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Sara Britton

Western Washington University

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A Walk on the Mild Side -- Escape to Orcas Island
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From the Editor's Desk:

By Sara Britton

On September 5, 1989, in his first prime-time address to the nation, President Bush called drugs the number one problem facing our nation today. Holding up a bag of crack cocaine, "seized" during a drug "buy" in a nearby park, Bush called for an all-out war on drugs, including more police, tougher border patrols, foreign intervention in drug-exporting nations and more than $1 million worth of anti-drug television ads each day for the next three years.

Days later, Washington Post reporter Michael Isikoff discovered the "buy," however, was a set-up, arranged by the Drug Enforcement Administration at Bush's request. When confronted with his misrepresentation of events, Bush reportedly replied: "I don't understand -- I mean, has somebody got some advocates here for this drug guy?"

Despite declining drug use, it seems most Americans agree with this governmental agenda. An August Gallup poll reported 27 percent of Americans believe drugs are the greatest problem facing the nation today -- ahead of nuclear armament, hunger and poverty.

In this issue of Klipsun, we are taking a look at how the "war on drugs" has affected Bellingham. Governmental and private agencies have instigated drug policies -- from mandatory drug testing to crackdowns at the borders -- which have affected the lives of people throughout the nation.

Because drugs have become an issue of national and community concern, we feel it should be examined. However, we must also note, even as we cover these issues of concern to the nation, that drug use and abuse is not increasing. It is, instead, our awareness of the drug problem which is increasing.

A national survey by University of Michigan scientists shows marijuana use among high school seniors is down from 37 percent in 1978 to 18 percent in 1988; use of cocaine and PCP declined as well.

A National Institute on Drug Abuse survey released last August estimated cocaine use among all age groups decreased by 25 percent over the past year. Drug Enforcement Agency director William Bennett's stated goal to reduce cocaine use by 5 percent per year, in fact, falls far short of current trends.

Media coverage may help fuel this fear of drugs. Despite a decline in drug use nationwide, media coverage is increasing. In 1980, the Wall Street Journal printed 21 articles about drug problems; in 1989, their index lists more than 240 drug-related articles -- from crack babies to "narco-terrorists."

The press also contributes about $360 million of their $1.2 billion public service advertising budget to fund Partnership for a Drug Free America's anti-drug ads.

Most of us can recite from memory one long-running ad, in which an egg is dropped into a sizzling frying pan. "This is your brain," says the foreboding voice of the announcer as he grips the egg and cracks it into the frying pan. It sizzles. "This is your brain on drugs," he says, darkly. "Any questions?"

Peggy Charren, president of Action for Children's Television calls the ad funding "conscience money for a society that's not taking care of the population most likely to get involved in drugs."

The number of hard-core addicts, for example, is rising. In 1985, 647,000 Americans were hard-core users; by 1988, hard-core users numbered 862,000, according to the Washington Post. The trend is expected to continue throughout the 1990s. Critics say the Partnership ads do not deter these hard-core users because they are aimed at middle-class people who are easily scared away by threatening messages.

"The only ad that will work is the ad we can't run," said Bill Miller, vice president of a Detroit ad firm, referring to a promotion for free and immediate treatment for crack addicts.

Legitimization of military activity and fabrication of "facts" in the drug war is all too common, say critics. How much can we really believe? Is there a real crisis, or are we hyping the problem?

A final point to ponder: military intervention in Panama was justified as action needed to secure our borders against "narco-terrorists" although Panama is no longer listed as a major drug producer or trafficker.

In reading our coverage of the effects of the drug war on a local level, Klipsun magazine asks you keep these statistics in mind and continue to question the actions our society is taking in the name of the war on drugs.
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KLIPSUN is a Lummi Indian word meaning "beautiful sunset".

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APRIL 1990
By Christie Houser

Well, it's really over this time. You have both expressed your feelings and no word has been left unsaid. You stare at the empty doorway where the person you used to call "honey" was just standing. The room is silent. You have had fights before but this one is different; this time it feels different. Words were said that could never be forgiven.

"I don't love you anymore," echoes through your head. After years of devotion to the person you thought you might someday marry, suddenly you are single. What happens now?

Ending any long-term relationship is extremely difficult, but students who choose to end their first long-term affair may run up against some unique problems, notes Western counselor Ann Hallock.

College-age students end long-term relationships for many reasons: interests change with maturity, long-distance relationships with the guy or girl next door become too difficult, or students simply fear making a major commitment at such a young age, Hallock said.

Still, as with any long-term relationship, breaking up a committed relationship is painful, she said.

Everything seemed perfect when junior Laura Siggins began to date her boyfriend Mike Sullivan in high school. After dating for over a year, Laura left to attend Western.

"In the beginning we both had the same goals. But after we graduated from high school, he didn't go to college, but instead started working with my mom in the real world. Things changed drastically. He had to grow up real fast and I was at college and I didn't," she said.

Interests and life goals change with maturation, Hallock said. Sometimes partners who became attached at an early age may feel a need to develop their own ideas and values. She calls this a process of "individuation."

"It really isn't anyone's fault -- just a matter of changing needs," she said.

For a while, Laura's long-distance relationship worked.

"Things were better than normal. We would call, write; it was very sweet. But then it got boring and we actually enjoyed time away from each other," she said.

Laura's long-distance relationship left her feeling unfulfilled. She wanted to be with her boyfriend, so she skipped classes to go home early. It affected her schooling.

"I missed him, but then when I got home we'd fight," she said. Things really began to go wrong last summer, after they'd dated almost four years.

"He was not giving me anything mentally or physically. I would come home on Fridays for the weekend and he would walk in the door after work and go into the other room. He rarely came up and hugged me any more unless I asked him to," she said. Once she quit school and went home to work, they broke up.

Shannon McGowan had a crush on her first boyfriend, Donnie Brown, since she was 10 years old.

"We met at a square dancing club in Federal Way," she said, looking at the floor and laughing a little.

Two years later, when Shannon was 13, they met again and she started dating him seriously. She described their relationship as the perfect young romance -- Donnie, 16, would ride the bus to see her. His mom would come pick him up later and drive him home.

Now an 18-year-old freshman at Western, Shannon remembers their problems were complicated by being young and in love.

"During the first year I broke up with him because I was too young and I wasn't used to being with someone that much. We got back together, but then a year later we started fighting about dumb little stuff, picking at each other; it was all downhill from there," she said.

They began a pattern of breaking up and getting back together again.

"He was breaking my heart. By this time I was totally dependent on him,"
A Pic-A-Dilly blind date brought Christy Lee and her boyfriend Marc Dubois together four years ago. They felt the spark of romance immediately and, before long, they were seeing each other seriously.

“Once we became a couple, we were inseparable,” Christy said. “I was so scared of the big ‘M’ word, marriage, even more than Marc was, I think,” she said. Christy felt she needed to get away from Bellingham and everything in it. She decided to move to Seattle for a while and ended up spending a year there.

When society views marriage as a logical conclusion to a long-term relationship, Hallock said, “This can make students anxious; it forces a change in the relationship.” Students who realize they aren’t ready for marriage may feel they have to leave the relationship in order to escape the “inevitable” marital commitment.

Many students who have ended their first long-term relationship found it difficult to become intimate with new boy- or girlfriends.

The pain of Shannon’s first relationship had quite an impact on her.

“I don’t trust guys. I don’t play head games with the guys I date as much as I do with myself. If I expect the worst now, I don’t get disappointed,” she said. Despite the hardships of this relationship, Shannon said she and Donnie will always love each other. Now, however, she said her relationships with guys are all strategically planned, always leaving her an “out” so she doesn’t get hurt again.

Laura is trying to take advantage of her own freedom. She is dating, but fears getting involved in a relationship.

“I was comfortable with (Mike), almost like he became a habit. He was a habit,” she said.

Laura is now trying to accept the break-up gradually. They decided to try to be friends, but Mike hasn’t called her. She admitted she is shocked at their lack of communication after they were together for so long.

Relationships seem to be especially hard to let go of when you are forced to see the former companion on a regular basis, Hallock said. Students who are forced to see their ex at school or around town may have difficulty keeping their distance.

Even when breaking up, Hallock said, the basic attraction remains. Especially when feelings have been strong, young people still may want to continue exploring their relationship without the same commitment.

Often, after breaking up, Donny would tell Shannon he wanted to get back together again, and change his mind the next day. Shannon would get excited about the reunion only to be hurt again shortly after. But she always gave in when he said he wanted her back.

After one break up, Shannon decided to be strong and not call Donnie. Five days later he called and said he was moving to California.

“We called each other all the time, I wrote him but he never wrote me,” she said, staring down at the couch. Eight months later he came up to visit for two weeks and it was like they had never broken up.

“After he left it was like hell all over again,” she said.

