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Aerobatic pilot Dave Rahm flying upside down over Whatcom County

‘Flying Professor’ guest of King Hussein

By MAUREEN SMITH
WWSC Public Information Writer

Remember those fairy tales where a commoner catches the eye of a king and promptly finds himself the recipient of royal largess?

Such fairy tales happen in real, 20th century life as well, as Dr. David Rahm, professor of geology at Western, discovered recently.

Rahm flew to Jordan in November as the guest of King Hussein, following an invitation extended last August when the two met at the International Air Show held at Abbotsford, British Columbia. Rahm, who holds an Unlimited Aerobatic Certificate, was a participant in the air show; King Hussein, a pilot and aviation buff, was there as a spectator.

"I was pleased to be invited to a reception to meet King Hussein the morning of the show," he explained. "When I met him, he said he’d heard a lot about me, though I don’t know how. I said, ‘It would be great fun if we could get together and do some aerobatics,’ to which he replied, ‘Why not? Let’s keep in touch.’"

The King moved on to talk to other people, but an official in the royal entourage approached Rahm with a business card and said, “That was not a casual remark. It was an official invitation to come to Jordan and fly.”

Feeling “flabbergasted,” Rahm found himself in November boarding a Boeing 727 which was being delivered to Jordan after its purchase by the King during his North American visit. And, from the moment of his landing in

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Six students who have just completed their first quarter at Western hold the distinction of being the largest group of National Merit Scholar semi-finalists in the College's history. The National Merit Scholar program is designed to provide financial support to outstanding high school scholars throughout the nation.

The six students include James Stamper of Edmonds, a Mariner High School graduate; Eric Johnson of Seattle's Highline High School; Kelly Hays of Prescott High School, Prescott, Washington; Victoria Montanye of Northfield High School, Northfield, Minnesota; Leland David Bond of Snohomish High School; and Wendy Griffin, from Peabody High School, Pittsburgh, Pennsylvania.

Director of Admissions Dick Riehl, commenting on the appearance of six distinguished students in one year, said, "This must say something for the quality of program here, and the reputation we are enjoying around the country. The fact that two of these individuals sought us out from some distance is most flattering."

The National Merit Scholar program began in 1955, and is the largest academic competition in the country. More than one million participants from 17,000 high schools began the testing during their junior year of high school. Of these, 15,000 became semi-finalists, and 90 per cent of these become finalists. Finally 3,100 receive scholarships, although only 1,000 of these are actually National Merit Scholarships. Others are awarded by private groups and sponsoring institutions as part of the program. Among the Western group only Kelly Hays is known to be a finalist, for neither the students nor the colleges they attend are provided with the information. In her case, she is known to be a finalist, for she is among the highly select 1,000 who received a National Merit Scholarship.
Flying Professor

(Continued from page 1)

Amman, Western’s flying professor “lived like a king” himself, he says.

‘Blank check’

Along with “a blank check to do anything I wanted,” he also received accommodations in the Jordan Intercontinental Hotel, which he describes as “the best luxury hotel in Jordan.”

The King arranged for Rahm to fly a variety of airplanes during his stay, including an F5 Phantom, an American-made jet fighter. It was Rahm’s first experience with flying jets, and performing aerobatic stunts at fantastic speeds was, he says, “one of the highlights of my life.”

Much of his time in Jordan was devoted to flying with a British squadron which is in the country to train Jordanian Air Force pilots. “Jordan’s is a small, defensive air force which is fighter-oriented,” Rahm explains. “The Air Force is equipped by the United States and some of its pilots were trained in Texas. Some of them not only learned to speak English, they also learned to speak Texas slang and it seems funny to hear Arabs saying things like “that-a-way.”

One thing Rahm did not do during his stay was fly with King Hussein. “I caught him at a very bad time,” he says, noting that Middle East politics and domestic affairs kept the King deskbound for long hours of every day.

