



Winter 2005

Window on Western, 2005, Volume 11, Issue 02

Kathy D. Sheehan

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WINDOW on WESTERN

WINTER 2005

NEWS FOR ALUMNI & FRIENDS OF WESTERN WASHINGTON UNIVERSITY

VOL. 12, NO. 2

David Scherrer / WWU Publishing Services

the Creative campus

By Kathy Sheehan
UNIVERSITY COMMUNICATIONS

Western's reputation is increasing as a creative place where students and faculty are inspired to excel at innovation and experimentation.

The tone for this climate of originality and creativity is set the very first week freshmen come to campus with a unique welcoming convocation that blends tradition with fresh new ideas.

It's nurtured by innovative programs like the Teaching-Learning Academy and through unique internship and mentoring programs with alumni and community members. There are also hundreds of opportunities for student-

faculty collaboration on scientific research, original music and dance, imaginative art, community service and other creative ventures.

At the heart of this campus of creativity is an understanding that you can't really "teach" creativity, and certainly not in a single formulaic way.

Phillip Ager ('52), a retired WWU administrator and teacher, can recall the old ways of teaching students how to create new music.

"Before a kid could be a composer, we had all these prerequisites" (in the music department), Ager said in

a 2003 interview for the Western Libraries Oral History Program. "You had to have traditional theory, traditional harmony, all of these things from the past. And then as a junior, or

more likely a senior, you'd say (to the student), 'OK, compose.'"

And what did the newly composed music sound like? "It sounded like the past," Ager said.

"We had completely conditioned all ... the ... creativity and experimental courage out of the kids."

It wasn't done consciously, said Ager, an associate professor emeritus of music who also served as dean of Fairhaven College from 1978 to 1982. In fact, the generally held position in education in the 1950s and '60s was that a formal education in theory should precede experimentation in the discipline.

Today Ager and those involved with improving the quality of education and nurturing a climate of creativity at Western understand a better way to achieve creative excellence.

"What you have to do is create a place where students can be creative," Ager said from his home in Winthrop. It can be tricky, he said, because students need some structure and boundaries to avoid hodgepodge music compositions.

"It's a difficult balancing act," he said. Yet, Fairhaven College successfully pioneered a style of creative learning in the 1970s with its student-designed majors. That type of student-centered learning has spread across the entire Western campus, influencing virtually all departments and programs with creative teaching and learning models.

In fact, WWU has become a national leader in the creative scholarship of teaching and learning.

A year ago, the Carnegie Foundation for the Advancement of the Scholarship of Teaching and Learning, in cooperation with the American Association of Higher Education, designated the Teaching-Learning Academy at Western a national research hub for a cluster of colleges studying best practices for learning.

Western created the TLA several years ago as a forum for faculty, students, staff

and administrators to meet regularly as a community to research new and more effective approaches to academic life. The Carnegie Foundation cited WWU for its creative focus on the student's voice and the student's role in undergraduate learning.

"We are leaders of one of 12 national clusters," said Carmen Werder ('68), director of the TLA. "And we are the only cluster focusing on the role of students as co-inquirers in studying relationships between teaching and learning."

Fairhaven professor Marie Eaton, an expert in innovative learning techniques, said the TLA is a great example of the nurturing creative climate at Western. "One part of creativity is a sense of autonomy and authority, where you are engaged and gain authority over a new plan or your own work," Eaton said. "In the TLA, the students who are collecting data on the undergraduate learning experience at Western have the power to create new knowledge."

The TLA isn't the only initiative that has led to WWU's reputation as a creative campus.

Just turn your eyes and ears anywhere on campus, says Eileen Coughlin, vice president for Student Affairs and Academic Support Services.

Students are creating innovative, fuel-efficient cars at the Vehicle Research Institute; joining with community members to form a robotics club; meeting with business leaders in Seattle to discuss leadership; and working with faculty to conduct environmental research, choreograph new dance performances and make new music.



Phillip Nordwall got creative in his computer science class and built a "Viking" robot.

CONTENTS

- 2 Campus Connections**
Items of interest about the university.
- 5 Investments in Excellence**
Western's scholarship campaign is over the top!
- 6 Creative Campus**
- 8 Class Notes, Weddings, Memoriams**
- 10 Accent on Alumni**
Get "wired" to WWU alumni activities.
- 12 Calendar**

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Fall 2004 enrollment rises

Western welcomed 12,940 students in fall 2004, including a record 1,892 students of color. For fall quarter, Western enrolled 2,456 new freshmen, up from 2,213 last year, and 995 new transfer students, 79 percent of whom came from the state's community colleges. Average high school GPA of freshmen was 3.52. Leading counties of residence for students are King, Whatcom, Snohomish and Pierce.

WWU hires new director for Equal Opportunity Office

Sue Guenter-Schlesinger is the new executive director of Equal Opportunity Services at Western. Guenter-Schlesinger has been at Utah State University since 1991 where she was assistant executive vice president for Affirmative Action and Diversity.

CBE faculty honored

Peter Haug, professor of manufacturing management, has been named the College of Business and Economics' Distinguished Teaching Fellow. The three-year fellowship is sponsored by CBE's Center for Excellence in Management Education. Julie Lockhart, professor of accounting, and Craig Tyran, associate professor of decision sciences, also were honored with CBE's Cayden Chase Franklin Excellence in Teaching Award.

REI executive named trustee



Dennis Madsen

Gov. Gary Locke appointed Dennis Madsen, president and CEO of Recreational Equipment, Inc., to Western's board of trustees in September. Madsen, whose son and daughter are graduates of Western, is president of the Western Washington University Foundation Board of Directors.

Demmert wins life award

Education professor William Demmert received the "Lifetime Achievement Award" from the National Indian Education Association in October. He was honored for helping to develop federal legislation for Native student education and for his role as a former administrator in the U.S. Office of Education and Bureau of Indian Affairs.

Can-Am Center gets funds for research, internships

The Center for Canadian-American Studies, one of only two federally designated National Resource Centers for the study of Canada, has secured a \$116,894 grant for speakers, research, internships and outreach programs next year.



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Your LETTERS

DICK PAYNE INSPIRED CLASS OF 'POLITICAL JUNKIES'

Your fall edition made me recall my favorite professor. Dick Payne was an inspiring political science professor who came to Western after some tumultuous experiences in the South in the 1950s. He had served as a clerk to the U.S. Supreme Court, and he was a devout student of the court and the Constitution. He shared his devotion intensely with undergraduates ... [and] was ardently determined that we "would" understand each judge's positions, how they evolved, and how they shaped America's future. His tests were an ordeal for which we studied for weeks. Literally.

By the time my class of "political junkies" graduated, a number of us had taken enough hours of Dr. Payne's courses that we could have majored in him! We felt so fortunate to have his instruction that we asked then U.S. Rep. Lloyd Meeds to take a new copy of Dr. Payne's very worn favorite text to the Supreme Court. Meeds had the text autographed by every justice and obtained a letter to Dr. Payne written and signed by Justice William O. Douglas. We presented the text to Dr. Payne the night before graduation. Most of us never saw him again. But his contributions to our understanding of American politics and history shaped many careers, including mine.

— Judy McNickle, 1966

THOMAS TERICH WAS NEVER BORED

In the late 1970s, geography professor Thomas Terich stated: "I can travel literally anywhere in the world and find no locale boring; every part of this planet has its own unique topography."

His physical geography course was the most comprehensive and thorough class I took at Western. Terich seemed to tie everything together, from explaining the weather to ocean dynamics to plate tectonics. I later applied many of these ... principles to my own elementary school teaching career.

The last time I talked with Dr. Terich, he was headed for a circumnavigation of the globe on a teaching ship. He probably found the trip took a long time, but I know he would never find it boring! This man even made the Palouse Hills of Eastern Washington sound fascinating.

— Matthew R. Evich, 1980

COACH 'LAPPY' AHEAD OF HIS TIMES

In your fall edition of *Window on Western*, I was happy to see Coach Lappenbusch remembered. Watching football at all levels you will see the "I" formation that Lappy introduced in the mid-1930s. Basketball teams are using a full court press that Coach wrote about as part of his *Straight Line Philosophy*. Of course, it does not bear his name. Charles Lappenbusch was a man recognized as being ahead of his times.

— Robert Lajala, 1952

STUDENTS FELT 'MAGIC' WITH DAVE RAHM

When I received the fall '04 *Window*, I looked to see whether my favorite professor might already have been named by others. Since he [was not], I feel compelled to honor Dave Rahm, professor of geology, tragically killed during a stunt flying demonstration in Amman, Jordan, many years ago.

Dave Rahm literally made the world come alive for his students. He was so filled with enthusiasm for the Earth and all its living geologic history that we could not sit in his classes without feeling the magic. He illustrated his lectures with hundreds of his own color slides and stories, and even offered students opportunities to fly with him to view the geologic wonders of Puget Sound and the Cascades first hand. Some of my fondest memories of my years at Western include breathtaking flights around the peak of Mount Baker and soaring in and around the Three Sisters. Talk about "real world" education!

— Carol Cumming ('73)

ARTHUR HICKS MIXED LITERATURE, POLITICS

I would like to pay tribute to my favorite professor, Dr. Arthur C. Hicks. I was privileged to have taken 24 quarter credits of classes from this gentleman.

Dr. Hicks was able to blend social issues and historical events into his lectures and discussions of English literature to point out the authors' purposes in their writings. He also was never afraid to express his own feelings on political issues. I remember when he told us it was a sad day when Pearl Wanamaker did not win re-election as superintendent of Public Instruction. He also told us he felt that college professors were underpaid as were teachers in the public schools. His political influence worked on me well and turned me into a liberal person who took an active role in pro-teacher union politics during my 30 years of teaching.

— Dell Abelein, 1957

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WWU student conducts research in submersible

Richard Davis, who's pursuing a master's degree in biology, dove nearly a mile deep in a manned submersible to collect samples from vents at an underwater volcano in the Pacific last fall.

