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Alumni Association, WWSC
Randall becomes Western’s winningest coach

His name is Charles Ross Randall Jr., but everybody calls him “Chuck.” He’s the head master of the Western Viking basketball team and during this season he became the winningest coach in WWSC history while compiling a career 168-76 won-lost record on the hill.

With a season mark of 22-2 (including a string of 21 straight), his current squad is ranked first among small colleges in the Northwest and has been in the top ten nationally most of the season.

Traditionally Western has not been blessed with the big center, although the Vikings have had some very capable smaller men. However, this year’s edition of the Big Blue is tabbed by Randall as his most talented since his arrival in Bellingham.

In 6-foot, 7-inch Rudy Thomas, Randall has the first pivot man of any considerable size. To go with Thomas, the Vik mentor has a cast of starters which includes Mike Franzia (6-2) and Tom Bradley (6-2) at the guards; and Gary White (6-4) and Roger Fuson (6-4) at forwards. Mike Preston (6-3) and Chip Kohr (6-3) are the first line reserves.

Although coaches traditionally sing the blues about their team’s chances in a given season, Randall each year has a very positive attitude and always looks for the winning year.

This attitude has paid off, for Randall has never had a losing season in 20-plus years of coaching. His lifetime record is 347-144. He has twice been named NAIA District One coach of the year.

The 45-year-old Randall was destined to be a coach almost from the beginning. He coached a baseball team when he was in the fourth grade and by the time he was in the sixth he had organized an entire baseball league in the community of Farmington (Whitman County) where he was born.

The Viking tutor played his high school basketball at Central Valley in the Spokane Valley area and although only 5-8, operated in the post position. He got his bachelor’s degree from Eastern Washington State College and completed master’s degree studies at Washington State University.

The yearning to coach stuck with Randall following his graduation and for 10 years he taught and coached at several small high schools in Eastern Washington. During this period he established the first summer basketball camp west of the Mississippi—Conifer Camp on Snoqualmie Pass.

It was because of interest in the camp that Randall got his first break (in 1961) at a big-time high school coaching job at El Segundo High School in the Los Angeles area, succeeding Bob Boyd, who now coaches the University of Southern California Trojans. It was all he needed. In just one year he directed El Segundo to its first conference championship since 1936, with an 18-8 overall record and a 12-2 league mark.

He was named coach of the year for that feat.

He was hired by Western in 1962 and has been here since.

The non-smoking, non-drinking Randall lives by dedicated standards and expects his players to do the same. (Continued on page 3, column 3)
Faculty member takes trans-Siberian tour

Persons who have seen the movie "Dr. Zhivago" no doubt remember the train in which Zhivago and his family fled Moscow: hardly more than a string of boxcars fitted with crude wooden platforms for seats and the most primitive sanitary facilities.

Russian trains have improved since Dr. Zhivago's time but they still cannot be considered the ultimate in luxury accommodations, as Dr. Herbert L. Baird discovered last summer. Dr. Baird, an associate professor of Spanish at Western, spent his vacation traveling east across the Soviet Union via the famous Trans-Siberian Railroad.

"The trains don't have some of the amenities we are so used to," he said. "Hot water, for instance. It can be trying at times, especially on the coal or diesel trains, which get very dirty."

"But tea is served on the trains every morning and evening. That's one gracious touch to compensate for the rest," he added.

Baird began his journey in the area known as Soviet Asia. One of his first stops was the city of Khabarovsk, near the Chinese border, where he had an interesting glimpse into Chinese-Soviet relations. "Some people had been listening to Radio Peking and learned that the Chinese have given Chinese names to most of the main streets in Khabarovsk," he said. "The residents of Khabarovsk are a little jumpy."

In preparation for his trip, Baird had taken some classes in the Russian language and equipped himself with a dictionary, "I thought I knew quite a bit of Russian until I got there," he said.

At one point he mistakenly boarded a train intended for Russians only.