Rahm did see the King socially, though, and even attended a party in honor of the King’s 39th birthday. By plane, car, on foot and even on horseback, Rahm managed to see Jordan from every possible vantage point. Spectacular deserts, the Red Sea, dry lakes, Biblical sites, and the “lost” city of Petra carved in sandstone on the slope of a mountain, were but a few of the places that intrigued Rahm, the geologist and photographer.

Jordan, for all its antiquities, has its modern side as well. Rahm said he drank Pepsi Cola, labeled with Arabic printing, saw a Colonel Sanders Kentucky Fried Chicken restaurant, and noted that a Holiday Inn was being built at Acaba.

Meets Western alumnus

He also encountered a Western Alumnus, Class of 1959, when he dropped by the American embassy and found Major Gary Lind on the staff there.

Rahm came to Western in 1968 after teaching at Washington State University for nine years. It was during his time in Pullman that he first learned to fly, soloing in 1960. Five years later, he took up stunt flying, which he taught himself, with the aid of instruction books.

By 1967 he knew enough about the sport to win the West Coast Amateur Aerobatic Championship, but proving that his new enthusiasm in no way detracted from his teaching abilities, he also was named Outstanding Educator at WSU that same year.

While flying and teaching may seem like unrelated careers, Rahm manages to combine them in his courses at WWSC. He frequently takes his classes into the air to give students a better perspective of the nature of geology. Since his specialty is geomorphology, the science of the features of the earth’s surface which form landscape and scenery, flying provides perfect opportunities for students to be able to see first-hand those things about which he lectures.

Rahm is modest about his airborne accomplishments and prefers not to speculate on his standing in the ranks of U.S. stunt pilots. Two years ago, however, he was classed among the top 10 self-taught stunt fliers in the country. Today he calls himself “just a typical unlimited-class pilot. There are lots of us around,” he says.

Few of them, however, are ever likely to catch the eye of a king. □
Moon landings, space exploration, new satellite photographs of Jupiter and other planets and other spectacular recent events have led to a growing interest in astronomy among students at Western. Dr. Robert J. Quigley, associate professor of physics and astronomy at Western, calls this the most exciting time in the history of astronomy.

"New developments in the field are occurring so rapidly that hardly a week goes by that we don't find something new which makes part of the textbook obsolete," Dr. Quigley said. "More revolutionary discoveries have been made in the past ten years than in the entire previous history of the science."

Enrollment in astronomy courses at Western has grown dramatically in the past few years, following a national pattern, from ten students in 1967-68 to about 500 this year. The Physics Department's name was changed last spring to the Department of Physics and Astronomy, reflecting this growth.

Dr. Quigley is one of four faculty members at Western who are involved in the astronomy program, a major area of concentration in the physics curriculum. He, along with Dr. Richard Atneosen, Dr. Willard Brown and Dr. Richard Vawter, conducts classes that are being taken by three times the number of students that were enrolled last year.

"One factor causing the growth has been a change in college requirements which allows students to select more than one course from a given area," Dr. Quigley explained.

**Improvement of textbooks**

Another factor may be a recent improvement in the quality of astronomy textbooks. "The standard texts used to be pretty dry," Dr. Quigley admitted. "Now they are interestingly written and well illustrated."

The department is attempting to add to and upgrade its equipment to keep pace with the surge of students. A new 8-inch telescope with photographic accessories is expected to arrive during winter quarter to supplement the 5-inch instrument now on hand. More binoculars and other small items are also being sought.

A mirror-grinding class taught by Dr. Brown enables students to build their own small telescopes. The department also plans to build its own small radio telescope.

The College has included a request for a new telescope and sheltered platform in the preliminary draft of its 1977-79 capital budget request to the state legislature.

The department's portable telescope is primarily used from the roof of Haggard Hall, but its operation is hampered by building vibrations and exposure to wind. The best winter viewing occurs when the sky is swept clear by cold north winds. A new sheltered platform would permit viewers
Top: Dr. Robert Quigley explains operation of five-inch telescope, which is mounted on permanent stand on roof of Haggard Hall.

