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Kathy Sheehan
Western Washington University

Alumni, Foundation, and Public Information Offices, Western Washington University

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At last:
Alumni form chapters

Responding to the growth and diversity of the alumni population, Western's Alumni Association has begun establishing chapters in the Puget Sound area, Alaska, Oregon and other communities where significant numbers of alumni live.

Forty Western graduates in Juneau, led by Kelly Follis ('72), began the official organizational effort when they met at the Hangar on the Wharf Nov. 6, becoming the first official chapter of Western's Alumni Association.

Alumni living in Anchorage became the second chapter two days later when Crystal Nygard ('90) and others met for dinner in Alaska's largest city.

The Puget Sound area has also been bustling with activity as Alumni Association staff and officers meet with graduates in the Seattle-Tacoma-Olympia-Everett area and in Bellingham to develop several chapters there.

Alumni Association president Lyle Morse is active in the South Puget Sound chapter which includes Thurston, Mason, Lewis and Grays Harbor counties and has traveled to other spots where alumni are organizing.

"Western alumni are the living history of a dynamic university."

Morse said alumni chapters can be a means for Western graduates to support the university and to network with each other and with current students.

The South Puget Sound group, for instance, which became the first chapter in Washington, hosted a reception last year to welcome incoming students from that area.

Other areas in western Washington where alumni chapters are forming are Pierce County, based in Tacoma; King County, where nearly 25 percent of all Western alumni live; Snohomish County; and Whatcom County.

"Western alumni are the living history of a dynamic university," said Chris Goldsmith, director of the Alumni Association. "It's not the case that people are getting fewer jobs in their field, are still happy and optimistic about their careers, he said. They may like their jobs less than people who have jobs in their fields, but they're not necessarily stuck. And that's part of the process. Besides, Simpson said, the unemployment or underemployment is always temporary.

Kelly Kriss is one who is fitting her dreams for a career in art with the realities of the job market.

The 25-year-old Washington native was practically a fixture at the Western Gallery, working as a gallery guard during her undergraduate years. And she had two arts internships. With that kind of preparation, prospects for a job in art looked very good.

But when she and Jeremy moved to Beverly Hills in August 1993 (shortly after their graduation and wedding), the best job Kelly could land was a temporary one in the restoration department at the Getty Museum. After that, she got a job caring for a Hollywood film producer, which opened her eyes to new ways of thinking about her career.

"I realized I really enjoyed film," Kelly said. After talking it over with Western Gallery director Sarah Clark-Langager, Kelly decided to go back to school for a master's degree. Now she's setting her sights on a marketing position in feature films or television.

"I got my master's in business administration because I thought that would help push me to that," she said.

Kelly, who got her MBA at California Polytech-
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Summer Stock, a great exhibition at the Western Gallery, the Bellingham Music Festival, and a host of other events and entertainment await you in Bellingham.

Briefly

Huxley joins in environmental program in China
Bradley F. Smith, dean of Huxley's College of Environmental Studies, participated in the signing of an historic joint venture to foster environmental education in the world's most populous nation. Global Communications for Conservation, a New York non-profit environmental group, and China, have agreed to a plan to translate environmental education textbooks developed in America for use in Chinese schools and universities. Over time, environmental education programs for government officials will also be developed.

Western sponsors distinguished speakers
Speakers for this year's Western Foundation Distinguished Lecture Series included Patricia Ireland, president of the National Organization for Women; zoologist Richard Dawkins; author, director and satirist Jonathan Miller; and Sierra Club president Adam Werbach. Actress Barbara Eden, economic theorist Francis Fukuyama and other notables presented lectures to Western students, too. Retired Bank of America CEO Richard Rosenberg talked about management issues at the WWU Seattle Business Forum luncheon in March. The forum was sponsored by Seafirst Bank and The Western Foundation.

Responsible bicyclists earn prizes under new code
University police distributed hundreds of coupons for free food and for free bike tool use to students studying the new bicycle responsibility code. Under the code, riders dismount and walk their bikes through designated parts of campus 15 minutes before and after the hour.

Six athletes win NAIA honors
Vikings lineman Mark Spencer of Elma was a first-team pick on the NAIA All-America list. Chad Rorbaugh of Battle Ground was named to the second team by the NAIA Football Coaches Association. Tight end Erik Morin from Port Angeles and offensive tackle Todd Walcker, of Redmond, received honorable mentions.

Celeste Hill, a 6-foot-1 center from Auburn, was named to the NAIA Division I All-America third team. Senior forward April Saunders of Woodinville was named an NAIA Division I All-America Scholar-Athlete for the second straight year.

Western aids students displaced by Mathes fire
The university provided relocation and insurance assistance to 57 students displaced by an early morning fire that severely damaged three floors at Mathes Hall in November. No one was injured.

Whitworth College salutes coach Jim Lounsberry
Jim Lounsberry, head football coach from 1960 to 1965, was honored posthumously last September by Whitworth College, where he had coached in the 1950s. Lounsberry, who died in 1990, was inducted into the Whitworth College Hall of Fame. Western inducted him into its Hall of Fame in 1984.

Viking 23 competes in Tour de Sol
Viking 23, the VBI's sporty two-seater powered by solar cells and natural gas, will compete in the Tour de Sol competition May 8-14, from New York City to Washington, D.C.

Write to us! Got a compliment, suggestion or idea? We want to hear from you. Address your Letters to the Editor to: Window on Western, Western Washington University, Bellingham, WA 98225-9045. Or, you may contact the Alumni Office via e-mail at alumni@wwu.edu.

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Editor
Kathy Sheehan

Graphic Design/Production
Veronica Tomaszweski Taylor

Editorial Board:
Susan Biske, Jo Collinge, Chris Goldsmith, Kathleen Holmes, Kristie Lundstrom and Lynne Masland.

Western Washington University is committed to assuring that all programs and activities are readily accessible to all eligible people, without regard to race, color, religion, national origin, sex, age, disability, marital status, sexual orientation, Vietnam era or disabled veteran status.

