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Laugh

Jest for the health of it

by Jo Collinge & Kathy Sheehan
UNIVERSITY COMMUNICATIONS

Radio talk show listeners, first in Bellingham then in Seattle, warmed to the quick wit of Ronnie Lou Hart Southcott ('93, Broadcast Media Studies). In 2001, her sense of humor became a badge of courage - and a way to help others - after a tumor was discovered while Southcott was having a prenatal ultrasound.

As she recalls on her Web site: "Ronnie has C-section, delivers beautiful baby boy and very large tumor.

Bonnie loses hair, gets bad wig. Nancy cries a lot.

Man drives Bonnie to chemotherapy every three weeks. Bonnie laughs a lot. Bonnie has C-section, delivers beautiful baby boy and very large tumor.

Bonnie is diagnosed with cancer.

As she recalls on her Web site:

"The Great Thing about Chemo is a badge of courage - and a way to help others - after a tumor was discovered while Southcott was having a prenatal ultrasound. All proceeds from 'The Great Thing about Chemo' have gone to the American Cancer Society, which is helping to market the calendar nationally.

Malone suggests they try to think of silly things, even to think in "ridiculously literal" terms. "If you feel like you want to jump off a bridge," she tells her audiences, "just think: What if there's a boat below full of people having an elegant dinner topside? You'd just think that now, wouldn't you?"

Malone speaks from experience. About 15 years ago, shortly before she became president of the National Association of Adult Education, she was introducing the provost of a major university to a large auditorium full of people. She was so nervous that the official's title came out as pervert instead of provost.

"People were screaming and hollering. I thought I would die," Malone recalls. "Suddenly, the provost walked over, put his hand on my shoulder and said into the microphone, 'Dr. Malone has possibly given the only clear definition of my job.'"

With self-deprecating humor, he turned her embarrassment into a laugh for everyone. "Instead of me crying over it," she recalls with gratitude, "I was left whole."

Renee Collins ('00, MEd/’97, Fairhaven), now Western's interim dean of students, is also a much-in-demand speaker, especially on diversity issues. She doesn't plan humor in her presentations, but has built a reputation for lacing them with laughter.

"So much of what makes people laugh is in the moment," she says. "It's the look on someone's face or the way you say something that seems perfectly straight-forward. People in my audience frequently laugh at something I didn't plan to be funny."

Collins pauses, wrinkles her brow, and see what Old Main is looking like these days.

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Three new trustees appointed by governor

Gov. Gary Locke has appointed three new trustees at Western. Everett resident Brent A. Stewart, president of United Way of Snohomish County; Phil Sharpe, a partner in the law firm, Adelman, Sharpe & Setka LLP in Bellingham; and Peggy Zoro, bank executive and president of the Western Washington Foundation board.

Stewart, who was appointed in August, has an 18-year career providing leadership to non-profit organizations.

Sharpe, whose term will end Sept. 30, 2006, has played an active role in community affairs since moving to Bellingham in 1976. A former chairman of Whatcom Community College Board of Trustees, he currently serves as secretary for the WCC Foundation board. He replaces F. Murray "Red" Haskell, who served on Western’s board from August 2000 until his death on Aug. 10, 2002.

Zoro, senior vice president and regional manager for Whidbey Island Bank, has been in banking for 32 years and is a longtime community volunteer. She replaces Mary Swenson on the board of trustees. Her term ends Sept. 30, 2008.

Applications set record

Following a record-setting year for applica­tions, Western, began classes in September with 14,293 students enrolled, a moderate increase from the 13,2 percent last year. WWU received 7,464 applications from prospective freshmen last year, up from 6,862 the previous year. Applications to Western have increased 44 percent over the past decade.

Dean Smith picked for sustainability panel

Huxley College Dean Bradley Smith has been appointed co-chair of Gov. Gary Locke’s Sustainability Washington Panel, a state-wide effort aimed at defining environmental actions and policies in Washington. Constance Rice, executive director of the Desmond Tutu Peace Foundation, is co-chair of the panel that will guide the state’s long-term sustainability practices.

Marguerite Hutton wins teaching award at CBE

Professor Marguerite "Zlite" Hutton, former chair of the accounting department, is the first recipient of the Dean’s Excellence in Teaching Award at the College of Business and Econom­ics. Hutton was recognized for her work in developing a peer review process and student "consulting groups" in tax courses. She joined the Western faculty in 1989.

Fairhaven College fire causes building damage

Clean up work by a disaster restoration special­ist began in the Fairhaven College Administra­tion Building following an early morning fire Nov. 26. The fire, which caused $3 million in damage, apparently began in a clothes dryer in a hallway behind the second-floor dining hall kitchen, sending smoke throughout the top two floors of the building. Classes, faculty offices and staff offices have been temporarily relocated on campus while restoration is completed.

VU director retires

Jack Smith, director of the Viking Union and student activities at the VU, has retired after 32 years. Smith, who oversaw the recent remodel of the VU, was a key leader and adviser for student government and student activities. University Residences director Kay Rich serves as interim director of the VU/Student Activities.

Huxley planning students write character study for Lummi community

Six Western students were honored for the work they conducted, with help from Lummi Island residents, to analyze the "rural quality" of the Lummi Island community as well as identify the island’s social and natural qualities. The students were part of the Huxley College of the Environment’s spring 2002 Planning Studio, in­structed by Western professor Nicholas Zafaratas. They received the “Best Student Planning Project” from the Planning Association of Wash­ington and the Washington chapter of the Amer­i­can Planning Association for their report titled “Lummi Island Rural Character Study.” Students Jennifer Hansen, Lydia Powell, Heather Quelch, and Peggy Zoro conducted the 10-week study. They tracked Lummi residents’ input through a questionnaire, a visual preference survey and a community mapping exercise.

Two faculty members write, “walk the talk”

A rich history of Africans in America is the focal point of “Walkin’ the Talk,” a new book by faculty members Vernon D. Johnson and Bill Lynne. The Freestyle Hall anthology is a literature and social science collection that focuses on numerous aspects of the African American experience from the 1700s to present day. It contains a variety of subjects about African American po­ems, politics, plays and history. Johnson is a political science professor and member of the Whatcom Human Rights Task Force. Lynne is an associate professor of English.