Left: In Bond Hall lab, Arnold Klimke, a sophomore from Bellingham, prepares to grind a cylinder of glass eight inches in diameter to form a mirror for a telescope he plans to build. Since he has not been able to work on the project full time, it has taken him several months to grind and polish the glass to its exact required shape.

Bottom: Dr. Willard Brown, associate professor of physics, prepares to turn the lights down for a show in the planetarium of Haggard Hall. The planetarium will seat more than 50 persons for a look at the stars or other presentations projected upon the domed ceiling.

to be protected from the buffeting of direct wind.

A 14- to 20-inch telescope, large enough to permit some research, is sought as part of the new facility. Such a telescope would enable students to become familiar with an instrument that operates in a manner similar to large, professional equipment.

Other facilities

WWSC students can also take advantage of facilities elsewhere in the region, such as the University of Washington's 30-inch telescope on Tabletop Mountain near Ellensburg. "Our students can go to these places and make observations, then return to Bellingham to analyze their findings, so we don't have to have every facility on campus.

"But, of course, we do need some fairly sophisticated equipment so that a graduate with a degree from Western can be equal to graduates from other schools."

Although many students take astronomy courses to satisfy college general-science requirements, other science majors enroll to broaden their backgrounds. "Chemistry majors, for example, learn about extra-terrestrial chemistry and molecular interactions in space," Dr. Quigley said, "while biologists learn about the possibility of life forms in space.

"A growing number of high schools have astronomy programs and are looking for teachers who can operate the equipment," he added. A recent study of the American Astronomical Association indicates that only one out of 100 science teachers currently has any background in astronomy.

Physics and astronomy majors may go on to do graduate work and eventually do research. The increased interest has also caused a growth in the number of teaching jobs available in higher education.

The National Aeronautics and Space Administration has hired astronomers in the recent past, and is still hiring some in the unmanned space program, according to Dr. Quigley. There are also new astronomical facilities being developed in the southwest, including a new observatory being built with private funds in California, creating some growth in the need for astronomers.

Courses in astronomy offered at Western include, in addition to telescope design and construction, a survey of astronomy; structure and evolution of the solar system; structure, evolution and motion of stars and other stellar objects; cosmology—the study of the origin and evolution of the universe; and astrophysics.
ALL ABOUT SPORTS

By PAUL MADISON
WWSC Sports Information Director

Western's women's basketball team this year goes after its third straight northwest regional championship and Association of Intercollegiate Athletics for Women (AIAW) national tournament appearance in 1975.

"I'm really excited about the team," said Coach Lynda Goodrich. "It's got the potential. How quickly we'll reach it, I'm not sure, but at the end of the season we'll be there."

Goodrich, who is entering her fourth season as the Vikette mentor (65-8 record), has six players back from last year's 22-5 squad.

Two major losses via graduation were guard Wendy Hawley and forward Kathy Hemion. Hawley, who is the assistant coach this year, led Western scoring with a 12.6 average last winter. Hemion had a 10.8 average, while grabbing a team-leading 12.3 rebounds a game.

The half-dozen returnees include Diane Bjerve (So., Seattle—Blanchet), Claudia Haaker (Sr., Seattle—Nathan Hale), Dee Dee Molner (So., Seattle—Evergreen), Charmon Odle (Jr., Aberdeen—Ocosta), Bethany Ryals (So., Bellevue—Newport) and Sue Stange (Sr., Mercer Island).

Western will again use a fast break offense. Leading the running game are Molner and Odle, termed by Goodrich as her "quickest ever" guard combination.

Last year as a forward Odle averaged 10.7 points per game and had 105 rebounds. Molner, a key figure in the Vikettes' pressing defense, has improved her shooting to become a definite offensive threat.

Haaker, a 6-1 center, is counted on for rebounding and strong outlet passes to initiate the fast break. She was second in carom grabs a year ago, while leading the team in blocked shots (35).

Alternating at the forwards are Bjerve, Ryals and Stange. All saw part-time action last season.