Now, two years later, he says he regrets his actions and wants her back. Shannon wants to see him again and be friends, but is afraid to get involved.

Like Christy, senior Scott Hickson decided to get away from Bellingham and his ex for a few months after an unsuccessful attempt at getting back together.

After four years of dating, Scott says it was “a mutual break-up.”

“After we broke up she started seeing someone else right away. We were still friends and saw each other sometimes. I still wanted to get back together and we did for a while,” he said.

Many ex-partners find getting away from an ex helps them to recapture their individuality. In a small campus community like Western, couples who break up often find it difficult to socialize without running into their ex, Hallock said.

“In the same social group, the intensity (of feelings) makes being friends complicated,” Hallock noted.

When Scott returned to Western, he said things were pretty much broken off.

Although Scott and his former girlfriend still talk on occasion and “defi-
nitely don’t dislike each other” they rarely see each other.

“If we saw each other on campus we’d stop and talk; our paths just never cross. She is engaged now, so I hear,” he said.

Sometimes, however, even distance doesn’t help.

Christy dated other guys while she was in Seattle, and even had a serious relationship for about a year. But something was never quite right.

“Every guy I dated I compared to him; I kept thinking of him,” she said. “I’d call him to talk when I was down. I considered him to be my best friend.”

One weekend she decided to come up to Bellingham and visit some friends. She stopped by to visit Marc, and that was all it took.

“We started talking about how great our relationship was before,” she said.

Their relationship took off again. Christy moved back up to Bellingham. But the relationship moved too fast for them after such a long separation.

“When I moved up here we started spending lots of time together every day. We started taking advantage of each other and taking each other for granted. He didn’t make me feel special anymore. No notes, no flowers. We also started arguing about dumb little things. We weren’t communicating,” she said.

Marc, a 23-year-old journalism major, agreed the two were taking each other for granted, but noted a few other reasons for their miscommunication.

“We were struggling through winter quarter. You come back from winter vacation on kind of a high from Christmas and all the excitement, then winter quarter is so blah. We just weren’t getting along,” he said.

Christy and Marc realized they were having problems. They worked it out so they would talk about once a week about how to work on the relationship.

“Then out of the blue one night he broke up with me. He said he didn’t want a girlfriend,” Christy said. “I never cried so hard.”

“When we would argue we would talk to try to resolve our problems. For about a month we tried doing little things for each other to make the other feel more appreciated. Things were a little better, but not as good as I had hoped. I got tired. I broke up because I felt we needed time apart to evaluate what we have,” Marc said.

Christy had spent about four hours getting support from friends and family, when Marc called. He asked if they could talk.

“He said he couldn’t live without me. But then he said he wanted to come back because he felt sorry for me because I didn’t know many people,” she said. Hearing the reasons her boyfriend felt they should stay together made Christy sad and confused.

“I don’t know if he should have went back on his decision. He gave me other reasons, everything except the good one (love),” Christy said. She hasn’t decided what to do about the situation.

“You have no control because he broke up with you. Should I wait by the phone for him to call? I don’t know how much I can trust him,” she said.

Now, both Christy and Marc say they are unsure about where their relationship will go in the future, but both remain optimistic.

“We still talk and see each other occasionally. Hopefully things will turn out positive,” Marc said.

Sometimes, college couples do reunite and the relationship works itself out, Hallock noted. Still, she cautioned, it’s all individual.

The only comfort for a broken heart may be in knowing you are not alone in your suffering. Breaking up is difficult — whether you are making the decision or your ex has made it for you.

“Each individual thinks nobody can feel like this. It hurts so bad and you feel so cruddy,” Marc noted. “It even hurts when you are initiating (the break up), but not nearly as bad as the person on the other end, especially if it comes as a surprise to that person. I think most people feel the same way as I do.

“If something positive comes out of a break-up, it is the ability to give others good advice if it happens to them. That is about the only positive thing.”
Dealing With a New Intolerance

By Darlene Obsharsky

Editor’s Note: Because the students who were contacted to comment on the experience of receiving a DWI were still awaiting trial at press time, all students names used in this story are fictitious. Dates and locations of arrests have been omitted to avoid identifying the sources inadvertently.

After Craig, 23, a senior at Western, lost control of his car on an icy road, slid up an embankment and hit a tree, all he wanted was a tow truck. When the police showed up, the last thing he expected was to be arrested for drunk driving.

Craig was one of 218 people who have discovered the Bellingham Police Department’s new drinking and driving policies — which carry some good, stiff penalties for that good, stiff drink.

They call it the “No Tolerance Policy.”

And although the name speaks for itself, it has come as a surprise to some unsuspecting Western party-goers.

After the tow truck arrived, Craig was given a breathalyzer test on a portable unit. He registered a .13 blood-alcohol level, .03 more than the legal definition of intoxication, and was then arrested for driving while intoxicated (DWI).

Later at the station, he was given another breathalyzer test and again registered a .13. However, Craig’s lawyer will be checking into the accuracy of the machines used and when the machines had been scheduled for calibration.

At this time, Craig is still waiting for his court date. “It wasn’t a good experience. I was made to feel like a criminal,” Craig said.

Between November 28, 1989 and February 11, 1990, Bellingham police implemented the “No Tolerance Policy.” During this 80-day period, the Bellingham Police night shift made 218 DWI arrests.

The result: a 59 percent increase in drunk driving arrests over the same period of time from 1988-1989.

The “No Tolerance Policy” targets not only drivers but also liquor outlets. During the period of increased enforcement, officers check drivers for DWI whenever a vehicle is stopped for a traffic violation. The increased enforcement runs for 80-day periods at various times during the year.

With cooperation of the Washington State Liquor Control Board, agents target illegal liquor sales and overservice by liquor establishments. This combined effort has resulted in a 174-percent increase in liquor law violation arrests over the same period of time in 1988.

One of those stung by the increased police effort was John, a Western student. John joked that during his first two years at Western he spent every weekend searching out parties. Now in his senior year, John states he is more serious about his studies and has slowed down to an occasional party.

It was while searching out that occasional party that John ran into trouble. He had been to a bar earlier in the evening where he had several beers with some friends before heading home. After a couple of hours at home, John and a friend decided to check out the local party scene. Each took his own car. John followed his friend. He claims that his friend was driving more erratically and had pulled into the other lane of traffic to make a left turn. When John saw the
police car behind him, he figured his friend was going to get pulled over. John drove straight ahead and the police car turned. John drove down the road and then turned around. Soon the police car was behind him again.

John was the one to get pulled over. John said the officer stated that he was trying to evade him. John was then given several sobriety tests such as walking heel to toe and repeating the alphabet. John said he only missed two letters out of the entire alphabet and swayed only a little bit when told to stand on one foot.

He was also given a breath test by the officer and registered .11 blood-alcohol concentration on the hand-held unit. (Officers use a small portable unit at the scene when they suspect the subject has not satisfactorily passed the other sobriety tests.)

Under Washington state law, drivers can be cited for DWI with a blood or breath alcohol concentration of .10 percent or higher. John was arrested for DWI and taken to the station.

At the police station another breath test was administered and a reading of .09 was registered.

At this time, John is still waiting to go to court. He has elected to take a jury trial. ‘I think the worst I’ll get is a reckless driving conviction,’ John said, because his blood alcohol reading was below the limit.

‘I waited a couple of days before I told my parents about this,’ John said. His parents are helping with court costs and attorney fees. He does worry about how much his insurance rates will jump. A DWI conviction would result in suspension of his driver’s license. John hopes that doesn’t happen because his girlfriend lives in Seattle and it would make it very difficult to visit her.

It was an expensive night for me,’ David, 21, a junior at Western, said when he described the night he totaled his Datsun 240Z. ‘I wasn’t paying attention to the road and was going too fast. By the time I saw the stop sign and slammed on the brakes it was too late,’ he said. His car slid through the intersection and hit a light pole head on. ‘I’m thankful that I didn’t kill anyone.’

David and his passenger received only minor injuries. In addition, David was arrested for DWI. After the sobriety tests, David was given a breath test. ‘I blew a .14 on it. They put handcuffs on me, read me my rights and then put me in the police car and took me into the station,’ he said. At the police station, he was given another breath test that registered .16 on the machine.

‘My parents weren’t too pleased with me,’ he said. They are helping him pay for a lawyer. He had only liability insurance on his car, which does not cover the cost of repairing or replacing it. David is worried about how much insurance rates will go up for him if he gets a DWI conviction when he goes to court.

Students also note that the new intolerance for those who drink and drive has made the mere mention of a DWI citation a social stigma.

Craig particularly objected to The Bellingham Herald newspaper policy which calls for publishing the names of those arrested for DWI. ‘That created an environment which leads to prejudgment. If I win in court they won’t see anything about that,’ he said.

