is funded by advertising. Advertisements in *The Front* do not reflect the opinion of *The Front*.

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This Week on "LEAVE IT TO DEEVER"

"The Deav" gets his Whitehouse Pass taken away while the government decides whether or not he's broken the law. But does that stop the little goof?...



Will we wake up?

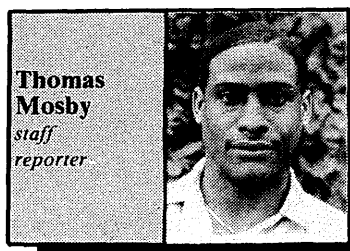
Nuclear nightmares forever

Gentlemen of the Soviet and American governments, here we go again with another nuclear-nightmare accident.

Will your superiors tell us what really is going on with these nuclear fires? This fire is the type that continues to take lives long after it has been extinguished. Didn't our mothers tell us never to play with fire, let alone nuclear fire? If our mothers had known the effects of nuclear fire they would have washed our mouths out with soap if we even talked about breaking ground for a nuclear plant.

The word "nuclear" is a dirty word in regards to the potential devastating effects it can have on the human race.

Three Mile Island wasn't enough of an indication of future nuclear fallouts. Now the Soviet accident at the Chernobyl nuclear plant has given the whole world a bad case of nuclear pho-



Thomas Mosby
staff reporter

bia, and a radioactive cloud that still is spreading from country to country, including the United States.

Who needs nuclear weapons and power anyway? The world would be content without nuclear power, weapons and waste, or any other form of radiation that has our superiors on a quest for our self destruction.

The two bullies on the block spend billions of dollars every year trying to protect themselves from a seemingly inevitable face-off.

OK super powers, it's time to

lay down your nuclear arms, bullish ways and big bucks, and start talking about a real solution to our potential nuclear holocaust.

Americans don't want Communists in their back yard and Communists don't particularly care for the American way of life. But if we continue on our present course of nuclear-nightmare accidents, we won't have a back yard, or a way of life.

It's time to stop playing Russian-American roulette. Nuclear explosions are not some game of hopscotch where you jump from one accident to another.

In view of the Three Mile Island accident and now Chernobyl, it seems we've landed on the wrong square too many times.

Our superiors should grasp the obvious and seriously talk this time. Or will the next nuclear accident annihilate life as we know it today?

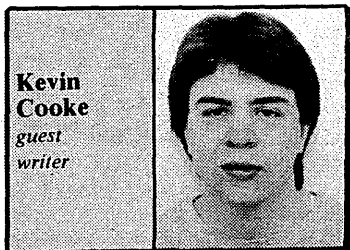
Guest commentary

People stating the obvious

Through countless years brilliant minds have worked together to form this great land into today's America. Unfortunately, today's Americans are treated like idiots. Let's face it, we don't give ourselves any credit for being intelligent, and quite frankly, I'm worried about it.

Example one. I'm standing at the cash machine, and my money just slid out of the little slot. As I reach for it and try to ignore the machine's stupid noises, I notice for the first time what is printed on the screen. "Please take cash." Do I need to be told do this? "Whoa Bill, not so fast. According to the screen here we're supposed to take this money with us."

Come on. When the bank employees show up for work in the morning do they flip a coin to see who has to go and collect all those forgotten 20s? I don't think so, but evidently someone thinks we're pretty dumb or the directions wouldn't be there.



Kevin Cooke
guest writer

What's next? Will the pre-pay, self-serve gas station attendants start reminding us to pump the gas in before driving off? They already think we're at a fourth-grade-education level: "1.) Remove nozzle. 2.) Insert into tank. 3.) Pump gas. 4.) When finished replace nozzle."

Now there's a challenge. Boy, before they put those four steps up there I'd always get those wacky steps 2 and 3 mixed up. I'd pump for hours, and my car would never be full. I'd be soaking wet and smelling like gas all day. It was terrible. It's a good

thing I don't smoke.

Perhaps these unseen people, who decide to remind us of the painfully obvious, think we're stupid because of the idiocy present in our daily conversations. I do hope most of us are smarter than we sound because we say some dumb things.

For example, I say to my friend, "Hey, what's the name of that girl we saw today?"

My friend says, "Who?"

Obviously I can't answer him or I wouldn't have asked in the first place.

How about people who ask if you have the correct time? If you knew it was incorrect wouldn't you do something about it? "No, sorry. My watch has been stuck at 4:15 for about three weeks now."

Perhaps the day will come when we can pride ourselves in knowing we don't have to be told the obvious. Until then always remember: Never wave goodbye to your friends when boarding a helicopter.

Reader representative Letters must be short and concise

Readers are allowed an outlet for their opinions in the letters-to-the-editor section every issue.

The *Front* welcomes letters on all points of view, including those critical of the paper or those with the intent to entertain.

Some letter writers have complained their pieces have not been published.

Unfortunately, *The Front* usually receives more letters than it has the space to accommodate.

Tricia Meriwether, opinion editor, said she selects which letters to print by content. She said she leads the section with letters that address items the paper has published.

After that, it's by space. Meriwether said she tries to print every letter *The Front* receives, but when they are run depends on the room she has.

Bruce Vanderpool, who copy edits the opinion section, indicated more letters could be printed if writers obeyed the 300-word limit, as stated in the letters box at the top of the page.

Writers should try to keep their letters to that length.

But the letters section is an important forum for public debate, information and right of reply for those criticized in the paper. Because of this purpose,

The Front should devote as much space as possible for letters.

* * *

During basketball season this year, faithful fans of the women's basketball team complained about the coverage of the sport in *The Front*.

They charged the men's basketball team received more coverage than the women's team.

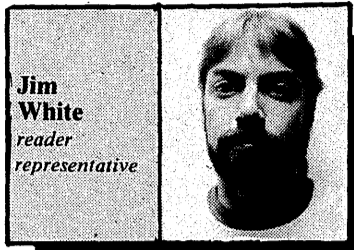
Upon investigation, it was calculated that men got 314 column inches of space (a column inch is one inch x one column, or two inches). The women received an overwhelming 484 column inches. The two sports equally traded off the lead position in the sports section.

Just so the men don't feel slighted, the reason the women received more space is because they played more games—since they were in the playoffs.

* * *

For someone so famous (or infamous), Moammar Khadafy's name has yet to become a household word—as far as spelling goes.

Jim Thomsen, former *Front* reporter, recently complained the paper consistently had "bas-



Jim White
reader
representative

tardized the man's name in print" by spelling it a number of different ways.

Thomsen questioned what the cause of the problem was and suggested *The Front* derive a policy on the spelling of the Libyan leader's name.

Yes, a consistent spelling is needed.

Just browsing through a few issues of *The Front* has revealed such derivatives since the beginning of the year as: Muammar Qadafi, Kaddafi, Khadaffi, Khadafy and Moammar Khadaffy.

The problem is not entirely a case of misspelling but also is a matter of style—a newspaper policy that decides a consistent manner of writing something when more than one correct way exists.

Khadaffy's name is Arabic, and thus Arabic characters are used to spell it. When his name is translated into the Western alphabet, several variations on it can be derived, and none of them necessarily are wrong.

Because of this, newspapers and magazines have adopted

their own style to use in spelling his name. Machele Martin, *Front* copy chief, said *The Front's* style for spelling his name is "Moammar Khadaffy."

If this indeed is the paper's style, the staff should make sure it uses it and none of the other versions.

Even an alleged terrorist deserves to have his name spelled consistently.

* * *

A complaint doesn't do much good if it can't be followed up.

A few weeks ago, someone who identified himself as "Ken" left a message at *The Front* stating he had a gripe about the paper. He said he could be reached at the Counseling Center.

Upon returning his call, the center claimed it had no idea who Ken was or what his complaint might be.

So Ken, whoever you are, if you're still a little upset or confused, give a ring back.

* * *

Reader Representative Jim White's column appears in *The Front* every other Friday. If you have a complaint or comment about the fairness or accuracy of anything in the newspaper, contact White in *The Front* newsroom in College Hall 09 telephone 676-3160.

Another stab at Kremlin-fed AS?

Western Front:

I sure am glad that those signs warned me to "Beware" of that upcoming sinful day that actually purports to support the rights of others. WHEW! I might have worn jeans this Wednesday and actually practiced an ounce of tolerance. Justice seeping on to our campus would just seem too radical. Surely, Ed Lowry will agree that the Kremlin was behind this new Associated Students attempt to make students think.

I especially appreciate how the anonymously members of the campaign to save the heterosexuals illegally posted their posters so the grounds crew can spend some extra time cleaning up after them. Easy visibility is ensured. Now no one will miss their chance to leave their jeans in the closet.

Stephani Lourie

Dump the ugly election posters

Western Front:

The AS elections commenced on the 6th of May and were over, (thank God), at the end of the following day. In the week before the election, and in a spate of activity, the building surfaces of the campus were virtually festooned with electioneering banners, fliers and other assorted visual irritation. Clearly many of these masterpieces are a testament to the skills of the budding graphic artistry in the AS child-care facility. The talent here is self-evident.

Unfortunately, almost a week after the final ballot was cast, we're still haunted by the last vestiges of failed campaign efforts. The now weathered and unsightly propaganda flutters in the spring wind like some political prayer flag invoking supplication to the respective Gods of election; certainly not Athene however, she was the Greek goddess of wisdom.