MIMSUP mentor honored

Environmental Science professor Brian Bingham was honored as a role model for supporting and mentoring minority researchers in the marine sci­ences. Bingham, co-director of the Shannon Point Marine Center’s Minority in Marine Science Undergraduate Program (MIMSUP), received the “Minor­ity Access Mentor Role Model Award” at a ban­quet in Washington, D.C., in September. He has been teaching at Western since 1990.
The Western Collection showcases the best of WWU

by Courtney Brousseau
UNIVERSITY COMMUNICATIONS

What do Pictionary, a snow-cone holder, a pencil sketch of Old Main and a small bronze sculpture of a reading snail have in common?

They are all part of the Western Collection, Wilson Library's archive of creative and scholarly materials produced by alumni, students, faculty, staff, and administrators.

Part of the Library's Special Collections, the Western Collection holds more than 3,000 items, including scholarly and literary books and articles, research reports, musical scores, sculptures, personal memoirs, games, recordings and art.

"Although all the items were donated by their authors or creators, the primary criteria for including an item in the collection is that the person had to be affiliated with Western," said Marian Alexander, the library's head of special collections. "The item could have been created at any time before, during or after a person's career at the university."

Alexander said that the library is working to catalog each item in the collection and make that information available to the public on the library's Web site.

"We hope to make the collection more widely known, since it is growing every day," Alexander said.

The collection was originally called the Faculty Publications Collection but was renamed in 2001 when the library broadened its collecting horizons, incorporating works by alumni, staff and students.

"Not until last year did we begin aggressively pushing to diversify the collection," Alexander said. "The name change highlights the emphasis on contents that reflect the entire Western community, past and present."

The collection was celebrated Nov. 6 in Wilson Library's historic reading room. Western President Karen Morse and Provost Andrew Bodman were among the speakers at the event, which drew donors, alumni, family members, administrators, staff and students.

"The celebration showcased the collection and allowed people to see how the university has handled and managed contributions," Alexander said. "It was an environment where the provost and the president could thank people for what they have brought to Western."

A print bibliography was prepared especially for the celebration, listing the contents of the collection as of the end of October 2002.

Alexander said the Western Collection is unique among academic libraries because it has expanded beyond faculty contributions.

"Our thrust is to shape the collection as a showcase of Western talent," Alexander said. "People who have been at Western and are here now are exceptionally creative. We are surrounded by talented individuals."

In the recent alumni survey, you reported that you are proud to be a Western graduate and over 90 percent would attend if you were choosing again. We need to ensure that wonderful education you received at Western is available for our children and grandchildren.

The state of Washington has created an outstanding educational system that provides access to quality colleges and universities for all its citizens. Higher education is vital to the state's future economic development, but that system needs long-term funding plan.

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State higher educational system needs long-term funding plan

by Karen W. Morse
UNIVERSITY PRESIDENT

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The state of Washington has created an outstanding educational system that provides access to quality colleges and universities for all its citizens. Higher education is vital to the state's future economic development, but that system needs long-term funding plan.

State funding for public colleges and universities has declined steadily for over a decade. Adjusted for inflation, per-student support at Western has dropped nearly 10 percent although demand for access to higher education and the cost of delivering top-notch instruction have risen dramatically. To offset the drop in state support, tuition has risen by more than 100 percent, making higher education less affordable for our lower- and middle-income students and families.

During this same decade, Western enrollment grew steadily. We worked hard to serve Washington's citizens by expanding our enrollment from around 9,700 students in 1990 to nearly 12,500 this fall. Western, physically the smallest of the public baccalaureates but with the third largest enrollment, grew faster than any other campus and is now especially challenged for space.

For the past two years, entering freshman enrollment was intentionally held at about the same level as last year. Still, we are serving more than 250 students above state-funded levels. Completion of our Communications Building in 2004 will add 1,400 classroom seats and will help our space situation considerably.

Recent trends toward decreased state support and increased tuition for our students continue indeﬁnitely without harming the quality of the education we provide and pricing some students out of college.

This winter and spring, we will work closely with the governor and the Legislature to protect our core education programs during the current state fiscal crisis, and strive to help develop a workable, long-term plan to fund a top-quality higher education system.
Homecoming princess, football star meet and courted at WWU 51 years ago

Golden Star Art Lee ('55) was assigned to es¬
to Princess Beverly Barr during Western's 1951 Homecoming. They celebrated 50 years of mar¬
tage on Nov. 14.

1951 – Katherine Oldroyd and her husband, Ralph, celebrated their 50th wedding anniver¬
sary July 13.

1955 – Gregory Fulton and Phoebie Con¬
radella, July 13. ... Joshua Godfrey and Sara
Potter, June 15, ... Sarah Millington and Joséph Royes, May 25. ... Adrienne Slodoben and Scott Caufield, June 29. ... Carol Wetherill and William Hawk (#97), July 23.

1959 – Katherine Bauthues and Joel Todd, May 3. ... Amy Harrison and Brian Keener, Aug. 17. ... Alson Haukaas and Scott Richards (#91), March 2. ... Sarah Johnson and Jeffre¬
y Thompson (#93), June 8. ... Jessica Montgomery and J.D. Base, Aug. 10. ... Christy Simons and Jonathan Miller, Aug. 8.

1963 – Homecoming Princess and Aaron Rockwell (#92), Aug. 10. ... Brett Clark and Kristine VanRentergem, Nov. 17. ... Shane Craven and Adrienne Abbey, Aug. 3. ... Marianne Fabe and Ryan Colvin, July 13. ... Christopher Franklin and Dennis Bajema (#92), June 27. ... Matthew Johnson and Sarah Brooks (#92), June 29. ... Gabriella Lam and Jasen Schmidt (#92), June 17. ... Jessica Montgomery and J.D. Base, Aug. 10.

1967 – Angela Urso and Gary Schenck (#01), March 2. ... Sarah Johnson and Jef¬
ry Todd and Kirstine Martin (#91), July 20.