Sgt. David Modena hands a coupon to first year student Jamie Koty

Internet address: http://www.wwu.edu/~alumni/wow
Campus Connections

Golf classic to be named for Bill Wright

Insiders at the Alumni Association aren't the only ones excited about the annual Alumni Golf Classic being named for golf legend Bill Wright ('60).

"I love the idea. I love it," the 62-year-old pro said from The Lakes at El Segundo in Los Angeles, a nine-hole executive course where he has been teaching swings and puts for the last three years.

Wright, who became the first black golfer to win a USGA title when he triumphed at the 1959 U.S. Amateur Public Links Championship, has returned to the Bellingham campus only once or twice in the last 38 years.

"I hope that I see a lot of the people that I went to school with," he said. "I just haven't had a chance to see too many of them."

The tournament, to be held Friday, Aug. 14, at Semiahmoo, will be named for Wright because "He is one of the best golfers to ever come out of the Northwest," said Chris Goldsmith, director of alumni relations.

Along with the USGA title, Wright was also the first black golfer to win the NAIA tournament, in 1960 while a Western student. He went on to play on both the PGA tour and the PGA senior tour.

Wright's golf and basketball pursuits (He was a starting forward in basketball as a junior and senior.) earned him one of the first seven places in Western's Athletic Hall of Fame, established in 1968.

Beethoven, theater and special summer seminars make Western's campus an ideal destination spot

Rather than winding down after the regular academic year, Western's campus comes alive during the summer months.

Whether you're into Beethoven or politics, the natural history of the North Cascades or the natural beauty of Lake Whatcom from Lakewood's dock, Western has summer programs for every age group and most interest groups.

Consider coming back to campus for a weekend or week this summer. There's more than enough to do. Remember, you can rent boats at Lakewood on Lake Whatcom by showing your Alumni Association card. Here's a short list of some seminars.

The 1998 Taft seminar, which brings social studies teachers, political activists and government leaders together to explore political issues, will focus on citizenship in a changing world this year. Professors Donald Alper and Eugene Hogan direct and teach the two-credit political science seminar July 6-11. For information: (360) 650-3469.

Teachers, librarians and media specialists can also earn two credits at the STUDY CANADA Summer Institute from June 28 through July 2. Participants attend seminars and lectures on Canadian history, geography, government, ethnicity and other topics and develop curricula materials to take home. For information: (360) 650-3728.

The Bellingham Festival of Music runs July 31 through Aug. 16 and will include the annual Pelikan lecture series, Aug. 10-14; two Elderhostel programs around Beethoven's life and music; and a young people's concert.

The festival has a rich tradition of presenting international artists. This year's festival will focus on Beethoven. Festival favorites Pepe Romero and the American Sinfonietta will return as will Jaroslav Pelikan, Sterling professor of history at Yale University, to deliver a series of lectures on "Beethoven and Tolstoy: Titans of the 19th century."

For the Bellingham Festival of Music: (360) 676-5997. For the Pelikan lectures: (360) 650-3446.

The WWU Elderhostel program offers four-week-long learning opportunities for adults 55 and over. "History of the North Cascades Mountains," July 26-Aug. 1; often illustrated lectures and a field trip to Mount Baker, "Birds and Mammals of the Pacific Northwest" Aug. 16-21 includes a field trip to study the life cycles, habitats and social structures of the wildlife. The other two programs offer immersion in the music of Beethoven, in conjunction with the Bellingham Festival of Music.

Call Elderhostel at (617) 426-8056 for residential participation, or (360) 650-7754 to be a commuter participant.

The Adventures in Science and Arts camps offer week-long adventures for students entering grades five through 12 from June 22 through July 24. For information about these academic enrichment programs: (360) 650-6822.

And don't forget Summer Stock. See the schedule of four shows on the back page, or call (360) 650-6146 for tickets.

For information on Lakewood: (360) 650-2900.

Point of View

by Western President Karen Morse

Long after we leave the university, the memories and friendships we made during this time continue to enrich our lives. As I visit WWU Alumni Association chapter meetings and regional events, I can sense the pride graduates have in Western and the desire to continue to be a part of this network. Western and the WWU Elderhostel at (617) 426-8056 for residential participation, or (360) 650-7754 to be a commuter participant.

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Endowment return ranked tops in state

More than $11 million in endowment funds managed by The Western Foundation are earning top dollar for student scholarships and other academic support on campus.

The National Association of University College and Business Officers’ ranking of college and university endowment returns lists WWU's 22.4 percent return as the highest among all 16 public and private universities in the state.

The Western Foundation also surpassed other notable universities such as Stanford, the University of Virginia, Yale, Duke and Princeton.

"While it is gratifying to successfully compete with many of the nation's top universities, the true measure of our endowment investment policy lies in the long-term benefits provided to Western's outstanding students and faculty," said Jim Doud, chair of the Foundation's finance and audit committee.

Doud credits the robust investment return achieved during 1997 to a combination of stock market growth and wise investment management decisions.

The Foundation manages more than 160 individual endowments which support scholarships, equipment purchases, campus lectures and various academic enrichment programs.

Western's Centennial will begin in fall 1999

Western will celebrate its Centennial beginning in September 1999. Nearly 100 years ago on Sept. 6, 1899, Principal Edward T. Mathes welcomed the first class of 88 students, a number which tripled by week's end and rose to more than 200 within a month.

"Western's reputation has continued to grow over the century," said President Karen W. Morse. "With a current enrollment of over 11,400 students, the university has achieved national recognition for the high quality education it provides. Our students are prepared to compete in and contribute to a multicultural global society that demands technical and scientific innovation rooted soundly in the liberal arts," she added.


"Although we have grown and changed a great deal over the years—as, indeed, has this state—our roots as a teacher training institution and as a liberal arts-focused college have given us a strong basis of academic excellence and care for our students," said Provost Roland L. De Lorme, who is also an historian.

Western's Centennial will begin with the fall opening of classes in September 1999 and continue until commencement in June 2000, according to Centennial chair Lynne Masland, director of public information. "This will give us an opportunity not only to celebrate a century of growth and accomplishments, but to look forward to the future as we move into the next century.

If you have information on the first class of students or special memories of Western's early years in Bellingham, contact Masland at (360) 650-3350.