The volcano, Loihi Seamount, is 29 kilometers southeast of the island of Hawaii and will eventually become the next island in the Hawaiian Islands chain. Loihi Seamount experienced a major eruption in 1996 and since then has been expelling large amounts of hot hydrothermal fluids.

Davis successfully participated in one of the seven dives made to the volcano from Oct. 18 to Oct. 28. He collected microbial mat samples near Peles's Pit, a large crater near the volcano's summit.

The investigators from WWU also included Craig Moyer, associate professor in biology, who said the samples will help track temporal changes after the eruption.

"This project serves as an indicator of the research opportunities afforded through Western's biology department," Moyer said. Both graduate and undergraduate students work with faculty on cutting-edge scientific and oceanographic research.

The underwater work was conducted in conjunction with the Iron Microbial Observatory (FeMO) project, a five-year study funded by the National Science Foundation. The National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration's National Undersea Research Program funded the submersible dives.



WWU's Richard Davis climbs aboard a submersible on Oct. 26, 2004.

Future teachers and high schoolers connect online

Students and faculty at Woodring College of Education are partnering with the Digital Learning Commons to train students from the four public high schools in Bellingham on the use of digital resources.

Last fall, six students from Woodring and Western's Academic Technology and User Services underwent professional training to make this vision become a reality.

They then worked at Sehome, Squilicum, Bellingham and Options high schools to help students and teachers there access the DLC.

"We've received a great deal of positive feedback about the DLC resources at this beginning stage of development," said Tim Keiper, associate professor of secondary education.

The DLC will enable WWU to build stronger relationships with the public

high schools in the area and allow the student instructors, especially prospective teachers, a teaching experience prior to graduation.

The DLC is a nonprofit organization established to improve access to educational opportunities and learning resources by providing high-quality educational materials, online courses and technology tools for Washington's students and teachers.

In its second year of a two-year pilot phase, the DLC is an initiative by former Gov. Gary Locke. It offers some of the following: college and career planning materials, instructional support tools, a digital resource library, online courses in a variety of subjects and levels and electronic tools that include portfolio management, discussion board, peer review and survey creation.

Western carefully considers potential partnerships along Bellingham's waterfront

By Karen W. Morse
UNIVERSITY PRESIDENT

For over a century, careful attention to planning has produced the beautiful campus we all treasure. I have often tried to imagine how the founders felt as they decided how and where to position Old Main and other early buildings.

At each step of the way, Western has been fortunate in having people who have devoted their talents to developing the campus and its programs into what we now call "The Western Experience."

Envisioning the future of the university is an exciting process and one on which we will be focusing over the next few years. As new buildings rise in the south end of campus, changes in the area occupied by the Georgia-Pacific mill to the northwest are presenting some unique partnership possibilities for our university.

Port of Bellingham officials are examining the feasibility of acquiring 137 waterfront acres from G-P and redeveloping the site for homes, offices and shops.

Community residents, Port officials and members of the Waterfront Futures Group, appointed by the mayor to develop a long-range vision for the site, have asked Western to consider having a presence on the waterfront, especially the area directly to the west of campus.

This is a very intriguing prospect but one that calls for a great deal of careful thought and discussion.

In November 2003, I wrote to members of the Western community inviting comment on the future of Western in terms of possible enrollment growth and potential for involvement in the Bellingham waterfront renewal project.

Following discussions on campus, I convened a committee of faculty, students, administrators and staff in May 2004 to discuss these issues.

That group has continued to meet this fall and has developed a set of draft guiding principles for discussion and decisions about programmatic possibilities for Western on the waterfront.

Members of the Western community have also been invited to participate

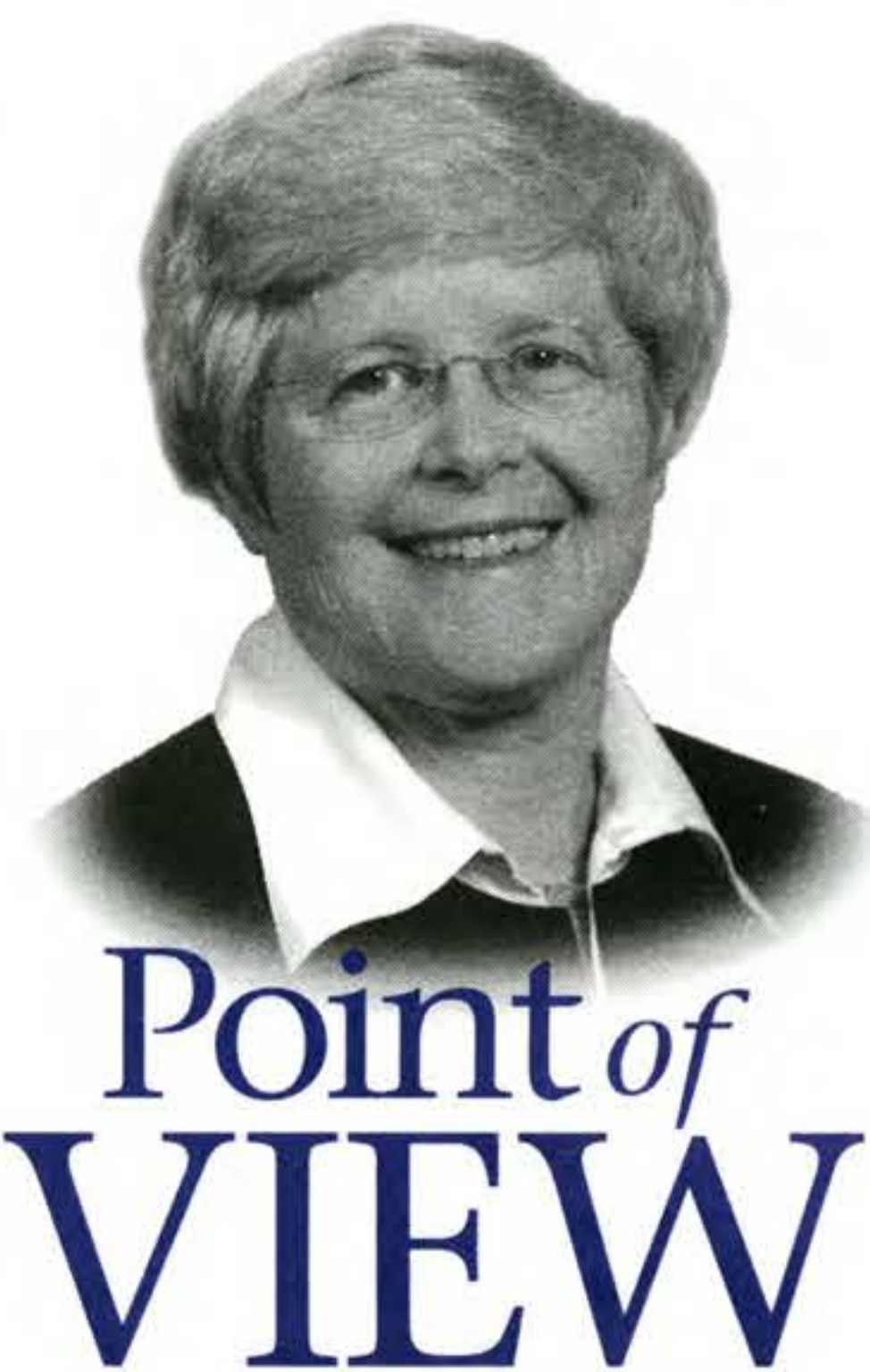
in three forums this fall to learn about the project, the draft principles and to brainstorm programmatic ideas.

Now I invite you to visit the Web site at <http://www.wvu.edu/president/waterfrontnews.htm> to learn more about the project and share in the discussion about this attractive opportunity.

There you'll find links to the Port of Bellingham and Waterfront Futures Group's vision document, as well as summaries of the campus forums, announcements of future meetings and the committee's draft guiding principles. I'd like to hear from you about your ideas as we consider this opportunity for Western.

To rekindle your memories, I urge you to return to Bellingham sometime this year to visit your alma mater, savor the campus you knew and connect with the remarkable developments since your graduation.

While you're here, be sure to stop by Alumni House, visit with the friendly alumni staff and say hello to Bill Farkas, our alumni director.



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Favorite professors' influence endures for many years

Who was your favorite professor at Western?

The list of favorite professors continues to grow: From geography professor Thomas Terich who "made the Palouse Hills of Eastern Washington sound fascinating" to **Matthew R. Evich ('80)** to Arthur Hicks, professor emeritus of English who kept students on their toes with "pop" quizzes.

Responding to a feature in the fall issue of *Window on Western*, alumni continue to express their appreciation for faculty members who transformed their lives at critical junctures.

Hicks, who taught at Western for more than 30 years, "was able to blend social issues and historical events into his lectures and discussions of English literature to point out the authors' purposes in their writings," wrote **Dell Abelein ('57)**. "His political influence worked on me very well and turned me into a liberal person who took an active role in pro-teacher union politics during my 30 years of teaching."

Judy McNickle ('66), WWU's legislative liaison in Olympia, said the cover story about favorite professors in the newsletter made her recall political

science professor Dick Payne, for whom Payne Lounge is named in Arntzen Hall. Payne shared his intense devotion to the U.S. Supreme Court and the Constitution with undergraduates, "walking to the class talking about the day's lesson ... and walking out of the class 50 minutes later, still going," she said.

"... His contributions to our understanding of American politics and history shaped many careers, including mine," she wrote. "Thanks for helping me recall a terrific teacher."

If you would like to tell Western about your favorite professor, write to alumni@wwu.edu or go to <http://www.wwu.edu/~alumni>.

Read more alumni letters about their favorite professors on the Alumni Web site and on page 2.

Athletes earn good grades on grad rate

An NCAA report on graduation rates shows Western student-athletes graduating at a rate higher than student-athletes at most other schools. They also are better in graduation rates than their Western peers.

The 2004 NCAA findings showed 71 percent of Viking student-athletes receive their degrees in six years or less. That's 18 percentage points higher than the average for student-athletes in the 10-team Great Northwest Athletic Conference and 18 points higher than the national average for schools in NCAA Division II.