Wouldn't it be a good idea to make a rule that all election campaign material be removed as quickly as it appears?

Eric J. Esswein

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Gays discuss religion

Jo Anne Fosler
staff reporter

Being a Christian provides a community of sharing that most of its members find comforting, unless you're gay and Christian, said one member of the audience at Wednesday night's discussion of gays and Christianity.

A panel of four discussed these problems as part of Gay and Lesbian Pride Week at Western, sponsored by the Sexual Minority Center.

More than 40 people attended the discussion. The panel included Bob Harrison of Campus Christian Ministry, Dick Christensen of Faith Lutheran Church of Bellingham, Gretchen De Roche of Church Council of

Greater Seattle, and Randy Engstrom of Grace Gospel Chapel in Seattle.

Three of the four panelists said they had a direct association with the topic. De Roche is the mother of a gay son, Harrison was married to a lesbian and Engstrom is a homosexual.

Central to the discussion was the acceptance by other Christians of homosexuals. The panel discussed the idea of Christians accepting the homosexual but not their sexual preferences (accepting the sinner and not the sin). Harrison said since homosexuality was an inherent characteristic of the person, it is not possible to make this distinction.

Various passages from the Bible were discussed and when

the panel was asked if it thought homosexual acts were considered sin in the mind of God, the overall response was no.

The panel said it believed God judges homosexual relationships in the same way he judges heterosexual relationships, based on the emotional commitment behind them.

Christensen said he feels God frowns on promiscuity and treating other human beings as objects, regardless of what sex those people are.

A group of students, from the Calvary Temple, in Bellingham, defended Bible teachings against homosexuality. The panel indicated, however, no Bible passage exists that specifically mentions homosexuality.

Homophobic attitudes displayed on posters, unsanctioned by AS

Early Tuesday morning an unknown person or persons put up dozens of posters around campus reading "BEWARE, if you support being gay wear blue jeans on Wednesday."

Wednesday was the Sexual Minorities Center's "Blue Jean Day." As part of "Gay Pride Week" they encouraged everyone supporting gay rights to wear jeans on that day.

Rick Ruben, assistant coordinator of the center, said the posters are a perfect example of homophobia, the fear of homosexuals. The posters were not sanctioned by the Associated Students.

"I'm positive it's a homophobic response to 'Gay Pride Week,'" he said. "Whoever put them up there spent a lot of money on Xeroxing," Ruben said. "The people who put them up there did a really good job. I mean, they're all over the place."

Every morning Ruben said he has to go out and re-post announcements about "Gay Pride Week." Twenty-five percent of the center's own posters have been either torn down or postered over, he said.

Ruben said he hopes people will notice how many signs get torn down.

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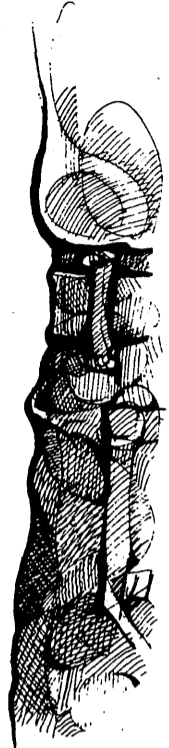
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Homophobia focuses on fear



By Lisa Heisey
staff reporter

Fear of homosexuals was the focus of a discussion Monday in the Viking Union Lounge.

Speakers included, President of the Dorian group in Seattle, Jim Holms; and Nancy Welton of the Seattle Office of Women's Rights. The discussion focused on homophobia and homosexuality with a lively audience of about 50 gays and heterosexuals.

Homophobia is the fear of homosexuals or homosexuality. Welton said gays are disliked because they are surrounded by myths and stereotypes. When she asked the audience what homosexual myths exist, a variety of responses were given.

Someone said, "All lesbians hate men," and another added, "They're too ugly to get a man." Others said gay men were raised by domineering mothers and all they think about is sex. "Homosexuals want children (for sexual gratification)," some said. Or gays are "incapable of having lasting relationships."

Welton said myths and stereotypes such as these are distortions of isolated incidents based on heresy.

Attaching a label loaded with false stereotypes to someone causes people to only look at the label, not the individual, she said.

"The danger of stereotyping is that it dehumanizes people," she said. "Then it's used to justify discrimination."

Gays and lesbians are cut off from society in many ways, Welton said. She said they feel isolated from family members and friends. They also are cut off from all the cultural beliefs they grew up with, especially those dealing with who they were sexually.

"Lesbians are cut off from the myth of Prince Charming," she said. "It just isn't the same to substitute 'Princess Charming.'"

"All the things that validate us as people just didn't apply anymore," she said. The

result is many internal pains. To deal with that, homosexuals are forced to create their own rituals and myths, Welton said.

Homophobia also can be present within members of the gay community, because they grew up thinking that homosexuality is "not normal."

Holms called this "internalized homophobia." He said a homosexual individual can, at times, dislike the part of him or herself that is gay.

Though Welton said she had been out of the closet, that is, publicly open about her homosexuality, for eight years, she can still feel the stigma of being homosexual. "You just have to be who you are. It's so much easier," she said.

Coming out

Though Welton and Holms grew up in different parts of the country they still experienced the same kinds of feelings and pressures when they realized they were homosexual.

Born in the Midwest, Welton was raised in a fundamentalist Christian family, where life, she said, revolved around the church. In high school she dated the boy she later married after graduating from Bible school. He wanted to be a preacher and by this time she had realized what her mission in life was.

"I decided to convert Catholics to Christianity," she said. Even though she experienced crushes on girls, she just didn't talk about it and decided to ignore it.

In her early twenties, after being exposed to feminism and working professionally in women's programs, she had a sexual fantasy about a woman.

"I cried for three hours," she said. "My whole view of the world was changing."

Later she moved to Seattle on her own

and became immersed in the lesbian subculture, eventually obtaining a position in the public information office for the Office of Women's Rights, which she has occupied for the last five years.

Holms grew up in Kent, Wa. He described himself as a little fat kid.

"Anything that is worse than being a little gay kid, is being a fat kid," he said.

Coming out for him involved telling his friends first, but he found out they already knew.

Next he had his "coming out" on the professional level. He said he was nervous about telling his employers because his job involved programs for youths. Many homophobics believe homosexuals want to use children for sexual gratification.

After he told them, they said, "Well, it's about time, Jim." Holms said he was lucky because his employers really didn't care whether he was gay or not.

After he became president of the Dorian Group, a nationally affiliated homosexual rights activist group, Holms found himself on local television defending "peep shows." Peep shows, usually seen by gay men, are small coin operated movie projectors that show short pornographic films.

At this time, Holms had never even heard of peep shows, and more importantly, had never told his parents that he was gay.

"I thought I'd better tell them quick before they saw me on TV defending peep shows," he said laughing.

He called them to dinner the night before the segment was to be aired. After blurting it out, he realized his parents had known all along. Though his mother never had really admitted it to herself, she knew, he said. All his father said was, "Jim, we weren't born yesterday."

Violence against gays

Ten percent of the population is gay, and of this ten percent, 90 percent have been assaulted either physically or verbally.

During the forum an ABC "20/20" segment was shown to the audience depicting the ever increasing assaults on gays and lesbians. Homophobics, it said, are now using AIDS (acquired immunodeficiency syndrome) as an excuse to beat up homosexuals.

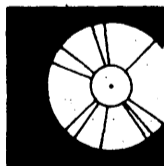
According to the segment, AIDS has been incorrectly labeled the "gay disease," and the fear of AIDS shouldn't be used to justify beating up homosexuals.

The segment went on to say homosexuals always have been beaten up, or what is called "queer bashing," because the attackers believe gays are "sick."

Many young males, high school or college aged, are at a point in their lives when stating who they are is important, the segment said. At this time they may be having a lot of mixed emotions about who they are sexually. They may feel threatened and react violently toward gays.

Though some audience members mentioned local "queer bashing" incidences, R.G. Peterson, University Police chief, said he didn't know of any such assaults on homosexuals on campus. "or at least it has not been brought to our attention," he said.

Welton and Holms stressed that education is the key to breaking down some of the barriers that exist between homosexuals and heterosexuals. When you talk about gays, it's about more than just sex or lifestyles, Welton said. It's about people.



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Season ends with shutout

By Jim Wilkie
staff reporter

The Western women's lacrosse team ended its regular season with an embarrassing 21-0 loss to the Seattle Women's Lacrosse Club at Seattle's Interbay Field on Sunday.

Western Player-Coach Mary Manix said the Mother's Day Games are an annual event for "people to get together and have a good time." Obviously Seattle had a better time than Western.

A second game was supposed to be played against the University of Washington, but the Huskies couldn't field enough players so the game was cancelled.

"We were minus a few key defense players and one

(Daniela Mayer) was just returning from injuries," Manix said.

Manix said Western had just enough players to field a team this week and some newer players got in some "valuable playing time."

"The lesser experienced players are still catching on," she said.

This weekend, the Vikings will travel to Davis, Calif. for the North American Women's Lacrosse Association Tournament.

"I think we'll have a really good chance (in the tournament)," Manix said.

The 12-team tournament will be split into two divisions depending on a team's experience. Western is in the "B" division for teams with less than five years playing experience.

"Last year we placed well, finishing fourth out of eight (teams)," Manix said.