Cooperation byword between Western and Whatcom College

Resolutions pledging mutual cooperation between the two schools have recently been passed by the trustees of Western Washington State College and Whatcom Community College. The resolutions are similarly worded and state that "Though different in many ways, the two institutions share in the broad mission of providing educational opportunity through use of public funds. They can appropriately assist each other in certain curricular and procedural ways."

Adoption of the resolution gave official weight and formal recognition to cooperative efforts already going on. According to Everett C. Sanders, director of Whatcom Community College, faculty members from Western have worked closely with the community college staff from the beginning, offering advice and assistance in developing Whatcom's program.

The students and staff of Whatcom Community College have been given access to Western's library, and the WWSC bookstore has agreed to handle the ordering procedures for books used in the community college classes. Another aspect of the cooperation between the two schools is the provision for easy transfer of credit.

If a Western student, for example, finds that a class offered by Whatcom fits into his course of study, he can arrange to take the community college class and apply the credits toward a degree from Western.

"We think we are lucky here," says Everett Sanders. "This kind of cooperation is not typical of many places." He added that he knew of several community colleges whose existence has been virtually ignored by neighboring four-year institutions.

President Flora and Robert Hamill, president-elect of Whatcom Community College, have both expressed their willingness to continue the cooperative efforts, which they agree will benefit both schools and the community.

(There are special tourist trains with dining-car menus in five languages.) He managed to get along with the aid of his dictionary until the day he went into the dining car and found a hand-lettered, dittod menu in Russian.

"I had to ask the waitress to read the menu aloud to me," he says. "She probably wondered if I was some kind of nut."

Baird ran into another dining-car problem: the Russians have some very set ideas about what foreign tourists ought to eat. He was frequently offered such exotic treats as fried chicken or steak.

"I saw things like borscht and beef Stroganoff on the menu," he says, "but when I asked for them I was told they weren't available. On one train I did manage to talk them out of some beef Stroganoff after a while."

Baird traveled in what Russians call "soft class," or first class. Second class is called "hard class," the terms refer to the seating accommodations. There are also third-class compartments that feature dormitory-like sleeping arrangements with berths stacked three high along the walls of the car.

"This class isn't available to foreign tourists, but it's very cheap to travel, so it's used by a lot of Russians," said Baird. And rather than eating in the dining car, many of the Russian passengers economize by patronizing Russia's limited version of the free enterprise system.

"Along the train stops, people sell things like sausages and bread, mostly home-made things," he said. "At one stop I bought a little paper cone full of wild strawberries."

Baird also visited Moscow and Leningrad and "did all the usual tourist things." He also looked into some of the stores in the cities to get a clue to the life of the ordinary Russian citizen from the kinds of consumer goods that are available.

"Most of the basic items are there, though not in great variety," he said. Some things that we take for granted are luxuries beyond the reach of the average Russian who earns 70 rubles a month, or about $77. Nylon stockings, for example, cost the equivalent of $9.50 a pair. By contrast, housing is very cheap by U.S. standards; everyone pays the same rent of 15 rubles a month.

In Memoriam

'14 JENNIE SANDGREN HULLIN, in Seattle.
18 ALTA SPEDDING, in Everson.
'20 IRA LOORE, February 7, in Palm Springs.
'26 EVA COUCHMAN, in Bellingham... CORA LOMISDALE SKOCILIC, February 10, in Seattle.
'34 MURIEL DUFRAINE BARNARD, January 29, in Tacoma.
'51 ROBERT LEHTO, December 7, 1971.
'62 RAYMOND JONAK, December 25, 1971, in Bellingham.
Western one of six colleges examined in book

Western Washington State College is one of six West Coast campuses examined in a recent book on educational reform and innovation. Academics in Retreat by Joseph Fashing and Steven E. Deutsch devotes a chapter to innovative programs at Western.

Fashing is an assistant professor of psychology at the University of New Mexico; Deutsch is associate professor of sociology at the University of Oregon. The authors spent some three years gathering material for their book, visiting campuses and talking to students, faculty members and administrators. The other schools they studied are the University of California at Berkeley and Los Angeles, San Francisco State College, Stanford University and the University of Oregon.