Many students who have been cited for DWI are really shocked that they have been caught, said Elva Giddings, coordinator of Western’s Substance Abuse Prevention Center. ‘It’s rare that it was the first time; usually they have driven while intoxicated before,’ Giddings said. Most students who have been cited for DWI are really scared about what is going to happen to them, she said.

Even the first conviction for DWI can result in jail time (from a minimum of 24 hours to a maximum of one year); fines of $475 to $1,600; 90-day suspension of a driver’s license; and enrollment in an alcohol information school or treatment program.

Prior to initiating the new policy, the Bellingham Police Department ran notices in the local newspaper and media in order to inform the public of the increased enforcement. Still, many students said they had no idea the penalties would be as stiff as were.

The stiff penalties simply reflect the seriousness of the problem, say law enforcement officials and drug treatment counselors.

‘One out of every 10 cars on the road between 2 and 4 a.m. is driven by an impaired driver,’ said John Hooper, office manager of Whatcom County Combined

Illustration by Brett Evans
gaining, consuming, purchasing or attempting to purchase alcoholic beverages, whether or not the infraction was driving-related.

Under normal circumstances, a person can get a driver's license at age 16 in Washington. But under the new law, a 14-year-old caught drinking would have to wait until age 17 before getting a driver's license.

License suspension also applies to teens convicted of possessing, manufacturing or selling drugs.

University Police, since being commissioned, have full arrest powers and will arrest drunk drivers on campus and outlying areas patrolled by the University Police, Lt. Chuck Page of the University Police said. At the time, the Bellingham Police started the "No Tolerance Policy," the University Police were not asked to assist because they were not commissioned at the time, Hanson said. "In the future, we will contact the University Police to help with enforcement efforts," he added.

Many states are taking a tough stand against alcohol and drug abuse. Portland, Oregon recently adopted a controversial ordinance enabling police to seize vehicles from drivers who lose their licenses for drunk-driving convictions. As of January of this year, Portland police had already impounded 17 vehicles under the ordinance.

Nearly half of all motor vehicle accidents are alcohol-related, according to a report issued to the U.S. Congress by the Department of Health and Human Services ("Seventh Special Report to the U.S. Congress on Alcohol and Health").

"The whole goal is public safety and prevention," Hooper noted.

No two people will react to the same drink in exactly the same way, Giddings said. In general, the less you weigh the more you will be affected. If you are taking any medication, it could increase the effect of alcohol. If you are tired, the effect of alcohol will be greater. The less food you have in your stomach, the more you will be affected by the alcohol.

The longer a person takes to consume each drink and the longer you wait between drinks, the less effect they will have, because your body begins to metabolize the alcohol. It's not how many drinks you have, but how much alcohol you consume. Some drinks are more potent than others.

The body is only able to metabolize one third of an ounce of alcohol in one hour, Giddings said.

Of the millions of people who crossed Canadian borders in 1986, Western junior Matthew Campbell discovered the meaning of "Zero Tolerance" when he was pulled over at the Surrey crossing on his way up to Vancouver.

"I was at the border crossing -- the third from the left," said Campbell, who noted he had often crossed Canadian borders and had never been stopped before. "I'll never forget it."

"Everything was going fine until they asked me why I was going up to visit my grandparents -- at three in the morning. The border guy's attitude changed from just being curious to being a nosy guy trying to find anything wrong he could."

After the border agents thoroughly searched the interior of his car, they closely examined his engine and looked underneath his car, Campbell said. They found nothing in the car but his backpack.

"They checked everything on the car. They checked the whole inside of the car, the side panels for the spare tires, the trunk, under the hood, under the hub caps. They used a big, old flashlight. They wouldn't let me near the car the whole time they were doing it."
At least 200 cars have been impounded under the new Zero Tolerance Policy at the Sumas border.

By Michelle Partridge

Bordering on Suspicion

Last year, officials collected $17.9 billion in drugs, money and vehicle seizures at the U.S. borders.

And as cars cross Canadian borders in record numbers, Whatcom County border inspectors face the added burden of being the front men for the new Zero Tolerance policy, trying to crack down on drug traffickers without backing up traffic into nearby cities.

Nearly two-thirds of all international traffic between Canada and the United States, about nine million cars, funnelled through the five border crossings in Whatcom County last year. Officials are projecting the number of people traveling through the local crossings will reach nearly 26 million this year, more than the total Canadian population.

Zero Tolerance means no drugs, no matter how small the amount, can be taken across the border, said Ciro Paolillo, senior inspector at the Sumas crossing. "In 1786, when the first customs were in operation, the law said 'You are the captain of your ship and all your crew members.' Now the ship has four wheels, but you're still responsible for all the people in your car. A lot of people wished they had cleaned their cars out or asked their friends if they had any drugs on them."

The Zero Tolerance policy increased U.S. efforts to halt drug trafficking across U.S. borders with Mexico and Canada, including all airports and seaports. Canada also has a stiff policy for drugs, creating similar problems for people traveling north.

Under the policy, Paolillo noted, border inspectors have a lot of power. "We get paid to be curious," Paolillo said. "Our curiosity has to be satisfied before we let someone cross. We are the first line of defense. It all funnels down to the little guy in the booth. I get a certain amount of satisfaction from searching and seizing cars from drug people."

Border inspectors have the authority to search cars and people for drugs and drug paraphernalia and, in some cases, to seize cars. They may also pat down people to check for weapons and can detain people for several hours.

"There is no spot to hide things in cars that we haven't looked," Paolillo said.

Campbell said he was really surprised he was stopped crossing the border. He crosses the border about 20 times a year and said this time was no different than any other.

"It was the most innocent I've ever looked in my whole life," he said. "I didn't have an earring then, I had a crew cut, and I couldn't even grow a beard."

The U.S. Customs office makes composite profiles of suspected drug runners by compiling information on every arrest made at all U.S. borders over the past three years. Inspectors are trained to look for suspicious behavior, Paolillo noted.

"If someone was going to Seattle and they came through Sumas, we know it's a ways out of their way. Also, if a person is acting really nervous," he said.

Profiles of suspicious people have changed over the years, Paolillo said. Inspectors no longer suspect every long-
haired man who drives through the crossing of having a little pot in his car.

"The spectrum of people involved in drugs has gotten deeper and wider, which makes our job more difficult," Paolillo said.

"Everyone has long hair now. It's the businessmen with attaché cases, with big business accounts and driving nice cars. Days are gone when everyone grew a little pot in their house. Drugs are a big business now. It's moved beyond hippies. They have automatic weapons now. There is a lot more violence attached to drugs.

"We have a very sophisticated computer system. We're not just shot-gunning people through here. We check to see if their jobs fit with the way they dress and the car they drive. Some students drive nice cars, but if they say they are from Western, they should have their student identification and if they don't have it, or if they can't name some of the halls or buildings on campus, we would suspect something," he said.

In Whatcom County, border inspectors usually look for, and often find, marijuana, cocaine and small amounts of crack and hashish.

For the past three years, inspectors were required to seize all cars that carried drugs. The law was recently revised, however, allowing border officials to decide if the driver was an innocent party. If the driver is not aware a passenger is carrying drugs, the car may be returned to the driver. However, if the driver knew about the drugs the car is taken away and the driver must pay an automatic $500 fine.

Drug dealers don't usually bring large amounts of drugs into the United States over Canadian borders because drugs can be sold for more money in Canada, Sumas border inspector Jeff Buhr said.

Border inspectors in Whatcom County usually find large quantities of money, instead. The dealers bring cash to the United States to buy the drugs, then return to Canada to sell their stash for about three times the price they paid for it. Money discovered may be subject to seizure if a person is carrying more than $10,000 and doesn't declare it at the border.

The number of cars searched varies from day to day. Sometimes Sumas inspectors will only stop three or four cars a day and sometimes they stop 25 cars in an eight-hour shift, Paolillo said.

Of the two million cars that crossed the Sumas border since opening, 200 cars were seized. Most cars are kept until the owner pays a fine. However, cars that are seized in drug operations (selling or smuggling drugs) can be taken and sold at a government auction. Rental cars and commercial vehicles are automatically returned to companies that own them.

The penalty for attempting to take drugs across the border is up into the thousands of dollars, depending on the situation.

Fewer cars have been stopped in the last year because of increased border traffic, Paolillo said.

"There are less people available to do a thorough job with each car. We'd probably look at a lot more cars if we had the people. About 5,000 to 6,000 cars come through here each day. We have five lanes and only enough manpower to have two lanes open." To accommodate the increasing commuters, a new border station was recently built at Sumas, equipped with three more lanes and a large area to inspect cars and commercial vehicles. An indoor inspection area has a section of the floor cut out to allow inspectors to thoroughly check under cars. The station also plans to purchase a small machine that takes tires apart when inspectors feel it is necessary.