She said some Viking players suffered from sunstroke last year when they played in California because they weren't prepared for the warmer weather.

Manix said the Vikings have been preparing for the hotter weather in Davis by working-out harder in practice and by cutting down on salt in their diets.

"We're trying to get used to how hot it's going to be because it (the weather in Calif.) wears you down a lot quicker (than in Wash.)," Manix said.

Western will play each of the five other teams in its division once, with first to sixth places determined by win-loss records.

Warthogs grub up All-Maggot victory

By Craig Daly
staff reporter

Western's Warthogs finished their season last weekend, playing some of their best rugby of the year against collegiate and club teams from all over North America in The Missoula All-Maggot Maggot Festival.

Western won three of its four tournament contests despite extreme weather conditions.

While no one will ever mistake Montana for Palm Springs, the Warthogs had to be wondering how much stranger the weather could get when a near-blizzard broke out during their last game.

"It was crazy," Western's Harley Tat said. "Ten minutes it would be raining, (then) ten minutes it would be hailing and in another ten minutes it would be snowing."

"You couldn't see very far," Pete Dohrn said. "It was warm to

begin with, but then the snow started coming down nearly horizontal."

In the first game, Western beat the Rainbow Rugby Club from Houston, 24-6. Scoring for Western were Tim Meyer, Todd Richo, Pete Dohrn and Al Stephenson with one try each. Dohrn also made all four conversion kicks.

In the second game, the Warthogs defeated the Saskatoon Rugby Club 9-6. Western outplayed Saskatoon, particularly at forward but failed to take advantage of several scoring opportunities. Rob Holden's 25-yard drop kick and Duncan Sobel's 30-yard run won the game for Western.

After losing to the Medicine Hat Club team from Alberta, Canada, 18-3, the Warthogs came back to beat the Calgary Rugby Club 7-0 in the fourth and final game.

Despite the icy field conditions, Joe Dockery weaved through the defense on a spectacular run from mid-field, breaking three or four tackles for the only try. Dohrn added a 35-yard drop kick to complete the scoring.

The tournament left Western with a season record of 10-4.

"Maybe we'll take the division" next year. All of our players are returning and we finished this season strongly with some good team play," Tat said.



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Crew unseated in Sacramento

By Jeffrey Pedersen
staff reporter

Western's crew teams traveled south this past weekend to balmy Sacramento, Calif., not to vacation, but to compete in the annual Pacific Coast Rowing Championships.

The two-day long Pacific Coast Championship is considered the largest and best organized intercollegiate rowing competition in the world.

Six Viking boats, three men's and three women's, competed in the 22-school regatta against most of the major West coast universities.

"For the most part, we did some good racing against good competition," said Men's Coach Fil Leanderson. "The Pacific Coast Championships are some of the finest rowing you can see in the United States. You can't find any better."

Western started on a high note Saturday morning with the women's novice-four outdistancing five other schools and winning by a large margin. After this

preliminary result, many thought the Western boat would be the team to beat in Sunday's grand final. But it wasn't to be.

Coming off the starting line in Sunday's final, the novice-four crew established themselves solidly in second place with a good chance of taking over the first position.

At about the thousand-meter mark, half-way through the course, one of the rowers seats came off its tracks forcing the Viking boat to slow considerably.

After fixing the problem the rowers were able to climb back into second place. But the seat came off again and Western fell behind. The Vikings finished last in what might have been a first place finish if not for the faulty equipment, said Women's Coach Tyler Meyers.

"They know they could've won it," Meyers said. "Saturday was a great day for them. They did a great job, but Sunday was a heartbreaking experience."

The women's lightweight-eight entered the regatta with an unbeaten season record. Their

winning streak was broken, however, on Saturday when they failed to qualify, by only one second, as one of the top three boats in the preliminary heats for the grand final.

"I think the team agreed that it was their worst performance this season," Meyers said. "But Sunday, they came out and rowed the way they know how."

In Sunday's petite final, a race for those not qualifying for the grand final, the women's lightweight-eight rebounded from the previous day's disappointment and won the event in 7 minutes 35.03 seconds, topping second place University of California-Davis, who finished in 7:41.66.

The women's open-four boat finished fourth out of six boats in its final heat.

In the men's rowing competition, Western's lightweight-eight collected six opposing jerseys by winning their petite final on Sunday. The lightweight-eights beat U.C. Davis at the finish in 6:30.05 with the Californians

close behind at 6:30.43.

"They didn't row as good Saturday as they could have," Leanderson said. "But they came back on Sunday with a good finish."

The Western's lightweight-eight finishing time was the third fastest overall and would have been good enough for third place in the grand final had the Vikings qualified for it on Saturday.

The men's varsity-eight started out slowly on Saturday. In their preliminary heat the first 1,000-meters proved to be slow going for the varsity team as it fell to sixth place.

But within the last 500 meters of the course the Vikings pulled from sixth into third place, behind first-place Stanford and second-place Long Beach State. This landed the team a spot in the Sunday grand final where it finished sixth.

The men's novice-eight also qualified for finals on Sunday finishing fifth out of seven boats.

The teams will decide later this week whether or not to compete in Seattle.

Golf team blows out opponents

For the second straight year, the men's golf team dominated the National Association of Intercollegiate Athletes District I Championships with a 16-stroke victory Monday and Tuesday in Yakima.

The Vikings extended their winning streak to six-straight tournaments by shooting 929 at the 54-hole tournament.

Central Washington University was second with 945, Simon Fraser University was third with 970, Pacific Lutheran University was fourth with 991, Whitman College was fifth with 994 and the University of Puget Sound was sixth with 1,052.

The victory qualified Western for the June 2-6, NAIA National Championships in Montgomery, Ala. Last year at Nationals Western placed 19th as a team and Steve Nightingale placed 67th individually with a score of 171.

Western was led by Dave Campbell, who took medalist honors with a score of 226. Al Patterson was second with 229, Nightingale was fourth with 231, Eric Aaserud tied for tenth with 243 and Ed McMahon finished with 253.

The Vikings established an early lead with a team score of 298 in the first of three rounds, 14 ahead of second-place Central. Despite winds up to 25-30 miles per hour in the second round, Western added another two strokes to its lead with a 316.

The Vikings shot 315 on the last day of the tournament to win the competition.

"Our opening-round kind of set the stage," Patterson said. "It's a pretty hard course with narrow greens."

Although playing the tournament on the windy Elks Club Course gave host-team Central an advantage during the last two rounds, the Wildcats were unable to make up for Western's excellent first round.

"If I had a bulldozer and some time, I'd bulldoze that course," Nightingale said. "It was ugly out there."

"I wish we could play all of our tournaments at home. A lot of teams hate Sudden Valley (Western's home course) because it's so wet. It really gives us an advantage."

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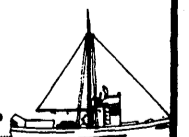
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Showdown between father and son in 'Playboy'.

MIKE GWYNN

By N.S. Nokkentved
Arts and Entertainment Editor

"The Playboy of the Western World" will transport you to the wild coast of Mayo in the west of Ireland.

An impeccable set, excellent lighting and Irish music set the mood of this enigmatic play. John Synge's masterpiece draws on the irony and frustrations of rural Irish culture around the turn of the century.

The people of a small village make a hero, or playboy in the local dialect, of a squatter's young son, Christy Mahon, ably played by David Churchill.

He has struck down his father, played by Jason Thor Troms-

ness, and left him for dead. Seeking sympathy for his act of passion in the near-by village, he is seen by the villagers as embodying all their wild imaginings, all the things they lack the courage to be.

The villagers build up their 'playboy' to heroic proportions. The daughter of the local innkeeper, Peegen Mike, played by Carol Beverly Fox, falls in love with the image they have created.

The villagers are angered when it is discovered that Christy's father is not dead. He is despised by the villagers for betraying their shallow dream, and they turn on him.

The innkeeper, played by

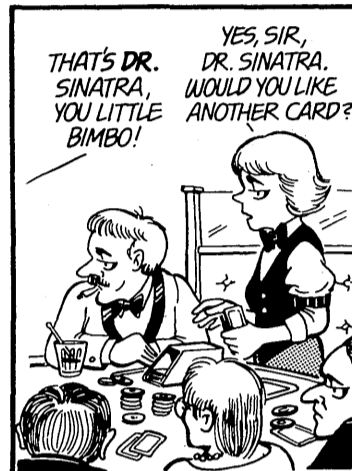
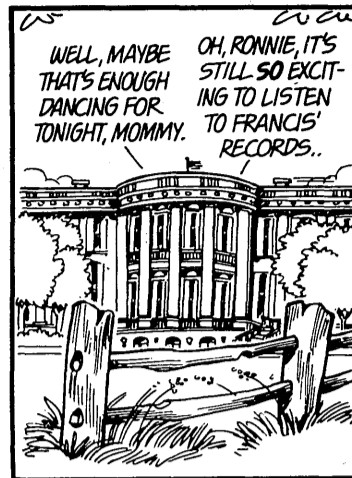
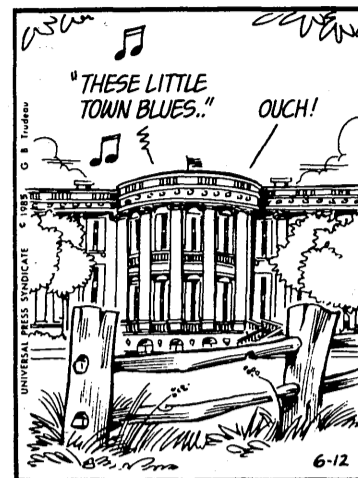
Michael-Peter Kleven, returns from a wake quite drunk, but his drunken state was inconsistent. Two villagers were quite drunk. Philly Cullen, played by C. Richard Harper seemed forced, but Jimmy Farrell, played by P.J. Sirl, was convincing.

