Astronaut
lands in WWU center
to seek education reform

By Kathy Sheehan
PUBLIC INFORMATION

George “Pinky” Nelson, a former astronaut who has logged more than 400 hours of space travel, has launched a new career at Western as director of the Science, Mathematics and Technology Education Program.

Nelson, who arrived in January, says he came to WWU to continue his lifelong pursuit of education reform to ensure that all Americans are literate in science, math and technology.

That means one of the nation’s leading teacher education programs will be getting even better. Nelson hopes to increase connections and partnerships between future teachers and experienced teachers in local schools; assist current WWU faculty in modeling new kinds of instruction techniques for future teachers; and conduct research into effective teaching methods.

“Western is already hands-down the premier institution” for teacher education, said Nelson, who flew space shuttle missions in 1984, 1986 and 1988. The 1988 spaceship Discovery flight was the first NASA mission following the Challenger accident.

Nelson, nicknamed Pinky at birth in 1950 for his healthy skin tone and red hair, was a NASA astronaut from 1978 to 1989 and has conducted astronomical research at several research centers in the United States and abroad. He has since held several academic and administrative posts at the University of Washington and was an American Council on Education fellow at Western during fall quarter 1992, studying higher education administration with former WWU President Kenneth P. Mortimer.

More recently, Nelson served for three years as director of Project 2061 a massive science literacy initiative for the American Association for the Advancement of Science. (Project 2061 is named for the year that humans will next see Halley’s Comet.)

“He brings a national stature and an intense commitment to enhancing science, math and technology knowledge to students at all levels,” said Ronald A. Klein-knecht, interim dean of the College of Arts and Sciences.

Although Nelson spent nearly two decades in the “hard” sciences (He has a B.S. in physics and an M.S. and Ph.D. in astronomy.), he calls education his “true career.” He expects his work here will take him deep into the social sciences.

Continued on page 7
Officers
Cheryl Dickerson, ’80, Bellingham; president; Larry Taylor, ’72, Seattle, immediate past president

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Mel Blackman, ’74, Nanaimo, B.C.; Martha Chorba, ’66/’74, Bellingham; Joseph Henry, ’66, Federal Way; Ray Hewitt, ’84, Everett; Richard Hayde, ’58, Bellingham; Tom Hovanec, ’71, Seattle; Catherine Nordmark, ’90, Skagit County; Larry Olson, ’83, Mount Vernon; Michael Perry, ’88, Bellingham; Rick Reckert, ’94, Seattle; Angelique Robertson, ’95, Seattle; Rob Rollins, ’86, Southeast; Yvonne Kinoshita Ward, ’76, Auburn; Tara Caldwell Wolfe, ’82, Bellingham.

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Regional Contacts
Kelly Fisher, Alaska; Fran Wiilliam, Australia; Mel Blackman, British Columbia; Pam Smith-Large, Chicago/Midwest; Patrick Lovell, Japan; Great Lakes/ Southern U.S.

SBDC sets new record for aid to local business
In a uniquely challenging 2001, the Small Business Development Center set a new record for assisting local businesses, surpassing its last two record-breaking years by a wide margin. The SBDC, a service of the College of Business and Economics, counseled 449 businesses, 50 of which were impacted by the Georgia-Pacific layoffs and 280 of which were first-time clients. The SBDC also launched an innovative program that links small business owners with experienced mentors in their fields.

Student-Parents gain assistance for child care
The U.S. Department of Education awarded the Associated Students Child Development Center a $202,000 grant to establish an endowment to assist low-income student-parents obtain child care. "It's going to help our students tremendously," said Jules McLeland, CDC program manager. said. "Child care is as high a percentage in their budget as college tuition."

Professor's memoir wins NEA award for 2001
English professor Suzanne Paola, whose memoir Body Toxic: An Environmental Memoir was named a New York Times Notable Book of 2001, has received $20,000 from the National Endowment for the Arts to work on her second nonfiction book, written under the guidance of Antonette, Body Toxic documents Paola's childhood in an environmentally contaminated county in New Jersey.

Debating pair are tops at national tournament
One of Western's two-person debate teams was recognized as the number one pair nationwide in parliamentary debate going into a tournament March 15 at Regis University in Denver, Colo. The top ranked duo, seniors Amy Kalman and Dan Williams, are sharing the $1,000 Richardson scholarship for forensics excellence.

Ground is broken on Recreation Center
Initial work has begun on Western's 100,000-square-foot Campus Recreation Center, just south of the outdoor track near Bill McDonald Way and 21st Street. The $26 million facility will house a six-lane, 25-yard lap pool, spa, climbing wall, aerobic studios and a three-court gymnasium. Western students voted by a 77 percent majority in 2000 to fund the center. It's scheduled to open in September 2003.

Library has 1,000 items in Western collection
Wilson Library now has well over 1,000 items representing the intellectual and creative output of Western faculty, administrators, staff and alumni, past and present. Scholarly and literary books and articles, personal memoirs, research reports, musical scores and recordings, graphics and even games are all to be found in the unique collection housed in Special Collections.
Miller's essays reflect on resilience


**Gallay's book details slave trade**

History professor Alan Gallay explores the traffic of Native American slaves in the early American South in his new book, *The Indian Slave Trade: the Rise of the English Empire in the American South, 1670-1717*. This is the first book to focus on the traffic in Indian slaves during the early years of the American South, according to Yale University Press. Gallay documents in vivid detail the English Empire in the American South and its human resilience.