Paolillo said being a border inspector has become extremely difficult since the Zero Tolerance policy was instituted. Inspectors put up with a lot of abuse, he said.

"People throw punches. A lot of people are not very happy to get stopped and get their cars searched," he said. "We try to handle ourselves as professionals, because the worst thing you can do is rub their nose in it. They are already in enough trouble as it is."

Inspector Buhr might agree. In the eight years he's worked at Sumas, he's suffered a broken arm and once had to have eight stitches above his left eye.

Still, Buhr believes the Zero Tolerance policy has been an effective deterrent in the past few years.

"We used to get up to 50 cases a month where people were bringing large amounts of drugs or drug money across the border," he said. "Now we see about 10 people. The word is getting out. Usually the people that get stopped live far away from the border. People nearby know they are going to get stopped and penalized."

Stiff penalties and hassles at the border may be curtailting more than drug smuggling.

Western junior Randy Rundhaug used to travel across the Blaine crossing into Canada a lot, to visit friends. He said he finally stopped going a few months ago because he was "hassled" so much at the border.

Rundhaug said he went up there so often, border officials suspected he may have been working in Canada.

"They finally gave me a warning and said I couldn't go up there anymore until I could prove I wasn't working up there. The last time I tried to go up there they turned me around because I couldn't prove I wasn't working in Canada. So then the American customs people interrogated me, trying to find out why I wasn't allowed into Canada. So I just stopped trying to go up there."

"I never go up there on the weekends, anymore, when my friends go. It was just such a hassle. It's not like I'm a drug dealer or anything. I just wanted to go up there to see my friends."
15 Minutes of Fame:
Western Student Makes His Musical Debut

By Chris Webb

The game of Rock Trivia was near the end, as the sound of Rod Stewart singing a remake of the Who's classic, "Pinball Wizard," echoed in the living room. The three opponents gathered together and began to ponder what question to ask, one that could stump the potential winner.

It didn't matter what the question would've been; this evening belonged to Western broadcast student John Whitney -- who was for twenty minutes a rock and roll star.

"George Harrison," he exclaimed while picking up his green windbreaker off the back of the chair.

His friends groaned as he raised his hands in victory.

"I'm pumped," he said, grabbing his drumsticks off the couch, "let's fly."

It was Wednesday night, humpday to most, but a time to "put-up or shut-up" for Whitney, who was making his debut at Buck's Tavern's "Open Mike Night." Every Wednesday night, anybody with even a hint of humor or musical talent can perform on a stage, behind a microphone to a group of beer-drinking critics.

He immediately walked over to the bar and ordered a pitcher of Wisconsin's finest, Old Milwaukee.

"Nothing like a good imported beer," he said, smiling, as he walked over to a table and sat down waiting for a group of friends to show up.

"Man," he said before taking a drink, "I feel really good."

He began to tap the table with his right hand while a couple of people inserted money in the juke box machine behind him. Some friends entered the tavern, walked by two men playing pool and sat down at the table with Whitney.

He greeted his friends, some of whom he had just beat at Rock Trivia, and began to talk with them, but their conversation was nothing more than small talk. Whitney didn't really appear aware of the surroundings. His upcoming performance seemed to occupy his mind.

A haze of smoke filled the narrow room as the lights dimmed. A bearded man wearing a tie-dye T-shirt walked on stage with an acoustic guitar and welcomed the late-arriving crowd.

Whitney, wearing a red and gold Washington Redskins jersey, ran his hand through his dark, shoulder length, bi-level hair.

"It's only 9:15, people usually roll in between now and 10," Whitney said while continuing to tap the table with his hands.

After a couple of blues numbers, four other men accompanied the solo performer. The bass, electric guitar, harmonica and drummer began to play more blues numbers to a very accepting audience.

"No nose bleeds tonight," Whitney yelled over the amplifiers and speakers. He was referring to a chronic nose bleed a week earlier that took him to a three hour visit to St. Luke's Hospital instead of an originally planned trip to "Open Mike" at Buck's.

After a fifteen minute set, Whitney exchanged seats with the drummer while about eight of his friends began to chant, "Whitney!" "Whitney!" "Whitney!"

If his mother could've seen, she would see how the eight years of drum lessons paid off. Whitney didn't miss a beat as the band opened with a blues number, made popular again in the movie Blues Brothers "Sweet Home Chicago." His neighbors, who couldn't tolerate his hobby back home in Lynnwood, probably would be proud too.

He waved to his friends as they yelled and cheered when the singer announced his name along with the other performers in the band.

After one more song, he made his way around the drums and speakers on the stage, shook hands with the other band members, and then made his way to the table where his friends began chanting, "Whitney!" "Whitney!" "Whitney!"

The smile didn't leave his face, until he sat down and poured a beer.

It has been said that America is "the land of opportunity" and it was surely evident that night. Whitney was invited to play drums in a local band permanently.

"That's what it's all about," Whitney said about being a new member of a rock 'n' roll band. "It's a chance to be spotted and maybe get an opportunity to play with a band."

"The best part," Whitney said, as beads of sweat moved down his forehead and he poured a drink, "was the fact that my friends were here to help me share this."

And the Rolling Stones, Michael Jackson or any other top music artist probably didn't feel half as good while playing in large, sold out arenas as Whitney did performing on a Wednesday night in front of 50 people, in a small tavern in Bellingham.

For 15 minutes, he was a star, the center of attention, and nobody can ever take that away from him.
The Escape

The ferry landing on Orcas Island is a few minutes behind you. From the two-lane road you now find stretches of farmland, spotted with farmhouses, and trees. The water peaks through the trees as you drive eastward toward Doe Bay.

Tourists await the Orcas ferry.
Fifteen-year-old Andrew Ramerman of Anacortes shares his Lay's potato chips with a passing friend.
It's Saturday afternoon and Orcas resident John Heath is doing his laundry at Doe Bay Resort, a few miles from Moran State Park. He abandons his laundry basket on a nearby table while he explains his attraction to the island.

Originally from Tampa, Fla., Heath moved to the Northwest for a change in climate. After working as a driver at Rosario Resort on Orcas for a year and a half, Heath moved to Doe Bay.

"It got hectic," Heath said, referring to his job at Rosario. "I needed to slow up a bit. (People who live on Orcas) don't care about the money. We don't have the stress."

Here he lives in one of the cabins in exchange for doing various tasks around the resort. Tossing the clothes into a washing machine, Heath recites the story of the founding owner of Moran Park.

Robert Moran bought 7,000 acres on the island in the 1890s, he said. "His doctors told him he had four years to live (he had a bad heart). He was in his forties or fifties then. He lived another 40 years."

The people on the island do many different things, Heath said. "We have lumbering people, a big batch of writers: novelists, historical writers, some who get published in "The New Yorker" and "Esquire."

"There are tons of college educated people here that don't work with their degree," said Gary Sisson, a local resident. "I know some who plow fields. They do it because they want to. Anyone who says they're here to make money, they're liars."

At Sunnyside Espresso in East Sound, the man behind the counter is 30 years old and holds a bachelor's degree in English. He introduces himself only as Bernie, and works quickly at the espresso machine while chatting with a customer.

Like many residents, Bernie says he knew when he moved to Orcas two summers ago that he wouldn't stay permanently.

"I feel a little cut off here. The inconveniences of living here are that you are cut off from shopping, the theater and job opportunities. This is a good
Near Turtleback Farm horses graze the island. place to spend a block of time," he said, placing a tall glass of espresso on the counter.

Bernie plans to leave the island and pursue a career in counseling. Writing is now something he "goofs around at as a hobby."

Still, the relaxed atmosphere provides a tight-knit community feeling that is hard to shake once experienced, some said.

"We're one big family in East Sound. You can just stand there at Templin's and meet people you know," Heath said.

At Templin's, the main grocery store on Orcas, the clerk calls the customers by their first names, says Clayton Dudzic, a cook at the Doe Bay Resort. Dudzic moved from Detroit to Seattle to Orcas.

"I'm from a large city and to see this atmosphere floating around, it is incredible," he said. Setting down his knife and fork, he recounts a recent hiking trip he took in Moran State Park.

"You go through old virgin forests - 200, 300 feet tall, trees sitting there, waterfall coming down. This is Orcas. You never see the mainland."

Many residents agreed that the intimate community of the island is good for raising a family. Here, it is easier to "know what your kids are up to" said Sisson.

Resident Jamie Johnson first heard of Orcas Island at a New Age conference in Colorado. A speaker there told the audience they should all move to Orcas, that it was the safest place in the country to live, she recalled.

"I always wanted to come to Orcas," she said. "Come live, have money and hang out. When I came here, it was before my time."

Johnson has lived on the island with her daughter for two years now and said living and working on Orcas allows you to do what you want to do in an environment you like.