The principle characters carried the play well in spite of these minor distractions, and they were aided by a strong supporting cast.

"Playboy" is a presentation of Western's Theatre/Dance department and will show tonight and Saturday at 7:30 on the mainstage in the Performance Arts Center. Tickets are \$4 for the general public and \$3 for students.

Doonesbury

BY GARRY TRUDEAU



Doonesbury reproduced from the book "That's Doctor Sinatra, you little bimbo," courtesy of Henry Holt and Company.

Sinatra not laughing at Trudeau's humor

By J. Thomas Bauer
staff reporter

"Old Blue Eyes" is back, and Gary Trudeau's got him—got him good.

Frank Sinatra, the man whose songs your parents made love to (or at least danced to) is one of the targets of Trudeau's latest "Doonesbury" book, "That's Doctor Sinatra, You Little Bimbo."

The book is the second "Doonesbury" book since Trudeau's self-imposed hiatus. The book takes its title from an infamous segment of the strip which recounted Sinatra receiving a Medal of Freedom award and an honorary doctorate.

The strip showed a photograph of Sinatra chumming with members of the mafia, including Aniello Dellacroce who was later charged with the murder of a member of another mafia family.

The strip was pulled from several newspapers for the duration of the segment. Some newspapers pulled the strip for good.

"Doonesbury" thrives on the political controversy and the social trends of American society.

A quick rundown of the issues

Trudeau tosses barbs at are: spring break in Fort Lauderdale, Reagan's "Bitburg" mess, the homeless, protests, an anti-abortion film called "Silent Scramion II," racism in Palm Beach, the dangers of tanning, the "USA for Africa" folks, single life, designer drugs, modern art, apartheid and "Miami Vice."

It's doubtful a reader would come across these themes in "Peanuts," "Blondie" or "Nancy."

Themes are the important consideration, here.

Trudeau is a master of topical humor, and "Doonesbury" is a topical cartoon. Topicality is "Doonesbury's" greatest asset and worst enemy.

The timelessness of "Doonesbury" cartoons chiefly rely on the timelessness of individual issues, and individual issues do not always stay fresh within the minds of the public. This is why the strip has so much more bite on the newspaper page, than it does compiled in a book.

Compiled in a book, the purpose of Trudeau's strip has changed, but not always for the worse. It becomes less of an editorial comment and more of a history of recent times.

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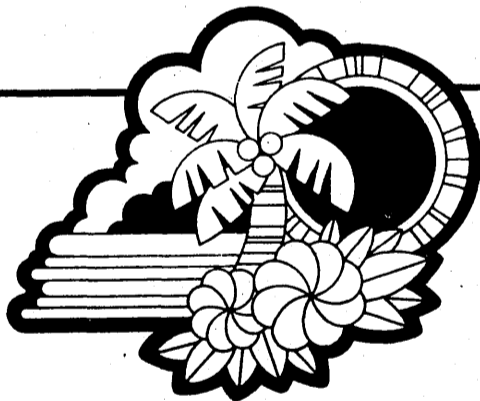
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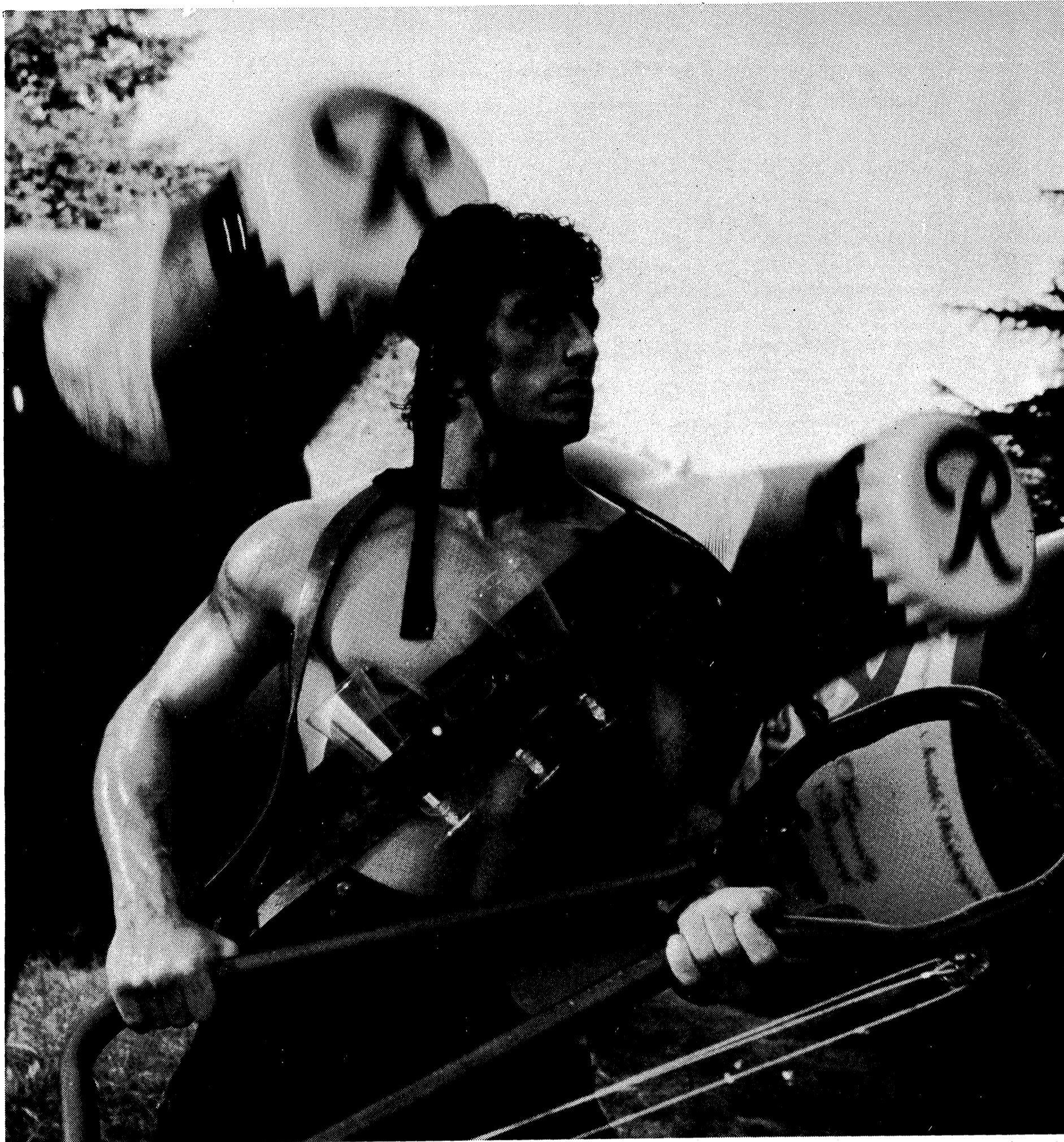


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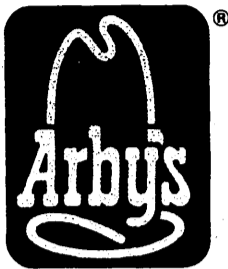
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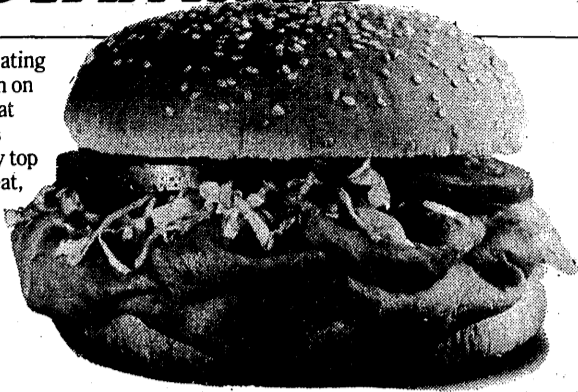
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Revisions approved by Faculty Senate

By Craig Crandall
staff reporter

Changes in the guidelines for faculty appointments, equal employment opportunity and determining conflict-of-interest were among faculty handbook revisions approved Tuesday at a special meeting of the Faculty Senate.

Senate President Robert Thorndike said it was important to revise and approve the handbook before June 3. After this date the handbook would have to be considered by next year's senate and the revision procedure would have to be repeated.

Thorndike began work on the handbook in December of 1984.

The purpose of the

handbook, it reads, is to "provide a guide by which faculty members and the administration conduct their relations with each other in matters of faculty employment, welfare, rights and responsibilities."

The addition of "pregnancy" was made to Section VII of the university's equal employment opportunity policy. The original policy states, "It is the policy of the Board of Trustees of Western Washington University to provide equal employment regardless of race, color, religion, national origin, sex, age, marital status, sexual orientation, Vietnam or disabled veteran status, or, except as provided by law: the presence of sensory, mental or physical handicap."