1971 – Andrea Titterness (#02) and Brent Olson (#01), who both worked at Alumni House, were married July 27.

1975 – Katherine Oldroyd and her husband, Ralph, celebrated their 50th wedding anniver¬
sary July 13.

1981 – Rick Harmon opened Puppies Plus in
Bellingham, a store that offers accessories for puppies and small dogs.

1982 – Allene "Toni" Russell spoke at the Phi Delta Kappa Summer Conference. Russell is the author of Multiethnic Personalities, Protecting Yourself in the Workplace.

1983 – Lt. Col. Wes Weston is one of 4,000 Atlantic Fleet sailors and marines aboard ships of the USN Assault Amphibious Ready Group on deployment in the Mediterranean Sea and Arabian Gulf.

1984 – Brenda Horstad is the recruitment spe¬
ator for Brown & Cole Stores.

1986 – Gary Bradley teaches integrated math and math lab for freshmen and sophomores at Grandview High School near Yakima. ... Carolyn Brown (#92) accepted a full time appointment in teacher education depart¬
ment at California State University at Oxnard/Santa Paula.

1989 – Rekhner retired from the Sequim School Dis¬
cernment. ... Dale Henley is the elected financial secretary of the Hotel Employees-Restaurant Employees Inter¬national Union. Sawyer's office is in Seattle where he is the elected financial secretary of
HE Local 8.

1990 – Karen Nelson and Jesse Margolin, April 29. ... Dean Lancaster and Renee Moor (#95), July 6.


1992 – Aaron Rockwell and Hillary Christ¬
iston (#99), Aug. 10. ... Jeffrey Van Kleeck and Ch a m a i l e n e Martinez, Aug. 3.

1993 – Christine Bell and David Hills, Aug. 23. ... Rena Guadagnoli and Russ Major, July 27.

1994 – Angelo Ursu and Gary Schenck (#01), July 27.

1995 – Laurel Ahl and David Martinez, July 27. ... Ryan Anderson and Karina Blonden (#96), Sept. 7. ... Renee Moor and Dean Lancaster (#96), July 9.


1997 – Bill Gerlich and Adelle Bales, July 6. ... Jennifer Hoder and Jesse Scott, Aug. 11. ... Ryan Lorimer and Tena Elyman, May 17. ... Susan Nowers and Tom Gutschmidt, May 10.

1998 – Gregory Fulton and Phoebie Con¬
radella, July 13. ... Joshua Godfrey and Sara
Potter, June 15, ... Sarah Millington and Joséph Royes, May 25. ... Adrienne Slodoben and Scott Caufield, June 29. ... Carol Wetherill and William Hawk (#97), July 23.

1999 – Christine Bell and David Hills, Aug. 23. ... Rena Guadagnoli and Russ Major, July 27.

2000 – Hillary Christistent and Aaron Rockwell (#92), Aug. 10. ... Brent Clark and Kristine VanRentergem, Nov. 17. ... Shane Craven and Adrienne Abbey, Aug. 3. ... Marianne Fabe and Ryan Colvin, July 13. ... Christopher Franklin and Dennis Bajema (#92), June 27. ... Matthew Johnson and Sarah Brooks (#92), June 29. ... Gabriella Lam and Jasen Schmidt (#92), June 17. ... Jessica Montgomery and J.D. Base, Aug. 10.

2001 – Shannon Blinning and Ryan Ket¬
mann (#01), Aug. 3. ... Thomas Dimmel and Nicole Pruss (#02), July 27. ... Heathier Mari and James Bailey (#92), July 27. ... Matthew Hurd and Kristine VanRentergem (#92), June 29. ... Kacie Kammenoga and Brick Bundy, Aug. 3. ... Anna Peck and Ryan Knops (#92), Aug. 11. ... Ingrid Pyott and Mark Rigby (#91), July 22. ... Scott Richards and Alson Haukaas (#99), Aug. 2. ... Chad Robertson and Kyle Johnson, June 12. ... Kristen Weatherford and David Dorrian, Sept. 7.

2002 – Kristie Aikouer and Seth Myers, July 14. ... Regalle Barboz and Matthew John¬ton (#90), June 29. ... Jennifer Dailey and Brent Dixson, July 20. ... Ryan Knops and Anna Peck (#01), Aug. 11. ... Brett Milkevitz and Stacy Trombley, Aug. 31. ... Nicole Peirs and Thomas Dimmel (#91), July 27. ... Gary Schenck and Angela Ursu (#94), July 27. ... Jasen Schmidt and Gabriella Lam (#90), June 17.

2003 – Homecoming princess, football star meet and courted at WWU 51 years ago
CLASS Notes

IN MEMORIAM

Grace...Ken Scholes is the executive director of the Lower Columbia Economic Development Council.


1996—Denise Dillon graduated in August from the Yale School of Medicine's physician assistant's surgical residency program. ... Kim Grams, the director of the Boy's and Girls Club in Anacortes, was honored by Student Optimist International of Fidalgo Island with the Woman of Distinction Award for her professional and volunteer services, exemplary character and outstanding ability within her profession.

1997—Heather Clancy led the launching of the Seattle satellite office for Booz Allen & Associates LLC. ... Catrina Nelson Frey received a master's in marine biology from Nova Southeastern University in Fort Lauderdale in June 2002. ...Steve Kickle joined Chmellik & Associates In Bellingham and works in the law firm's litigation practice group. Kickle graduated from Willamette University School of Law in 2002.

1998—Scott Collins is the district manager of Vector Marketing Corps in Olympia. Collins reached a career sales milestone of $3 million in sales...John Hubbert III is a financial counselor with Salomon Smith Barney in Bellingham. ... Kelly Keane owns Wildflowers Floral and Botanical In Centralia. ... Alex Farnsworth and his wife, Angela Seguel, moved up to Bellingham, where they make up the Bellingham pop duo, Da Me Duke. ...Karen Felix is an account manager and media planner for MSS in Seattle.