Making ends meet hasn't been easy. Johnson currently works four jobs -- ranging from restaurant to leather shop work. Though recently she bought a house, for three months mother and daughter lived in a tent pitched on a
friend's property.

"It is hard to find homes," she said.
"Everything's been bought ... there aren't any rentals."

**Community Atmosphere**

In this small-town atmosphere, common problems associated with big city life don't worry residents.

Hitchhiking is still one of the easiest ways of getting around the island, said local real estate appraiser David Kantor, because drivers aren't suspicious of thumbers.

"Usually, not a car will pass without stopping," he said. Kantor recalled one day when he picked up a University of Washington Biology professor hitching for a ride at the ferry terminal. They soon became friends.

Kantor comments on this community atmosphere in the parking lot at Cascade Lake in Moran State Park. He is trying to fix a Jeep. Buddy Gary Sisson watches.

Kantor had brought his son out for a picnic, but instead of walking around the lake as planned, he found himself attempting to repair the dead engine of one of the other parent's cars.

"I have met the lady who owns this car only a few times," he said, leaning forward over the open hood of the Jeep wagon to apply a wrench to an engine part. He stepped aside to allow Sisson to try to start it up.

The car doesn't start. Sisson walks to the front of the car to have his own peek at the engine and notes, "People will probably ask what I was doing here today. They will have seen my car."

One trade-off for such neighborly concern may be individual privacy. A person can't do much on Orcas without others knowing about it, Sisson said.

Johnson said gossip gets around fast on the island. "The island is like a high school. Lots of rumors. Unless you are really incognito, everybody will know everything about you...People I don't even know know things about me. It helps people, though, take responsibility for their lives-they're always hearing about it."

Many of the people on the island rely too much on first impressions in forming their opinions about someone, she said. "People do hold grudges. They won't allow you to change because they hold you that way."

Sid Seymour, a self-employed electrician, said Orcas' small town atmosphere makes it next to impossible to voice an opinion without offending someone. Seymour said he's afraid to voice his political convictions lest one of his employers turns out to have opposing views. He fears if they got wind of his comment, he might be fired. The result is "you don't say much," he said.

Still, things are changing. Orcas resident Bud Russell, who spent his high school years on the island and now owns a printing company there, noted he used to know area residents by name.

"I used to know what kind of car they drove and all their kids names...It isn't that way anymore. There are more factions, groups on the island," he explains while he gets a trim at The Hair Company in East Sound.

There used to be only two churches on the island, Russell said. Episcopalian
and community. "If there were any Catholics, they would go off the island (to attend church). If they were Mormons they didn't tell."

There were more secrets before, Russell said. "It is much more urban here now. It's yuppyville."

Beating Boredom

"Cabin fever" may be another drawback to the privacy of the island location. Winters are especially difficult, Kantor said.

Sisson nods in agreement. "In the winter, you don't think about going outside."

"We're secluded from the real world," agreed high school freshman Sonya Tasovac, hanging out with her friend Torah Conway in front of the Village Store in East Sound.

"The only way you can get into trouble here is to get a girl pregnant," said veteran islander Phil Blu, approaching the girls. Blu plans to attend the University of Washington this spring.

A car leaving a nearby parking lot idles for a moment before Blu and his friends. Blu walks up to the car and exchanges a few words with the driver. Returning to the bench, Blu said: "That is the highlight of my day, pulling someone over and saying hello...You sit here and say hello to everyone that passes by."

"We get our friends together and have lots of parties," said Conway, a sophomore. "That's where a lot of us get into trouble."
(Freshman) Brook Lyon emerges from the Village Store to offer an opinion. "There isn't enough to do...there should be dances in the winter. There aren't enough places to get tapes, clothes."

Still, Lyon said she'll "come back to live when I get old because it is so nice here."

Other residents argue that entertainment can be found on Orcas as long as you know where to look.

"You create your own nightlife," lines have hidden hobbies and passions to pass the time.

And they are plenty busy, she said. The person who works the soda counter or serves a hungry tourist in the restaurant often has another life at home -- perhaps a hidden manuscript or unfinished painting.

"If you have a certain hobby, you can find someone here who has the same one," she said. "You name it. We have it all here."

For John Heath, a puzzling pasttime became far more than a hobby. Leaving the laundry room at Doe Bay, the tall grey-haired man said he was paid to lecture on the value of jigsaw puzzles for understanding life at the university level.

The puzzles hang now on the wooden walls of the dining hall at Doe Bay, and Heath points out some favorites: an Indian chief's face, a cover picture from the Saturday Evening Post and a Norwegian painting are just a few.

Although Heath hopes to continue a broadcasting career with a weekend gospel program at a Mount Vernan radio station, he still derives great pleasure from his jigsaws.

"I compare the puzzles to problems of life," Heath said. "They are an accomplishment or achievement; something we can be proud of."

Leaving the dining hall, Heath waves goodbye to cook Clayton Dudzic eating a plateful of rice at one of the window tables facing out towards the dark blue spectacle of East Sound.

Dudzic said of the Orcas community: "No matter how you dress, no matter what you do, there's total 100 percent acceptance here...What Orcas does is bring you to a standstill of life, a side of life that has never been seen before."

Russell said. He said for entertainment locals have two taverns, three or four restauants, several cocktail lounges, the American Legion Club, and one movie theater to choose from.

As she prepared an indoor art show in the small Orcas community of Olga, one anonymous woman pauses to dispel the notion that Orcas is boring.

The locals most tourists encounter when hiking or biking through the island in the stores, on the streets or in ferry
By Sara Bynum

It used to be when someone mentioned coffee the same image popped into everyone's head. There was the one coffee and it was the thick, coagulated black liquid which tasted the same whether you had it at Ma's Diner or home. According to Reader's Digest, Americans drink 400 million cups of coffee every day.

College students are into coffee. Students are to coffee what fish are to water -- they reach for their coffee pots to pull them through all-nighters or go out for coffee to talk with friends.

Coffee has progressed with the times and has entered a new stage. Move aside Folgers -- espresso has become the chic drink. Coffee and espresso are basically the same, except espresso is made from a darker roast, a finer ground and goes through a different filtering process. All these differences give espresso a richer flavor than coffee.

A shot of espresso constitutes only one to three ounces, yet only the strong and brave dare to drink it unadulterated.
I worked at an espresso shop and saw, first hand, how an enjoyable drink could become an addiction. A line of short-tempered customers would stand impatiently in front of me each morning waiting for their espresso. They wanted their espresso, and they wanted it now. After the cup was emptied, not only did they have an enjoyable drink but their headaches, jitters and sleepiness vanished.

Even if they were late to work, customers would still come in to have their daily dosage. Most customers only came in once a day, but as their body came to tolerate the caffeine, they needed more. It was not unusual for some to pick up an espresso fix before work, during their lunch break and on the way home. Caffeine addiction can be expensive -- some customers spent more than $100 a month just on espresso.

There is no doubt espresso is physically addictive. Those who do not have their coffee and find themselves complaining of headaches, being tired or the jitters are probably addicts. These symptoms may last as long as a week or until their next espresso. Espresso-addicts can easily be spotted. They are the ones running up and down the street, rushing in and out of shops, desperately searching for any place that sells espresso.

When it became apparent there were those who couldn't last long without their espresso fix, the stores wasted no time in having their daily dosage. Most customers only came in once a day, but as their body came to tolerate the caffeine, they needed more. It was not unusual for some to pick up an espresso fix before work, during their lunch break and on the way home. Caffeine addiction can be expensive -- some customers spent more than $100 a month just on espresso.

Yogurt shops, fitness centers, department stores and even antique shops now offer espresso.

Starbucks, Stephanie's Cookie Cafe and Tony's Coffee House are three popular Bellingham coffee shops. Each shop offers espresso and each shop caters to an assorted group of customers.

In Sunset Square is Starbucks, set between Pets-R-Us and The Fair. The Seattle-based legend finally made it to Bellingham in January.

Its warm coffee aroma emanates from the store, pulling customers in to see what Starbucks has to offer.

The green Starbucks apron, high stools, classical music and counters -- which seem only large enough to balance a cup of anything -- give Starbucks a sophisticated, Manhattan-like atmosphere.

Starbucks employee Michael Hurtenbach says it is Starbucks' reputation of sweet, smooth coffee that draws in people.

Starbucks also offers decaffeinated espresso, which is a godsend for those who adore the taste but would rather not have to deal with the caffeine jitters.

"We cater to anyone who wants real good coffee," Hurtenbach said.

At about 10 to 20 cents more per drink, Starbucks' espresso prices are a bit more expensive compared to other espresso shops in town. Yet Starbucks serves high quality coffee and espresso and people who truly want such will pay the extra money, Hurtenbach said.