Within Washington, Western student-athletes graduated at the second-highest rate of any public institution.

Western student-athletes also scored nine points higher on graduation rates than the Western student body in general (71 percent to 62 percent).

The graduation rate report is based on student-athletes who entered universities during the 1997-98 academic year and graduated in six years or less. Student-athletes are defined as those who received athletics aid such as grants, scholarships, tuition waivers or other assistance from the institution upon initial enrollment.

Last year, Western won the GNAC all-sports championship for the third straight year, winning league titles in football, volleyball and men's cross country.

The Vikings placed third nationally in women's rowing, fifth in women's golf, ninth in men's golf and 13th in men's cross country. Vikings also made national appearances in women's basketball and volleyball.

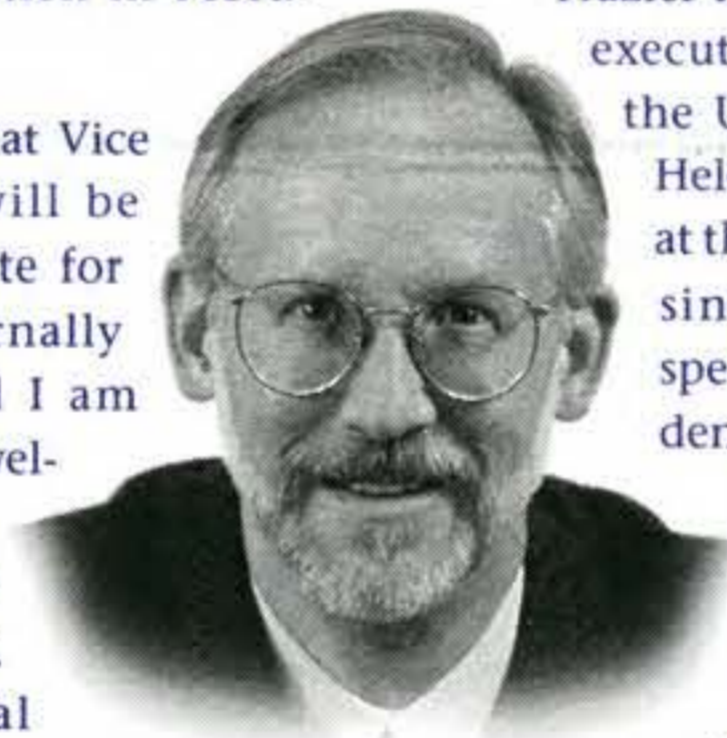
• **The WWU football team finished 6-4 overall for its 2004 season and 3-3 in the GNAC to clinch its fifth winning record in the last six years.**

Western appoints Frazier as new VP of External Affairs

Robert F. Frazier, university executive vice president at the University of Montana, has been named the new vice president for external affairs at Western.

Frazier, who will begin at Western May 1, succeeds Robert G. Edie, who retired from the position in February 2004.

"I am confident that Vice President Frazier will be an excellent advocate for Western, both externally and internally, and I am looking forward to welcoming him to campus," WWU President Karen W. Morse said. "He has a great deal of experience in higher education working with legislative and community relations, communications, and marketing and will be a strong addition to Western's administrative team."



Frazier

Frazier said he looked forward to working at a highly regarded university. "I appreciate the great accomplishments of this university and look forward to working with President Morse, the faculty, staff, students, and administrators," he said.

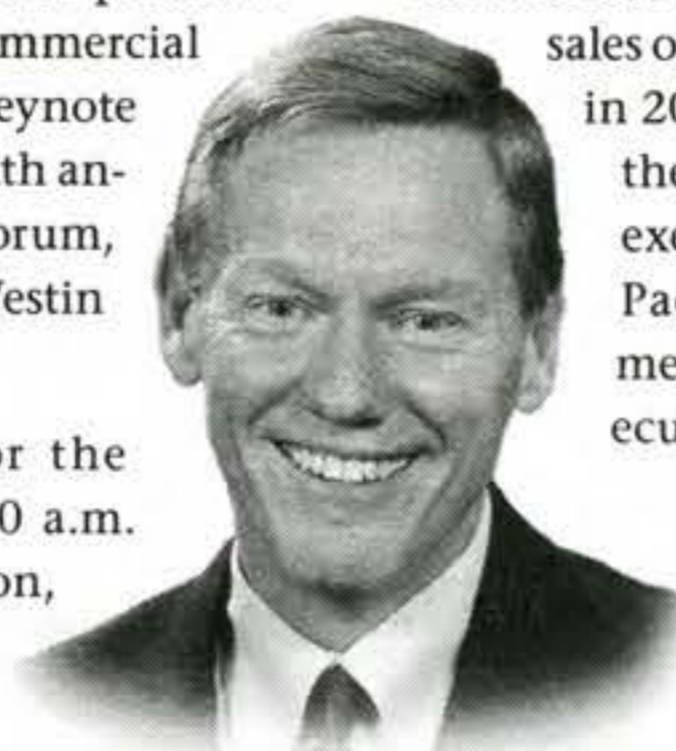
Frazier is serving as acting chief executive officer and dean of the University of Montana's Helena campus. He has been at the University of Montana since 1990, serving as a special assistant to the president, executive assistant to the president and the university's chief lobbyist for state and federal relations. He was appointed university executive vice president in 1997.

Boeing executive to keynote at Seattle Business Forum, April 5

Alan Mulally, executive vice president of The Boeing Co. and president and CEO of Boeing Commercial Airplanes, will be the keynote speaker at Western's eighth annual Seattle Business Forum, Tuesday, April 5, in the Westin Hotel ballroom.

Doors will open for the luncheon event at 11:30 a.m. Lunch is served at noon, with Mulally's keynote address at 12:45 p.m.

Sponsored by the Western Washington University Foundation, the Seattle Business Forum attracts a large audience of business and civic leaders along with WWU alumni, family and friends.



Mulally

Mulally is responsible for Boeing's commercial airline programs, with sales of more than \$22.3 billion in 2003. General manager of the 777 series, he is senior executive of Boeing in the Pacific Northwest and a member of the Boeing Executive Council.

He received his bachelor's and master's degrees in aeronautical and astronautical engineering from University of Kansas and a master's degree in management from Massachusetts Institute of Technology.

Huxley offers 2 new degrees

Two WWU degree-completion programs in environmental studies have reopened at locations convenient for residents of Jefferson, Clallam and Kitsap counties.

Upper division programs leading to a bachelor of science degree in environmental science or a bachelor of arts degree in environmental policy are available at Peninsula College in Port Angeles and Olympic College's newest location in Poulsbo.

"We're very pleased to offer once again an opportunity for people living on the Olympic and Kitsap peninsulas to earn a Huxley College degree," said Jim Allaway, academic program director.

The programs at Peninsula and Olympic colleges utilize Western's distance-learning technology, as well as field education opportunities unique to the peninsula.

For example, Allaway said, two dams on the Elwah River are slated to be removed in 2008, and restoration of the watershed will provide an ongoing case study. "Students will be able to gain greater insight into environmental issues by following this internationally significant ecological restoration project in their own backyard," he said.

For more information, contact James Allaway at James.Allaway@wwu.edu or Nancy Bluestein-Johnson at (360) 417-6521.

Individual tickets for the luncheon are \$100 per person. Two levels of table sponsorship are also available for \$1,000 and \$2,500. The \$2,500 scholarship sponsorship level includes an 11 a.m. private reception with Mulally and WWU President Karen W. Morse.

Tables at the forum seat 10. Sponsors fill nine seats and WWU fills the 10th seat with a student or administrator.

Reservations for single tickets or table sponsorship may be made online at <http://www.foundation.wwu.edu/sbf> or by calling John Dlouhy at the Special Events office at (360) 650-3629.

SCHOLARSHIPS

Campaign surpasses \$8 million goal

By Sarah Freeman
UNIVERSITY COMMUNICATIONS

The WWU Foundation raised a record \$8.6 million in scholarship money in an 18-month scholarship campaign that ended in December.

Thanks to the generous contributions by more than 1,100 donors, the funds will support both annual and endowed scholarships for current and future students.

"Surpassing our original goal of \$5 million, as well as our extended goal of \$8 million, is such a testament to the dedicated people who made this campaign work," said Dennis Madsen, Foundation board president. "Their commitment to Western students is inspiring, and the financial impact they are making for WWU students will be felt forever."

Western made specific scholarship categories a priority: Recruitment scholarships to encourage outstanding students to attend Western; department-based scholarships for declared majors; scholarships to encourage diversity and provide access to a university education for qualified students who might otherwise not attend; and athletic scholarships.

WWU President Karen W. Morse said she was grateful to the hundreds of donors for their commitment to students. "Our thanks go out to all the individuals, businesses and foundations who have helped fulfill the educational aspirations of our state's brightest young people," she said.

Among the largest gifts to the scholarship campaign were the commitment by Frank and Mary King in 2003 for \$75,000 annually for athletic scholarships and an estate gift from Oscar "Skip" Olson ('52) to benefit students in the sciences and in the fine and performing arts.

Two other scholarships that are providing tuition aid to current students were recently created by Peter and Maureen Botting.

Peter Botting, president and CEO of the W.A. Botting Co. in Woodinville and a member of the WWU Foundation board, saw the scholarship campaign as a great opportunity for him and his wife Maureen to provide scholarships they believe in.

"We wanted to give back to our community and thought this would be a fun way to do so," said Peter Botting, who attended WWU in 1962.

Maureen created the Maureen Botting Women's Golf Scholarship for a student on the women's golf team since both Bottings are avid golfers who



Maureen and Peter Botting

want to encourage more females to be involved in the sport. The golf scholarship is for \$1,500 annually.

Peter Botting created the Peter A. Botting Scholarship in Music for a Sultan High School graduate attending Western. This scholarship provides full tuition, books, room and board for four years to one student. Peter said he remembered no scholarships were available for students interested in band or fine arts at Sultan High School where he graduated. This sparked his idea to create one.

"We are delighted to be able to take part in the scholarship campaign," Peter said. "It is a win-win situation. Recipients benefit as well as the university."