A revision was made in paragraph three of the conflict of interest resulting from the family relationship section of the handbook. The addition to the paragraph was, "No family member shall review or handle funds under another family member in faculty."

More than two hours after the special senate meeting was called to order, members approved the revised edition of the handbook by a vote of 20-0. Next the senate will submit it to the Board of Trustees for approval.

Who is this Man?



Watch this space

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SPECIAL REPORT

D.W.I.

Special to *The Western Front* May 16, 1986, Western Washington University, Bellingham, Wash.



Two alcohol-related deaths have occurred at Western within two years.

In October 1984, Jeffrey Mohn, a Western freshman from Mercer Island, leaped from his third-floor Nash room. His blood-alcohol level was .13. In March 1986, Michael Kushins, a visitor from Woodinville, toppled from the fourth-floor balcony of a Fairhaven residence room. His blood-alcohol level was .20. Both were *Dead While Intoxicated*.

Excessive and illegal drinking at Western and many

American college campuses has been a problem for many years, but with these two deaths and the national push against drinking and driving, what, if anything, has changed in the attitudes and policies of people at Western toward alcohol consumption?

Dead While Intoxicated

enforcers at the campus police department, and the residence staff and students in the on-campus housing community.

This report tests Western's pulse, examining the attitudes of the policy makers in Old Main and University Residences, the

D.W.I. — Dead While Intoxicated

Student suicide still haunts RA

By Brian Bean

On Oct. 4, 1984, Jeffrey David Mohn, a freshman with little more than two weeks of college behind him, leaped headfirst to his death from a third-floor Nash Hall room.

His blood-alcohol level was .13. A blood-alcohol level of .10 is considered legally drunk.

Lt. Chuck Page of Western's University Police conducted an investigation and concluded Jeff committed suicide.

In the December 4, 1984 edition of *The Front*, Page said, "I look at the evidence and there's no doubt in my mind. It probably was a fleeting impulse thing he did. Alcohol played a big part. If his judgment had not been impaired, he probably would not have done it."

Unanswered questions still loom in the mind of one person associated with Jeff.

"It was really unexpected," said Mike Hillis, Jeff's resident adviser. "I just kept asking myself, 'How could he do it? What could I have done? What could be changed to make sure it doesn't happen again?'"

Shortly after Jeff's body was discovered, Hillis was awakened by Nash Resident Director Stephan Schier.

"Stephan came to my door and told me one of my residents was on the basketball court," Hillis said. "I didn't pick up what he meant and I asked him what one of my residents was doing on the court at this time of night. Then he explained Jeff was dead."

Hillis saw Jeff twice on Oct. 4. The first time was about 12:30 a.m. Jeff and some of his friends were watching "The Tonight Show" when Hillis stopped by to check in on them. The next time he saw the freshman resident, Jeff's body was covered with a sheet.

Hillis remembers, "It was hard because I had to identify the body. Then I went back to Stephan's apartment and sat. I felt guilty because I was responsible to a certain degree."

"All of the RAs woke when Jeff landed, but we thought it was just Georgia Pacific," Hillis said. "Actually, it sounded like the pipes were knocking again."

Shock, confusion and grief plagued the



"It was really unexpected. I just kept asking myself, 'How could he do it? What could I have done? What could be changed to make sure it doesn't happen again?'"

—Mike Hillis

third floor of Nash Hall—feelings exhibited when a friend is lost. Feelings shown not only by the residence staff, but by the students as well.

Don Giddings, a counselor who works part time at Western's Counseling Center, was called in to give support to resident advisers and students who knew Jeff. Later he spoke to the rest of the students living in Nash in a special hall meeting.

Giddings was working as part of a "crisis intervention" program to avert a "ripple effect" that sometimes follows a death or suicide.

"The whole floor was shocked. The next night, we had a floor meeting. It was a rap session to let everyone say what was on their minds," Hillis said.

"Our whole staff went through a counseling session with a psychologist. More or less, he told us we couldn't take responsibility for someone else's life because, in the end, it is their decision."

"I remember I didn't talk at all at the counseling session because I tend to internalize everything and work it out by myself," Hillis said.

When Hillis was a freshman, alcohol abuse was rampant on campus at Western, he said. Now, with more emphasis on the enforcement of an alcohol policy by the residence staff, abuse has subsided somewhat.

"They are not letting the gray areas go anymore," Hillis said. "The alcohol policy is black and white now."

Hillis now is student teaching English

and drama at Meridian High School.

"I've noticed while student teaching, kids don't know what to do if they aren't told clearly," Hillis said. "The alcohol policy has to be black and white. That way, the residence staff won't have to enforce it as much because students will know you won't let it go."

"I think the alcohol policy is good," he added. "It is the state law and it couldn't be any different."

Hillis also praised residence staff members and their efforts to keep alcohol abuse at a minimum.

"I think the world of the residence staff. It is doing a great job," Hillis said. "The emphasis that Kay Rich (assistant director of Residence Life) places on the alcohol policy is great."

If Hillis was to become an RA again, he said he would make it clear to his residents if they weren't 21, they couldn't drink.

"You have to watch out for the people who are problem drinkers and then talk to them," Hillis said. "You need to be proactive and get to them before anything happens. (The policy) looks good in theory and on paper, but you have to be pro-active or you won't get anywhere."

After Mohn's death, Hillis' fellow Nash staff members were supportive and tried to impress upon Hillis that the tragedy was not his fault, Hillis said, which is a problem often occurring after the death of someone a person for which one is responsible.

"All the RAs could really feel for me because it's one of the big fears to deal

with a suicide," Hillis said. "It could just have easily have been one of their residents."

"As far as the grief aspect, I think it took a few months to get over. But as far as the act itself, I still haven't gotten over it," Hillis said. "Since I moved out of the dorms and gave up my RA position to student teach, it has helped me get over these feelings because I don't have a responsibility for 50 people anymore. If I moved back into the dorms, those feelings might return."

An equally tragic death attributed to alcohol occurred this year when, on March 1, Michael Samuel Kushins, 20, fell from a fourth-floor balcony in Fairhaven. An autopsy showed he had a blood-alcohol level of .20.

Kushins, who was visiting from Woodinville, arrived at Fairhaven at about 11 p.m. Apparently he had been drinking before his arrival.

Sometime between midnight and 2 a.m., Kushins walked out onto the balcony where he fell asleep. A friend woke him at about 3 a.m., but Kushins wanted to stay on the balcony.

Within the next hour, in an alcohol-induced state, Michael Kushins fell to a brick patio below the balcony and died from injuries.

"What happened that night was forgotten a lot faster because (Kushins) wasn't a student of Western," said Murray Larsen, resident director at Fairhaven. "That doesn't mean people didn't feel bad. They just didn't think it could happen to them."

"It's like when you go down the highway and see a bad wreck and there are bodies with sheets over them. You slow down to 55 for a few miles, but then you speed back up to 70 or 75 again," Larsen said.

Although Kushins' death was linked to alcohol, no correlation between the tragedy and an overabundance of dangerous parties at Fairhaven existed, Larsen said.

"There wasn't any negligence at all surrounding (the death)," Larsen said. "It was not an indicator things were out of hand. It could have happened if he was sober. The only action I felt I should take was to be supportive of the guys in (the room from which he fell) and work with them."

Staff questions alcohol policy validity

By Brian Bean

The rising flow of suds on Western's campus has raised a wave of alcohol policy-related questions among some Western housing employees.

"The university alcohol policy does a hell of a lot less than could be done," said Murray Larsen, resident director at Fairhaven. "It needs to have more emphasis on the college part of life and it needs to be a learning experience, not simply a punishment."

Some punishments now inflicted upon policy-breakers are useless and have an emphasis on punishing rather than teaching, Larsen said.



"We have to live with these people. If we write up everything we see, we will be hated. We won't be able to do the rest of our job."

—Dan Whitlock

"People I know who have been required to attend an alcohol class regard it as a hand slap because there is a punitive fee. It doesn't stop them from drinking, and it doesn't teach them how to drink responsibly."

"It's not a conscious effort or conspiracy," Larsen said. "It's a

trap we have fallen into because of society. We just have to find a way to climb out."

Western is a state institution and it is bound by the state to uphold the alcohol policy of the state.

"I'm not blaming the university," Larsen said. "I'm blaming the legislature for an unrealistic drinking age. It's trying to legislate morality."

Learning how to deal with alcohol abuse is the largest problem with Western's policy, Larsen said.

Dan Whitlock, a resident adviser at Fairhaven, attributes the flaw in the alcohol policy to a lack of enforcement by some resident staff members.

"The alcohol policy is meant

to be as effective as the resident staff wants it to be," Whitlock said. "Not all RAs. Maybe just a minority, but it does happen."

Whitlock said a resident adviser's job description includes the duty to cultivate a living relationship with his or her residents and to enforce the policies of the university. But lighter punishments seem to be the trend among some resident advisers who wish to be effective in all facets of their job.

"We have to live with these people," Whitlock said. "If we write up everything we see, we will be hated. We won't be able to do the rest of our job."

"The policy is there and it is good. It isn't (the Office of Residence Life's) fault if an RA takes it into his own hands and decides

not to document a particular incident," he said.

While some staff members see problems with the university's alcohol policy, others praise it.