Jolynda Hartle is one of those coffee-lovers who doesn't mind paying the extra money for Starbucks' coffee. She knows the coffee will be exquisite time after time.

Hartle also comes to Starbucks for its quiet and relaxing atmosphere.

The espresso is frequently tasted by the employees to be certain only the highest quality of espresso is being served. If any customer is unsatisfied with the drink, it will be remade or refunded.

Tony's Coffee House is probably one of the more popular coffee houses in Bellingham. It is located in Fairhaven near 11th Street and Harris, across the street from Fairhaven Restaurant.

Tony's serves a long list of espresso drinks, espresso shakes and also sandwiches, soup, salads, pastries and cakes. On average, Tony's serves 600 espresso drinks each day, employee Brinda Coleman said.

"Tony's is a casual, social place to hang out," said Rondi Shields, a West-
The atmosphere is very relaxed and anybody can come in here.”

It’s popular because it’s open late and has music almost every night, Shields added.

Walk down a couple of stairs to another section and you’ll find more tables gathered around a pot-belly stove. Here cheese, coffee appliances and fresh coffee (by the pound) are sold.

Western senior De Ann Odom is a regular at Tony’s. “It’s a place where anyone can go and fit in,” she said.

“The espresso has a very small part to play,” said Western sophomore Becky Weagant. “It is the atmosphere that draws me here.”

Stephanie’s Cookie Cafe, on Cornwall Avenue and E. Holly Street, is a great place to go for espresso and baked goods such as cookies or muffins.

Along with the regular daily selections, the hired baker prepares specialties like chocolate chip croissants.

“We don’t get the Fairhaven crowd like Tony’s,” said Tabitha Reeder, an employee at the Cookie Cafe. “But we have lots of regulars. We know who is going to come in. We know most of them by name and what they’ll order.”

In the morning, the Cookie Cafe is full of business people who rush in for their coffee and then right out the door to work. Students do their homework, visit with friends or just relax at the Cookie Cafe in the afternoon.

Scattered newspapers are picked up by customers as they sit down at the tables and enjoy their goodies. The red and white-checkered floor gives the shop a fun atmosphere.

People are beginning to find coffee houses an enjoyable place to spend their time. The concept of having a place to sit and drink a cup of coffee, without being badgered by a waitress to order more food is what a coffee house is all about.

With a book or a table of friends a coffee house is a wonderful place people can mull over a cup of coffee or espresso for hours.

Stephanie’s Cookie Cafe offers three espresso drinks. Single and double shot drinks are served in the regular size cups. Taller cups are available. Each shot of espresso at the Cookie Cafe is one ounce.

It can be confusing for customers when they order an espresso drink and receive something different than what they expected. It is not uncommon for shops to offer similar drinks using different names or for different drinks at different shops to have the same name.

Starbucks serves seven espresso drinks on their menu. The drinks are available in either an eight-ounce cup or a 16-ounce cup called a grande. Each shot of espresso is one ounce and the grande size constitutes a double shot. An extra shot costs 40 cents.

Starbucks uses either almond or vanilla Torani syrup, the tall bottles, to flavor espresso drinks. Torani syrup is 20 cents extra.

The Starbucks’ espresso menu includes:

- **LATTE** — espresso with steamed milk
- **CAPPUCINO** — espresso with steam milk and foam, approximately one-third each
- **MOCHA** — espresso, Guittard chocolate syrup and steamed milk
- **LATTE MACHIATO** — espresso poured through steamed milk
- **ESPRESSO MACHIATO** — espresso marked with foam
- **ESPRESSO CAN PANNA** — espresso with whipped cream

Machiato means to mark. Milk is poured into the cup first, for the latte machiato, and then the espresso is added, it is not stirred. For the espresso machiato, milk is steamed so that foam can be spooned off the top and floated on top of the espresso.

Tony’s offers nine different espresso drinks. Two sizes are available. Tony’s is asking customers to bring in their own cup to cut down on the use of paper, but will provide cups if customers forget. Each shot is two and a half-ounces of espresso. An extra shot cost 40 cents.

For 10 cents extra, Tony’s offers dozens of flavorings to spruce up an espresso drink.

The Tony’s espresso menu includes:

- **ESPRESSO VIENNESE** — espresso topped with whipped cream
- **CAFE CREME** — espresso with steamed half-and-half
- **CAFE AU LAIT** — espresso with steamed milk
- **CAPPUCINO** — espresso topped with foamed milk
- **COCOA MOCHA** — espresso with steamed milk, chocolate and whipped cream
- **CAFE FANTASIA** — espresso, steamed milk, chocolate, an orange slice and whipped cream
- **MOROCCAN MOCHA** — espresso, steamed milk, bittersweet chocolate and whipped cream
- **AMERICANO** — espresso and hot water

Stephanie’s Cookie Cafe offers vanilla and almond flavoring at no extra cost and 40 cents offers an extra shot of espresso.

The Cookie Cafe menu includes:

- **LATTE** — espresso with steamed milk
- **CAPPUCINO** — espresso topped with foamed milk
- **MOCHA** — espresso with steamed chocolate milk

Compiled by Sara Bynum
Calling the Shots

Intramural Refs Rule the C-Leagues

By Christina Rustvold

Whistle. "FOUL!" cries the referee from underneath the hoop. All players on the basketball court stop and turn to give an I-didn't-do-it look in her direction. All observers around the court stop ... there's no sound.

The referee points to a player, gesturing with her arm to indicate the foul. "Todd, with the hack underneath," she shouts to the score keeper. Half the players mutter sounds of discontent and pout, while the other half clap their hands and pat the tush of the recipient of a free throw.

Those moments spent singling out players for fouls can make or break a referee. Referees are under constant scrutiny from players and observers, and in an intramural game the reactions to a bad call can be more violent than a normal game.

"It's more dangerous and there's a lot more contact; it's like a large rat ball game with refs," said Kris Varjas, who is head referee for Western's intramural and club sports.

Varjas, a psychology major in her third year of refereeing, officiates volleyball, basketball and softball. She has also been chosen to referee the championship of those sports each year.

Varjas and other referees for intramural sports have earned respect from most of the intramural players for hanging tough in the undisciplined intramural leagues.

Dan Olson, a former varsity basketball player who now plays in the intramural "B" League, feels the referees do all right.

"They do a good job considering the situation they're in," Olson said. "[In] intramural situations people are rougher on refs because there's no coach to pull them out of the game. They take a lot of crap. I give 'em a lot of respect because they know going into the game they're going to get a lot of crap."

Varjas agrees that the games are rougher due to a lack of discipline. "I think it's rougher because of the quality of refs and that there is no coach."

An intramural referee has to deal with an excessive amount of flack, especially in basketball games. However, if the referee is going to keep control of the game, he or she can't tolerate ridicule.

"Most women, if they're going to last, won't take the flack. Basketball has the most of it," said Judy Bass, coordinator of intramural activities at Western.

Brent Coburn, a student in his third year of officiating, feels the players give the male referees a much harder time.

"They don't like giving women a bad time. It's more of a macho thing," Coburn said.
Varjas said she wasn’t sure whether she received less bantering during her games because she was female or because she’s aggressive.

"I’m an offensive ref -- if someone throws something at me, I throw it right back. A lot of my refs are defensive refs, and I don’t know if I get less flack because I’m offensive or because I’m a female. However, I have been threatened to be beat up."

Whether male or female, Vargas said refs are subject to physical abuse as well as verbal assaults.

"I’ve seen refs get swung at. I’ve seen a team go after a ref and I know a guy who got thrown in a locker in the locker room," Varjas said. "It’s tough because from 6 to 10 at night you’ve got a whistle around your neck and from 8 to 6 you’re just an everyday ‘Joe Schmo’ on campus with no protection." Varjas said.

Despite the sarcasm from the players, Varjas and Coburn enjoy their jobs.

"I like the intensity, the quickness of the game. I don’t mind the swearing as long as it’s not directed towards me. If the word ‘bitch’ is ever mentioned I give ‘em a ‘T’ (technical foul)," Varjas said, chuckling.

"It doesn’t bother me," Coburn said. "The only time it gets hectic is if you know a lot of the players."

"I don’t put up with anything. If you put up with something it gets out of hand," Varjas said.

Because Varjas doesn’t put up with anything, she is well admired by players and observers.

"She’s the best ref out there," Olson said. "I’d rather have her than anyone else. She doesn’t take shit from anyone."

"The men respect her and some will ask for Kris," Bass said.

Tim MacDonald, a student who plays in the intramural ‘B’ League, recalled times when he used to referee with Varjas.

"Kris, she tries to make up for the bad refs by calling everything ... you have to call to the point where you keep it in control; it takes away from the game sometimes when you know you can get away with it, then it’s not basketball."