Freshman music major Leah Drake, winner of the Peter A. Botting Scholarship, was considering not attending Western because of the tuition cost and excessive loans she would eventually have to pay back. With a full load of classes and a full-time job, she questioned when she would have time to even sleep.



Kathy Sheehan photo

Leah Drake says she can now afford to buy a better saxophone.

But an unexpected phone call from WWU last August and the generosity of the Bottings dramatically changed the saxophonist's mind and lifted her spirits.

"I was told the amount and almost passed out," she said.

"At first I didn't believe the amount and thought there was a mistake, and it was supposed to be for \$1,200 and not \$12,000. I don't know what I would have done without it," Drake said.

Another appreciative scholarship recipient, senior communication major Kate Menlove, started her golf career at Western as a walk-on freshman in fall 2001. Today, Menlove is team captain and winner of the Maureen Botting Women's Golf Scholarship.

Menlove, the last of three children to attend college, appreciates the support from the community and donors like the Bottings.



WWU golfers Candice Wagner (left) and Kate Menlove are both scholarship recipients.

"Golf is not a spectator sport, and with a team of eight, it is hard to get funds," Menlove said. "It means a lot to get this scholarship and it reminds me that we do have fans in the community. Golf is a sport that seems to be overlooked, especially women's golf, and this support makes it that much more fun to play."

This is exactly what the Bottings had in mind.

"It appears there are many scholarships for men, but not as many for women," Pete Botting said. "We want to encourage more women to become interested in the sport and possibly make a career out of it."



Dan Levine photo

Jason Burrell, captain of the 2003-04 basketball team, was one of four WWU athletes who benefitted from the Wade King Scholarship.

Alumnus' estate creates two scholarships

Oscar "Skip" Olson ('52) died in June 2002 at the age of 72, but his generosity will benefit Western students for generations to come.

What started out as Olson's walnut farm became a thriving 14-acre vineyard in Calistoga, Calif. Olson's affection for his grapes was expressed in a poem: "Crushed, they weep with joy. Their tears transform to pleasure," he wrote.

The fruits of his labor are now shared with Western students, as his will created a scholarship endowment ultimately to exceed \$2.5 million.

The WWU Foundation now owns his vineyard, and the endowment receives annual income under a pre-existing lease. The endowment also receives annual payments on a deed of trust from an earlier land sale.

The Olympia native dreamed of being a physician when he was a pre-med student at Western Washington State College of Education. After four years in the Air Force during the Korean War era, Olson became a surgical technician.

The Oscar Edwin Olson Arts Scholarship for students in the College of Fine and Performing Arts and the Oscar Edwin Olson Sciences Scholarship for students in the College of Sciences and Technology will be awarded next year.

Qualified recipients must be children of single, divorced or widowed parents and eligible for financial aid.

How does WWU define creativity?

Campus is full of innovation and experimentation

By Kathy Sheehan
UNIVERSITY COMMUNICATIONS

How does a university define and measure creativity?

Creatively, of course. Stephen J. Tepper, writing in the *Chronicle of Higher Education* about "The Creative Campus," defined creativity as the process of mixing old elements in new ways or producing something entirely new to increase knowledge and innovation.

"Creativity reflects those activities that involve the application of intellectual energies to the production of new ways of solving problems (as in science and mathematics) or of expressing ideas (as in art)," Tepper wrote in the Oct. 1, 2004 issue.

"Creativity is not simply about self-expression. It is about producing something new (or combining old elements in new ways) to advance a

particular field or add to the storehouse of knowledge."

Tepper argued that universities could measure how creative a campus is by focusing on conditions that encourage originality and resourcefulness, like opportunities for interdisciplinary and cross-cultural collaboration. Or they might award time and resources for independent study and research and encourage risk-taking by "tolerating failure" in the search for successful innovation.

So, how does Western rate as a place where students, faculty and staff can be creative and excel at innovation?

Exceedingly well, according to Eileen Coughlin, vice president for Student Affairs and Academic Support Services. Coughlin, whose doctoral dissertation at Northern Arizona University was in the area of creativity, said Western has

created a culture that encourages independence and values student involvement in the learning environment.

From the world-renown Vehicle Research Institute where teams of undergraduates design and build award-winning experimental cars to simple innovations such as asking for student input in the rituals for Convocation, fresh perspectives are the hallmark of a Western education and of creativity.

"One of the things Western does exceedingly well," Coughlin said, "is to recognize that students are at the heart of many of our creative processes.

"Dedicated faculty members have created a learning environment that encourages independent thinking, which is responsible and respectful of others," she said. "We are not just asking students for their opinion. We are pushing to get them thinking and engaged."

Western's fall Convocation, which was revived about 10 years ago, is an example of how collaboration and the addition of time and resources can lead to creativity.

First-year students attending Convocation the evening before classes begin in September are asked to write down their goals for their years at Western. Then they walk in a procession from the Performing Arts Center to the steps of Old Main to deposit their goals in a memory box similar to the memory box in which graduates place items at each Commencement. Along the short route, which is lined with luminaries, a human corridor of upper division students, faculty and alumni cheer the incoming students.

"How did that happen?" Coughlin asked about an event that became an instant ritual at Western. "It all emerged from asking students," she said.

The Teaching-Learning Academy at Western is another example of creative collaboration between students, faculty and staff. It has won national recognition for inviting students to participate in a national dialogue about teaching and learning, and it has become a national research hub for the scholarship of teaching and learning.

Industrial design student Jasper Pope created these flower vases from 50-caliber machine gun shells. His and other "ReMade" products were sold at the Whatcom Museum of History and Art in December.

WWU set aside time and resources several years ago to form the TLA, which provides a campus forum for enhancing the learning culture at Western. It uses students as co-researchers rather than objects of research about teaching and learning. Students are thus empowered to take an active role in their own learning, which research suggests will lead to deeper learning.

For example, student, faculty and staff members of the TLA collaborated with the Office of Institutional Assessment, Research and Testing to create a midterm teaching evaluation form.

"When I started looking at the problem, I was so in the box," confesses Kathy Patrick ('01), a facilitator with the TLA. "The students did it in a creative way" by visiting classrooms and asking obvious questions, such as: Is it comfortable? Is it noisy? Reaction to the new form has been positive, Patrick said.



Art Chantry exhibited his music posters at the Western Gallery in the fall.

Paradox of creativity: Don't think about creating

Is the creative process inherent to artists? Is it something that can be learned in a methodical fashion? We asked graphic designer Art Chantry ('78) about where his creativity springs from. Here's what he had to say.

"The creative process is always going on in our minds," Chantry writes from his studio in St. Louis, Mo.

"Even though you might think you don't 'have a creative bone in your body,' the truth is, that it's inherent in everyone and can be accessed just as you drive a car. You don't think about driving while you drive; you think about anything *but* driving. Yet, you are driving marvelously.

"Creativity is a similar activity that is going on in the unconscious, or at least

not the 'forward,' part of your brain. The trick is to learn how to access that process. That's the hard part to learn.

"I've learned from both experience and practice to 'drag out' the creative part of my thinking by using relaxation and distraction. Both of these processes have been utilized throughout history by creative people — some of them extremely famous.

"If you can just remove the 'idea' of 'creating' and simply allow yourself to create without the concentration, it seems to happen magically. The truth is you are simply getting the conscious part of your thinking to step out of the way, and then the creative part simply flows out of your hands.

"Sounds strange, doesn't it? It works."



Garner Thomas has played with Prince, the Temptations, Gregory Hines and the Four Tops. After being diagnosed with multiple sclerosis, he was terrified about losing everything he had. Instead, he found that, "In a strange way, multiple sclerosis has made me more creative when I play saxophone."

Musician gets creative to combat disease

By Sarah Freeman
UNIVERSITY COMMUNICATIONS

Garner Thomas ('79) knows what being creative is all about. He is a professional musician, third grade teacher in North Hollywood, Calif., and is challenged by a daily fight with multiple sclerosis.

While some people may see the disease as a stopping point, Thomas sees it as a path to find innovative ways to continue doing the things he loves.

Doctors were unable to diagnose Thomas for the first six months he had difficulty walking, writing, moving his fingers, keeping his balance and even speaking. Finally doctors pinpointed the disease in August 2001.

"I was terrified about losing everything I worked so hard for," Thomas said. "But the worst thing was not knowing what was wrong with me."

"I had to think, 'OK, What can I do?'" Thomas said he quickly realized that he could still control his practice sched-

ule, get enough rest and a good diet, and work on maintaining his physical strength. "Once I figured out what I had to do, I just did it."

Even with medication and proper physical and emotional care, Thomas said he feels great some days while other days, without warning, he has difficulty getting out of bed.

To counter this constant change in health, Thomas has become a time management and organization expert. He keeps a daily schedule book with him at all times, and notes in it everything he must accomplish during the day.

"If I don't write something down, there's a good chance I'll forget about it," he said. "It works for me because it helps me prioritize what must be done. Following the same routine also keeps me on track and organized."

Thomas also meets weekly with personal trainers to help maintain motor skills and build strength. He maintains his life and music with rest, exercise and a healthy diet, and he feels he is "in better shape than I was 20 years ago."

Although the disease has slowed his reactions and agility, it hasn't slowed his musical talents and passion to perform.

"Since I don't have the technical prowess on saxophone I used to possess before multiple sclerosis, I think more melodically when I solo. I don't rely on my dexterity as much."

"In a strange way, multiple sclerosis has made me more creative when I play saxophone," Thomas said.

While at Western, Thomas arranged music for bands of various sizes and performed with all of them at his senior jazz recital. He and his colleagues spent thousands of hours practicing, performing and writing music.

"The music program at Western inspired me to become the best musician I could," he said. "I was surrounded by peers and mentors who were dedicated to creating beautiful, expressive music. All of us lived and breathed music. The environment really fostered my creativity."

From the time he was a toddler, Thomas was exposed to many classical and jazz recordings. He began formal musical training at the age of eight on piano, and as he delved into classical piano studies, his mother guided him toward the saxophone.

Over the years, he has had the honor of playing with Prince, Diane Schuur, Sammy Davis Jr., the Temptations and the Four Tops.