"I think the policy is basically fair," said Paul Mullen, apartment manager at Birnam Wood. "We have a couple of options including warnings, probation and alcohol classes."

Mullen said the punishment for students breaking policy should be consistent with the community.

"We can't be too hard or too soft," Mullen said.

Drug Information Coordinator Kevin Faulkner supports the university's policy, even though he believes it doesn't teach students about alcohol.

"I don't think it could be any different," Faulkner said. "It seems to me it is the thing to do. It has been proven that lowering the drinking age in certain states doesn't work. Younger people don't use alcohol responsibly."

The policy does not educate students, Faulkner said.

"When I go around to different residence halls, the ambiguity in their questions reflects that they are not educated in policy or alcohol," he said.

Dead While Intoxicated

D.W.I.—Dead While Intoxicated is a special report about alcohol abuse at Western Washington University. It was researched and reported by *The Front*, and paid by advertising revenue.

Front staff members who reported *D.W.I.* are Juli Bergstrom and Brian Bean, staff reporters; David Cuillier, copy editor; and Andy Perdue, managing editor. Cover photo illustration by Tim Chovanak, photo editor.

Correspondence regarding *D.W.I.* is welcome, and should be sent to *The Front* editorial office, College Hall 09.

Drug abuse concerns officials

By Juli Bergstrom

Some Western administrators are concerned when they hear students jokingly call the campus "The Pharmacy." Others are concerned some students may be enrolling in college purely for the partying atmosphere. While others are worried when surveys indicate students entering college already are beyond mere stages of curiosity, and drug habits already have formed.

"We've had students tell us they refer to Western's campus as the pharmacy because it is so easy to get whatever you want right on campus," said Sandra Taylor of Western's Counseling Center.

"If you want something, all you have to do is stay out on campus—some people say for 15 minutes—and you could find a connection," Taylor said.

This kind of availability is difficult to test, she said. "I've never tested it personally," she said, "but I've had too many students tell me that, so my hunch is that it's pretty accurate."

The Pharmacy

Taylor said she thinks a problem with alcohol and substance abuse exists among students.

"I see that the problem is an extension of the culture that we're in. So by that, I mean substance abuse is a problem in our culture. So it extends to a college campus just like it extends to a high school, just like it extends to private industry," she said.

"I think the fact that substance abuse occurs on the campus hasn't changed. It was happening 25 years ago. This is not a new problem," she said. "I think the way it is manifested now is it's new in terms of the availability of such a wide range of substances," Taylor said. "There's just so much more available."

She said when she went to college in the mid '60s, alcohol, uppers and downers were available, and some LSD was being introduced. It was much more difficult to buy then, too, Taylor said.

"And now the suggestion is that it's easy to get," she said. "And now with cocaine, with all the PCP (commonly called Angel Dust), there's just a whole evolution of drugs that has multiplied."

Easy access

Even with the increasing variety and availability of drugs on campus, alcohol still is the most prevalent substance abused, administrators say.

Connie Copeland, assistant to the vice president/dean of Student Affairs, indicated she is

hearing from students that alcohol abuse is affecting academic performance.

"When I hear it's out there, it's gone beyond what we like it to be," she said. "I think students hear more than we do."

Copeland said she believes alcohol abuse occurs when it negatively influences a person's life and the life around the person.

"That doesn't mean a person is an alcoholic," she said, because alcoholism means the body is addicted.

A cultural problem

Alcohol abuse is difficult to measure, Copeland said, and even more difficult to positively prove the problem is increasing. But, she said, "I've always assumed we're like the rest of the community," in which 12 percent of the population has alcohol problems.

Copeland noted that 10 years ago the college campus seemed to be a setting for experimentation. When students entered college then, it was the first time for them to be exposed to substances, she said.

Now many students already have formed their drinking habits before they enter college.

The campus community needs to be educated about alcohol effects, Copeland said. "We don't need to educate 'Thou shall not drink,' because I don't believe that," she said, but said she believes the campus community needs to be educated how to identify an alcohol problem and how to help a person get help when needed.

"The university can do things that support or discourage one type of behavior," she said, but added, "I don't think we're a treatment center."

The stories these administrators tell indicates a shifting pattern of substance abuse on college campuses: *Students generally are beyond the curiosity stage when they enter college. And upon arriving, they are introduced to a wider variety of easily attainable chemical substances.*

The problem, Copeland and Taylor believe, demands university attention, preferably in the form of an enforced substance-abuse policy. Currently, Western has no such policy and relies on state law, counseling and existing housing regulation.

Last November, Western President G. Robert Ross created the Committee on Alcohol and Substance Abuse to investigate problems here. But after months of gathering information, the chairman of that committee admits there may be a problem, but is not yet convinced a

"If you want something, all you have to do is stay out on campus — some people say for 15 minutes — and you could find a connection."

—Sandra Taylor



"There is every reason to believe that what we're doing now is perfectly fine. This (committee) is not a response to something we see as a crisis."

—Peter Elich

substance-abuse policy is required.

"There is every reason to believe that what we're doing now is perfectly fine," said Peter Elich, chairman of the committee and dean of the College of Arts and Sciences. "This (committee) is not a response to something we see as a crisis."

The 11-member committee, made of students, faculty, staff and administrators, was created by Ross, Elich said, because he was concerned about the students.

"Ross' action was not in response to any initial incident," Elich said. "Anything that might interfere or enhance a student's performance in school deserves our serious attention."

Ross was unavailable for comment.

Gathering data

Currently, the committee is collecting information, soliciting testimony from students and listening to professionals who have been advocating alcohol policies for years. It has "no substantive conclusions" now, Elich said. And he says recommended action, if any, shouldn't be expected any quicker than fall quarter.

Records from the Office of Student Life show six committees have been organized and disbanded, two surveys and one research project have been conducted and one publication, concerning alcohol use, was published through the office since 1968.

"The university hasn't ignored this problem. Our goal is not to make people stop drinking," Elich said, but if alcohol or substance abuse exists on campus,

the problem needs to be identified.

Wasting taxpayers money

"I'm also really concerned if there are students who come to the university for reasons other than education, and we condone that, then I think we're wasting taxpayers' money," Elich said at the May 9 committee meeting.

In 1979, Copeland was hired by the Office of Student Life as coordinator of Developmental Programs with alcohol education programs as her major responsibility. Another responsibility included locating on- and off-campus referral services for students seeking help.

During the 1984-85 academic year, however, reduction in the 1983-84 academic year forced reorganization of the Office of Student Life. And Copeland, who said she was given additional duties, said she cannot devote the time to alcohol programming she originally planned.

In a Nov. 13 memo to Elich from Ross concerning Western's newest drug-investigating committee, Ross wrote, "Drug and alcohol abuse have been growing concerns in our society. Most of the problems evidenced in society are evident on the college campus and at times to a greater degree."

According to minutes of the committee's first meeting, Dec. 3, which Ross attended, the committee is to focus its attention on alcohol and substance abuse as it is related to the student population here. It is to be the coordinating body for policy, training and make any recommendations or courses of action, if any, to Ross.

What can and should the university do about abuse, and what are the appropriate courses of action for the university, are questions the committee is to address, according to the memo.

"We are collecting information and that's all," Elich said at the most recent meeting. "We have no recommendations or conclusions at this time."

The focus of the committee is directed toward the student body at Western and not the faculty, staff or administration.

"I think (Ross) wanted us to be able to focus our attention and do a better job of the situation related to students," Elich said. "Ross' action was not in response to any initial incident," he said.

Ross expects a progress report from the committee sometime this month, but it appears the committee is far from even preliminary conclusions.

During the last committee meeting, Elich said the progress report will include everything the group has accomplished in the past six months—primarily background information.

"We're in no hurry to finish," Elich said during an interview prior to the meeting.

Meanwhile, existing university services continue operating, questioning whether the powers they possess are adequate enough to be effective.

It is unclear to some administrators just what action, if any, they are able to prescribe.

The university is not empowered to order students to attend substance-abuse treatment centers, administrators say, although the residence halls can require some tenants to take education classes.

And unlike the housing system, which can expel students from its facilities for substance-abuse infractions, the university apparently is less prepared for such discipline.

But administrators also indicate they, too, are unsure of just how much of a role in drug education and enforcement they should take.

"What kind of things are important to do? Are there policies that we need? Are there recommendations that would assist the universities?" Taylor asked.

Complaining roommates

Taylor, a member of the committee, said more students are approaching the Counseling Center seeking assistance coping with their roommates' disruptive drinking behavior.

"My data in the Counseling Center doesn't suggest more students are drinking. What the data here suggests is that we're getting more complaints from students who live with students who drink," Taylor said.

People who find their home-sleep patterns disrupted by roommates whose drinking or loud, obnoxious behavior a problem, Taylor said, are those seeking counseling.

"Those are the kinds of things students will come in and make complaints about," Taylor said. "They have a sense of helplessness, like, 'What do I do about this?'"

On-campus drinking policies

Residence halls

Alcohol awareness class and/or alcohol assessment class can be required when disruptive alcohol-related behavior is displayed in halls and comes to the attention of resident aides or directors. If a student refuses to attend required classes or an alcohol assessment, the student's dorm contract can be canceled.

A student 21 or older may have alcohol in the student's room, but cannot serve or sell alcohol to minors.