**Burton's book explores Civil War battle**

Brian Burton's new book, *Extraordinary Circumstances: The Seven Days Battles*, is an insightful read on a decisive but little written about episode of the Civil War. Burton, who has been teaching at the College of Business and Economics since 1995, is an associate professor of management and director of the MBA program at Western. The book is available from Indiana University Press, (800) 842-6796 or www.indiana.edu/impress.

**Good news shines through many budget hardships**

by Karen W. Morse

**On VIEW**

**TO WRITE**

WWU President Karen W. Morse
c/o Alumni House
WWU, MS-9199
516 High Street
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E-mail: president@wwu.edu

These past few months I have spent a great deal of time working with legislators and staff to preserve a quality educational experience for our Western students in the face of the current state fiscal crisis. There is recognition that our state college and universities are crucial for the future economic well-being of our state and its citizens.

At the same time, budgetary realities must be addressed squarely, and we are doing so in ways that minimize the impact on educational quality. There is hope for the long-term future. I am working with a group led by former Governors Dan Evans and Booth Gardner to try to identify stable funding solutions that protect higher education from the up-and-down swings of the state budget.

In the midst of this, I have been heartened and encouraged to hear about the good work that Western students are doing, not only in their classrooms but also in the community.

In a recent e-mail message, Lee Evan Belfiglio, marketing and publicity director for the Bellevue Youth Symphony Orchestra, took time to write about a chance encounter with Western's women's basketball team. While orchestra employees were attempting to move a massive desk, a gift from a law firm next door, to the symphony office, the dolly became stuck in a crack in the sidewalk.

"[As] we were attempting (unsuccessfully) to move [the dolly], a large bus pulled up, spilling out the WWU women's basketball team," he wrote.

"They took one look at us and all immediately offered their assistance. Everyone took a corner and carried this massive monster (that weighed several hundred pounds at least) to the back stairwell, helping us out in a difficult situation.

"Therefore, I am writing to you to thank you, not only for the help, but for what must be a fine program that promotes good character as well as good athletics. The immediate generosity of your women to help us out demonstrates that you must instill a strong sense of community service into your students.

"It testifies more to those of us not so athletically inclined, about the fine caliber of your program, than any scoreboard full of wins," concludes Belfiglio.

"Please extend the deepest thanks of the staff of the Bellevue Youth Symphony Orchestra to the women's basketball team for their very much-appreciated help!"

Another e-mail also drew my attention. The executive director of the local Junior Achievement Program, Tom Lankamer, wrote to students from professor Pam Whalley's economics class who volunteered to teach Junior Achievement programs to children in grades 1 through 6 at Kendall Elementary School.

"It's a wonderful day for students, teachers, volunteers and administration, and we couldn't bring the program to Kendall without the student volunteers' efforts. An achievement awards ceremony completes the day in each classroom, and feedback from parents, students and teachers has been incredible!"

Today's students become tomorrow's alumni. Like all of you, they will be ready to contribute to their families and communities in countless ways, big and small.

Western's tradition of caring, coupled with a fine academic education, is a legacy in which I am proud to share.

**Women, men win at hoops**

Western's women's basketball team made its fifth straight trip to the nationals this year after winning the inaugural Great Northwest Athletic Conference crown.

The women have reached the West Regional in each of their first four years as NCAA Division II members and have posted at least one victory each time.

The women beat Sonoma State University 71-60 in the regional semifinals March 8 but lost to eventual national champion Cal Poly Pomona in the championship game 71-70.

They ended their season 24-5 overall, the 10th 20-win season (fifth straight) under Coach Carmen Dolfo who was named GNAC Coach of the Year.

The men, meanwhile, received a stunning cold-shoulder when they were left out of the NCAA Division II National Tournament field this year.

The men were the 2001 West Region champions, finishing with a 21-6 record.
WEDDINGS

1987 - Donna Manning and John Wescott, Oct. 7.

1988 - Shalynn Liner and I Wilburn, July 14.


1990 - Jill Glover and Delaney Johnson, June 23.

1991 - Emily Houghtaling and Steve Timms, Sept. 27.


1993 - Kevin Williams and Christopher Hylen, Aug. 25.


1997 - Murray Dow (’70) and Yvonne Raulerson, Sept. 1.


1999 - Steve Foss and Melinda Petrou, Nov. 17.


2001 - Nita Quan and Mark Gauger, Oct. 13.

Lyle Morse and Donna LeBlonde receive new WWU service awards

Former Alumni Association president Lyle Morse (’70) and WWU information services manager Donna LeBlonde (’86) have received two awards from the WWU Alumni Association.

Morse, who is president of Fish Brewing Co. in Olympia and, until recently, the owner of Norse Furniture, works closely with the Leadership of the South Puget Sound Alumni Chapter and gives generously of his time and resources to Alumni events in Puget Sound. He (or his companies) pays for numerous elements of the event, including the golf tournament, which is one of the major fundraising events for the WWU Alumni Golf Classic, the Viking Night auction and the Fun Run held during Homecoming weekend. He donates auction items, beverages, T-shirts and other resources.

LeBlonde was recognized for her invaluable service as an employee of WWU External Affairs and as a volunteer for the Alumni Association. Her work on the alumni database is "above and beyond" the call of duty, said David Britton (’70), Awards Committee chairman. LeBlonde also organizes the Homecoming Football Game and helps with the alumni golf tournament.