Four freshmen are vying for varsity berths. They include Coey Gilliland (Marysville—Pilchuck), Cheryl Hunt (Bellevue—Sammamish), Shelly Kulstad (Bow—Burlington Edison) and Marianne Tufteland (Abbotsford, B.C.).

Of the newcomers Goodrich said, "How fast they can adjust to our system will have a lot to do with our season."

Others very much in the picture are Peg Bolek (Sr., High Bridge, N.J.), Ann Braber (So., Abbotsford, B.C.), Debbie Matusiek (So., Oak Harbor), Denise Ziegler (So., Yakima—Carroll) and Carol Zimmerman (Jr., Marysville).

"We don't have much height," explained Goodrich, "but this team has the best overall speed of any I've coached. Thus we'll try to take advantage of that strength in every way we can."

The Vikettes opened their season at Carver Gym by clobbering the University of Washington women's team 78-49.

VIKING SPORTS FACTS: Andy Harlin (So., Seattle—Ingraham) was named to the All-Evergreen Conference and NAIA District I football teams ... Another first team All-Eco selection was linebacker Gary Gilmore (Sr., Seattle—Ingraham), who set a new school record by participating in 144 tackles ... Western's football team finished 2-6-1 — defeating Southern Oregon 14-10 in its final game. The Vikings also got a forfeit win from Eastern Oregon, the Mountaineers using an ineligible player in the contest ... Quarterback Bill Mendelson (Jr., Amityville, N.Y.) led the league in passing, throwing for 835 yards ... Lynda Goodrich will coach the women's track and field team this spring ... Western will again use a fast break offense. Leading the running game are Molner and Odle, termed by Goodrich as her "quickest ever" guard combination.

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Big Mountain ski junket planned

Looking for a new, exhilarating experience in downhill skiing? The Alumni Association suggests a March trip to Big Mountain at Whitefish, Montana, for great skiing and five nights of rest at Ptarmigan Village.

Big Mountain is known for fantastic snow conditions and facilities that have kept northwest skiers returning to its runs again and again. One super run is 6,800 feet in length, with a vertical drop of 2,250 feet. Lift facilities include double chairs, T-bars, poma and rope tows.

This ski holiday will depart Seattle by Amtrak at 2 p.m. March 23, and will arrive back in Seattle on the morning of March 30. The package includes: Roundtrip coach fare. Transportation from the train station to Ptarmigan Village.

Five nights' lodging in Ptarmigan Village condominium (kitchen facilities included).

Six days of lift tickets.

Transportation from Ptarmigan Village to the ski area.

Total price—$172 per person, double occupancy. (Sleeping accommodations are available on Amtrak at additional cost.) Lessons can be arranged in both the American technique and the graduated length method.

For reservations and complete details, send a $20 deposit, per person, to Evergreen Travel of Lake Forest Park, 17171 Bothell Way N.E., Seattle, WA 98155 — Attention Mike Beaumont, WWSC, Big Mountain. Send your reservations by February 15, for space is limited. You will be billed the balance.
Second graders get first-hand look at assembly line setup

Second graders from Bellingham's Birchwood Elementary School got a first-hand look at how Santa's workshop operates by attending a class at WWSC.

Some 60 youngsters in classes taught by Sheila Montgomery and Carol Patton learned how assembly line production works by manufacturing sets of wind chimes to give to their parents at Christmas. Parts were made of clay at Birchwood School; woodwork and final assembly took place in the Technology Department at the College.

Seven college students in a class in career education taught by Dr. Donald Moon, associate professor of technology, worked with the second graders in setting up and operating the assembly line. For the college students, all of whom plan to become elementary school teachers, the project provided practical experience in working in the classroom.

Earlier in the year, Dr. Moon and the college students visited the Birchwood teachers, who were looking for some help with their Christmas project. Together, they decided on the wind chimes as a product, then the students began developing production techniques.