Thomas' first international CD release, "When you Hold Me," features contemporary jazz music with saxophone and vocals in a style that integrates funk, R&B, pop and blues.

Thomas credits Western's music program for helping him think outside the box and for providing him invaluable learning opportunities.

"This is the type of exceptional environment I chose to be part of and that puts me and others like me from Western in the 'creative class,' standing out from the crowd," he said.

Members of the TLA have also conducted research about which physical attributes of a classroom help learning. As a result of their findings, and a grant obtained by geology professor David Engebretson, TLA members are now clearing an area in Sehome Arboretum for an outdoor learning space.

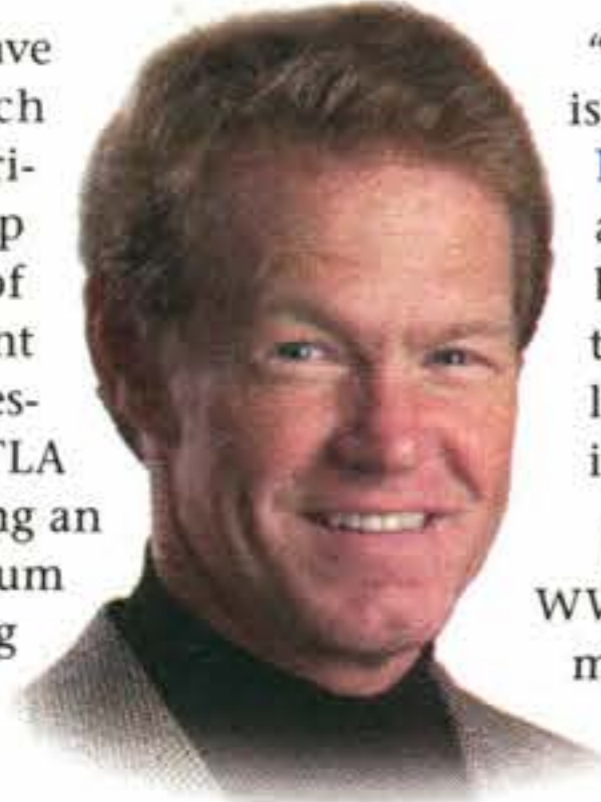
"You've got a forest all around you and blue sky," said Pat Clingman, a senior and TLA member. "It would be great for creativity."

"It's the aesthetic value of being in the woods," adds TLA member Gabe Prestella, a French major who is participating in the TLA this year.

WWU has a long history of promoting a creative campus through its surroundings, which include a world famous Outdoor Sculpture Collection, and by challenging students to find unique ways to solve scientific, social, educational and other problems.

Fairhaven College pioneered innovative teaching methods when it was founded in 1966, encouraging students to take an uncommon degree of responsibility for the structure and content of their education.

The idea that students should design their own majors and carry out independent study projects with faculty has now spread throughout campus.



Doug MacLean

"That's one of the characteristics of Western," said **Doug MacLean ('74)**, president and CEO of the TalkingRain beverage company in Preston, Wash. "It encourages a lot of independent study and independent thinking."

MacLean, a member of the WWU Foundation board who majored in biology, said independent thinking is "a theme that confronts you throughout your life."

"There's no textbook for you to look up a solution. You have to rely on your creativity to come up with a solution," he said.

MacLean should know. He has overseen the tremendous market growth of TalkingRain beverages since 1989 and worked as a marketing and development strategist for a chain of restaurants in the Puget Sound for a dozen years before that. Businesses can't compete well in the marketplace, especially against bigger companies, unless they're particularly creative.

At Western, "there was a lot of encouragement to engage in special projects as opposed to a set curriculum," he said. "Even to this day, I can remember going out to Sucia Island" for an ecology class where students were challenged to creatively apply principles in the real world.

Michael Deeb ('84), a luminist painter who attended WWU intermittently in the 1970s and '80s, said the

atmosphere at Western encouraged independent thinking and creativity "rather than trying to fit you into some kind of mold."

Many of Deeb's professors in the art and education departments constantly challenged him with a creativity-producing question: How can I look at my environment differently?

Today's students are similarly challenged to think critically and creatively.

Students in Arunas Oslapas' industrial design classes, for instance, regularly participate in an ongoing project that intercepts industrial waste and recycles it into innovative products that promote economic prosperity, social equity and environmental preservation.

The "Zero Waste" project strives to promote sustainability in the environment by taking discarded materials and remaking them into eco-friendly products. More than a dozen students sold their creative designs for watering cans, lamps, flower vases (on page 6), wallets and other items at the gift shop at the Whatcom Museum of History and Art in November and December.

The "ReMade" products also included candlesticks made from bicycle parts, colorful vinyl bags from old advertising banners and wall organizers from scrap kayak pieces.

Proceeds went to the museum and directly to the students to cover expenses for their annual educational design field trip to Chicago this spring.

The university has dedicated a host of other resources to promote research partnerships, innovative collaborations with community members and other ventures that lead to creative endeavors.

A new club supported by the computer science department has brought technology-minded students together with community members of all ages to build robots and learn how they work. The Bellingham Artificial Intelligence and Robotics Society meets every second Saturday of the month in the Communication Facility.

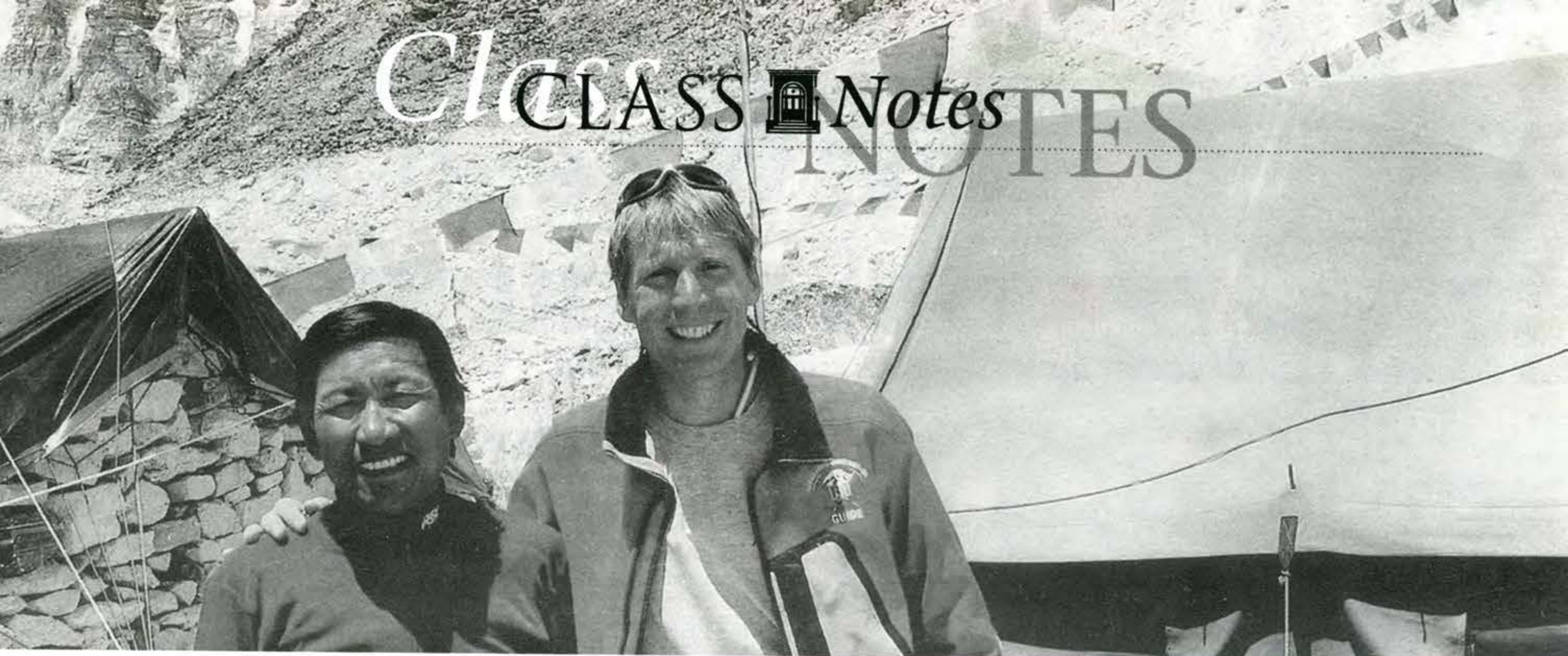
Phillip Nordwall, an informational technology systems specialist working toward a degree at Western, said the club and a class in robotics he's taking have stretched both the technical and creative sides of his brain. The class and the club use LEGO pieces to build the robots.

Nordwall used the plastic pieces to make a Viking that can traverse a track. After building the robots, students then dismantle them and the pieces are used to make another robot programmed to perform a different function.

"You can use the same thing for lots of different ideas," Nordwall said. "It's creative. If it doesn't work, you spend more time doing something else."

Nordwall added, "Computer science, in my mind, is just a tool to be used for other things, creative and practical."

CLASS Notes



If there is one thing to say about **Craig Van Hoy** ('83), at right, it is that he is persistent. On May 16, 2004, Van Hoy stood atop 29,035-foot Mount Everest. His first two attempts in 1987 and 1991 ended just short of the summit of the world's highest peak. The Tacoma native is a full-time mountain guide and manages Go Trek and Expeditions, in Clackamas, Ore. Van Hoy has hiked numerous peaks around the world and has ascended Mount Rainier 345 times. He is fluent in both Spanish and Nepali and enjoys foreign world travel and exploring other cultures.

1961 – **Bill Asplund**, a retired chemistry teacher from Wenatchee High School, spent 16 days on a Russian ice breaker, Kapitan Khlebnikov, traveling the Northwest Passage, Amundsen route. This ship broke ice up to seven feet thick and visited Inuit villages along the way to Resolute, Canada. He closed Asplund's Outdoor Sports in Wenatchee after 33 years and plans to take a group of skiers to Kvitfjell, Norway, in the spring.