Jeffrey Spencer (’96) had a baby boy on Nov. 10. Amy is a stay-at-home mom and John is a Lutheran pastor in Chinook, Mont.

1996 - Nita Quan is the executive director of First Step Family Support Center in Port Angeles. Stacy Rosevear is the compliance director for International Festival and Events Association’s Train to End Strokes program. Rosevear, who suffered a stroke, has made a miraculous recovery and is working toward raising $5,000 in honor of her second chance at life and in honor of other stroke victims and survivors. Rosevear was to be accompanied by Amy Snyder Heine (’93), a National Geographic contributor.

1997 - Craig Forbes is a CPA with Haskin & Sells in Vancouver. Forbes was recently promoted to supervising partner. Joyce Hamilton, a Yakima-Herald reporter, won a George Polk award and an award from Investigative Reporters and Editors for a series he co-wrote about the Thirty Mile Fire in Yakima, which claimed the lives of 16 firefighters. Kelley Helkoop and 3 other VVR grad, Mark Dudzinski, Darcy Hughes and Paul VanMetre own Pro CNC, a precision machine shop that specializes in metal-machine parts for a variety of fields, including the medical, aerospace and confectionery markets. Kathy Humphreys teaches general educational development (GED) at the North West Indian College. Sally McDonald is an account executive with Waggener Edstrom in Seattle. Drew and Christine Petrou (’94) purchased Stable Salts in Bellingham.

1998 - Mark Gauger is a motion picture grip for KIRO TV to return to KING 5 where she will co-anchor the morning and noon newscasts.

1999 - Derrick Anderson is the store manager for Haggen in Bellingham. Craig Bowers is the interim manager of the Ferndale Senior Activity Center.

2000 - Jessica Schenk is the public and community relations representative for Haggen in Bellingham.

2001 - Shad Malone is the co-owner of MGM Solutions in Bellingham.

2002 - Scott Eades is the director for International Festival and Events Association’s Train to End Strokes program. Eades was recognized for his service to the public and community relations representative for the Sunnyside School District.

2003 - Kelly Epperly is the business manager for Northwest Dairyanna in Bellingham. A graduate of Western Washington University, Epperly handles the advertising, public relations and administrative aspects of the dairyanna.

2004 - Mark Dudzinski, Darcy Hughes and Paul VanMetre own Pro CNC, a precision machine shop that specializes in metal-machine parts for a variety of fields, including the medical, aerospace and confectionery markets. Kathy Humphreys teaches general educational development (GED) at the North West Indian College. Sally McDonald is an account executive with Waggener Edstrom in Seattle. Drew and Christine Petrou (’94) purchased Stable Salts in Bellingham.
Torch bearer is WWU alumnus

Patrick Brown ('00), an eighth grade teacher in La Conner, was one of several people who carried the Olympic torch through Olympia in January, shortly before the start of the Salt Lake Winter Games.

Brown, who teaches social studies and fitness and is an assistant coach for the La Conner High School football team, was cheered along the route by his eighth graders, school colleagues, friends and family, including wife Justina Brown ('00), instructional and multimedia designer at Western's Center for Instructional Innovation.

Where do you wear your Western gear?

Send photos of yourself in your Western shirt, hat, etc.; short items of interest; address changes; and other news to:
Alumni House, MS-9199, WWU, Bellingham, WA 98225-9199

U.S. Sen. Patty Murray, the mother of Sara Murray ('02), proudly wears her "Western Mom" sweatshirt while fishing.

CLASS Notes

1927 - Eugenia Fairbanks, 94, a retired teacher, Oct. 27.
1930 - Ellen Freckleton, 99, a retired teacher and owner of a blueberry farm, Nov. 11.
1931 - Madeline Brown, 93, a teaching supervisor, Nov. 13. ... Alice Russell, 93, a retired teacher Nov. 27.
1933 - Lota Heigel, 87, Feb. 4.
1938 - Alfred Brandt, 87, a retired farmer, Jan. 13... Helen Hostetter, 85, a teacher, civic leader in Bellevue and volunteer, March 23. Hostetter was one of 21 Exemplary Alumni chosen during Western's Centennial. She created an international studies endowment to help fund Western students' overseas study in order to help them gain a better understanding of different cultures.
1959 - Aileen Foster Werning, 84, a retired social worker, Dec. 20.
1944 - Doris Von Bargen, 77, a former president of the Associated Students and an accomplished pianist who served frequently as the church organist at St. James Church in Bellingham, Dec. 27.
1947 - Jack Bowen, 82, a retired teacher and school psychologist, Jan 1.
1950 - Frances Demiriah Carver Knappman, 86, Nov. 20.
1951 - Robert N. Anderson, 77, a retired sales manager, writer and orator, Jan 5.
1959 - Alvie Mortiz, 70, a retired teacher and football coach with the Edmonds School District, Dec. 28.

FACULTY, STAFF & FRIENDS


Steven Erik Hardwick, 44, who attended WWU on a baseball scholarship, in August.

James Leslie Hildebrand, 85, associate professor emeritus of mathematics and computer science, Dec. 18. He was a retired captain in the U.S. Navy; a 33rd degree mason; former director of the Scottish Rite Scholarship Foundation, past commodore of the Bellingham Yacht Club and treasurer of the Mt. Baker Youth Symphony.