Policing

Resident directors, resident advisers and student security officers cannot confiscate alcohol from a

minor unless the minor displays identification of age. The minor does not have to show I.D. to the above students.

Police cannot enter a room unless some type of criminal activity is suspected. Police do not approach a party unless a complaint has been made.

Banquet procedures

Must apply for a permit when serving alcohol. No minors can be served, nor can minors be present where alcohol is served.

Someone must be present to make sure no minors are present.

Alcohol must not be sold for a profit.

Balancing on a difficult line

By David Cuillier

They're staggering down the painted line.

On one side of the line are tyrant-like, punitive policies, on the other, slothful tolerance. University Residences officials are walking the line of alcohol-abuse prevention, but don't want to step off to either side.

"We've been working to deal with the problem of underaged drug abuse for as long as I've been here," said Keith Guy, director of University Residences. Guy has been at Western for 17 years.

Educational programs have been used the most in the halls to prevent alcohol abuse.

"To expect the university to solve the problem of drug abuse is naive. We do have the responsibility to educate," Guy said.

Ron Travenick, residence hall coordinator, said, "We are committed to get students to see it's not always 'Miller Time.'" Presenting students the facts and letting them make the choice is the university's job, he said. "When we step across that line we've gone too far."

Mocktail parties, seminars and guest speakers have been common ways for halls to educate their residences.

Students at a mocktail party play a made-up role as a belligerent drunk or social drinker, for example. Non-alcoholic drinks are used at the party. After 30 minutes of role playing, the "partiers" discuss alcohol, parties and rude drunks, Travenick said.

During other hall events, campus police officers give breathalyzer tests and talk about drinking legal issues.

"We really believe the educational process is best done at the lowest level—with the resident directors and advisers," Travenick said. To ensure the highest quality of education, he suggests creating a centralized team for RAs, RDs and students.

However, the effectiveness of the educational programs is questioned by some of the staff.

"I don't believe the people with the deepest problems are going to those programs," Guy said. The effect of the educational programs is difficult to measure, he said.

Joan Sherwood, vice president/dean of Student Affairs,

agrees. "I'm not sure the programming has had a large impact, but I'm not sure it hasn't," she said.

Kurt Willis, residence hall coordinator, said the programs help but could be more effective if more students showed up.

Other university administrations have shown lenient attitudes toward drinking, Guy said. He refers to schools that allow for drinking in their lounges, regardless of age. "We have enough partying on our campus without promoting it," he said.

Washington State University has a "party permit" system to prevent people from driving to Moscow, Idaho, Travenick said. The campus partying prevents people from driving back drunk.

"The president of the university in a way condones drinking," he said.

University residences officials are wary of the other side of the line—harsh, preventative techniques. Letting the police handle all drinking problems is one tougher alternative.

Travenick said the RAs inform the abusive student of the law, and if nothing can be accomplished the police are called. Increasing police surveillance, however, would defeat the purpose, he said.

Suggestions were given to Guy to set up a non-drinking hall and to change halls physically, preventing other alcohol-related accidents. He said the ideas are worth thinking about, but haven't been heavily considered.

"What are we going to do, level the buildings?" Sherwood said. "I would not recommend putting bars on the windows," she said.

Residence officials agree alcohol abuse is the worst problem facing them, but say until a new breakthrough in alcohol-abuse prevention is presented to them, they can't do much more than what is already being done.

Guy said alcohol-abuse prevention programs will continue as they have been until "we know what works better." The immediate response should not be dumping more money into it, he said.

"I don't think we have to pump out more," Travenick said. "We could hire somebody to watch every other student, but nobody wants to stay up watching a drunk."

Facts educate staff

By David Cuillier

Jeffrey David Mohn and Michael Samuel Kushins may not have known the facts about alcohol abuse before drinking their first beers. The facts didn't help them when the sheets covered their cold bodies.

Western officials don't know all of the facts about alcohol abuse on campus either, but they are finding them.

After Mohn's death last year, university officials demanded to know the extent of alcohol abuse at Western. Through investigations and surveys information is surfacing.

As a result of the last year's death, Western hired Ann Wales, a certified alcoholism counselor,

28 percent of last year's criminal calls to be alcohol-related. University residences incident reports show that 33 percent of their disturbances were alcohol-related.

University residence incident reports have shown a steady increase in alcohol-related incidents from 15 percent in fall 1982 to 38 percent in fall 1985.

Kay Rich, associate director of Residence Life, said the increase may reflect new training procedures for resident advisers who file the reports.

"We have educated the staff to take more accurate documentation," she said.

Residence life staff estimate, however, 50 to 60 percent of all incidents to be actually alcohol-

graduates. According to the survey, the most prevalent reason given for drinking was taste. The second reason students drink was because of increased sociability and the third reason was to get drunk.

Alcohol was used by 84 percent of the respondents, the survey stated. Twenty-one of those were concerned about their own drinking.

"I do not think that Western has a greater or lesser of a problem than anywhere else in society," Copeland said in an Oct. 11 *Front* article.

The survey's purpose was to find out what drugs were being used on campus and to what extent they were being used.

Another information-seeking



"
Nationwide, I think (alcohol abuse) is the biggest problem on college campuses today.

—Joan Sherwood

to investigate substance abuse at Western.

Wales gathered data, evaluated current policies and submitted program recommendations to meet Western's needs. Her finished report, entitled "Substance Abuse at Western Washington University: Initial Assessment and Intervention Proposals," was finished in July 1985.

The report stated Western's population is statistically normal, substance abuse is producing "significant problems for the university," and Western's population under-utilizes Whatcom County's substance-abuse agencies.

The only factual statistics could be found from university Police and University Residences incident reports. The rest of the report was based on estimations.

Wales used incident reports from the campus police to discover 54 alcohol-related incidents last year, including a suicide, four suicidal students and 15 passed-out students. University Residences reported 20 alcohol emergencies for the same period.

The incident reports revealed

related, according to Wales' report.

The report also estimates 80 to 85 percent of all on-campus vandalism to be alcohol-related.

Terry Meredith, associate director for Maintenance and Plant Operations said he had no records on alcohol-related vandalism, however, he stated in the report, "there's a lot of it, at least several thousand dollars worth annually."

Meredith recently said he has no more information since last year.

The investigation suggested to improve education of Western officials, improve staff awareness and form an active, preventative alcohol policy at Western.

As a result of Wales' investigation, a substance-abuse task force was appointed and a substance-abuse class was established.

Information from the students' point of view was collected last spring. Student concern was shown in a survey by Connie Copeland, assistant to the vice president/dean of Student Affairs.

The random-sample survey obtained the views of 450 under-

report was organized by Joan Sherwood, vice president/dean of Student Affairs. Completed this spring, the position paper includes information from 11 substance-abuse experts in the nation. The report is entitled "Alcohol Abuse Problems Among College Students."

The report states nation-wide substance abuse is reaching "epidemic proportions." Currently, 70 percent of adult Americans are regular users of alcohol, and 90 percent of teenagers between 17 and 19, according to the report. Of those users, 8 to 15 percent are alcoholics.

The report also finds college men likely to have more drinking problems than women. The most common drinking locations for college students are taverns, according to the report. Residence halls are the second-most-common drinking place.

Sherwood said when she was a teenager the purpose to drink was not to get drunk. Now, some college freshman have the habit thoroughly ingrained in them, she said.

"Nationwide, I think it's the biggest problem on college campuses today," Sherwood said.

On-campus class teaches students about drug abuse

By David Cuillier

Schools of fish like it wet, but schools with alcohol abusers like it dry.

This year, Western's alcohol classes are teaching students to make logical drug-use decisions and helping the teacher to see the campus drinking problem up front.

Residence-hall students caught violating drug and alcohol regulations are required to attend the \$15 substance-abuse program. Resident directors determine if students should be mandated to go.

The class emerged out of discussions by residence life staff as

an attempt to provide an on-campus model for those in the community, said Keith Guy, director of University Residences.

"When the judge says you go to alcohol school, bang, you go to alcohol school," he said.

Kay Rich, associate director of University Residence Life, said the class also was formed because most off-campus community classes are scheduled in the evening. Another negative aspect of off-campus classes are the \$35-\$50 fees.

Ann Wales, a state certified alcoholism counselor, teaches the class. Wales graduated from Western with a Fairhaven inter-

discipline of psychology, alcohol studies and women studies in 1981.

The program is designed to teach the physiological aspects of how alcohol affects the body, Wales said. Between six and 19 students have attended the classes, which usually are offered once a month.

The first hour of the three-hour class is directed toward alcohol abuse. "They ask a lot of questions," Wales said. "They are interested because they've been in some of the same situations discussed."

Drugs other than alcohol, especially cocaine, are discussed during the second hour.

The last hour of the class is devoted to questions and discussion. The students "sort out their feelings," Wales said.

If the class is small a film is sometimes shown for a half an hour. Entitled "Cocaine Blues," the film interviews drug dealers, users, scientists and "even cops," Wales said.

As a counselor, Wales has been exposed to many horror stories.

A teenager who was a regular pot user suffered from consistent blackout experiences. The boy told Wales he had awoken from a blackout in some bushes. A man was fondling him. If the boy wouldn't have ran away,

Wales said, he could have been kidnapped. "He was real cute—perfect for porno movies," Wales said.