Alumni chapters formed

Continued from page 1

Alumni relations. Numbering nearly 70,000, Western alumni are found throughout the world.

In Whatcom County, where the second largest concentration of alumni live, music graduates are among those expressing a strong interest in chapter formation. They have begun to study ways of becoming more active in Western's performing arts programs.

Goldsmith and other external affairs employees at the university (Steven Inge, Kristie Lundstrom and Donna LeBlonde, along with occasional guest travelers such as Karen Morse, university president, and Brad Smith, dean of Husky College, have been taking to the road to assist the new chapters.

Local alumni plan chapter events with the logistical and financial backing of the WWU alumni office staff and the Alumni Association.

"They are the experts at what they want to do at their event," Goldsmith said. For instance, the alumni chapter at San Diego, which is also an historic site, is quite active in alumni programming.

Events can be as simple as gathering for pizza and beer every couple of months or as elaborate as a bus trip from San Diego to the new J. Paul Getty museum in Los Angeles.

The following communities have begun the process of chapter development. If you would like to help build a chapter in your area, call Alumni House at (800) 676-6885.

Alabama: Anchorage and Juneau
Arizona
British Columbia
California: Northern California/ San Francisco; Southern California/ Los Angeles; and San Diego.
Hawaii: Honolulu
Idaho: Treasure Valley/Boise
New England: Boston
New York: New York City metropolitan area
Oregon: Willamette Valley/ Portland/Vancouver
Washington: King County; Pierce County; South Puget Sound; Snohomish County; and Whatcom County.
Washington, D.C.
Investments in Excellence

Boeing gift a boost for engineering technology

The Boeing Company has pledged $600,000 to the engineering technology department over the next three years as part of an industry-university partnership. The gift, the largest ever made by Boeing to Western, will provide significantly upgraded student computer laboratories and computer-assisted engineering software.

The first $200,000 installment was presented to university president Karen W. Morse by Ginny Woodhouse, resource and business manager at Boeing's Harbour Pointe facility. Woodhouse also serves as the company's liaison to Western.

"A gift of this magnitude from the world's largest aerospace company reflects both the quality of Western's academic programs and the caliber of our graduates," Morse said. "We are tremendously gratified by The Boeing Company's expression of confidence and support."

Woodhouse noted that more than 1,200 Western alumni are employed at Boeing. Each year, the company offers numerous internships and summer employment opportunities to WWU students. Last year, for example, 27 Western business and science or technology majors interned with the aerospace company.

"We are very pleased to expand our relationship with Western," Woodhouse said. "Attributes for change and for professional growth, which are so important to industry, don't begin after graduation. We all benefit if they begin within the curriculum."

Added engineering technology chair Kathleen Kitto: "This will enable students to use the same modern equipment in their university experiences as they will be using after graduation. Only through industry partnerships, such as this one with Boeing, can technology-based education keep pace with the ever-changing dynamics of the high-tech engineering workplace."

Western has devised a three-phase program to "integrate a wide variety of new experiences into the curriculum," Kitto said. "Students can design, create, prototypes, plan, analyze, tool, manufacture, assemble, test, revise and document – all on the newest equipment and all based on real world projects."

With Boeing's gift, Western will begin this year to create a new basic modeling and design facility. WWU will also launch an introductory course which will emphasize design and documentation through the initial product prototype stage.

Microsoft makes $1.86 million software gift

Building on its already substantial record of supporting Western's personal computing needs, Microsoft recently announced another major gift of computer software.

The latest gift, valued at $1.86 million, represents one of the company's largest software grants and ranks as the single largest gift the university has ever received.

The gift includes the latest NT server and more than 4,500 individual software packages for student computer labs, faculty workstations and staff offices. Student computing resources will receive the highest priority for software upgrades.

"Microsoft's gifts and support from our alumni who are employed by the company have revolutionized Western's personal computing technology," said university president Karen W. Morse. "As a result, we are able to provide our students with a technology-based learning environment of the highest quality."

William Neukom, Microsoft senior vice president, said the company is proud to continue its support of WWU's "technology vision."

"Western has distinguished itself in recent years by creating new ways to use information technologies in both the learning process and higher education administration," he said.

Products contributed by Microsoft include campus-wide upgrades for Office Professional, which features word processing, spreadsheet, database, e-mail and presentation functions. The gift also includes numerous specialty programs such as NT Workstation for the computer science department, Publisher graphic design software, FrontPage, which is used to design Web sites, and Project software, which provides a wide array of planning and organizing functions.

The new gift was announced during a ceremony held recently to recognize support provided by Microsoft and Hewlett-Packard to enhance technology-based teacher education programs in the Woodring College of Education.

Through a $32,000 Microsoft grant of cash and software and $3,500 in additional equipment from Hewlett-Packard, Woodring expanded its "anytime, anywhere, education" programs with new technology resources for student teachers.

Athletics kick off "Blue and White" scholarship drive

With a goal of securing $25,000 in annual scholarships for student-athletes, Viking Athletics recently kicked off the inaugural "Blue and White" campaign.

Combined with the phonothon to WWU varsity athletic alumni in the spring, the "Blue and White" campaign represents a major step in ensuring Western athletics are well equipped to face the challenges of entering the NCAA.

Scholarships for deserving student-athletes are the highest priority for the athletic department as it moves from NAIA competition to NCAA division II play next year.

"We are excited about the move to the NCAA," said athletic director Lynda Goodrich. "Along with that move comes an immediate need to generate additional funds for scholarships. To compete for playoff berths and championships, we need to continue to recruit top student athletes."

"With increased scholarship funding, we will meet that goal," said director Lynda Goodrich.

A 16-person, volunteer-driven board, chaired by Scott Walker, director of community affairs for Atlantic Richfield at Cherry Point, leads the "Blue and White" campaign. It targets donors at the $1,000 level while the phonothon generates smaller gifts.

The most recent alumni phonothon, in April, reached more than 2,500 alumni, parents and friends of Western athletics.