Richard E. Wahl, 68, a retired broadcast reporter and journalism instructor who attended Western in the 1950s, Aug. 18.

Position Opening

WWU is an AA/EO employer. For disability accommodation, call (360) 650-3771 or 650-7695 (TTY).

Western Washington University seeks candidates for the combined position of director of Alumni Relations and executive director of the Alumni Association. This 12-month, full-time position is responsible for meeting the needs of and developing programs for nearly 80,000 graduates and former students of Washington's largest comprehensive university.

Western seeks candidates with at least a bachelor's degree and five years' full-time experience in association management, alumni relations or public relations. Candidates must have experience working with volunteer boards or associations.

For complete position description, see http://www.wwu.edu/-wwwjobs. Candidates are invited to submit a letter of interest addressing desired qualifications, a complete resume and names and addresses of three references to: Lorie McNell, Alumni Search Coordinator, Office of External Affairs, Western Washington University, 516 High St., Bellingham, WA 98225-9032.
Adventures’ summer program involves alumni with youngsters exploring Science

Learning Resource Center is the soul of SMATE

Since the grand opening of the Science, Mathematics and Technology Education building in 1996, the building's Learning Resource Center has been widely recognized as a unique facility, offering education majors and in-service teachers the resources needed to effectively teach science, math and technology in the classroom.

“We have books on curriculum, activities, standards, assessments, storybooks, how-to and why books — anything you’d need in a classroom,” said Jamie Harrington, LRC facility and operations manager. “If it is being used in a classroom out there, we should have it here. That way the students are better prepared.”

The LRC also has a materials and equipment check-out program, giving Western students and teachers in the community a chance to perform hands-on activities in the classroom, using materials they might not have access to through the schools.

The materials and equipment stock room holds supplies ranging from maps and globes to pulleys and levers. Education majors take advantage of the materials on hand, incorporating them into the curriculum plans they create in their classes.

“We encourage people to put an activity together and then take it out and try it,” Harrington said.

Gary Schenck ('01), who is finishing his elementary certification, found curriculum books and manipulatives at the LRC to incorporate into a lesson plan. He and his classmates in a math education class winter quarter were preparing a lesson for a student-teaching project at Parkview Elementary School.

Schenck said he likes the LRC because it has more hands-on options, such as the manipulatives, which serve as learning alternatives to using pencil and paper. Schenck and his group were considering using pattern blocks to teach fractions.

The LRC is constantly updating its technology and materials to maintain its cutting-edge status.

For example, it has become a satellite partner center for the University of Washington’s StarNet Program, formerly the High School Human Genome Program. The LRC will be a regional distribution and teaching center for high schools wanting to do research in DNA sequencing related to drug abuse.

The LRC is currently seeking funding for equipment and technology related to the StarNet project. This technology would then be available to over 180 Western students per quarter who are enrolled in science education courses, keeping them involved with the most advanced practices in the field.

Under George Nelson, the new director of the Science, Mathematics and Technology Education Program, the LRC is pursuing other big grants including one for the replacement of the computers in the center with 22 newer desktop computers and 12 laptops that will complement the Wilson Library wireless networking project. The laptops would enable students and faculty to generate files during fieldwork to be easily shared with peers and in the classroom.

This summer, the LRC will also be used during the Biennial Conference on Chemical Education and for the Science Teacher Apprenticeship/Mentorship Program, which pairs teachers in local school districts with graduating student teachers, giving students insight into the practicing profession.

“The Learning Resource Center is going to become more of a national presence in the next few years,” Harrington said. “Dr. Nelson brings a vitality with him. He has a lot of vision and knows how to put it into action.”

Above, assistant professor Scott Linneman asks student Lilian Liu (left) questions about her lesson plan on the planets. Below, math education lecturer Janet Mock (seated, center) discusses a lesson plan with (left to right) Jackie Martin ('88, '94), distributive education lecturer Janet Mock (seated, center) discusses a lesson plan with (left to right) Jackie Martin ('88, '94), mathematics and science education lecturer Ena Gehrke ('10) and Marie Cheyney ('91).
Astronaut lands in WWU Center, pursues science education reform

Continued from page 1

One of his first tasks is developing a research program that will look at highly effective teachers in the local schools. "There are a lot of things we don't know yet," he said about teaching methods. "You need experimental psychologists and mathematicians, and Western has them," Klein-krech said.

Klein-krech predicted that such research will bring the national players in education reform to WWU. "We are extremely pleased to have him on our faculty," Klein-krech said.

Reforming the way teachers instruct elementary and high school students about science and math will also involve reforming the way university professors teach science and math, and not just at Woo-dring College of Education, Nelson said. So he expects to expand partnerships among the nine faculty members in the SMATE program and other faculty members at the College of Arts and Sciences, Woor-ding and Huxley College of the Environment.

The research program at SMATE will help with development of new curriculum materials for Western faculty members so they can emulate the type of instructional methods that good K-12 science teachers need to have.

"There's a tradition and commitment from this institution to support good science, math and technology education. That's pretty unique," Nelson said.

Nelson, who is also a physics faculty member, was involved in the planning for Western's SMATE Center, completed in September 1996.

Now, five years later, Nelson says he wants to update SMATE's technology and tools, and increase the community's accessibility to the Learning Resource Center, which offers hands-on materials for experiments and lessons to students and teachers in the community.

The facility is already heavily used by local school districts for inservice training.