1999—Lindsay Bailey is the office manager for the Building Industry Association of Whatcom County. ...Christina Folken is in her first year of a new international health and medical program at Ben Gurion University of the Negev in collaboration with Columbia University. The BGU-CU.M.D. program is in Beer Sheva, in Israel's Negev desert region and will train half a dozen doctors for practice in underserved and diverse populations, a field emerging as an integral component of global stability and development. ... Joy Rubin is a teacher at the Madison Primary School, which opened on Vashon Island in September. ...Kristi Myer is the account manager for Independent Design Firms in Bellingham. Moseley recently upgraded her accreditation with a course in nutritional biochemistry, weight management, nutrition analysis, supplements and strategies for incorporating healthy lifestyle changes.

2000—Erik Gonzalez is head wrestling coach at Port Angeles High School. ...Nick Haney is a photographer with the Mercer Island Reporter. ... Shannon McIntire is teaching middle school health/physical education and social studies for the North Mason School District. ...Brian Paxton is a CPA with Varner, Sytona and Herron in Bellingham. ...Maurocio Pena was named director of corrections education at Challam Bay Corrections Center and Olympic Correction Center.

2001—Karen Maerl is head coach of the Ferndale High School cross-country program. ...Dallas Williams works for CBA Design Group in Bellingham. ...Miranda Alms is an intern audiologist at the Hearing Health Clinic in Bellingham. ...Matthew Cavey is the choir director and voice teacher for the Little Swan Theatre. ...Jesel de Bosque was appointed by Gov. Gary Locke to serve another four-year appointment as a member of the Skagit Valley College's Board of Trustees. ...Sean Epling trained as a firefighter with the Guard School in Fort Lewis. ...Chris Fuller is a digital artist and black-and-white film-processing technician at Spinmaker Photo Imaging in Bellingham. ...KT Papeh is a customer service representative for Spinmaker Photo Imaging in Bellingham. ...Peter Kilner is a part of the sales team at Blackbox Office Equipment in Bellingham. ...Christy Wilson is a violist with the Whatcom Symphony Orchestra.

2002—George Curtis, 97, a retired educator and former superintendent for whom Curtis High School and Curtis Junior High are named in the University Place School District, in Tacoma, July 9. ...Vera Noreen Hanson, 96, a retired teacher from Cowlitz County and Bellingham, July 30.

2003—Gertitude (Dowd) Murphy, 99, a retired teacher, physical educator and girl's basketball coach, Sept. 26. Murphy was widely known for her love of Lister, a small logging town near Stumpede Pass, where she moved in 1932 to pursue a teaching opportunity. She taught in Lister until 1969 when she retired, only to serve on the school board until 1985. The town died out after the railroad abandoned the track. Tacoma Public Utilities bought the town in order to preserve its watershed. When the school closed in 1985, everyone except Murphy left. She stayed in the town, spending summers in Lister and winters in Kent. ...Anna Taylor Wolfer, 79, a retired teacher, in Poulsbo, Sept. 23.

1947—Donald DeLuca, 79, a retired educator and one of 21 Exemplary Alumni honored during Western's Centennial, Nov. 30. ...Len, who had a distinguished military career during World War II, was dean of education at San Jose State University and at Portland State University; deputy superintendent of education for the state of Michigan; professor of education at Michigan State University; and a member of the Bellingham School Board.

1948—Howard Hardy, 87, a retired teacher, in Stedoo-Wooldy, June 2.

1954—Mary Ann Hoyt Ailsa, 71, a retired teacher, in Sedro-Woolley, June 2.

1957—Alice Shannon, 96, a retired teacher active in the state Republican party, Aug. 10.

1959 Margaret Malan, 93, a retired social worker, Aug. 2. ...Kathrine Hobbs Northcott, 93, a retired teacher, in Seattle, June 27.

1962—Marcie (Allen) Skothelin, 90, a retired elementary school teacher in West Seattle, Aug. 9.

1963—Gordon Carter, 88, a retired superintendent for the Bellingham, Sedro-Woolley, Mount Baker and Whatcom County school systems, Sept. 15. He was a founding member and the past president of the Association of Public School Systems. The Gordon L. Carter Environmental Education Site on Lake Whatcom was named for him in 1979.


1965—Leo M. Moir, 82, a retired school board member, in Lacey, Aug. 2. ...James Hall, 71, a former teacher at Terwilliger Elementary School, in Seattle, Aug. 19.

1966—Harry Brown, 73, a retired grade school teacher in Burlington, Aug. 19.


1968—Don Flanders, 70, a retired teacher, who taught in Washington and Oregon, in Oakland, Ore., in July.

1968—Lucille Reule, 91, a retired teacher in North Dakota and Bellingham, Sept. 30.

1969—Barbara Naamah Wylick Carr, 82, who retired as head start, Campfire Girls and Sun Community Services, Aug. 17.


1973—David Bosell, 50, an environmental engineer with the University of the U.S. Forest Service in Ketchikan, Aug. 23. ...Michael M. Hills, 55, owner of Editorial Services in Bellingham who was active in the Whatcom County Republican party, July 31.


1982—Bruce Haddock, 51, a teacher, on Camano Island, Sept. 18. ...Beryl Loretta Hill, 51, a retired nurse, Aug. 12.


2003—Marge Rangible, 70, piano accompanist at Idaho State University, in Normal, Ill., Oct. 28.


Herman C. Stone, 77, retired assistant chief engineer at WMU, Oct. 16.

FACTORY, STAFF & FRIENDS


Memorial funds established for James W. Davis and Les Spanel

Family, friends and colleagues of James W. Davis and Les Spanel, each of whom taught at Western for three decades, have created funds through the Western Washington University Foundation to honor their memories.

Davis, who died Aug. 13, 2002, came to Western in 1974 as dean of Arts and Sciences and professor of political science. He was a prolific author, writing 12 books examining the presidency, and particularly the selection process, in thoughtful detail. His final book, Leadership Selection In Six Western Democracies (Cambridge University Press, 1998) placed the presidency in a comparative perspective and sought to draw lessons for the enhancement of democracy.

The James W. Davis Political Science Memorial Library Fund will be used to purchase books and other resources to enhance research holdings at Wilson Library for faculty and students.