As an observer of the intramural games and as a varsity player, Michael Dahl says Varjas is really good.

"She realizes those guys are going to be real emotional and take it very seriously; she’s not intimidated."

All the bantering intramural referees receive stems from arguments among the players about judgment calls throughout the game.

"The problems are with bad judgment calls, and if you’re with the wrong people, they can give you a lot of problems," Olson said. "I think even if they make poor calls they’re pretty balanced. If they make a poor call, they make it for both sides."

Varsity player Scott Carlson agrees.

"[Refs] don’t play favorites, and when they make a call they believe it’s a good call," Carlson said.

"I don’t think when I make a call. If I have to think I don’t blow the whistle," Varjas said. "When you ref you have wide guidelines, but each game is different. It’s all judgment and when they argue, they argue about your judgment. We can’t call everything and I think if more people understood that, the games would go better."

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Kris Varjas

Kris Varjas ref's the game.
Return to Protocol-

Mortimers Try to
Raise the Grade on
Western's Public Image

By Karen Lane Hingston
and Tina Pinto

President Kenneth Mortimer strolls into the kitchen of his university-owned home wearing a suit and sporting a blue and white "WWU" tie pin. He explains to the catering staff that his wife Lorraine is still getting dressed for the evening's dinner party.

Catering's student manager Jeff Becker said this casual attitude is normal for Mortimer during frequent evening dinner parties at his home.

"One time ... he was joking that he just wanted to wear his slippers to dinner," Becker said.

One might not expect a university president or his wife to be working the night shift, but this Thursday-night ritual is nothing new to the Mortimers. In fact, actively soliciting private funding through dinner parties, receptions and functions is becoming commonplace at Washington state universities and across the nation.

And although Mortimer may look casual, he takes public relations and fundraising seriously, hoping his current group of diners will support him in his endeavor to improve Western.

The Board of Trustees has entrusted Mortimer with the task of helping raise private funds for the university. Mortimer and his wife Lorraine host about 75 events a year at their home and spend countless hours cultivating funds for the university.

"I heard Mrs. Mortimer say that she's had over 1,000 people through her home," said Jean Rahn, director of the Western Foundation, the public organization responsible for obtaining and directing private donations. (State funds are managed by the Office of Business and Financial Affairs.)

Between June 1988 and October 1989, the Western Foundation raised $658,087 from the private sector. At the end of winter quarter, the foundation had raised $930,000 in its effort to reach its June 1990 goal of $1 million.

The actual number of private donors has also risen through active fundraising. Between February 1988 and October 1989, the number of private donors has tripled -- from 888 donors to 2,700 -- because of the foundation's active phone solicitation.

As the government cuts back on educational funding, it's becoming increasingly important for Western to raise private funds, Mortimer said.

Public institutions are learning that private support is essential -- not only to raise needed money, but also to get people from all sectors of the community involved in Western, Rahn said.

"Cultivation strengthens community relations and bridges the gaps between the community and the university. We want the community to know the university is interested in being a responsible part of the community," Mortimer said.

Soliciting money from the private sector is nothing new for the Mortimers, who came to Western from Pennsylvania State University. In the East, aggressive solicitation is common, even in public universities, Rahn said. Private universities also have a tradition of private funding because they don't receive public funding.

"The Ross administration began a vigorous fundraising campaign," said Board of Trustee Chairman Craig Cole.
"The Mortimers have brought additional energy to it."

During the last 15 years, the public universities on the west coast are learning from their private university counterparts and are adapting to changes in public funding.

Entertaining donors is crucial to a successful and active fundraising campaign, Rahn said. "The very best fundraiser a university has is the president. People give money to people, not institutions. And when the CEO is out meeting people and explaining the university's goals, it works."

Almost 90 percent of the private donations the university received from 1988 to 1989 were from friends of the university or from university alumni. But almost half of the money donated during that same time period came from corporations, organizations and foundations.

"We make friends of the university, and then we'll ask them for favors -- there's no mystery about that," Mortimer said.

Rahn said most donors dictate how their donation is to be used.

For every $1 million donated to the foundation, normally only about $100,000 can be used as the foundation's board of trustees and the university see fit. The remaining $900,000 is earmarked for a specific purpose or department. For example, the John Fluke, Co. recently donated $100,000 worth of equipment to the plastics technology department.

Mortimer wants to use any unrestricted funds to improve the quality of undergraduate education, promote greater cultural diversity among students, faculty and staff and further Western's relationship with the community.

Private donations aid students, funding scholarships and subsidizing new school equipment. They help pay to update Western's faculty, covering seminars and conference fees or the costs of bringing visiting faculty specialists to campus. Private donations are used to motivate outstanding teachers with the Excellence In Teaching grant of $1,000.

But private donations are also used to fund anything the administration can't do with public funds, Mortimer said.

For example, the school can't use state funds to pay for the airfare of a visiting professor's spouse, for coffee at meetings, or for dinners with legislators to discuss university politics. All these things must be funded by private donations.

"One time Mortimer came into the kitchen wearing a suit and tie and his slippers. He was joking that he just wanted to wear his slippers to dinner."

— Jeff Becker

Gift Income by Donor Type
1988-1989

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<th>Donor Type</th>
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<tr>
<td>Alumni</td>
<td>26%</td>
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Number of Donors by Type
1988-1989

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<th>Percentage</th>
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<tr>
<td>Alumni</td>
<td>51%</td>
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(Graph courtesy of Western Foundation)
"We have to turn to the private sector to be able to treat people with the style and grace of a fine university," Mortimer said.

Entertaining future investors comes with a hefty price tag of more than $50,000 a year, he noted. However, business entertainment is largely funded by the interest earned on foundation investments. It does not come from private funds unless a donor requests it.

And, in any case, Rahn notes the cost of wining and dining investors seems to be a worthy investment: the amount of private funding in 1989-90 will almost double since the 1988-89 school year and the number of donors has almost tripled in 1989.

The Mortimers do get a chance to socialize with their personal friends occasionally, but most of their friends are people they've met through what Mortimer calls "cultivation" activities. "Tailgate" parties held before athletic events are one favorite function for the Mortimers. Athletic alumni and donors interested in Western's athletic program have brunch, then go watch the game together.

Normally, both Mortimer and his wife Lorraine work closely with the Foundation and the Board of Trustees to come up with guest lists, menus, table decor and entertainment.

"For events at home, I work with

"We have to turn to the private sector to be able to treat people with the style and grace of a fine university."

— Kenneth Mortimer

...catering to plan events and menus. It's a cooperative project with give and take," Lorraine said.

Entertaining investors varies according to the type of donation courted. Fans of the arts might be given a tour of campus outdoor sculptures, while athletic fans are treated to a sell-out basketball game.

A sense of humor helps to get through events which can often be tiring. Mortimer jokes about a plaza brunch, attended by 70 to 100 of Western's pre-1960 graduates, that Lorraine was unable to attend.

"That's probably why I enjoyed it so much," he said laughing and giving Lorraine a "just kidding" smile. She smiled back.

Both said trying to remember all the new names was difficult.

"We've gone to name tags, but it's still hard to have personal conversations -- to find out what's on people's minds," Mortimer said.

"You know, 18 months ago, when we moved to Bellingham, we knew no one," Mortimer said.

Judging from our rising donors and dollars, the Mortimers have made at least a few friends for the university.
Associations for All

By Kristi Warren

I have found the answer! I don't know how many times I've heard my fellow students say "I just need to find myself," or "I just want to fit in, you know belong -- be with someone who understands me."

The Encyclopedia of Associations is the guide to discovering that who you are and what you do isn't so off base after all.

So, you've spent seven years of your life practicing how to spit seeds from the space between your front teeth and now you feel eccentric and all alone in your passion. The Diastematic Club of America (for people with at least a two millimeter gap between their two front teeth) would welcome you wholeheartedly.

With the aid of my voluminous discovery, you all can finally fit in, belong and meet people who understand you. And to think it has been here all the time, right on the reference desk shelf in the periodical room of Wilson Library.

How did I find it? The Encyclopedia of Associations says "I wanna get a little wild, be a little crazy, meet some new, interesting people. I want a life. Get me outta here." I opened my eyes and there it was, with answers for all, including me: Spark Plug Collectors of America, Mr. Ed Fan Club, California Rug Study Society (they enjoy spending hours examining the weave of various oriental rugs), National Clogging and Hoedown Council, Joygerms Unlimited (dedicated to spreading joy and cheer) and the Great American Station Wagon Owner's Association.

In front of my eyes was the listing for International Dull Folks Unlimited, promoting "dull pride for all the good and dull people of the earth, regardless of race, creed, religion, nationality, color, sex or blood type."