1964 – **Bob Hall** and his wife, Lynn, have been living on Lopez Island (Mud Bay) for five years. They retired from their regular jobs but still operate the Bob Hall Ski & Snowboard School at Stevens Pass.

1966 – **Steve Kink** co-authored "Class Size, The Story of the Washington Education Association 1965 to 2001." The book chronicles the major events in WEA's history and in public education as told by those who played significant roles. After graduation in 1966, Steve taught in Florence, Ore., for four years before becoming a UniServ representative for the Oregon Education Association. He then started the Lower Columbia and Olympic UniServ councils in Washington state. He was hired by the Washington Education Association in 1976 as its political action director and retired as the deputy executive director in 1996. Steve started a consulting firm, Lighthouses in Education, to increase parent involvement in education through cooperative programs involving administrators, teachers and parents. Today, he continues to write and enjoys retirement.

1967 – **Dennis and Sharron Johnson** received the 2004 Central Washington Hospital Foundation's "Spirit of A.Z. Wells Award." Dennis is the mayor of Wenatchee and owner of Pacific Appraisal Associates, and Sharron is a librarian at Lewis and Clark Elementary School.

1968 – **Dale Henley**, president and CEO of Haggen supermarkets, was named an officer of the Western Association of Food Chains. Henley served as secretary-treasurer in 2004 and will become president in two years. ... **Dick McNeely** exhibited a collection of photos taken in the Pacific Northwest, "Nature's Window," at the Roeder Home and at the Bellingham Cruise Terminal. ... **Charlotte (Larson) Trayer** and her husband celebrated their 30th wedding anniversary with a trip to the Midwest and to attend a class reunion in Michigan's Upper Peninsula. The Trayers have one son and one grandson.

1970 – **Debbie Adelstein** was appointed the chief deputy auditor for Whatcom County. ... **Karen L. Workentin** is dean of Student Enrollment Services, Office of Undergraduate Admission & International Admission, at the College of the Southwest in Hobbs, N.M.

1971 – **Wayne Langei** is the president and CEO of Whatcom Educational Credit Union in Bellingham.

1975 – **Heidi Alford** is the administrator of Bellingham Cooperative School. ... **Rod Burton**, of Roderick C. Burton Art & Design, created business identity props for "The Immortality Machine," a feature-length, independently produced film expected to be released in the spring. ... **Jim Hartle** is a real estate loan representative at Peoples Bank in Bellingham. ... **Linda Santini** of Bellingham writes Northwest lyrics to fit popular tunes from the baby boom era.

1976 – **Christopher Secrist** is the owner of the Oeser Company, which provides utility poles.

1978 – **Scott Johnston** is the fleet manager for Diehl Ford in Bellingham.

1979 – **Virginia Gardner Troy** was promoted to associate professor of art with tenure at Berry College in Mount Berry, Ga. Troy is working on a new book, "The Modernist Textile: Europe and America 1890-1940." Troy's previous book, "Anni Albers and Ancient American Textiles: From Bauhaus to Black Mountain," was published in 2002 by Ashgate, London.

1980 – **Mike Vouri** has written a second history book, "Outpost of Empire: the Royal Marines and the Joint Occupation of San Juan Island," published by Northwest Interpretive Association and distributed by the University of Washington Press. Vouri's previous effort was "The Pig War: Standoff at Griffin Bay," published in 1999 by Griffin Bay Bookstore and distributed by Partners West. Vouri is the chief interpreter/historian for San Juan Island National Historical Park.

1982 – **Teresa Kynell Hunt** won Northern Michigan University's 2004 Distinguished Faculty Award and will, beginning in January, become Interim Assistant Vice President for Instruction at Northern.

1983 – **Marina E. Wiesenbach** used her visual communications degree in photography by working as a printer in photo labs for 18 years. Wiesenbach has exhibited her own fine art photography in many shows, including at the Bellevue Art Museum, King County Arts Commission Gallery, Bumbershoot and the Los Angeles County Fair. Her early morning image of a lavender-tinted Bellingham, as seen from across the bay, was printed across two pages of the coffee table book "USA-One Day," sponsored by the U.S. Conference of Mayors. Wiesenbach attended Shoreline Community College in Seattle from 2001-2003, to update her skills. She is currently interning at Experience Music Project in the video/curatorial department. Wiesenbach is also an award-winning documentary filmmaker. Her 19-minute video, "Why Legalize Same-Sex Marriage?" was screened at the

2003 Seattle Lesbian & Gay Film Festival. She also works as a freelance video editor, plays percussion and sings jazz in Seattle. Contact her at: marina_e_@hotmail.com.

1984 – **Michael Deeb** is a Bellingham artist who has had his work exhibited at Meloy & Company. Deeb, a contemporary luminist, works in oil, pastel, charcoal and crayon. ... **Carol Reed-Jones** of Bellingham authored a children's biography, "Hildegard of Bingen: Woman of Vision." She writes and gives assemblies and poetry workshops at schools throughout the Northwest.

1985 – **Mike Massey** often eschews his car for a leisurely kayak trip from Fairhaven across Bellingham Bay to his job as a computer science instructor at Bellingham Technical College. He sometimes sees seals on his commute to work. ... **Kathleen Nelson** was elected to partnership with Lane Powell Spears Lubersky LLP in Seattle. Nelson focuses her practice on commercial litigation, environmental insurance litigation, maritime and class actions.

1986 – **Carolyn Brown** received her Ph.D. in education from UCLA in September. Brown teaches full time at California State University, Dominguez Hill.

1987 – **Tim Johnson** is executive editor of "The Bellingham Weekly." The free paper circulates in Whatcom, Skagit, Island and San Juan counties and is a keystone member of Sustainable Connections.

1988 – **Janet Hardin** teaches watercolor classes at Whatcom Community College and color-theory and drawing classes for the AIC program at Allied Arts. ... **David Puhan** leads a grocery team that selects, merchandises and promotes items in the company's largest division for Brown & Cole. ... **Theodore (Ted) Venema**, who got his Ph.D. from the University of Oklahoma in 1993, is an assistant professor of audiology at the University of Western Ontario in London, Ontario, Canada. Seems he can never get away from being at "Western." Venema can be reached at thvenema@uwo.ca.

1989 – **Eric Heintz** works at KOMO radio in Seattle as a news editor and sports anchor.

1990 – **Danielle DeBruine** earned her first pink Cadillac with Mary Kay Cosmetics. ... **Richard Smith** is an assistant professor of agroecology in the department of plant sciences at the University of Wyoming.

1991 – **Maureen Kane** led the Whatcom Literacy Council through a successful literacy accreditation process and expanded the level of service to the community. Kane will now pursue graduate studies.

1992 – **Scott Ayers** is the opinion page editor at *The Bellingham Herald*. ... **Michelle Brown** accepted a position at Laird Norton Tyee in Seattle as a client adviser after spending 12 years at Moss Adams LLP in Seattle. ... **Sherry Minninger** joined the Cartwright Creative Group in Bellingham and is responsible for office management and accounting services. ... **Scott Ryan** and his wife Kristen celebrated the birth of their son Atticus on June 22, 2002. ... **Scott White** serves as the chief of staff to the Metropolitan King County Council in Seattle.

1993 – **Jeff Lustick** answers legal questions that are phoned in or sent by e-mail on KGMI in Bellingham. Lustick is a defense attorney whose practice includes criminal defense along with wills and estates.

1994 – **Mark Heine** is an attorney in Bellingham with Adelstein, Sharpe & Serka. ... **Joann Linville** is the vice president for Student Services at Arizona Western College.

1995 – **Keith Boyd** and **Leslie (Keller) Boyd** ('97) are proud to announce the birth of their first son, Aiden Reid, on July 10. Aiden weighed 8 pounds, 11 ounces and was 21.5 inches long. ... **James Bristow** is an estimator for Remco-Deacon, a subsidiary to SD Deacon Construction, a general contractor. Previously, Bristow worked as an estimator for Nuprecon, Inc, a commercial demolition company. ... **Kimberley Kline DeDapper** has been granted the Certified Fraud Examiner credential by the Association of Certified Fraud Examiners. The ACFE

WEDDINGS

1979 & 1982 — **Deanna Rine** ('79) and **Steven Keller** ('82), Feb. 14.

1989 — **Eric Heintz** and **Lisa Cech**, June 19.

1992 — **Scott Benton White** and **Alison Michelle Carl**, Aug. 21.

1994 — **Kazue Tsutsumi** and **Hideo Domae**, Feb. 14.

1996 — **Sarah Bayless** and **Jason Stolberg**, Aug. 29.

1997 — **Leslie Fry** and **Michael Jones**, May 22. ... **Jill Carnell** and **Winston Danseco**, June 26.

2000 — **Nicole Grunhurd** and **Brett Nichols**, March 13. ... **Sarah Updegraff** and **Chris Jacobson**, Oct. 8.

2003 & 2004 — **Cassandra Bobier** ('03) and **Anthony McReynolds** ('04), Aug. 8.

is a global, 30,000-member professional association. DeDapper can be reached at Kim.DeDapper@T-Mobile.com.

1996 – Corla R. Bertrand graduated from the California Institute of Integral Studies with an M.A. in East-West psychology last May. ... Derwynn Dominguez joined TBWA\Chiat\Day – New York as creative account director. Dominguez will be based in Seattle and will oversee the creative advertising campaigns for Nextel, Apple Computer, Nissan, and Absolut.