Davis is survived by his wife, sociology professor Nanette Davis; six children; 13 grandchildren; and several great-grandchildren.

Les Spanel, a professor emeritus of physics and astronomy who died Oct. 8, 2002, retired in September after more than 30 years as a professor and department chair. In addition to a distinguished academic career, he was a community leader, volunteering on the Campus Community Coalition, the Bellingham Mayor's Neighborhood Advisory Commission and for the Democratic party.

He is survived by his wife, state Sen. Harriet Spanel, three children, and several grandchildren.

Contributions to the Davis and Spanel funds may be made to the Western Washington University Foundation, MB 8924, 516 High St., Bellingham, WA 98225-8924.
What else is a person to do with the kind of stress that comes from living in modern society? That crack made things just a little easier for everyone in Sears that day. In his November presentation to Western's second annual Bellingham Business Forum, Richard Tait explained how having fun has him and partner Whit Alexander laughing all the way to the bank.

"I'd bat my eyelashes at you, if I had any."

A teacher's sense of humor has also been found to have a powerful motivating force for students. According to those who've studied the use of humor in the classroom, it can relieve test anxiety, make learning more fun, and help students to remember a point.

Keiper's perspective on humor explains why he fills his office with penguins to make it more inviting and stress-free to education majors and other visitors. "I can't prove it," Keiper says, "but it seemed that, when she promised to be verbally abusive, that settled her down."

Keiper, associate professor and chair of secondary education at Woodring College of Education, wrote his dissertation on teacher humor and found that of the five most often cited things teachers use to relieve stress, a sense of humor was ranked number 2. Keiper runs a workshop called "The teacher is actor" and fills his Miller Hall office with penguins to make it more inviting and stress-free to education majors and other visitors.

"So when she's in the classroom, Locke often inserts a "weird" question into a history or social studies test to break the tension, like: "What was the name of Andrew Jackson's horse?"

Keiper's perspective on humor explains why he fills his office with penguins. Ceramic penguins and all other manner of the funny-looking bird. The silly penguin decorations seem to reduce tension and nervousness for himself — and his visitors.

Keiper, associate professor and chair of secondary education at Woodring College of Education, tells future teachers that humor can put stressful events and situations in perspective.

He tells of a visit from an angry mother when he was teaching high-school drama. He asked her to have a seat in his penguin-filled office and took a walk around the building. The tension had subsided substantially when he returned.

"If I can please one person a day, I will have accomplished something worthwhile," it reads. "However ... today is not your day and tomorrow doesn't look good either."
GOODBYE Old Main Ivy

by Courtney Brousseau
UNIVERSITY COMMUNICATIONS

The familiar curtain of ivy that has clung to the brick and stone facing of Old Main for about 75 years is disappear-

ing during a year-long building restora-

tion project.

Repair to Old Main's brick and mor-
tar, begun in late October, includes the
removal of all the English ivy, an inva-
sive species that destroys bricks and
building structures.

Administrators will investigate re-
placement options for the ivy once the
restoration is finished in June.

The building, which now houses class-
rooms, a theater, support services and
administrative offices, will be covered in
scaffolding for much of the year while
workers repair the facing, wash exterior
windows and waterproof the bricks. En-
trances, exits and parking spaces will be
temporarily closed to protect students,
faculty and staff.

Funding for the $700,000 project comes from additional capital budget
money appropriated by the state Legis-
lature in March as part of a statewide job
creation and economic stimulus pack-
age.

Old Main was built after the Wash-
ington State Legislature appropriated
$40,000 in 1895 for construction of a
building for the New Whatcom State
Normal School, now Western Washing-
ton University. The four-story, 30-room, Ital-
ian-style building was completed in 1896 for
$34,126.

The building-wide clean-up effort is a first
for Old Main. The structure's last major con-
struction project involved earthquake retro-
fitting the southeast wing in 1999.

You want to talk Stress?

You want to talk stress? Talk to
Scott Hulford ('98), the
Bellingham father of six children under
the age of 9, includ-
ing four identical
girls born Aug. 21.

Hulford, whose
family has sent four
generations of students to
Western, says he and his
wife, Korie, make jokes all the
time to maintain perspective
about the diaper changes
and mass feedings.

"Humor is going to be the
only way to get through the next couple
of years," agrees Karen Hulford ('69), a
proud grandmother.

The four girls, Anja, Constance, Emily
and Andrea, are one of only 27 sets of
identical quadruplets living in the world
today.

Karen Hulford says that Scott was
reading a handout someone had given
him that discussed ways of coping with
the demands of having multiple chil-
dren. "It stated that within a year, a high
percentage of parents have psychotic
episodes" because of the stress, she said.

"I give us six months," Scott quipped.

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Sources

Craniun
http://www.playcranium.com/

Hulford Quadruplets
http://home.attbi.com/~wingkriutt/
Alumni director, vice president appointed

Stephanie Bowers, executive director of the Western Washington University Foundation, has been appointed vice president for university advancement with responsibility for development and alumni affairs.

In announcing a realignment in key administrative responsibilities Western President Karen W. Morse also appointed Dean of Students Ted Pratt ('81, '93) interim director of alumni affairs, replacing Chris Goldsmith who retired last year.

Bob Edie, vice president for external affairs, who was previously responsible for alumni relations, will concentrate more fully on legislative relations, building statewide support for higher education and representing the university in community efforts.

The changes are designed to enhance relations with the Legislature, private donors, alumni and the community, Morse said.

"This realignment will permit the university to focus more strongly than ever on three vital areas: maintaining the level of public and private funding essential to high quality education at Western and across the state, enhancing the role of alumni in university affairs, and deepening the university's involvement in planning for our community's future," Morse said.

"Stephanie Bowers' demonstrated leadership skills and enthusiasm will be a substantial asset," Morse said. "Her more than 20 years experience in higher education development and alumni outreach admirably fits her for an expanded role."

Alumni Association Board President and Bellingham CPA Cheryl Dickerson and Foundation Board President and bank executive Peggy Zoro both supported the move, indicating it would strengthen the two organizations.