If you are interested in making a gift to the scholarship fund, or know someone who might be, contact Jennifer Rick in the athletic department at (360) 650-3616.
Young, successful alumni

Continued from page 1

nic State University in San Luis Obispo last summer, is now working in the sales office of a division of Harmony Gold, a film distribution and production company.

She acknowledges her disappointment in not successfully landing an "art" job in her first two years out of college.

But there are no regrets about pursuing an artistic career.

The computer skills she's picked up since graduating from Western and her new knowledge of finance, international business and accounting has made her into a more rounded person.

"It's really pushing me to realize that I have this creative background, but I also have this background to help me find a job," she said.

Now Jeremy and Kelly Kriss are talking about doing their own feature film. With Jeremy's writing and dramatic talents and Kelly's business background, the entrepreneurial project seems "doable."

"Between the two of us we have this big background of information," she said. "We couldn't have got to this point unless we did all the things we've done. If I hadn't got my master's, no way," she said.

The usual graduate thing? Jeremy, 26, who worked as assistant director of the central coast Americorps program while Kelly was in graduate school, has no regrets, either. However, he is less upbeat about his journey since graduating in 1993 and about the prospects for others trapped in the job market.

"It is kind of hard to be out and realize a theater degree doesn't prepare you for anything." Jeremy, who won the Fairhaven College "best play of the quarter" award for "The Final Solution" during his senior year, writes every day and is still looking for an agent to help him sell his screenplays.

"If we hadn't taken all these little steps, there's no way we'd be where we are today." Kelly keeps things in perspective.

"You certainly have to start at the bottom," she said. "You have to get your foot in somewhere and check things out. It's not easy getting a job any more. ... It's not like TV."

When D'Alessandro left Western with a business degree in 1992 and lots of hands-on experience in marketing, it seemed the world was her oyster. Then she got her first job: auditing in the back office at Lamont's department store where she had worked in retail sales throughout high school.

Her next job wasn't much to write home about, either: taking orders for US West Cellular. But it was the start she needed.

"That position gave me a really firm foundation and exposure to quite a few areas of the business. I was really interested in the new products that were being delivered to make our jobs easier and what it took to deliver them." D'Alessandro, 29, stayed with the company, now called AirTouch, and is a project manager in the Information Technology and Process Engineering group which delivers internal software enhancements to AirTouch's customer service and marketing teams.

"I... continually do things that will enhance my knowledge and expose myself to new opportunities to make myself more marketable," D'Alessandro said. "With the way the market is moving in terms of changes and mergers, there is no guarantee." Modestly.

Success 101

Still, there are some things that young people can do to help make their entrance into the job market easier.

Critical thinking skills and lots of general knowledge about the world are an indication that someone is competent in solving problems — the major skill employers seek in employees. A well-rounded education and some work experience can go a long way, says Simpson.

"There's a tendency on the part of some to think that what you need for a job is very specific. That's simply not how things work," Simpson said. "What employers want are broad skills."

Simpson's survey results suggest that young graduates may not re-

algorithm that "there's a process of self-definition and exploration that takes a while." For example, only 48 percent of WWU's 1992 graduates who responded to a survey two years ago said they were very or mostly satisfied with their opportunities for advancement.

But other measures seem to show progress as young people begin their careers.

Nearly 75 percent said they were working in the same field as their major or in a related field. That compares with only 39 percent who said the first position they
rs are mastering "in tiny Kwig

After careful consideration – paying off student loans is their first priority – the couple bought a snowmobile, "a ticket to travel to neighboring villages." Mischa made his first long trip in mid-December, a 210-mile roundtrip trek to Bethel to help a fellow teacher bring back a butchered caribou he had killed two weeks before.

In October, they had a rare treat: "Yupik women find mouse burrows, pull them open, and take the pile of roots the mice have neatly stored all summer," they wrote. "Those mice are hard workers! One mouse can gather a bundle that can barely be held in two hands. The roots taste just like potatoes when cooked."

But stolen roots don't last forever. In December, they wrote: "We're mastering the food thing. We order through an Anchorage business which shops at Costco, then – for a 30% markup – ships your food out. Of course, the bulk of native diet comes from what they hunt or otherwise harvest: salmon, whitefish, tomcod, blackfish, ducks, geese and berries are all staples."

The couple has electricity, e-mail, satellite telephone and water from a rainwater collection system, but – because of the permafrost – no one in the village has a flush toilet.

Social life centers on gatherings in the village and, when possible, neighboring villages. Going "streaming" is a major communal activity. "Most families," Mischa writes, "have steam houses, usually eight feet wide and 16-20 feet long. The steaming is HOT! It's their way of cleansing their skin and burning out any sickness, and they crank it up. Especially the men (men and women steam separately).

"For men, it's cleansing, it's social – and it's also competitive. A person can become a legendary steam around the village by being able to withstand extreme heat. I had to cover my nose, ears, mouth and hands with a towel so they wouldn't burn, and I still couldn't take it for more than a few minutes. The first time I tried it was with a bunch of my students who I'd bet were trying to see how tough I was."

(Tough enough. While at Western, Mischa spent his summers fighting forest fires; Danielle crowed on the outstanding Varsity Eight that brought WWU the division 2 national title and won the grand final in the Pacific Coast rowing championship.)

There are 100 students in Kwig, 20 in high school. Starting out as teachers left Danielle and Mischa little time for leisure: "Right now (in mid-October) we use most of our free time trying to be better teachers. We get up at 6, get to school at 7, begin teaching at 9, come home for a quick lunch, teach from 12:30 to 4, come home at 5, eat, then walk back to school at 7 and stay until about 10. Class sizes can be inhibiting. Many activities cannot work with five students. Very few students, especially girls, will volunteer answers or even answer questions."

For Mischa, there was an added difficulty: "The mechanical room is directly above my classroom and the room rattle rhythmically as if someone upstairs were revving a Harley."

But "the building is in nice shape, the classrooms are reasonably well outfitted, the kids are nice and easy to like and – maybe best of all – the other (six) teachers here are all wonderful. The villagers treat us well. So we plan to return next year and probably the next."

After commencement ...

For many young college graduates, it's the recognition that they've completed a successful transition from student to grown-up — not the actual transition — that can be the most challenging and surprising.