1997 – Leslie (Keller) Boyd gave birth to Aiden Reid at 5:41 a.m. July 10. Proud papa is Keith Boyd ('95). ... Jill (Carnell) Danesco is the public information officer at the University of Washington, Tacoma. Danesco lives in Kent and can be reached at jcarnell@u.washington.edu... Chris Walla, Nick Harmer ('98) and Ben Gibbard ('98) are in the rock band Death Cab for Cutie. The band participated in the Vote for Change tour with Pearl Jam, R.E.M. and Bruce Springsteen, to promote voter registration and voting. The band's material also graced the soundtrack to the recent film "Wicker Park," in addition to appearing in episodes of "The O.C." and various MTV programs. ... Elizabeth Melching and Brian Colcazler welcomed their son, Reed Benjamin, to the world on May 19. Brian completed his master's degree in management of science and technology from Oregon Health and Science University/ Oregon Graduate Institute in June 2003 and is a yield engineer for Intel Corp. Elizabeth left her position as director of Career Services for ITT Technical Institute and is enjoying work as a full-time mom. ... Linda Pierce received her Ph.D. in American literature from the University of Arizona in August. Pierce teaches at the University of Southern Mississippi as an assistant professor of multi-ethnic American literature. ... Amy Smith received a master of science in forestry from Colorado State. Smith and her husband live in Littleton, Colo.

1998 – Nick Harmer and Ben Gibbard are in the rock band Death Cab for Cutie with Chris Walla ('97). ... Jennifer Kraft works in the gender and development section of the Emerging Social Issues division at the United Nations Economic and Social Commission for Asia and the Pacific in Bangkok. After graduating from WWU, she worked in social services with homeless women, chronically mentally ill adults and domestic violence victims, and she studied international policy with a focus on gender and development. She completed an internship at the U.N. International Research and Training Institute for the Advancement of Women in the Dominican Republic, and received an M.A. from the Monterey Institute of International Studies in 2002. ... Amy Puderbaugh opened a branch of Squeaky Clean Window Washing in Bellingham. ... Morgan Schwab, a violist with 17 years playing experience, is part of the Avanti String Ensemble in Bellingham. The ensemble is available for weddings, parties and other occasions. ... Sarah Willis is manager of payroll and human resources at VECO USA.

1999 – Douglas Leek is the recruitment manager at Evans School of Public Affairs at the University of Washington. ... Greg Martineau is a real estate sales and leasing specialist with Westcom Properties in Bellingham. ... Todd Stehali is a science teacher in Seattle at Whitman Middle School. Stehali's experience as a teacher and his passion for sailing persuaded him to open an online home business selling radio-controlled landsailers. They excite young and old and make good use of the concrete areas near schools. See <http://www.speedygosailing.com> for more information. ... Tom Zurhellen has been an English instructor at the University of Alabama where he received his MFA in fiction writing in 2002. The Navy veteran is working on his first novel and has accepted a job teaching at Marist College in New York.

2000 – Richard P. Major was promoted to Marine Corps corporal. ... Jessica Marden has been clerking for Justice Mary Kay Becker on the Washington State Court of Appeals. She received her law degree from the University of Washington Law School. ... Jessica McCaslin is the financial advisor at Waddell & Reed. McCaslin specializes in financial planning and retirement/education funding. ... Laura Morse joined the labor and employment practice group at Lane Powell Spears Lubersky LLP in Bellevue. ... Greg Verbarendse and his brother opened G & R Autosports in Bellingham. Verbarendse features car audio, performance parts and home theater electronics.

2001 – Erica Grice Coral Marchant is manager of sales and marketing for Sonotech, a world leader in ultrasonic-couplant development in the industrial sector. She also is in

the Avanti String Ensemble in Bellingham. ... Jodi Sipes, a Keller Williams Realty agent in Bellingham, participated in the school drive for shoes for Blue Skies for Children, a non profit group that provides donations for foster children. ... Russ Wildenberg was promoted to sales associate at the Unity Group, a Northwest Washington insurance agency.

2002 – Kim Anderson is an administrator at the Nature Conservancy in San Francisco. Anderson can be reached at kim_anderson@tnc.org... Navy seaman, Jason Beckelhymer completed U.S. Navy basic training at Recruit Training Command, Great Lakes, Ill., with honors. ... Heather Dragland works at Seattle University in the Center for Student Success and is working on a master's degree in student development administration. Dragland is using her Western

undergrad degree, along with her current studies, to start the Urban Student Coalition. The non-profit helps connect Seattle college students with one another and promotes civic engagement and making a positive social impact in their urban environment. ... Anthony Papini married Gian Bruno ('03) in Toronto in October 2003, received his master's degree from Bowling Green State University in May 2004 and was hired as associate coordinator for student organizations at Indiana University-Purdue University Indianapolis. ... Christopher White is a sales associate for the Unity Group, a Northwest Washington insurance agency.

2003 – Teresa Bell works as a tobacco, crime, alcohol and drug prevention specialist for Community Counseling Services of Adams County, having acquired employment within two months of completing her degree. She writes that because she brought family members to her December 2003 graduation, "a new student has now joined your ranks as an incoming junior." Her niece, Jennifer Bell, is enrolled in the business management program. Teresa is also mentoring two community college students in eastern Washington who have plans to enter WWU's human services program. ... Jill Jacoby is the youth sports coordinator at the Ferndale branch of Whatcom County Family YMCA. ... Heather Hulbert works for Lehmann's Appliances in Bellingham. ... Chelsea Pedro teaches for the Department of Defense in Wiesbaden, Germany, where she lives with her husband, Brendon, who recently returned from duty in Baghdad. While alone in Germany she wrote and recorded a CD, "Soldier's Girl," which is being played on Armed Forces Radio and locally. Hear her music on <http://www.cdbaby.com/chelsea>.

2004 – Courtney Hiatt is the community relations manager at Barnes and Noble in Bellingham. ... Sarah Horner is the director at the Ferndale Chamber of Commerce. ... Judson Swets teaches at Sehome High School in Bellingham.

Golden VIKINGS planning a 5-day reunion on campus

By Kristie Lundstrom
ALUMNI RELATIONS

The Golden Vikings Reunion Committee is hard at work planning an extended 2005 reunion for graduates of 1955 and earlier.

This year's reunion will be held over five days, Wednesday, July 13, through Sunday, July 17, and all Golden Vikings are invited to stay at Edens Hall during the reunion.

The annual 50-year alumni reunion will also include workshops through Woodring College of Education, a campus art walk and the opportunity to attend Summer Stock shows.

The Alumni Association will also be offering a Bellingham Bay history cruise through the Whatcom Museum of History and Art and a planetarium show in the newly remodeled Planetarium atop Haggard Hall.

Invitations will be sent in the spring. For more information, contact Kristie Lundstrom at (360) 650-3353 or (800) 676-6885, or e-mail Kristie.Lundstrom@wwu.edu.

IN MEMORIAM

1917 — Alma Gertrude Keithley, 97, a retired elementary school teacher and recipient of the Golden Acorn Award from the Washington Congress of Parents and Teachers, Oct. 7 in Tacoma.

1926 — Corinne Werder, 97, a retired special education teacher whose scholarship for special education majors at WWU benefits Woodring students, Oct. 23.

1928 — Burton W. Adkinson, 95, a retired educator, Sept. 15 in Seattle.

1942 — Ellen Caspara Rundquist, 84, in Bothell on Aug. 30.

1950 — Bernice Phillips, 76, a retired teacher and world traveler, in California Sept. 28. ... Eugene Robbins, 79, a retired music teacher, in Eugene, Ore., Aug. 22.

1951 — William Diambri, 75, a retired physical-education teacher and coach, in Renton Aug. 20.

1953 — Howard Raines, 73, a retired teacher and wrestling coach at Snohomish High School, in Snohomish Sept. 4.

1954 — Kenneth Tinkham, 72, a musician and music teacher, in Centralia Sept. 15.

1966 — Jeffers Chertok, 60, founding dean of the College of Social & Behavioral Sciences at Eastern Washington University, Oct. 5. At EWU, he also served as professor and chair of the sociology department and several other administrative posts.

1972 — Daniel C. Brown, 58, Nov. 24, 2003.

1982 — Rebecca Jo Eaton, 45, an educator and research medical technologist, in Seattle May 15.

1989 — Michael H. Durbin, 51, a civil engineer, Aug. 15 in Rosarito, Mexico.

1994 — Janice D. Milholland, 50, who worked at the A.S. Child Development Center as a substitute teacher from 1996 through May 2001, Nov. 17 in Anacortes.

1995 — Ellen Wilkowski, 36, an educator, July 8 in Bellingham. ... Kavita Makhijani Greer, 30, of Lincoln City, Ore., Sept. 17. She was features editor at "The News Guard."

2002 — Jerry "Jim" House, 45, named the Alumni Volunteer of the Year by the WWU Foundation last year, June 2. He spurred the creation of a human services

scholarship at Western while still a student and was president of the Student Rehabilitation Counseling Association. Memorial contributions may be made to the Jerry House Human Services Scholarship Endowment, c/o the WWU Foundation, 516 High St., MS-9034, Bellingham, WA, 98225-9034. ... Erik Johnson, 25, a pilot whose floatplane disappeared on a flight from Sitka to Baranof Warm Springs in Alaska Sept. 20. Johnson, a Haskell Scholarship recipient, rowed for the men's varsity crew from 1999 to 2001. As an engineering technology student, Johnson participated in a team that designed and manufactured keychain flashlights called "VikeLites."

FACULTY, STAFF AND FRIENDS

Lucille Barron, 90, associate professor emerita of home economics, Sept. 19. She taught at Western from 1945 until 1978.

Richard "Dick" T. Bishop, 82, a retired education faculty member, Nov. 1.

Fielding Formway, a Bellingham community leader and supporter of the WWU Foundation, Oct. 7.

Margaret E. "Peg" Hamstreet, 83, who taught piano at WWU, Sept. 14. Memorials may be made to the Margaret Hamstreet Piano Scholarship through the WWU Foundation, 516 High St., MS-9034, Bellingham, WA 98225-9034.

Paul Herbold, professor emeritus of speech and communications who taught at WWU for more than 30 years, Oct. 12.

Pearl Adair Hess, 71, a retired secretary in the math department, May 26.

Theodore "Ted" Hinckley, retired adjunct professor of history, Sept. 4.

Fred Cole Lewis, 78, former director of Western's Small Business Development Center who taught entrepreneurship in the management department, Oct. 12. Survivors include his wife, Mary Jo and daughter Kristi Tyran, assistant professor of management at WWU. Memorials may be made in his name to the WWU Foundation (516 High St., MS-9034, Bellingham, WA 98225-9034) for men's or women's basketball.