Accepting her new responsibility, Bowers noted that "a recent survey demonstrated the high degree of respect and affection alumni have for Western. Alumni are a strong resource to the university in maintaining and enhancing the education of today's students. We would like to involve alumni in so many different ways," she said.

Before coming to Western, Bowers was executive director of development at the University of Maryland's Smith School of Business. She was assistant vice president for alumni and development at the University of Maryland University College (UMUC) from 1991 to 1998. She was University of Baltimore alumni relations director from 1986 to 1991. Her master's degree is from UMUC.

Morse said the shift in duties will permit Edie to work more vigorously on long-term solutions to higher education funding and to participate more fully in university partnerships with Bellingham and Whatcom County communities.

Pratt, who calls WWU "the gem of Maryland University College," earned his Western bachelor's degree in 1981 and a master's in student personnel administration in 1993. Working at Western since 1986, he has had increasing responsible roles in the student affairs division. He was named dean of students in June 2000.

He received Western's Diversity Achievement Award last year for his successful efforts to increase multicultural enrollment. Now he hopes to turn his ample relationship-building talents to help create stronger bonds among alumni, current students, prospective students and the community at large.

Pratt said he hopes Western alumni will stay connected to campus and find a way to be involved in recruiting students and fundraising. Alumnae and vendors will be able to receive the education of today's students. We would like to involve alumni in so many different ways," she said.

By Ted Pratt ALUMNI AFFAIRS


Hello!

During the next year as your interim executive director of alumni affairs, I hope to personally greet you, learn more about your involvement with the university, and involve you in our community efforts.

I have several ideas about how you can stay connected to the university, our educational institution in the West, and I hope many of you will join me as we build stronger bonds with the university, our current and prospective students and business leaders offering jobs, volunteer opportunities and internships for current students.

I am most interested in hearing your ideas about what makes a good alumni association, especially what kinds of activities would bring you back to campus or encourage your participation in events that bring a little bit of campus to you.

Please call me at (360) 450-3353, or send a message to Ted.Pratt@wwu.edu.
20 Get Alumni scholarships

More than 20 Western students are attending school this year on scholarships ranging from $1,000 to $3,000, thanks to thousands of generous WWU alumni and other supporters who have contributed to Alumni Association scholarship programs.

The Western Alumni Association has a proud and growing tradition of providing scholarship awards to deserving students. Funds for scholarships have grown over the past 20 years to nearly $600,000. Earnings from investments of this fund are what make these scholarships possible.

Scholarships are awarded to students who demonstrate academic excellence and the propensity to succeed at the collegiate level. Financial need, outside activities, community involvement and diverse experiences and backgrounds are all important factors in deciding the recipients, said Dave Britton, chair of the Alumni Association Awards Committee.

“We had over 200 applications for about 20 scholarships to award,” Britton said. “The quality of our applicants was extremely high and very competitive.”

The deadline for students interested in applying for a scholarship for the 2003-2004 academic year is March 1.

For more information and application, contact Alumni House at (800) 676-6885.

"Golden Vikings" will be honored at reunion in June

The WWU Alumni Association proudly announces its new group to be honored each year during Reunion Weekend: the Golden Vikings Society.

The new designation honors those who have been WWU alumni for 50 years or more.

At this year’s Reunion Weekend, June 20-22, all class members from 1953 and earlier will earn Golden Viking status and a place in Western’s history.

Special recognition will also be bestowed upon members of the classes of 1947 and 1948, celebrating their 60th and 55th reunions, respectively.

Ski, Ski, Ski!

The sixth annual Alumni Association ski trip takes place Feb. 14-16 in Sun Peaks, British Columbia.

Participants leave from campus at 4 p.m. Friday and return Sunday after two full days of skiing on Mount Tod Mountain’s open bowls, Sundance’s groomed trails or on one of 17 new runs on the recently opened trails of Mount Morrisey.

Snowboarders, cross-country skiers and even non-skiers can have a great time on Valentine’s Day weekend. Prices begin at $210 per person based on quad occupancy at Sun Peaks Lodge. Ski package includes transportation, lift ticket and dinner at $80 per person.

For more information about skiing with fellow Western graduates, call Alumni House at (360) 650-3353 or (800) 676-6885.

WWU Concert Choir to tour Eastern Europe

The WWU Concert Choir, a select ensemble of 50 university singers, has been invited to perform in the prestigious Bulgarian "Festival of Light" in and around Plovdiv, Bulgaria, June 17-28, 2003.

The choir’s performance schedule will include individual concerts, joint performances with other European choirs and the monumental Beethoven Ninth Symphony with full orchestra as part of the festival.

Performances will take place in cultural halls, churches and cathedrals with wonderful, resonant acoustics.

Additional time for sightseeing and cultural exchange will provide participants with the opportunity to experience the history, culture and people of a beautiful part of the world.

After the festival, the choir, led by associate music professor Leslie Greksinger-Konecni, will travel to the Czech Republic for additional concerts around Prague.

Would you like to join the choir for this wonderful musical and cultural exchange?

Larry Richardson, former chair of the WWU communication department and tour guide extraordinaire, will be leading a companion tour for alumni, friends of Western, and choral music lovers.

Contact Richardson for more information at richardl@yahoo.com.
Rower, running back and hoops star inducted into Viking Hall of Fame

By Scott Lefebere
UNIVERSITY COMMUNICATIONS

Western's Athletic Hall of Fame reached 97 members in October with the induction of women's rower Joanie Armstrong-Ryan ('92), men's basketball center Hank Chamberlin and football running back Scott Lohr ('91).

A formal induction of the three athletes included a ceremony in the Viking Union as part of Homecoming weekend. They were also honored at halftime of the Homecoming/Hall of Fame Football Game against Western New Mexico, which Western won on to win 62-13.

Lohr, who celebrated his 35th birthday Oct. 5 by being inducted into the Hall of Fame, was one of two Vikings to win Male Athlete of the Year honors in 1990-91. He led the Vikings in rushing for four straight seasons, becoming just the second player in school history to achieve that feat.