Tomoko Kobayashi ('97), a native of Yachiyo, Japan, had so adjusted to American culture after living in Bellingham for five years that she was shocked to learn, during a trip back home last fall, just how much she had changed.

Kobayashi, an American cultural studies major who considers herself a cultural and feminist activist, was in her second day of a two-week trip home when she saw a television program that completely galled her.

A newsreader was interviewing athletes and officials from a championship soccer team. There was only one woman, the team dietitian, among the group of about four dozen.

"I thought, wow! A professional career. Only one, but that's great to have a woman there," Kobayashi said.

Then Kobayashi's pride turned to revulsion. After the dietitian introduced herself, a man in the group quipped to the nationally televised audience: "She works so hard, she missed the chance to marry, ... Do any of you know someone who would be good for her?"

"That did it!" said Kobayashi, who immediately dashed off a letter to the local newspaper to register her outrage at the unprofessional and chauvinistic comment. The letter was so forceful that the editor published it as an opinion column, complete with her photo.

Kobayashi, whose goal is to work as a kind of cultural ambassador or educator, found herself as a modestly, though, about what she has done to build bridges between different cultures since graduating."

"When you are in college, you can talk about idealistic things," she said. "You make the time to attend to the activities that express your values. When you're at work, however, "I find it's harder to do because I have to work. I have to make my living."

During her college years, Kobayashi wouldn't think of missing Martin Luther King Day observances. Kobayashi said she feels badly that she didn't attend this year's events because she was wrapped up in projects at her new job as a translator for EMT Software in Bellingham. "I had to work," she said.

Still, Kobayashi seems to be successfully transitioning between her role as student activist to a new calling as conscientious citizen who speaks out when appropriate.

When Kobayashi visited an antique store in La Conner recently, for example, she was horrified to find a stack of postcards featuring African Americans with huge lips and other grotesque features, doing menial work.

"I was so mad," she said. "My palms were sweaty" as she confronted the store owner who claimed they were "collectibles," a part of history. Kobayashi said she could tell they were nothing of the sort; they had been printed only recently to appeal to 1990s customers.

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Still, Kobayashi seems to be successfully transitioning between her role as student activist to a new calling as conscientious citizen who speaks out when appropriate.

When Kobayashi visited an antique store in La Conner recently, for example, she was horrified to find a stack of postcards featuring African Americans with huge lips and other grotesque features, doing menial work.

"I was so mad," she said. "My palms were sweaty" as she confronted the store owner who claimed they were "collectibles," a part of history. Kobayashi said she could tell they were nothing of the sort; they had been printed only recently to appeal to 1990s customers.

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Daniel P. Beard ('66) will receive "Distinguished Alumnus" Award

Daniel P. Beard, a 1966 geography major who calls himself "an unabashed environmentalist," is the 1998 winner of the Distinguished Alumnus award.

Beard, senior vice president for public policy and chief lobbyist for the Audubon Society in Washington, D.C., will pick up the award at a May 15 dinner in Bellingham.

He joins 14 other distinguished graduates who have won the annual award at Western.

"I'm honored," Beard said when asked about the award. "Western has a very warm spot in my heart."

In numerous letters sent to the Alumni Association in support of his nomination, Beard was cited as a reform-minded leader who has made significant contributions to the nation's environmental policy and on natural resource conservation issues.

As commissioner of the Bureau of Reclamation in the Department of the Interior from 1993 to 1995, Beard restructured the bureau to eliminate several layers of management. He also made the agency more environmentally responsible and promoted water conservation among agricultural as well as urban water users.

The bureau had become a "bloated bureaucracy" that focused almost entirely on building dams, Beard said. "It spent too much money and worked on the wrong things."

Although many told Beard he was "nuts" to reduce the agency's budget and staff and radically change its philosophy, Vice President Al Gore awarded the bureau a "Golden Hammer Award" for modeling how government reinvention should work. Harvard University and the Ford Foundation gave it a $100,000 "Innovations in American Government Award."

Because many developing countries look to the United States for policy advice, "The ramifications of the changes Dan has helped craft have been felt throughout the world," according to John D. Leshy, solicitor for the Department of the Interior.

Beard's reform policies have had a major effect in turning the tide internationally away from exploiting rivers toward wise water resources management," added Owen T. Lammers, executive director of International Rivers Network.

Beard, a native of Bellingham, has worked on conservation issues from several perspectives. He has served as staff director for the U.S. House Resources Committee and its Water and Power Resources subcommittee; was appointed assistant director of former President Carter's domestic policy staff in 1977; and worked as chief of staff for Montana Sen. Max Baucus, former chairman of the Senate Environment and Public Works Committee.

"I have spent a lifetime trying to reform federal water resource policies," Beard said.

Beard said his interest in geography and conservation issues was sparked in the basement of Old Main, where geography classes were held in the 1960s. After getting his B.A. in geography from the Bellingham native went on to the University of Washington where he received his M.A. and Ph.D. and concentrated on natural resource conservation issues.

Over the years, Beard has kept in touch with geography teachers at Western such as Robert Monahan, who nominated him for the award, and Debnath Mookherjee and Howard J. Critchfield.

Beard lives in Columbia, Md., with his wife, Dana C. Beard. They have three children, Allison, Nicholas and Peter.

Make plans for reunions and other alumni events

This year's reunion weekend, which will include the classes of 1947, 1948 and 1949, is one of more than a dozen alumni events sponsored by the Alumni Association this spring and summer. For all those who graduated in the past war years, the weekend of June 26-28 will be a time to revisit friendships, the campus and faculty.

A Mariners' game in Seattle June 19, the golf tournament Aug. 14, and a dinner for Distinguished Alumnus Award winner Daniel Beard May 15 are also part of an ongoing list of alumni events.

Phone the Alumni House at (800) 676-6885 if you would like to attend one of these events.

Alumni directory to be published in October

By now Western alumni have received either a first or second Alumni Directory questionnaire to be filled out and returned to our publisher, Bernard Harris Publishing.

At the end of June, Harris representatives will start telephoning alumni for the verification phase of the directory project.