Flow charts were prepared and a task analysis made of the production of wind chimes. Details were worked out so that each child would have a job to do and work would flow in an efficient manner. Then, during a 55-minute session at the school, clay was rolled into sheets, cut into individual parts, punched for attachment of strings and fired in a kiln. There were three assembly lines in each classroom.

"The children began to realize that the success of the whole project depended upon each one doing his part," Dr. Moon said. "They became very enthusiastic and cooperative and critical of their own and each other's work.

In a second session, the second graders went to the Arts Building at Western where final parts were made and the chimes were put together.

Holes were made in wooden parts on a drill press, parts cut out with a jigsaw and pieces were made smooth with the aid of orbital sanders. Some hand sanding followed, an oil finish was applied and all parts were assembled with string.

"It was a good learning experience for everyone involved," Dr. Moon said. "The Birchwood children learned the basics of how an assembly line operates and the importance of each person's job. The college students, some of whom have completed their student teaching, gained additional experience in planning and carrying out a classroom project with youngsters."

And Santa had sixty wind chimes to deliver for Christmas.
'23 ANGUS "GUS" BOWMER, Southern Oregon College professor emeritus of speech and drama, has been appointed by President Ford to a six-year term on the National Council of Arts.

'39 HELEN HOSTETTER was general chairman for the 1974 International Convention of Delta Kappa Gamma, an honorary society for former women in education, in Seattle last August.

'64 BARBARA LEE POTTER is the director of a pre-school at Emerado, North Dakota, and has been selected as an "Outstanding Young Woman of America" for 1974.

'65 CAROL ARAWAY is the director of the Ballard-Fremont Youth Accountability Program ... DON BURGER is principal of an open-concept approach school in Redmond.

'66 DAVID H. O'KEEFE received his Ph.D. in chemistry from Arizona State University of Texas Southwestern Medical School at Dallas.

'67 JOYCE STANGER OLDENBURG and her husband have opened a furniture store in Lynnwood.

'68 SUSAN SOLDIN is employed as a marketing assistant at Concrete Technology Corp. in Tacoma.

'69 LINDA ROBERTSON WOOTEN is teaching first grade at a small private school in Virginia Beach, Virginia ... DAVID P. JONES has returned to Alameda, Calif., aboard the attack aircraft carrier USS Ranger after a six-month tour in the Western Pacific.

'70 Anne Rasmussen and HAROLD BYERS Jr. were married in October in Bellevue ... LAWRENCE H. FRANK has begun basic flight training at the Naval Air Station, Pensacola, Fla. ... DAVID RUDELL is food service director at St. Joseph's Hospital in Bellingham ... KATHLEEN KEHRLE, a full-time graduate student at Gonzaga University in the field of teaching, was presented a $500 scholarship at the October branch meeting of the American Association of University Women in Spokane.

'71 RON LA FAYETTE is assistant director for the program for the deaf at Seattle Community College ... JAMES E. RYAN, a graduate of Drake University Law School in Iowa, has recently passed the Washington State Bar Examination ... CAROL SIMON COPE teaches elementary school in Anchorage.

'72 LINDA COOK and William Hauta were married October 18 in Renton ... VIRGINIA KANARR and John Hyvonen were recently married in Taeble and are living in Massachusetts ... MARSHA SAVERY and John Leonard were married in September in Seattle.

'73 Sarah Blades and DAVID ALGUARD were married in September in Bremerton and are living in Seattle where he is employed by an engineering consulting firm ... JAN GRIFFEN is a home economist for the Puget Sound Power and Light Co, in the Thurston and Pierce counties area ... ANDREA HAGEN graduated from Photographer's Mate School at the Norfolk Naval Station in Pensacola, Fla. ... CLARA LAVARES and Alfred Hayes Jr. were married September 21 at Ft. Lewis. They are living in Tacoma where she teaches ... Navy Ensign STEVEN G. LEWIS has been designated a naval flight officer upon completion of the advanced jet navigation phase at the Naval Air Station in Pensacola, Fla. ... MARK SODERSTROM is employed in South King County with the YMCA's new program for local service which deals with teenagers ... Ensign THOMAS TURNBULL reported to a helicopter anti-submarine squadron at the Naval Air Station in Imperial Beach, Calif. ... DONALD K. WILLIS has been commissioned a second lieutenant in the Air Force at Lackland AFB, Texas.