Western is unique among this group of institutions because of its isolated small-town setting and its strong emphasis on the undergraduate liberal arts program. The authors state that "although they are growing, graduate programs at Western present no threat of overwhelming the institution in the way that they may in colleges where they are rapidly approaching a majority of the enrollment.

"In the effort to make its mark as an undergraduate liberal arts college," they continue, "Western has earned a reputation in the Northwest and nationally as an innovative and creative institution."

The main focus of the chapter on Western is the cluster college concept, one of the college's "unique alternatives which will allow it to be something more than an inadequate and disadvantaged replica of the state multiversity." The idea of cluster colleges is not unique in itself, but it is not a common trend in public colleges and universities.

The cluster college plan is a logical outgrowth of Western's concern with a quality liberal arts program. The authors credit Dr. Paul Woodring, Western's distinguished service professor, with leadership in this direction.

Woodring has argued against over-specialization and rigid departmentalization of learning. The programs of all three cluster colleges at WWSC cut across traditional academic divisions.

Fashing and Deutsch conclude that the college has an "enviable record in changing to meet the pressures of growing enrollments. One reason for this is the degree of autonomy the college enjoys under Washington's system of separate boards of trustees for each state college and university.

The authors venture a prediction that the relatively good record of schools like Western in dealing with the challenges of a decade of unprecedented growth in higher education may protect Washington schools from some of the repressive measures enacted by the legislatures in Oregon and California.

"Given the success of Western Washington in adapting to the current needs of both the students and the state," they conclude, "anything that would limit institutional freedom could only be interpreted as a step backward."

Randall

(Continued from page 1)

believes in his philosophy of paying the price to be successful on the maples. His players accept his idea of togetherness and before each game gather in the locker room to recite the Athlete's Prayer.

His players must play as a team. He's a stickler for defense and there's seldom a scoring star on a Randall-coached squad.

Randall has "bent a little" in recent years from his former ruling of crew cuts for all his players, and admits his men have a point in desiring the longer hair styles of today, although Western team members keep their hair at a reasonable length.

The Viking coach keeps busy in the summertime with his Conifer camp, which has now been moved to the Spokane area. The camp handles about 1,000 kids a summer and has a staff of 15 persons.

In 1968 Randall took a basketball team on an "Australasia" People-to-People tour and compiled a 15-6 record while meeting several teams that competed in the Olympics that year.

Randall admits to interest in the pro coaching ranks and believes his philosophy could work there as well as it does in college. "After all," he says, "my Viking squad has an older average age than the pro Portland Trailblazers."

He feels that coaching in the pro leagues represents the final segment in the coaching cycle and he doesn't seem ready for that yet.

Western fans hope he isn't.
Roll Call

'50 PERSIS SHOOK is a music specialist for the Tacoma public schools and is teaching under a special federal grant.

'55 JANE TURNER WALKER is teaching school in Tacoma.

'56 MARY ELLEN HILLAIRE, a staff member for the Evergreen State College's minority groups program, is one of 16 educators appointed to fellowships by the Department of Health, Education and Welfare's Office of Education.

'59 WAYNE BITTERMAN is employed as a media specialist for Bellevue Community College . . . Lt. Col. MILTON TOWNE is with the federal civil service as commander of the 256th Mobile Communications Squadron at Paine Field. His wife, KAREN OLSON TOWNE, is teaching in an open concept school in Federal Way.

'63 JERRY JOYCE teaches boys' physical education at Sehome High School in Bellingham . . . FREDRIC BAILEY is teaching math and science at Shuksan Middle School in Bellingham.

'65 GARY LAUERSEN recently completed his master's degree at the University of Montana and is presently on an arctic graduate research assistantship while working on his Ph.D. at Virginia Polytechnic Institute and State University.

'66 SHELLEY FAYE FRASER is employed as a reference librarian in the Sedgwick Undergraduate Library at the University of British Columbia . . . Air Force Capt. CHARLES HAGERHJELM was recently presented the air medal for aerial achievement in Southeast Asia.

'67 LESTER HUNTSINGER has been appointed to the staff of Marion County, Ore., district attorney's office . . . SANDRA FLORENCE is teaching third grade in Bellingham . . . RONALD CUMMINS is an elementary physical education specialist for the Snohomish School District.