Information that needs to be verified includes current name, academic data, residence address and phone number, current occupation and business address and phone number (if applicable). The scope of this information is an indication of the comprehensive quality of the entire volume. The directory will sort this data by name in the alphabetical section and by class year and geographical location in separate sections of the book. There also will be a special section with photos and other information about WWU.

Soon, locating fellow alumni and classmates will be as easy as turning a page in the WWU Alumni Directory. You may receive your personalized copy when the Harris representative phones during the verification stage.

Some of our alumni, for various reasons, have let us know by phone or letter that they do not want their information published in this volume. That is an option as long as you make that wish known to either the Alumni Office at Western or to Harris Publishing.

The WWU Alumni Directory is set for publication in October.
Class Notes

1927 - Irene Cunningham ('57) celebrated her 94th birthday Nov. 3 in Bremerton.

1941 - Mitch Evich, who turned 80 in April, continues to substitute teach at Bellingham School District. Evich still operates his own commercial purse seine salmon boat during the summer and early fall.

1945 - Cheryl Bickford and her husband, Yale Bickford ('49) celebrated their 60th wedding anniversary Aug. 23, 1997 with a trip to the Holy Land.

1963 - Karen Anderson Byrd retired after 34 years of teaching first grade in Ancortes, Forks and the Port Angeles area.

1965 - Charles W. Byrd retired as the social studies chair at Port Angeles High School after teaching for 31 years.

1966 - Ralph Munro was awarded the Hamsheld taught at Fairhaven College Russian government. Munro was recognized for his great contribution to the development of scholarship and cooperation between citizens of the Russian Federation and the United States.

1968 - Peter Gray wrote The Math-Science Adventure Series, and won national recognition from the National Council of Teachers of Mathematics magazine, Teaching Children Mathematics. Gray co-authored the books with his father, Neil Gray, a retired Western professor.

1969 - Donna VanderMey teaches third grade at Blooming Elementary School, Lynden.

1970 - Cheryl Chowi is the principal of her alma mater, Franklin High School, in Seattle.

1971 - David M. Johnson retired to El Paso, Texas, after a career as a military psychologist.

1972 - Glen Cooper is the principal of Ocean Shores and Pacific Beach elementary schools in Aberdeen. ... Jeff Hamsheld taught at Fairhaven College winter quarter 1998. ... John Obrantz leaves the Whatcom Museum of History and Art to become director of a new museum in Salem, Ore. ... Wendy Walker is teaching at Huxley College.

1973 - Gene Cash just finished his 30-year military career as course manager for Roanoke C, which covers 14 different states. Cash spent 28 years in the reserve and two years on active duty. Cash is currently the assistant principal at Redmond Jr. High. ... Bill Dietrich, presented the first of a series of talks and discussions exploring issues of Northwest energy and environmental policy. ... Vanetta Cash was principal of Toastmaster in Kent and is a past president of AAVK. Cash has owned Cash's Cleaning Crew for 15 years and has recently opened the business in Redmond, ... Marilyn Hall received her second master's degree in May 1997. She was granted an M.Ed. from Imposta State University. Hall already had an M.Ed. from Columbus University.

1974 - Lynda Belt ('85 MA) won the John C. Barker, Teacher of the Year award from the American Alliance for Theatre & Education. Belt teaches theater at Puget Technical High School. ... Paul Dyer is a "job coach" in La Crescent, Wis., for Riverfront, Inc. Dyer provides employment training for individuals who have handicaps and disabilities. Dyer recently published a book of his poetry, Please, Remember Me, Poems About Alzheimer's Disease. Dyer is on the board of directors of the Riverfront chapter of the Alzheimer's Association and vice president of the Board of Directors at the First Congregational Church in La Crescent. ... Al Erickson has worked with Insaqueh Parks & Recreation since 1975. ... James Coghill of Lake Forest has been promoted to operations manager for Kestrel, a digital color and traditional reprographics business.

1975 - J. Galen Larson, owner of Galen Design Associates in Mt. Vernon, exhibited his work during Renton River Days Art in the Park.

1976 - Andy Conn is the general manager of sales and marketing for Chrysler Corporation in Taiwan. ... Jeff Lombard, owner of International Athletic in Ferrgale since 1979, was elected first vice president of the Ferrgale Chamber of Commerce.

1977 - Craig Cole, president and chief executive officer of Brown & Cole Stores in Bellingham, has been appointed to Food Marketing Institute's (FMI) executive committee. ... David Cutthibard has been named director of communication for the 60 Plus Association. ... Taein Dyogan, appointment, at the Small Business Improvement Council by Cory, Cary, Luke. ... Jay Harris is the engineering manager for Hexcel Composites in Casa Grande, Ariz. Harris recently completed his MBA in technology management at the University of Phoenix. ... Peggy Scott is the vice president of operations for Windermere Relocation Inc. in Bellevue.

1978 - Art Busha is the head coach for the Warriors soccer team in Kitsap County. Busha recently coached at an international school in Quilis, Ecuador. ... Barbara Ritter is the director of applied and vocational learning for the Beth School District in Spanaway. ... Owen Zylow was appointed to the Small Business Improvement Council by Cory, Cary, Luke. ... Jay Harris is the engineering manager for Hexcel Composites in Casa Grande, Ariz. Harris recently completed his MBA in technology management at the University of Phoenix. ... Peggy Scott is the vice president of operations for Windermere Relocation Inc. in Bellevue.

1980 - Mike Evich teaches third grade at Whittier Elementary School in Everett. ... Tom Mike Kennedy was promoted to district manager with Hagen Inc. ... Tom Wood has his work included in "Contemporary Northwest Pinmakers." Wood has received national and international recognition for his pastels and oils and exhibited his work at the Lisa Harris Gallery in Seattle. ... Jerry Webster was recently promoted to full professor in the department of geography at the University of Abama.

1981 - Albert "Bill" Vincent joined the Island County Planning Commission.