Next, I found the International Organization of Nerds (ION) for people who either volunteered or were nominated for membership as nerds. ION considers nerdity a mark of distinction and seeks to officially recognize nerds everywhere. Unfortunately, the organization recognizes Jerry Lewis as one of its major heroes. Sorry, I'd rather study than worship Jerry Lewis. I guess I'm out.

Suddenly, I felt not so alone, just knowing that there were many people in worse situations than me. I began thinking about all of the bored, lonely people in the world who had not yet been enlightened by these pages.

There were Bobs International and Mikes of America for individuals with the same names who want the world to recognize that their names are not boring.

Lovers of the Stinking Rose has 3,100 members and membership has been steadily increasing since 1974. Its garlic-loving members seek to protect garlic in all its varied functions around the world. And while they don't feel they are raising a stink, they do lobby against mouthwash companies and others who disparage garlic and its rich odor.

The National Velthrow Association (NVA) is a group which interacts through Velthrow competitions. Velthrow is like darts except velcro balls are thrown at a soft material target. I always thought that was a kid's game but the NVA feels that it is the ideal office game that fosters unity and goodwill among workers.

The American Zombie Association is an option for any tongue talented individual with a tolerance for hard booze. The main objective is amusement, but members also seek to educate bartenders in the preparation of the alcoholic drink known as a "Zombie." To acquire membership, a male must drink three Zombies and a female must drink one, and then tie a cherry stem with the tongue and walk away on their own two feet.

There were so many I couldn't make up my mind which to join. So just as I decided to delay my choice, I found the ultimate place for me.

A sense of belonging overwhelmed me as I read with diligence about the Procrastinators Club of America. A club that has Christmas parties in June and Fourth of July picnics in January. They sponsor "Be Late for Something Day" on September 5, or any time thereafter, and "National Procrastination Week" the first week in March. I clenched the book to my chest in an affectionate way, drew in a deep breath and left the library quickly, knowing that I could prepare for my class discussion later ... much later.
Going to Pot
New studies link marijuana to early cancers
By Michelle Partridge

In the free-love era of the 1960s, smoking marijuana was something you did to "mellow out" and "feel groovy."

In the 1990s, scientific studies are finding that good old "Mary Jane" is a two-faced gal.

Although many of the long-term effects of smoking marijuana are still unknown, doctors have recently noticed a common link between young people who have developed fast-growing, large tumors and heavy marijuana use during high school and college years.

Recent studies by two doctors in California and Florida show that neck and mouth tumors found in their patients may have been linked to heavy marijuana smoking, according to a Dec. 12, 1989, article in the Seattle Post-Intelligencer.

In the article, Dr. Paul Donald, a head and neck surgeon at the University of California-Davis, said the cancers were similar to cancer seen in 60-year-olds who had been heavy drinkers and cigarette smokers for several decades.

The average age of Donald's cancer patients was 27, but the youngest was 19 years old. Some smoked two or three joints a day, while others smoked up to six or eight daily.

Dennis Dashiell, coordinator of Western's Drug Information Center, said although a direct link between marijuana and cancer cannot be drawn, if a person gets stoned on marijuana every day, it could be equated to smoking about five packs of cigarettes a day over a period of time.

"You can smoke a lot less marijuana and get just as much in your lungs as cigarettes," Dashiell said. "People also like to hold their (marijuana) smoke in as long as they can, which makes it even worse."

Dashiell added that marijuana grown in Washington is among the strongest in the world. He said the marijuana cigarettes usually contain about 3 to 4 percent of the drug THC, tetrahydrocannabinol. Washington's contains about 18 percent THC.

Doctors have long known marijuana use disrupts normal lung function, so less oxygen gets where it needs to go. A pamphlet distributed by the information center said that marijuana "contains up to 50 percent more tars and cancer-causing chemicals than cigarettes."

Perhaps its newest link to cancer is no surprise at all.

How the WEST Was Run
By Karen Lane Hingston

During her more boring shifts, Lisa Goodrich noticed the crosswalk sign at Garden and Holly Streets flashes "don't walk" seven times before changing, but the one at Garden and Oak flashes eight times.

And an old, gray-headed man usually sits in a rocking chair in the front window of a little pink house.

Other events around the Western shuttle loop are more surprising. One time she says she saw a man with his wife or girlfriend pinned up against an apartment window.

"Not in a mean way. I suppose they were enjoying themselves. I mean, they weren't wearing any clothes," Goodrich said.

Three times a week, Goodrich maneuvers the WEST (Western Evening Student Transit) along the same 4.6-mile loop. It's 6:50 p.m. when Goodrich arrives on campus. It's Monday, one of the shuttle's busiest evenings. Sixteen people pile onto the bus. She waits for them to settle in, then pops into the Viking Union to buy 10 nickel candies, one piece for each loop she has to drive.

After a five hour shift and 64 miles, she is done. But for $4.75 an hour, this senior majoring in elementary education says it's not a bad job.

Goodrich took the position because she already had her intermediate driving certificate, qualifying her to drive a bus, from her days driving preschoolers on field trips. She now has a calmer group of passengers.

"It's not unusual for me to drive through the route with no one ever getting on the bus. "You know you're bored when you start scaring yourself with 'what-ifs.' Like, 'What if someone gets on the bus and tries to attack me?'"

No WEST drivers have ever been physically abused. However, Goodrich said she came close to tears once after a middle-aged man wanted to be dropped off on Grant Street, which is off the WEST route.

"I kept saying that I really couldn't take him that far — that I would get in a lot of trouble. He said, 'Listen honey, you better take me there.' I took him to the end of Indian Trail because that's off the route. When he got off —

The text is always cheaper at the other

If you hang out long enough at the student co-op bookstore during in the first or last week of the quarter, you're going to hear him. Joe Student: the voice of despair.

"Man, I've been screwed!" he cries aloud as he exits the bookstore, his arms full of books. "Pirates, all of 'em!" he announces, spreading his refunded dollars across his palm. "Eighteen bucks. I got 18 bucks for five almost-brand-new hardcover books."

As veteran book-buyers at Western, the Klipsun staff has heard you, Joe Student, and we set off to try to expose the bookstore's unfair mark-ups.

We were promptly brought back down to reality.

"As long as we're not losing money, we'll do everything we can to keep our prices as low as possible," Western bookstore manager George Elliot said. "Sometimes the textbook department has to be subsidized because we don't even break even."

Right, George, we thought — but we kept listening.

Say a textbook sells for $40 retail. Elliot said. The bookstore gets a 20 percent discount from the publisher, so the book costs them $32. But it costs about four percent extra to ship the book up here to school. The cost to the bookstore is now $33.60.

The bookstore now marks the text at $40, but sells it to the student at $35.60 with our 11 percent discount at the register.

Total profit = $2. (Check that out — a five percent profit margin)

Last year the bookstore generated $5 million in sales.
thank God—he told me that next time I'd better do better."

Her manager suggested she carry a can of mace.

Now that campus security personnel have been commissioned, the drivers will use walkie-talkies to communicate with the campus police.

The worst times to drive the bus are Friday and Saturday nights. “Drunk people are always running out in front of the bus,” she noted.

Still, she says she's always the first one to know where a party is.

“They call me the ‘informer’ or their ‘party connection,’” she said.

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Cutting Up:
Garth Mix is one of several Western comic artists trying to capture a slice of college life. For more on students' experiences with love gone wrong, turn to page 4.

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store . . . and other college myths

This is what happened to the profits:
* $383,000 was returned to the students at the register
* $255,000 went to cover freight costs
* $192,000 was returned to the Associated Students.

After operating expenses, the total profit for the bookstore last year was $193,000 -- $100,000 of which was interest from the bookstore's reserve fund.

All of the bookstore managers contacted said store prices are mandated by the professor's choice of material and the publisher's price. If the professor chooses the expensive book, there's not much the bookstore can do, he noted.

If students wanted to protest escalating book prices, they should go bug the professor.

Not only are bookstores self-supporting, some schools even expect store profits to fund other school activities. At WSU, the bookstore must pay $55,000 per year to the Associated Students fund; at Eastern, 10 percent of profits supports athletic activity.

OK, so the bookstores can't be all that bad if they're backing student programs, we said. Why then are they so skimpy when they buy books back?

When we asked bookstore managers why refunds were so low, a general cry of protest was heard. It seems most stores that give direct refunds offer to buy back books at 50 percent of the retail price. As a service, bookstores also allow publishing companies to come in and offer small refunds to students.

Take that $40 book again. Students would receive $20 bucks back if a bookstore bought it. The publishing companies would purchase the same book for a slim $7 to $15.

Something for Joe Student to chew on: A 1978 issue of College Store Executive, ranked Western's bookstore best store nationwide for service and price.

So Joe Student, when you mutter in disgust at the meager change, remember this: it isn't the bookstores that are screwing you over, it's the publishing companies.