"SMATE is an excellent facility and it's not often that you have a home for science, mathematics and technology education," Nelson said. "But it's not just a building. The center comes connected with knowledgeable faculty committed to consulting not only with students on the latest teaching methods, but with current educators who will serve as mentors for those new teachers."

Jamie Harrington, the facility and operations manager at SMATE, said he was excited about Nelson's plans. "Essentially, everything is wide open. He has a lot of energy," Harrington said. "We will be doing more outreach trying to get more of the community and the local school districts involved in partnerships in science, math and technology education."

In the near future, for example, high school chemistry teachers and their students in the local schools will be able to collect soil or water samples with their students and send the same samples to Western's node on an integrated lab network in the Learning Resource Center at SMATE for testing. Then the students will be able to view the testing and test results and get the data they need through a video conference via the World Wide Web. "They can then do their own analysis" using data from testing equip-

What's the biggest challenge in promoting science, math and technology literacy, Nelson was asked.

Nelson says he expects K-12 teachers need to scale back on the amount of content they teach with- school districts involved in partnerships in science, math and technology education."

Nelson has two daughters who are WWU alumni: Aimee Nelson (MA '00) and Marti Nelson Frazier ('98).
Cheryl Dickerson to head Alumni Association during next two years of anticipated change

by Brittany Sadler

Public Information

Cheryl Dickerson ('80) begins her two-year term as president of the Alumni Association with a promise of change.

Dickerson graduated from the College of Business and Economics with a degree in accounting, and has served on the association's board of directors since 1998.

She has taught financial accounting at Western part-time since 1982 and is a co-owner of the partnership, Dalrymple and Dickerson, CPAs.

She is also an active promoter of a Western education.

"One of the greatest things about Western," Dickerson said, "is that the faculty really care about students. Everyone really wants to see their students succeed."

The leadership change from Larry Taylor ('72) to Dickerson comes at a time when change is a predominant theme with the association.

Dickerson said she and other members are feeling slightly overwhelmed as the search for a new executive director for the association continues.

"A change in executive directors will have a big impact on the Alumni Association," Dickerson said.

"Chris Goldsmith has been the director for 16 years, and we have a relatively new board with new members right now. It's scary, but a little exciting at the same time.

Dickerson said one of the things she will work on is trying to convince more alumni of the benefit of becoming dues-paying members of the Alumni Association.

"For being a large university with a lot of graduates, we really don't have a very large membership base," she said.

Dickerson hopes to keep up the momentum sparked by Taylor.

"Larry has been an incredible president and a great representative for Western," Dickerson said. "I would love to inherit even one-tenth of his enthusiasm. He has lit a fire under the board and invigorated us. He will be a tough act to follow."

Taylor said he has enjoyed his time as president and all the accomplishments the association has achieved over the last two years.

"We've been more active on the university campus and have had success with our license plate campaign," Taylor said. "I'm excited about our accomplishments, but I'm even more excited about the accomplishments to take place under Cheryl's leadership. She's a dynamic individual who's dedicated and really loves the university."

Although Taylor will serve as the immediate past president for a year to guide Dickerson should she need any help, he doesn't think she will need much advice.

"She doesn't need any words of wisdom from me," Taylor said. "She has enough wisdom of her own. The only thing I can suggest is to be sure to tap into the knowledge, expertise and devotion of past board members."

Dickerson has two daughters Tara, 22, and Shelby, 14.

June 21-23: 50th reunion

The Alumni Association has planned a full weekend of fun activities, reminiscing with classmates and reconnecting with your alma mater for the classes of 1951-53.

Invitations for all the events have been mailed, so if you did not receive one, please call Alumni House. Anyone who feels your alma mater for the classes of 1951-53.

Activities, reminiscing with classmates and reconnecting with your alma mater for the classes of 1951-53.

The reunion committee includes alumni from each class year: Kathleen "Kappy" Britain ('52), Harry and Carol Pagels ('51), Duane Anderson ('51), Bob Baker ('52), Louella "Lolli" Lapsley ('52), Britt Marie Lee ('53), Ruby Smith ('51), Joan Clyde ('52) and Mark Hardie ('53).

Alumni create "Tree Project" at museum

Artists and furniture makers Wesley A. Smith ('95) and Andrew Vallee ('96) have transformed a single, sustainably harvested tree into a collection of 30 pieces of fine furniture on display at the Whatcom Museum in Bellingham. The "Tree Project", on display through Oct. 20, documents the entire process — careful selection, harvesting and milling — of a 118-year-old big leaf maple. Vallee and Smith undertook the three-year project to explore the value of raw wood and the full circle of processing a living organism in a forest into finished projects that we live with every day.

Taking the fun on the road

The Alumni Association announces the return of the Travel Program. Join alumni and friends on trips sponsored by the Alumni Association.

Already this year, alumni have conquered a great ski weekend at Sun Peaks in British Columbia, an overnight trip to Portland visiting the museum and Classical Chinese Garden and a Puget Sound mini-cruise.

Future trips will include a day with the Mariners plus a day of golf in Arizona, foreign travel and more cruises.

If you are interested in receiving updated information about future events, please contact Kristie Lundstrom in the Alumni House or Kristie.Lundstrom@wwu.edu.
Craig Cole
WWU's Distinguished Alumnus 2002

Enrolling at Western in 1969, at the height of the Vietnam War, he became active in student committees focusing on affirmative action, long-range planning, housing, Western's state budget, employment issues and civil rights concerns. "There was so much going on. We were going to change the world," he said.