1982 - Greg Atkinson has written in Sea­ son, 35 food essays that follow a cook's tour through the seasons of life in the North­ west. ... Dave Lederer, the web-site con­ tent writer for Media Access Internet Solu­ tions, ... Art Huber is employed as public records coordinator for the planning depart­ ment in the city of Bellevue and has coached basketball seven of the past eight years for the City of Seattle parks and rec­ nation. ... Richard Lyon performed in "Jesus Christ Superstar" at the Aspen Com­ munity Theatre this fall. ... Troy Pazzalo is the human resources specialist at Media Access Internet Solutions. ... Toni Russell received an award for outstanding community service from the U.S. secretary of education for coordinating a partnership that opened a Renton school to the cli­ nics of a free community computer train­ ing program.

Mark F. Robertson ('83) is assistant superintendent for the District of Columbia public school system in Washington, D.C. He was formerly a principal at Franklin High School in Se­ attle and at Everett prep­ mary school in the Univer­ sity Place school district.

1983 - Christine Hill performed in "Gershwin ... for your pleasure." Hill teaches applied voice at Grays Harbor Col­ lege. ... Jeff Jenkins was named chief fi­ nancial officer for Haskell Corp. of Bellin­ gham. Jenkins has been with Haskell for four years. ... Sheri Zimmerman Marr is living in Singapore. Marr would love to hear from other WWU grads living in Singapore and the southeast Asia area at her e-mail ad­ dress: ensam@cyberway.com.sg. ... Katy Morse was named 1997 Rosehips Queen of Port Townsend. ... Ken Winters has just launched a new educational software company named Lark Software Inc. The com­ pany specializes in wholesome, non-violent, PC-based early childhood multimedia titles that educate and entertain. Winters wel­ comes classmates and others to e-mail him at presid@mail.com or view his web site at www.larken.com.

1984 - Mitch Evich, Jr. is teaching in Somerville, Mass., and has written articles for The Boston Globe. ... Clive Pohl per­ forms with the Just Dessert, a Seattle-based trio. ... Rick Schauer is the CAD-CAT application developer manager for De­ fine/Produce/Integration Breakthroughs & Initiatives at Boeing Information, Space, and Defense Systems. Schauer has been with Boeing for 13 years.

Alumni support a second scholarship

One lucky entering freshman this fall will be awarded the first $10,000 WWU President's/ Alumni Association scholarship.

Funds for this and future awards come from fees the collegiate license plate program began several years ago.

The program allows alumni and other friends of Western to buy automobile plates bearing the Viking logo for $40, of which $28 is returned to Western for the scholarship fund. (Annual renewals for the plates are only $30.) The fees for the collegiate license plate are in addition to your normal annual tab cost.

WWU collegiate license plates are available from any Washing­ ton Department of Licensing outlet or wherever license plates and yearly tabs are sold.

The license plate program provides a unique opportunity for alumni and others to show their support for Western and at the same time provide scholarship assistance to some of Western's best and brightest students.

The new award means alumni are funding two scholarship programs; the Alumni Association board scholarship will continue as before. One application will be used for both programs.

The first recipient of the President's/Alumni Association award will receive $2,500 each year for four years.

For information about obtain­ ing WWU license plates or a scholarship application for 1999-2000, call Alumni House at (800) 676-6885.

Avis (Weldenbach) and George Rector ('55) have re­ tired from teaching and are living on a Whidbey Island farm raising Polled Hereford cattle.

Avis published her first story in 1995 about their grapes. Carl, called Carl Helps on the Farm. She is still in demand for book signings.
1982 - Rebecca Downey received an unrestricted financial award of $25,000 from the 1997 Million Family Foundation National Adoption Education Program at Downey State College. In her first-semester residency program at the Timbergarten District’s curriculum office, (John Emerich) received her master’s degree in educational administration at Sam Houston State University. Emerich can be reached at:

Michael Fernandez was named general manager of the Eastside Business Journal in Seattles. Rebecca Garrett owns Blaard Herb Farm in Tacs, N.M. She and her partner grow and process herbs for medical, culinary, bath and beauty uses. Carrie Hispanics received her dental doctor of surgery degree from Creighton University. Suzanne Levinson received her doctor’s degree from Mount Vernon. Luz Petersen, an employee of the 1993 University Minestry and ministry programs at the University of Tennessee-Knoxville. Shetson is a third-grade teacher at Karns Intermediate School in Knoxville.

1992 - Becky Baker is assistant principal at Lockwood Elementary and the reading recovery teacher for Frank Love Elementary School in the Northshore School District. ... Mike Roberts is the parks and recreation developer/coordinator for the city of Mount Vernon. ... Sarah Curnett-Jensen is the public relations director at the Spokane Teachers Credit Union. ... Bart Grasham (’93 M.Ed.) built a fort, 9-feet by 9-feet, in his first-grade classroom at Clark Elementary School in Sedro-Woolley. ... Amy Strange has joined Bauleke and Shilhanek, P.S., to work on general and financial practices in the University of Kentucky.

1991 - Julie Cilje is pursuing a second master’s degree at the University of Oregon. ... Colleen Barkley received a professional certificate at the University of Michigan. ... William Belcher received his Ph.D. in anthropology from the University of Washington. He is professor of journalism and political science at Highline College in Des Moines. ... Greg Helenos and Jenny Eley on Sept. 9. ... Gail Nordstrom and Arnold Williams on Aug. 17... Sara Freeman and William Hicks, May 24... Patricia Fulton and Sev Jones (’91) on Sept. 13... Kendi Schilke joined the staff at Larson Gross Certified Public Accountants. ... Theodore Drinkwater and Lisa Henry on Aug. 16... Michelle Krafsl and Celso Sevillano on April 19... Jeffrey Lee and Joanna Sue Meriwether on Aug. 15... Richard Wahlgren and Julie Wilson (’95), Aug. 23... Theodore Drinkwater and Lisa Henry on July 24... Beverly Beeman and Alan Hester on June 17... Sara Freeman and William Hicks, May 24... Patricia Fulton and Sev Jones (’91) on Sept. 13... Kendi Schilke joined the staff at Larson Gross Certified Public Accountants.