Lohr now lives in Tumwater and works in Olympia as a functional family coordinator with the Juvenile Rehabilitation Administration of the state Department of Social and Health Services. He set Viking season marks in 1989 that still stand, rushing for 1,395 yards and scoring 20 touchdowns. Lohr currently ranks third among school career rushing leaders with 3,587 yards, and he's second in scoring with 266 total points.

One of the tallest members to join the Western Hall of Fame is basketball standout center Hank Chamberlin. Chamberlin not only led the Vikings in scoring for two consecutive seasons, but was also among the top five scoring leaders in the Washington Intercollegiate Conference for three straight seasons, earning first-team all-league honors in 1941.

Chamberlin, 6-foot-4, played professionally for the Bellingham Fircrests from 1946-48 and is a veteran of World War II.

Chamberlin and his wife Betty live in Bellingham and have been married for 60 years.

WWU survey says ...
Alumni pride is high

Pride in a Western Washington University degree was extremely high in a recent survey of Western graduates.

A telephone survey conducted in March and April 2002 found that 93 percent of graduates are proud to be Western alumni and would attend Western if they could do it again. Alumni expressed positive feelings about their educational experience overall.

"It's great in every way that I know of," one graduate told an interviewer.

Another lauded the campus as "well laid out, convenient and safe, and it is beautiful," adding that the "availability of new technology is extraordinary."

"I felt real close to the faculty," said another Western grad.

An impressive 88 percent of the 802 graduates polled said they were interested in keeping up with the university, particularly by letter or through mailed periodicals like Window on Western.

Nearly as many — 86 percent — said they either read the quarterly newsletter thoroughly or at least skimmed it for articles about campus events, faculty research, academic offerings at Western, alumni achievements and other such news from WWU.

Although surveyors have completed their formal study, Window on Western is always eager to hear from graduates about what they like and don't like in their alumni newsletter.

Would you like to read more stories about campus events and faculty honors? More or less about athletics? Do you enjoy reading about alumni events in Washington and elsewhere?

Let us know your views by writing to Window on Western, Office of University Communications, MS-9011, Western Washington University, 516 High St., Bellingham, WA, 98225-9011. Or send an e-mail with Window on Western in the subject line to news@wwu.edu.

Grad rates high for WWU athletes

Western student-athletes graduate at a rate higher than student-athletes at most other schools in the Great Northwest Athletic Conference, according to an NCAA report on graduation rates.

Viking athletes become alumni at the highest rate of any public institution in Washington and they also are better in graduation rates than their WWU peers and many national schools in the NCAA.

Armstrong-Ryan, 32, was named Western's Female Rower of the Century for 1990-99 and the Vikings' Female Athlete of the Year in 1991-92.

She helped Western's lightweight eight shell post victories at the prestigious San Diego Crew Classic; won Northwest Small College Championships; and had runner-up grand final finishes for two consecutive years.

In 1991 Armstrong-Ryan represented the West in the lightweight races at the Olympic Sports Festival and rowed in the intermediate lightweight four at the Open Nationals.

A four-year letter winner and team captain for three seasons, Armstrong-Ryan has a master's degree in sports nutrition from the University of Utah. She has worked the last seven years as a clinical diettian in West Valley City, Utah.

Starbucks CEO to headline Seattle Business Forum in April

Otis C. Smith, president and CEO of Starbucks, will keynote Western's sixth annual Seattle Business Forum at 11:30 a.m. Monday, April 21 in the Westin Hotel ballroom.

The event, presented by the Western Washington University Foundation, brings together WWU alumni and parents, corporate and civic leaders, and friends who are interested in the university and in business trends.

A Chehalis native and Harvard MBA, Smith joined Starbucks in 1990 and has contributed to the company's dynamic growth.

As executive vice president and CFO, Smith oversaw the company's initial public offering in 1992. He was named president and COO in 1994 and CEO in 2000.

Smith's recipe for success is staying connected to the spirit of the company. Once a quarter, he serves up lattes behind the counter of his Capitol Hill neighborhood Starbucks as part of the company's "Adopt a Store" senior management program.

To reserve a table ($500, $1,000 or $2,000) at the Seattle Business Forum or make an individual reservation ($35), call (360) 650-6825 or e-mail to SpecialEvents@wwu.edu.

For more information see http://www.wwu.edu/-foundatn/sbf

Capital Celebration

Trusted and university administrators led WWU's "Capital Celebration" in October. Among the new capital projects is the largest academic space ever built on campus, a two-story, 100,000-square-foot Communications Building. It will house the physics, computer science, communication and journalism departments when it opens in winter 2004. More than 40,000 cubic yards of dirt were removed from the site for the building. Named in honor of Westerns first alumnus (1861), President Karen Wolter, Trustee Board Chair Betty Woods, Trustee Mary Swanson, (back row from left) WWU President George Price and Trustees John Walker, Bert Steward and Kevin Raymond.

Lohr, running back and hoops star inducted into Viking Hall of Fame

Armstrong-Ryan, 32, was named Western's Female Rower of the Century for 1990-99 and the Vikings' Female Athlete of the Year in 1991-92.
The Young Associates Gift Club is a special segment of WWU's President's Club. Two young associates are Western graduates Wen Tseng ('96, Economics/Accounting), vice president and information security risk manager at Washington Mutual's corporate information security department, and Jamie Foland-Tseng ('96, Art History), senior manager of partner marketing at ShareBuilder Securities Corp.

The following is an excerpt from an interview with the WWU Foundation:

WWU Foundation: What brought you to WWU?

Wen: After the recent scandals at Enron, MCI and Tyco, one class that stands out in my mind now is business ethics taught by Brian Burton. We had many discussions about morals, ethics, prof­ its and the idea of "maximizing shareholder value" as the only corporate mis­ sion. I feel it's important for alumni to show their support and help make sure Western continues to be that wonderful university that we attended.

Jamie: I thoroughly enjoyed all the classes I took at Western. However, my very first art history class opened my eyes to the world of art and I was im­ mediately hooked.

WWU Foundation: When did you decide to support Western financially and why?

Wen: I started giving to Western the year after I graduated because I wanted to make sure Western continued to provide an exceptional education for students. And probably because I used to be a Phonathon caller for the Foundation and I just couldn't resist supporting the cause!