'69 Mr. and Mrs. JAMES HARDIN (JUDY EVANS, '68) are both employed by the Aberdeen Department of Public Assistance . . . MADELINE CRAIG and Richard Knudson were married in late November. She is currently employed by the Employment Security Division in Everett . . . SUSAN ALBERT is teaching special education in Bellingham.

'70 NANCY FITCH WATSON is teaching third and fourth grades at Grapeview (Mason County) . . . ANDREA BOUCHER is an instructor in elementary physical education at Towson State College in Baltimore . . . EDNA BELARDE is a candidate for a master's degree in education at Harvard . . . JAY TAYLOR is teaching social studies and is the cross-country coach at a high school in Ridgecrest, Calif. . . . TRUDY WILLIAMS and Thomas Orth were married in August. She is teaching first grade in Chico . . . DOUG WIGHT has been promoted to community relations manager for the Bellingham Herald . . . SUE DAHMS is teaching fifth grade in Bellingham . . . STEVE HANSEN is employed in the sales division of U.S. Plywood in Seattle . . . LINDA REINECKE is teaching special education in Bellingham . . . JOAN LOGGHE teaches an elementary school's auditory class in Bellingham . . . JANIS RACINE and THEODORE NORR, Jr. were married recently. They are living in Bellingham where he is a counselor at Western and she is a senior there . . . THEO WHITSELL is working with the American National Red Cross in its recreational program in Vietnam . . . DAVID GROSS is employed as a programmer at the University of Washington computer center . . . ANTONIA VANDETHAAK teaches girls' physical education in Bellingham . . . GERALD PUNCHES was recently appointed registrar at California State Polytechnic College . . . COLLEEN MELICK is a teaching high school in Lacey.

'71 VICKI BUTCHART is teaching sixth, seventh and eighth grade physical education for the Everett School District . . . KATHLEEN McGERR is a kindergarten teacher in Bellingham . . . DONALD PRIOR has reported to the Aviation Officer Candidate School at the Naval Air Station in Pensacola . . . KATHIE HAGWELL is teaching second grade in Bellingham . . . DAVE MURPHY teaches art classes at Sehome High School in Bellingham . . . HELEN SORLIE and David Orth were married recently in Tacoma . . . ROGER TEIG is an elementary physical education specialist for the Bellingham schools . . . CAROLYN COULL and Glenn Otman were married in November and are living in Bellingham . . . PATRICIA CREAGER teaches sixth grade in Bellingham . . . DICK BOYES is doing graduate work in math and computer science at Western . . . PAT SPARKMAN is teaching in Morton . . . RICH KING is stationed with the army at Fort Sam Houston, Texas . . . JOE NEWSSTEAD is doing graduate work in speech pathology at the University of Northern California . . . LARRY VANDERPOOL is teaching a combination fourth and fifth grade class in Bellingham . . . GAIL DENTON is employed as a committee clerk in Olympia for the House Higher Education Committee . . . ROBERTA ROUNDS teaches girls' physical education in Bellingham elementary schools . . . DIANE TENNYSON and Gerald Foster were married recently . . . ROBERT AMORIN is teaching seventh and eighth grades in Blaine . . .

Unclassified

KAREN WAYSERSKI teaches kindergarten in Bellingham . . . TERRY JORGENSEN is teaching sixth grade in Bellingham . . . RICHARD LITTLE teaches a combination third and fourth grade class in Bellingham . . . GYNETH AUSETH is teaching fourth grade in the North Mason School District . . . CAROLYN AMBROSE teaches in the auditory class at Shuksan Middle School in Bellingham . . . MARLENE DAWSON teaches sixth grade in Bellingham . . . Kent police officer ALEXANDER E. SMITH was named officer of the month by the Kent Kiwanis Club at a recent meeting . . . MARLIN DUNLAP has been elected district manager of Pacific Security Company's new branch office in Bellingham . . . JANE BURRELL has been teaching in the North Mason School District for seven years.