No alcohol-related horror stories are worse, however, than the two-campus deaths, Wales said.

"One three-hour class is not going to solve the problem," Wales said. "Western stories are like those of society with suicide attempts, deaths, loneliness, you name it."

"My hope for Western is that they make programming that is unique to them," she said.

The class began in December, Wales said. The last class of the year will be conducted 6 to 9 p.m., May 27, in Bond Hall 215.

Deaths haven't changed drinking

By Andy Perdue

The deaths of two young men on campus has raised awareness of the effects of drinking, said Lt. Dave Doughty of Western's University Police.

But it hasn't made a difference.

"A lot of people became aware that there was a problem," Doughty said, after Western student Jeff Mohn jumped from his Nash Hall room in 1984 while he was drunk. "I don't think it decreased drinking, but it certainly increased the awareness."

Doughty has been a full-time police officer at Western for 12 years, and was a student patrolman when he was a Western student. When he came to Western in 1968, Western had the reputation of being the small-college party school on the West Coast.

Now Doughty has seen enough years at Western to see the changes and cycles in the on-campus drinking problem.

About 1975-76, heavy alcohol abuse became a large problem on campus, Doughty said.

"We started taking a much harder initiative in dealing with this problem, and there were an awful lot of arrests made for alcohol consumption and possession on campus," Doughty said. "But it tended to taper off after a few years to where the last few years the level isn't near to what it was in the late '70s."

Doughty attributes much of this downward cycle to the national trend against drinking and driving. He said the level of concern and awareness has been higher among Western administrators, student leaders and students about alcohol and chemical abuse on campus because of the national push.

"It's a willingness to face up to the fact that there is a problem on Western's campus," Doughty said.

"The nationwide blitz on drunk driving has cut down significantly with the problems we've had with drunk drivers on campus. Overall we've noticed not just a decrease because of the fear of being caught, but people are beginning to accept the fact that drinking and driving are no longer socially acceptable, and they're not tolerating it or encouraging it."

University Police's willingness to face the drinking problem at Western includes being involved with the Whatcom County Alcohol and Traffic Safety Commission, taking part in Western's Committee on Alcohol and Substance Abuse and conducting on-campus programs.

The department's involvement with the Whatcom County commission puts the problem to the county community, which Doughty said raises awareness and concern of the existing problem.

Doughty's role on the Western committee gives the police perspective to help gather information and recommend poli-

cies and policy changes for the university alcohol and substance use.

The campus police presents a program called "Know Your Limit" in about 10 residence halls a year. It is a two-hour program discussing the driving-while-intoxicated laws, the legal limit of intoxication, penalties and police procedures.

"We actually take along a breathalyzer and have a volunteer who gets to drink all afternoon and blow on the breathalyzer, and perform all of the physical tests and verbal tests," Doughty said.

All of this doesn't stop the problem, though.

"The drinking is still going on. We're still having to deal with the problems associated with drinking: assaults, breach of the peace, vandalism, false fire alarms, public indecency and problems associated with just being drunk," Doughty said. "Our statistics show an increase in a lot of those areas, but that could be more of an awareness situation than an occurrence. More people are reporting (drinking and parties) to us."

Doughty said residence staff members—resident directors and advisers—are calling in the police to break up parties, and he said he believes this is directly related to the deaths.

"I don't think it has much to do with the most recent (death, of a non-student who fell from a Fairhaven fourth-floor balcony in March while he was drunk). Quite

a bit of it is directly related to the one in Nash, because that one was early in the year and became a focus point for a lot of the residence hall staff training, so there was a heightened awareness on the part of the staff. And that year in particular we got an awful lot of reports and calls for help from residence staff in dealing with that problem.

"So definitely it had an impact on the awareness situation. We're still having the same number of kegger parties every weekend. I don't think (Mohn's death) has had an effect on that."

Doughty said the residence hall staff didn't used to want to get involved in that kind of enforcement.

"By the time we got involved, it had really gotten out of control," he said. "We had kinds of activities where whole dorms had reputations they tried to live up to. There was a place in Kappa called 'Alchie Hall.' If you lived in Alchie Hall, you were expected to drink, and be boisterous and get out of control. That's what Alchie Hall was all about."

Doughty said he doesn't believe enforcing drinking laws and policies is as much a punishment as it is a favor.

"We treat everybody equally and don't think Western should be a sanctuary. Allowing them to get drunk and tear up the buildings for four years, then suddenly find themselves in society is not really doing them any kind of justice at all."

'Not really there to be the good guy'

Campus police aren't asking for cooperation from drinking parties

By Andy Perdue

When campus police officers become involved with a drinking party, they are there only to stop it, said Lt. Dave Doughty of University Police.

"When we get involved, we're not there to warn. We're there to close down the party. When appropriate we'll issue citations or arrest people. We're not really there to be the good guy."

Doughty said campus police are notified only if residence staff members—resident directors and advisers—cannot handle an out-of-control situation. That only happens two or three times a month—though Doughty estimates at least a dozen parties occur each weekend—because staff members do a good job of stopping bad situations before they start.

"There is probably a considerable amount of illegal, underage drinking going on. But we don't have a right, just because there is a party, to go into it," Doughty said. "We can't break up a party or arrest anybody for violations we don't know are occurring. A responsibly held party—with only a few people, indoors and not disturbing anybody—we're not going to know about."

But when the campus police do know about it, they aren't going to ask the parties to stop; they're going to tell them.

"The residence staff has given participants a chance to be cooperative and responsible, and when they refuse to cooperate with residence hall staff, we're called in to be the hard guys," Doughty said.

"Quite often if we go to the scene of a party and there's no

observed offenses outside, we'll just knock on the door and ask to talk to somebody who's a resident, and tell them their party is over. Then it depends upon the level of cooperation."

He said one or two citations generally break up a party quite effectively. Citations usually are given to the people holding the party for breach of the peace.

That will cost from \$50 to \$100 per citation, Doughty said.

"If (people at a party) see somebody getting arrested, it's all over and they're long gone," Doughty said. "It works quite effectively."

He said when it comes to drinking laws, they are enforced equally against everybody. Breaks aren't given to students because it is a college campus.

"When it comes to our law-enforcement role, our chief constituency is the state of Washington, not the students of Western. We have to treat our students as responsible adults and treat them

as they would be treated off campus."

He said one thing the university does not want to gain is a reputation for being a sanctuary for drinking.

"We have a problem now with high school kids who come up here to drink. We really don't need a reputation up here that it's a good place for high school kids to come drink because the university doesn't care. The liability of the university can be pretty high if we take the tolerancy policy," Doughty said.

During the past year, campus police has responded to 75

breach-of-the-peace complaints. "Most of these are party complaints," Doughty said.

Police have recorded 106 liquor-law offense complaints, citing or arresting people on 55 occasions in the past year.

They also have responded to 25 drunkenness complaints.

"The falling-down-in-public kind of problem," Doughty said.

Doughty said false fire alarms also are an alcohol-related problem. In the past year, 67 fire alarms have been pulled.

"That's 67 times we and the city fire department roll on a false fire alarm," Doughty said. "Almost all of those are alcohol-related. Most of our false fire alarms show up in the vicinity of a party."

Doughty said if the pranksters are caught, the fine is a hefty \$300.

"None of those 67 were caught," he said.

One of the largest problems is vandalism, though. Doughty said in the past year 139 cases of malicious mischief or vandalism have been reported, which constitutes only about 10 percent of the total amount occurring. Much of the vandalism is reported to maintenance, which never gets back to the police, Doughty said.

The past year also has seen 17 cases of assault.

"This is probably more than double of what we normally have, and we don't know what to attribute that to. Almost all of the assaults involve drunks," Doughty said.

He said more than 90 percent of those statistics are attributed to alcohol, and about half involve people who aren't Western students.

"We've seen worse years," Doughty said. "We've seen some years (about 1978) where the problem was so heavy we were bringing in people on overtime for enforcement activities, and we were arresting 10 or 12 people a night."



Police examine the body of Michael Kushins March 1 on the patio below the Fairhaven residence balcony from which he fell hours earlier. His blood-alcohol level was .20. Kushins was the second person who died while intoxicated on Western's campus within two years.

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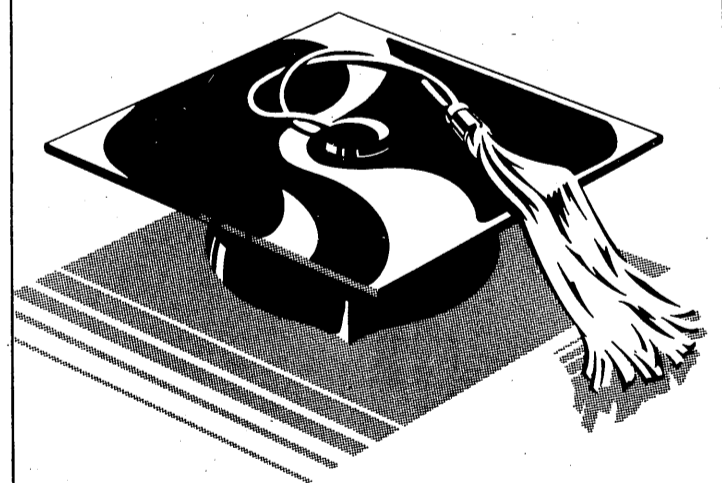
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