Cole said he had a full-time assistant and a staff of 20 students when he was in student government. "It almost prevented me from becoming an alumnus," he said with a laugh.

His involvement in social issues led him to full-time employment as an investigator and assistant to the director at the state Human Rights Commission from 1973 to 1978. He finished his degree in urban studies at the Center for Urban Studies in Seattle, then a Fairhaven College program.

"I wanted to graduate from Western," Cole said. "My activities at Western, both in and out of the classroom, were very broadening experiences that really shaped me in a very positive way."

Cole was a member of the WWU Board of Trustees in November 1987 when WWU President G. Robert Ross and vice presidents Den Cole (no relation) and Jeannine DeLille were killed in a plane crash.

During the transition period, "Craig Cole gracefully led the board and the university through an extremely difficult tragedy, memorial service and transfer of authority," said Larry Taylor ('72), the outgoing president of the WWU Alumni Association who was also a trustee at the time.

Cole has also served on the Fairhaven College Advisory Board and the Western Washington University Foundation board.

Taylor also praised Cole's leadership in saving Edens Hall from the wrecking ball. It was renovated instead.

Cole said he was honored to receive the award from an institution that has shaped, broadened and enriched his life.

Alumni Golf Classic set for Aug. 2 at Shuksan

The annual Alumni Association golf classic will be held at Shuksan Golf Club in Bellingham this year.

The Eighth Annual Bill Wright Tournament will be held Friday Aug. 2 at the beautiful course at 1500 E. Axton Road. Shuksan Golf Club has spectacular views from many of its 18 holes. The terrain ranges from steep ridges to gentle meadows in a rural setting split by the meandering Ten Mile Creek.

The popular tournament was named in 1998 to honor Bill Wright ('60) who brought the first NAIA national championship to Western and was the first African-American to win a USGA title, the U.S. Amateur Public Links Championship in 1959.

Proceeds from the entry fees benefit Alumni Association Scholarships and the Athletic Success Fund.
Chemistry department to host major conference; 1,500 educators will explore teaching innovations

Western's chemistry department will host some 1,500 chemistry educators from the United States and Canada at the 17th Biennial Conference on Chemical Education this summer.

High school, community college, college and university educators will participate in a host of symposia, workshops and seminars July 28-Aug. 1.

The Division of Chemical Education of the American Chemical Society has sponsored the conference since 1972 to facilitate the exchange of ideas and to provide access to the latest in teaching innovations and curricula.

The conferences have played an important role in groundbreaking research and development, in the region between Vancouver, B.C., and Seattle.

Bank of America joins WWU in teaching financial "fitness"

Western's Center for Economic Education, through a $40,000 Bank of America gift, is administering a statewide program to train K-12 teachers in an innovative personal finance curriculum, Financial Fitness for Life.

Bank of America and the National Council of Economic Education (NCEE), of which Western's Center is a part, spent two years and $3.2 million developing the curriculum aimed at teaching K-12 students, and their parents, to become skilled consumers, savers and investors.

The program was launched statewide Feb. 26 after field tests in 18 schools in three states.

The $40,000 from the Bank of America Foundation will subsidize teacher training within Washington. Financial Fitness materials include workbooks with age-appropriate activities for teachers and students (K-2, 3-5, 6-8 and 9-12) as well as two parent guides (grades K-5 and 6-12).

WWU economics chair David Nelson, who founded the Economic Education Center in 1978, and Pam Whalley of the economics faculty are conducting the teacher workshops in Washington, which are expected to reach 27,000 students this year alone.

"Some K-12 students have been taught sound money management principles at home," Nelson says. "But they are islands of light in a sea of darkness where financial knowledge is concerned. This new and unique personal finance curriculum fills an educational void.

"When implemented nationwide, Financial Fitness will make a significant difference in many lives," Nelson adds. "In a decade or two, its legacy will be more knowledgeable consumers, more prudent savers and investors, and more informed voters."

For more information about the foundation:
phone: (360) 650-3027
e-mail: foundation@cc.wwu.edu
web: www.foundation.wwu.edu

Huxley and Holland experts to look at sustainable growth in Skagit Valley this summer

Researchers, educators, planners, designers and policy makers from around the world will use the Skagit Valley as a living laboratory when they meet to discuss sustainable development at Western June 20-22.

Huxley College of the Environment will co-host the fourth International Workshop on Sustainable Land Use Planning with Wageningen University in the Netherlands where the workshop was founded in 1974.

Experts will emphasize collaboration to achieve a balance among multiple competing interests, such as agriculture, tourism, I-5 transportation and residential development, in the region between Vancouver, B.C., and Seattle.

Huxley students will participate as technical support staff to the international experts whose recommendations will be sent to policy makers and planners throughout the region.

"The area between these two metropolitan centers can be a model for sustainable, planned development that serves a wide variety of interests," said Huxley dean Brad Smith. "The alternative is the worst sort of random growth that serves no one."

Two Wageningen professors echoed Smith's concern in a report on their visit to the region last summer. "Face to face with the drastic effects of 'spontaneous' development, we cannot help but feel the urge to raise a finger in warning," they wrote. "The impulse to start preaching the gospel of environmental planning foists itself on us."

Many of the conference sessions will be held in the Learning Resource Center, inside the SMATE building. (See related story on page 6.)