Jamie: We continue to support Western because we feel it is important to give back to a school that gave us such great educational opportunities and life ex­ periences. I'm happy that we are in a position to give back to Western. I feel it's important to support our state's col­ leges, especially during the time of a recession.

WWU Foundation: How did your education at WWU prepare you for your current jobs?

Wen: Western provided me with baseline knowledge of how companies work and how the local and global economies work. Western taught me necessary communication skills and the most important thing of all: How to keep learning.

Jamie: The creative writing skills I honed at WWU are invaluable to me every day in my job. Writing research papers about artistic styles, artists and art pieces gave me a good foundation in grammar, cre­ ative thinking and expressing my thoughts in a concise way.

WWU Foundation: How would you encourage other WWU graduates to support the university?

Wen: Most of the people I graduated with are always talking about how much they loved the time they spent at West­ ern. I think it's very important for alumni to show their support and help make sure Western continues to be that wonderful university that we attended.

President's Club member benefits in­ clude a courtesy campus parking permit; printed recognition in the WWU "President's Report" and Honor Roll of Donors; reserved seating at the Disting­ uished Lecture Series; and invitations to events hosted by President Karen W. Morse.

There are many ways to make a gift to Western, including online at the ad­ dress below. The easiest is to write a check to the WWU Foundation, or use your VISA or MasterCard. Every gift has a place and every gift makes a dif­ ference.

For more information, call Mark Bagley, director of annual giving, at (360) 650-3612 or write him c/o WWU Foundation, 516 High Street, Bellingham, WA 98225-9034. He can also be reached at mark.bagley@wwu.edu

Phonathon enhances the Western Experience

Each year, WWU students contact alumni, parents and friends of Western through the WWU Annual Fund Phonathon, raising nearly $400,000 to enhance the Western experience.

Last year, gifts made through the phonathon touched every area of cam­ pus and helped to fund scholarships, al­ lowed students to travel to conferences, brought guest speakers to our campus and assisted academic departments in providing the very best for faculty and students.

Our 2002-03 Annual Fund Phonathon is off to a great start. If you have already received your call and made a pledge, thank you! If we haven't spoken with you yet, we look forward to talking with you during winter and spring quarters.

If you would like to make a gift online this year or download a free WWU screen saver, visit http://www.foundation.wwu.edu. If you have recently moved or changed your phone number, please e-mail your updated information.

Cranium inventor provides insights at Bellingham Forum

Laughter filled the jam-packed Bell­ wether Hotel ballroom Nov. 14 as Rich­ ard Tait, co-inventor of the board game, Cranium, shared his success story with the Bellingham Business Forum audi­ ence. He told of rising from partner in a Seattle company with 15,000 games - and nowhere to sell them - in 1998 to a game company in the world.

Tait is off to a great start. If you have already received your call and made a pledge, thank you! If we haven't spoken with you yet, we look forward to talking with you during winter and spring quarters.

For more information, call Mark Bagley, director of annual giving, at (360) 650-3612 or write him c/o WWU Foundation, 516 High Street, Bellingham, WA 98225-9034. He can also be reached at mark.bagley@wwu.edu

With Richard Tait, we got a rollin­ g good time as well.
February
8 Alumni Board Meeting at Ray's Boathouse in Seattle
13 Career Fair on campus
14-16 Alumni Ski Trip at Sun Peaks, British Columbia
18 Distinguished Lecture Series presents Lewis Lapham

March
1 Deadline for applications for Alumni Association scholarships
1 Whatcom County Alumni Chapter: Day trip to Whistler
5 Whatcom County Alumni Chapter: Rally before Men's basketball/WWU vs. Central Seattle Alumni Chapter: Reception and Seattle Symphony Concert, Benaroya Hall
27 Higher Education Day in Olympia

April
3 Reception for Psychology Department Alumni: 7 to 9 p.m., Red Hook Brewery, Woodinville
5 South Puget Sound Chapter: Dinner and Town Hall at Capital Playhouse, Olympia
21 Seattle Business Forum, with Orin Smith, CEO Starbucks, as keynote speaker, at the Westin Hotel, Seattle.

May
1 Career Fair on campus
2 WWU Alumni Association Distinguished Alumni Award Banquet
3 Alumni Board Meeting on campus
4 Reunion for the Human Services Program, Woodring College of Education, on campus.
18 San Diego Alumni Chapter: tour and dinner at the Munson House
24-25 Distinguished Lecture Series presents Frank Deford Alumni Club Life Member

June
4 President's Club Dinner, Seattle
13 Outstanding Graduating Senior Awards and Reception
20-22 Reunion for Classes 1952, '53, '54 and before, on campus
30 Woodring Hospitality Reception, WASA/AWSA Conference, Spokane

TICKETS & INFORMATION
http://calendar.wwu.edu

Alumni events
(800) 676-6985
Athletics
(360) 650-3109
Box Office for PAC/Theatre Arts
(360) 650-6146

Western Gallery
Info Line
(360) 650-3900

Wilson Library Hours
(360) 650-6825

Theatre Arts
(360) 650-3879

PAC Series
January 30
Habib Koite and Bambara

March 1
Karan Casey Trio

March 26
Montréal Danse

All shows are at 7:30 p.m. at the PAC Concert Hall or PAC Mainstage, except Montréal Danse, 8 p.m.

Ticket information: (360) 650-6146

DISTINGUISHED LECTURE Series

Feb. 18 Lewis Lapham, author, journalist and editor of Harper's magazine
May 5 Frank Deford, NPR sports commentator, novelist and award-winning sports journalist

Free, but tickets required. For general public and others without WWU ID, mail order only. Send self-addressed, stamped envelope to WWU Lecture Series, 516 High St., Bellingham, WA 98225-9109BX.

The Arts
At the WESTERN GALLERY

Jan. 7 - March 1
Walk Ways, a diverse group of sculptors, painters and other artists focusing on the theme of walking

April 1 - June 7
Surface Tension, an exhibit by seven Bay Area painters

The Arts

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