'74 KAREN BOX and WILLIAM DASHER were married October 19 in Edmonds. She is a speech and hearing therapist and he is a graduate student in chemistry at the University of Washington ... MILT KAPLAN teaches traffic safety for the Edmonds and Bothell school districts ... MICHAEL SEYLER teaches band and guitar in Mercer Island ... PAM KUPLIN teaches a combined third-fourth grade at Concrete ... DALE DOWER has begun flight training at the Naval Air Station in Pensacola, Fla.

Unclassified DENNIS BERRY is employed as a chiropractor in Mount Vernon ... MARTHA ANN LAUGHLIN and Scott Hatch were married September 21 at Vashon and are living in Seattle ... TERESE LOMBARD and Larry Trivett were married recently in Seattle and are living in Stanwood ... Navy Radioman Second Class DEGLAS LUNDQREN has reported for duty at the U.S. Communications Station in Naples, Italy ... VICTORIA OECHSNER and WILLIAM WILMOVSKY were married September 14 in Chehalis and are living in Lacey where she attends St. Martin's College and he is employed by Mutual of Omaha ... SHEILA QUESEN BURY and Robert Hoff were married October 19 in Seattle and are living in Dayton, Ohio ... VICKI ROGERSON is the chair of the care coordinator at the YWCA in Bellingham ... Navy Fireman Recruit DANIEL ZEINE graduated from recruit training at the Naval Training Center in San Diego ... Navy Seaman Apprentice BRETT SUNDEAN graduated from the basic Enlisted Submarine School in Groton, Conn. ... Navy Electronics Mate Apprentice THOMAS L. HODGES returned to his homeport of Charleston, S.C., aboard the gasoline tanker USS Chewaucan after a six-month deployment in the Mediterranean.

... BARBARA WARBERG teaches seventh grade in Snoqualmie ... Sandra Long and ROD STRAIN were married July 14 in Bellingham where they are living ... KATHY Koops and RONALD BROERSMA were married July 26 in Lynden where he is employed ... DONNA CHRISTIAN and John Watson were married August 30 in Bellingham where they are living while she works toward a master's degree in speech pathology and audiology at Western ... MARY DILLAWAY and Geun Jang were married August 4 in California ... BRUCE TENNANT received his Juris Doctor degree from the Lewis and Clark Northwestern School of Law in Portland ... DANNY GAGNON teaches in the fifth and sixth grade departmentalized program at Mt. View Elementary School in Shelton ... BARBARA HUGHES is an elementary school librarian in Shelton ... LAURIE ANN HAMILTON and ROBIN ED MEYER were married recently at Fort Lewis ... LAURIE MAY GRUBERT and Charles Cook were married recently ... SCOTT JOHNSTON teaches seventh and eighth grade science in Tenino ... JOHN J. RONES received his Ph.D. in zoology from Iowa State University in August ... STEPHEN JONES teaches high school history in Lynden ... LARRY LEAF teaches high school math at Chewelah ... WILLIAM MORTON is co­ordinator of special services at Vashon ... PATRICIA MONTGOMERY is the co­ordinator of Whatcom Community College's Marine Drive Instructional Center.

RICHARD DUNBAR, teacher of English at a junior high school in Federal Way, has been nominated for an Outstanding Secondary Educator of America award ... KENNETH GUERNSEY is principal of an elementary school in Mount Vernon ... JAMES KENT received his Ph.D. in physical education from the University of Iowa in May ... CHARLOTTE L. LARSON and Ronald Tinsman were married May 18 in Everett. She is employed by General Hospital of Everett ... PAMELA MAY and Michael Heitlsey were married June 15 in Seattle and are living in Bellingham ... VICKIE METIVIER and Darwin Kruse were married July 6 and are living in Blaine where she teaches ...