Carver Gym will be the setting for an exhibition hall where textbook publishers, instrument manufacturers, chemical suppliers and others will set up booths.

Sponsors include Varian, Inc.; Hayden-McNeil Publishing; American Chemical Society, Puget Sound section; Battelle Northwest; Pacific Northwest Research Laboratory; Phillips Petroleum Co.; ChemGlass Inc.; the Chemical Heritage Foundation; Washington College Chemistry Teachers Association; Huxley College of the Environment; and the office of WWU President Karen W. Morse.
INVESTMENTS in Excellence

Boeing donates laptops to two student programs

By Jackie Martin
PUBLIC INFORMATION

The Boeing Company equipped WWU students with high-tech mobility by donating 40 laptop computers to Fairhaven College’s Law and Diversity Program and to the Woodring College of Education in February.

Each program received 20 Dell Latitude laptop computers, equipped with Pentium II processors, allowing students to conduct online research and fulfill academic requirements while balancing family, work and school.

Twenty of the computers from Boeing will be available for yearly checkout to students of the Law and Diversity Program. The LDP was developed by Fairhaven College in 1991 to be ethnically, socially and economically underrepresented students gain access to law school.

"Our students are single parents, commuting students and students from economically disadvantaged backgrounds," said Julie Helling, LDP director. "Having laptops gives them the mobility to balance academic work and other responsibilities. For parents, having a laptop means the freedom to study at home with their kids.

For LDP student Billy Munoz, 28, having a laptop also means he'll be able to make the most of his time away from class. In addition to managing a full credit load, Munoz helps care for his 5-year-old daughter and works part-time at a local beauty salon.

"The first thing I'm going to do with my laptop is work on the bus and work during my slow time at the salon," Munoz said.

Legal research is increasingly being done online and many law schools now require first-year students to have a laptop. Helling reported the laptops will prepare students to continue their legal education after graduating from Fairhaven.

"These computers are such a valuable gift because they will allow students to develop online research skills and the computer savvy necessary for today's legal environment," Helling said. "Most of the students in the program simply don't have the money to buy a computer.

The other 20 laptop computers will help Migrant Head Start child care providers prepare for the National Child Development Associate (CDA) Accreditation Exams and to work with migrant farm workers and their families.

"The child care providers are low-income, non-matriculated Woodring students. They continuously relocate throughout the year to provide child care to migrant families so children will not have to be cared for in the fields or left in the care of young siblings while parents are working. Constant displacement makes completing the CDA assessment process nearly impossible for the child care workers because they can't attend classes regularly at a college or university," said Jacqueline Baker-Serrnett. Baker-Serrnett is an associate professor in human services who worked with WWU Extended Education and Summer Programs to develop a curriculum for the migrant child care worker project.

Using the laptops from Boeing, the low-income students will be able to complete online courses in either English or Spanish, engage in supervised fieldwork and create a professional portfolio to prepare for the CDA assessment process.

The Boeing Company, Microsoft, Migrant Head Start and Woodring are working in partnership to support this one-year demonstration project, which is the first of its kind in the nation.

Alumnus donation leads the way at Microsoft Corp.

By Brittany Sadler
PUBLIC INFORMATION

Microsoft program manager Jason Tafoya ('91) and four of his co-workers pooled their resources to donate 3,000 user licenses of Windows 2000 operating system to Western in September. The gift was matched by a Microsoft corporate donation of 3,000 user licenses of Office XP, which includes Outlook, Word, Excel, Access, PowerPoint and FrontPage applications.

The software has been installed in several computer labs on campus.

Tafoya graduated from Western’s College of Business and Economics with a degree in management information systems and has been with Microsoft since he graduated.

"The Western Washington University Foundation made it very easy to donate," Tafoya said. "They were very clear about the needs for software.

Tafoya said when he started looking into the software needs at Western, he began talking to friends at Microsoft about the impact a donation to Western could have.

"Jason thought seriously about how to maximize the donations he could make and the benefits to the university," said Larry Gilbert, director of Academic Technology and User Services. Together, Tafoya, and co-workers Scott McCraw, Brian Shive, Steve Thompson and Scott Gish teamed up to make the Windows 2000 donation.

"Even though I coordinated the donation, it was really about several people and Microsoft coming together," Tafoya said. "By pulling together, we each took a piece of it and were able to put a pretty big dent in Western's technology needs. I can't help but feel good about being able to do that.

Tafoya and Gilbert both said they hope the donation will free up funding previously budgeted for software, allowing Western to focus on other technology needs on campus.

Tafoya and his coworkers are currently working on another donation to Western that will include the Windows XP operating system, among other programs.

Celebrate the memories
WITH A GIFT TO WESTERN

Most graduates are familiar with memorial gifts to Western in honor of a departed family member or friend. However, honorary gifts can also be made in celebration of important occasions such as wedding anniversaries, births, birthdays, career promotions or other special achievements.

"An old army buddy of mine who lives in Detroit just made a gift to the athletic scholarship my wife Vi and I established several years ago," says foundation board member Frank "Moose" Zurline ('50), "He and I share many memories. He wanted to honor those memories by contributing to the scholarship.

You can remember a loved one or honor a special person by designating your gift to the Campus Enrichment Fund or to a specific college or program.