1990 - Thomas Evans and Diana Ryder (’92) on Sept. 20... Jeanette Bowen and David Brown (’94) on Aug. 30... Sherron Cranmer and Jonathan Gage (’95) on Aug. 28... Emily Dagg and Hampton Nesly on Aug. 9... Lisa Hayes and Daniel Bennett on Dec. 6... Kristi Marzano and Charles Ship on Sept. 6... Shelley Murphy and Ryan Ramcke on July 18... Kimberly Schmid and Doug Eckermans on July 26... Jeffrey Winger and Kristy Bedloe on June 14... Julie Ammons and Mark Armstrong on Oct. 18... Reisha Gray and Jon Busby on May 17... Sara Freeman and William Hicks, May 24... Patricia Fulton and Sev Jones (’91) on Sept. 13... Kendi Schilke joined the staff at Larson Gross Certified Public Accountants. ... Theodore Drinkwater and Lisa Henry on July 24... Beverly Beeman and Alan Hester on June 17... Sara Freeman and William Hicks, May 24... Patricia Fulton and Sev Jones (’91) on Sept. 13... Kendi Schilke joined the staff at Larson Gross Certified Public Accountants. ... 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Two alumnae win teaching awards

Lynn Torpey ('84), a math teacher at Whatcom Middle School, and Ann Babcock-Williamson ('72, '76, '89), a fourth grade teacher at Carl Cozier Elementary School in Bellingham, received the presidential award for excellence in mathematics and science teaching in January. They each receive $7,500 in grants from the National Science Foundation, with which they will buy classroom supplies.

Hope and perseverance

Scott Hope ('89) completed an AutoCAD class and hopes to move into drafting at VECO Engineering in Bellingham, where he has worked for five years. His perseverance, despite a crippling auto accident when he was in high school, was featured in a VECO newsletter in November.

Do you have news to share with others?

Send short items of interest and glossy photos to Window on Western, Alumni House, Western Washington University, Bellingham, WA 98227-9199. You can also e-mail your Class Notes, news and address changes to:
http://www.wwu.edu/~alumni/wow
May

11 Registration for summer quarter begins
13-17 William Shakespeare's The Tempest. PAC Mainstage
15 Distinguished Alumni dinner
15-17 Western Showtime Family Weekend
16 Alumni board of directors meeting
25 Memorial Day
27-31 Black Comedy, a student production at Old Main Theatre
30 Alumni Club Life Member cruise
1-31 Seeing Jazz exhibit at the Western Gallery*

June

1-30 Seeing Jazz exhibit at the Western Gallery
1-6 Engineering technology alumni dinner at Red Hook Brewery in Woodinville
8-12 Lynn Hershman exhibit opening at Old Main Theatre. (Various dates)
8-15 Alumni Alaska cruise
12 Outstanding Graduating Seniors reception
13 Spring commencement and spring carnival
19 Mariners game with Alumni Association
22-26 Adventures in Science and Arts camp for grades 5-6. (Various dates)
23 Six-week and nine-week summer quarters begin
27 Alumni reunion weekend for 1947, 1948 and 1949 graduates
28 STUDY CANADA, a weeklong Summer Institute, begins

Western’s Summer Stock ’98

The theatre arts department has four shows in revolving repertory format to keep you spellbound during the state’s longest-running Summer Stock season.

The Witch of Blackbird Pond, adapted by Y. York, from the novel for children by Elizabeth George Speare will be directed by Barb Maier. It opens July 14 at Old Main Theatre and runs through July 19.

Hay Fever, by Noel Coward, directed by Mark Kuntz, opens at the Performing Arts Center Mainstage July 23. It runs on various dates through Aug. 16.

The Fantasticks, the long-running musical by Tom Jones and Harvey Schmidt, is directed by Maureen O’Reilly in Old Main Theatre. It opens July 25. Performances are on various dates through Aug. 12.

Rounding out the Summer Stock schedule is My Fair Lady, from the Pygmalion by George Bernard Shaw. It’s directed by Ruben Van Kempen and special guest Christopher Parry at the PAC Mainstage. Aug. 1 through Aug. 20.

Call (360) 650-6146 for exact dates and times.

For tickets and information:

Adventures in Science: (360) 650-6822
Alumni Events: (800) 676-6885
Elderhostel: (360) 650-7754
Festival of Music: (360) 650-5997
Performing Arts: (360) 650-6146
STUDY CANADA: (360) 650-3728
Summer Stock: (360) 650-6146
Taft Seminar: (360) 650-3728 or (360) 650-2912
Western Gallery: (360) 650-3963

August

1-5 Elderhostel on Beethoven's life and music, in conjunction with the Bellingham Festival of Music
1-16 Bellingham Festival of Music
1-20 My Fair Lady, directed by Ruben Van Kempen and Christopher Parry at the PAC Mainstage. (Various dates)
4-16 Hay Fever, directed by Mark Kuntz, at the PAC Mainstage. (Various dates)
6-12 The Fantasticks, directed by Maureen O’Reilly, Old Main Theatre. (Various dates)
9-15 “Beethoven and Tolstoy: Titans of the 19th century” is the theme of this year’s Pelikan lecture series in conjunction with Elderhostel and the Bellingham Festival of Music
14 Alumni Association golf tournament at Semiahmoo
16-21 Elderhostel: Birds and mammals of the Pacific Northwest
22 Summer commencement

July

1-3 Last days to view Seeing Jazz at the Western Gallery
3 Independence Day observed
6-10 Adventures in Science and Arts week for grades 7-8
6-11 Taft Seminar for Teachers
13 Adventures in Science and Arts week, for grades 7-8
14-19 The Witch of Blackbird Pond, directed by Barb Maier, opens the Summer Stock season at Old Main Theatre
20-24 Adventures in Science and Arts week, grades 9-12
21 Friends of the Music Library’s Alaska cruise departs from Vancouver, B.C.
23-24 Hay Fever, directed by Mark Kuntz, at the PAC Mainstage.
25-29 The Fantasticks, directed by Maureen O’Reilly, at Old Main Theatre. (Various dates)
26-31 Elderhostel on history of the North Cascades
30-31 Elderhostel on Beethoven’s life and music, in conjunction with the Bellingham Festival of Music.

September

7 Labor Day
9 Switzerland trip
23 Classes begin

*Closed Memorial Day Weekend