Visit the WWU Foundation Web: http://www.foundation.wwu.edu.
### May

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Date</th>
<th>Event Description</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>10-12</td>
<td>Western Showtime Family Weekend</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>11</td>
<td>Alumni Chapter: Seattle hosts reception and Seattle Symphony</td>
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<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Concert, Benaroya Hall 11</td>
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<tr>
<td>PAC Series: Oliver Mtukudzi &amp; The Black Spirits</td>
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<tr>
<td>7:30 p.m., PAC Concert Hall, $15-$22</td>
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Alan1 Chapter: New England hosts Mariners vs. Red Sox

Sleeping Over with Science: Hands-on activities and a science show in the Science Learning Resource Center for grades 3-8. $45

25-26    | Alumni Chapter: Whatcom County’s Ski-to-Sea race teams                            |

30       | Alumni Reunion: Chemistry Department reception at Columbia Winery. Woodinville     |

### June

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<tr>
<th>Date</th>
<th>Event Description</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>1</td>
<td>Alumni Chapter: Northern California hosts Chinese dinner in Point Richmond</td>
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<tr>
<td>3-6</td>
<td>Alumni: Three-night mini-cruise in Puget Sound</td>
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<tr>
<td>8</td>
<td>Alumni Chapter: Skagit Valley hosts Puget Sound Day cruise</td>
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<tr>
<td>14</td>
<td>Alumni Association hosts outstanding graduating senior reception, on campus</td>
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<tr>
<td>15</td>
<td>Alumni Chapter: San Diego hosts “tailgate” party, Mariners vs. Padres game</td>
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<tr>
<td>22</td>
<td>Alumni Chapter: Colorado hosts family picnic at Chataqua Park in Boulder</td>
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<tr>
<td>21-23</td>
<td>Reunion for classes of 1951, ’52, ’53</td>
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<td>23-28</td>
<td>STUDY CANADA Summer Institute for teachers and librarians/media specialists and</td>
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<td></td>
<td>Atelier de Francais for high school and community college teachers of French,</td>
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<td></td>
<td>(360) 650-3728</td>
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<tr>
<td>25</td>
<td>Summer Session begins</td>
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### Fall Events

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<tr>
<th>Date</th>
<th>Event Description</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>7</td>
<td>Alumni Chapter: South Puget Sound hosts family salmon barbeque in</td>
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<td>Burfoot Park in Olympia</td>
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<td>12</td>
<td>Key Bank Viking Night: Dinner and sports auction, 5-9 p.m., Carver Gym. $75</td>
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<td>per person or $600 for table</td>
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<tr>
<td>14</td>
<td>Alumni Chapter: San Diego hosts luncheon and scholarship celebration</td>
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<td></td>
<td>Norway House, Balboa Park</td>
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<tr>
<td>20</td>
<td>Alumni Club Member Event: Mariners Game</td>
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<tr>
<td>24</td>
<td>Convocation</td>
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<tr>
<td>28</td>
<td>Alumni Chapter: Northern California hosts WWU at St. Mary’s football game and</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>“tailgate” dinner in Montaga Homecoming, sponsored by Alumni Association</td>
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### Tickets & Information

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<tr>
<th>Event</th>
<th>Contact Information</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Adventures in Science</td>
<td>(360) 650-6822</td>
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<tr>
<td>and Art Camps</td>
<td>(360) 650-6885</td>
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<tr>
<td>Alumni events</td>
<td>(800) 676-6885</td>
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<tr>
<td>Athletics</td>
<td>(360) 650-3109</td>
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<tr>
<td>Box Office for PAC/</td>
<td>(360) 650-6146</td>
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<tr>
<td>Theatre Arts/Summer Stock</td>
<td>(360) 650-6146</td>
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<tr>
<td>Distinguished Lecture Series/</td>
<td>Turning Points (360) 650-7343</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
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### Bellingham beckons in July and August

Summer Session, June 25-Aug. 23
Many courses open to current students, alumni and community members. For more Information, call (360) 650-2841 or send e-mail summer/session@wwu.edu.

Summer Stock, July 12-Aug. 24
This year’s Summer Stock Repertory Theatre features musicals, dramas and literary theater: Rancho in the Park; Grease; Much Ado About Nothing; The Diary of Anne Frank; Taffetas. (360) 650-9876.

Ralph Muno Seminar for Teachers, July 7-12
The intensive civic education seminar features political insiders who describe their experiences in politics and how policies that shape our democracy are made. Aimed at K-12 teachers; two graduate credits. (360) 650-5469.

Marrowstone Music Festival, July 28-Aug. 18
Produced by the Seattle Youth Symphony Orchestras, the festival brings 200 students and three dozen exceptional faculty to participate in intense musical study on campus. A concert series will delight you. (206) 362-2300.

Alumni Golf Classic, at Shuksan Golf Club, Aug. 2
See Page 9

Adventures Summer Program, July 8-Aug. 9
Adventures in Science and Arts Summer Program provides a full week of in-depth investigation of a favorite topic in the arts or sciences for youthful scholars. Students in grades S-12 may experience college living by staying on campus in a residence hall or they may commute from home. (360) 650-4622. *First program, for grades S-6 begins June 24.

Bellingham Festival of Music, July 26-Aug. 12
There will be no concerts on campus, but the 10th annual festival is still a great reason to visit Bellingham this summer. Assistant music professor Grant Donnelan will perform in a free family concert downtown Aug. 12. (800) 335-5550.

Chemistry Conference, July 28-Aug. 1
See Page 10

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