Marjorie Ryan, 89, who taught in the English department from 1961 until 1980, Sept. 19.

Western Wire e-mailed to 12,000 grads

By **Kathy Patrick ('01)**
ALUMNI RELATIONS

The Western Wire may be short, but it will never short out on you.

The Wire is a newsletter that is e-mailed to more than 12,000 Western graduates on the first Wednesday of every month. Begun last May, it's designed to reconnect alumni to Western.

The newsletter features news about upcoming alumni events with links to the Alumni Association's Web site at <http://www.wwu alumni.com> so readers can immediately sign up for an activity online.

There are also highlights from academic departments and links to selected WWU Web pages where you can learn about new programs and accomplishments by faculty and students.

A constant in the newsletter is the "Athletics Update" where the latest information about Viking football, basketball and other sports can be found.

One 1961 graduate wrote, "This Western Wire is a great idea that just keeps giving info." Another graduate e-mailed: "It is nice to keep tabs on what is going on with Western. Keep 'em coming."

The first issue of the Wire was mailed to about 8,000 recipients, and circulation has grown to some 11,000 subscribers.

If you would like to be wired to Western, please e-mail alumni@wwu.edu with your full name, graduation year and e-mail address.

Gift from '25 alumna Vera Hansen creates teacher development center

Thanks to the late **Vera Dollenjak Hansen ('25)**, Woodring College of Education now has a state-of-the-art Professional Development Center.

The center, which uses computer technology to provide professional development training for Woodring faculty, staff and students, was dedicated last fall.

Hansen had a short career as an elementary school teacher before marrying Archie Hansen in 1928.

She lived life richly, traveling abroad, hiking in the Cascades and boating in the San Juan Islands. When she died in 2002, two weeks shy of her 97th birthday, she left \$65,000 to her alma mater, specifically for Woodring. Her pride in her status as a college graduate and her

experience as a teacher left her with a commitment to the profession and to WWU.

Her generous gift has already proven its worth by helping Woodring faculty, students and staff grow and learn together.

For more information about the Hansen Professional Development Center, call (360) 650-4419.



Vera Hansen

The Viking car, courtesy of Roger Jobs Motors and students in the industrial design program, as well as the Viking mascot, are part of Western's participation in the annual Ski to Sea parade in Bellingham. Race team members, band members and all Western family members are invited to participate in the 2005 celebration on Memorial Day Weekend.



Ski to Sea teams forming; WWU to have parade float, too!

By **Carrie Allen**
UNIVERSITY COMMUNICATIONS

The WWU Alumni Association is inviting all Western graduates to get involved in the Ski to Sea activities this spring. Alumni can sign up now to be part of the Ski to Sea race May 29; help build and create Western's Ski-to-Sea float; or join in the parade on Saturday, May 28.



The Alumni Association plans to sponsor three teams for this year's race. The race includes seven legs performed by an eight-member team. Individuals can cross-country ski, downhill ski, run, road bike, mountain bike or kayak; and two people can canoe.

The scenic course begins on beautiful Mount Baker and ends at Marine Park in historic Fairhaven. Sign up

now to race as a WWU graduate on an all-women's team or a co-ed team. The Alumni Association will also sponsor a student team.

If your idea of fun isn't a 36-mile bike ride or a six-mile run down Mount Baker highway, you can still get involved. The Whatcom County Alumni Chapter needs help designing and assembling the Western float for the pre-race parade Saturday, May 28.

The parade is a great time to show your Western pride. Graduates and their families can decorate bikes to ride in the parade or join fellow Western alumni on the float (at left), courtesy of Western Forest Products.

The parade route begins at the corner of Alabama Street and Cornwall Avenue in Bellingham and travels down Cornwall for approximately two miles.

The Ski to Sea tradition traces back to 1911 when local residents participated in the Mount Baker marathon. Since 1973, Ski to Sea has been in its current form (at left), with the whole community celebrating Bellingham's unique outdoor playground on Memorial Day weekend.

For more information, contact **Susan Bakse ('88)** at (360) 650-7283 or wwuskitosea@gmail.com.

Fairhaven College offered a Ski to Sea class in 2004 in which students learned about teamwork and organization and had an experience they and their muscles will never forget.

Michael Bakse photos



Jon Brunk photo

3rd Battle in Seattle scheduled for Oct. 8

When the Vikings face the Central Wildcats in the third "Battle in Seattle" on Oct. 8, both universities win. The football contest at Qwest Field gives alumni a chance to connect with fellow graduates at pre-game festivities and show their pride. The game increases visibility for both schools in the state's largest metropolitan area.

A crowd of more than 11,000 fans at last September's Battle in Seattle watched the Vikings post a 28-21 win over Central, scoring with just a minute remaining in the fourth quarter.

Sponsored by Wells Fargo and Comcast, the contest gives thousands of

Western and Central supporters the opportunity to witness exciting, megastadium football between two legendary rivals.

Western went on to finish its season 6-4 overall and 3-3 in the Great Northwest Athletic Conference to clinch its fifth winning record in the last six years.

The Alumni Association will be announcing its plans for ticket sales and pre-game festivities for the third Battle in Seattle in the summer. For more information, call Alumni Relations at (360) 650-3353 or (800) 676-6885.

Alumni scholarships continue to increase

The Alumni Association is supporting more than 20 students this year with scholarships ranging from \$1,000 to \$3,000, and many may be renewed up to four years. Scholarships that allow current and future students to achieve their potential could not exist without generous support from Western alumni.

There are numerous ways to give to the alumni scholarship fund, which has a growing endowment of \$566,000. The WWU collegiate license plates show Western pride and \$28 of the initial and annual renewal fee is donated to the alumni scholarship fund.

Graduates can also become life members of the Alumni Association by donating a one-time gift of \$500, or \$650 for a joint membership. Other great ways to support scholarships include using the Western credit card or donating directly to the WWU Foundation.

Scholarships are awarded to students with academic achievement who have a desire to succeed at the college level and a strong commitment to diversity in their school and in community activities.

This year's Alumni Association scholarship winners include: Brendan Aanes, Sara Champoux, Jiajia Chang, Rachel Corwin, Brigid Gallagher, Robert Henderson, John Heyde, Dawn Hlavacek, Samantha Laskey, Connecia McNeal, Rebekah Pettitt, Kevin Rupp, Kasse Rupp, Nikki Schormann, Hayley S. Smith, Daniel Swigart-Harris, Lisa Taylor, Scott Teas, Edward Wesakania, True Xiong and Andrea Yee.

For students interested in applying for the 2005-2006 year, applications are due by March 1. Applications are available online at <http://www.wwu.edu/~alumni>, or from the Alumni Office, (360) 650-3353 or (800) 676-6885.

Hall of Fame honors three more Vikings

A distance runner who earned All-America honors in two sports and two All-American soccer players who competed on the best WWU men's and women's teams ever are the newest members of the university's Athletic Hall of Fame.

The inductees, who bring the hall's membership to 103, are **Marilyn Thibodeau** ('82), who competed in both cross country and track and field for the Vikings; **Tom Venable** ('91/'99), a midfielder in men's soccer; and **Debbie (Carter) Walford** ('87), a midfielder in women's soccer.

Thibodeau, a bookkeeper for Pink Elephant Car Wash in Auburn, was named Western Female Athlete of the Year for 1981-82. She was a two-time All-American in track, finishing second in the 1,500 meters and sixth in the 3,000 at the 1982 NAIA National Championships.

She helped the Vikings place sixth in the team standings at both national meets during that year.

A NAIA National Scholar Athlete in track in 1982, Thibodeau set three school records that spring. She earned two letters in track and three in cross country before graduating with a degree in environmental health.

Venable, now the principal at Carl Cozier Elementary School in Bellingham, was an honorable mention NAIA All-American in 1989 and 1990. He helped the Vikings to their only national soccer tournament appearance in 1989 when they won District 1 and Area I titles. That

season Western scored a school-record 55 goals with Venable serving as the triggerman. He tallied six goals, including five game winners.

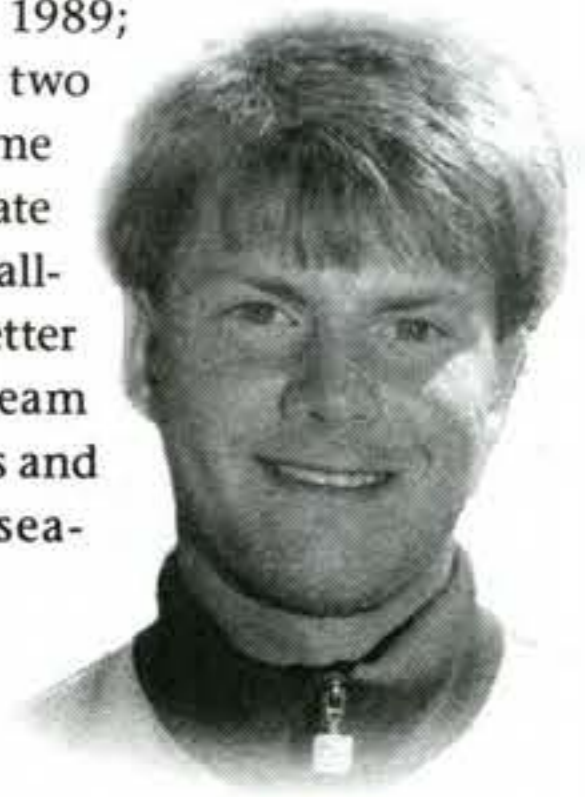
Venable was an NAIA Area I all-star in 1989; District 1 all-star two years; and three-time Northwest Collegiate Soccer Conference all-star. A four-year letter winner, he was team captain three years and team MVP two seasons.

Walford, a CPA for Boul-lioun Aviation Services, was a first-team NAIA All-American in 1986, leading Western to a 13-4-2 record and third-place at the NAIA Region I playoffs. She also was a first-team NAIA District 1 and Northwest Collegiate Soccer Conference all-star that season, scoring 11 goals and assisting on six others.

A four-year letter winner in soccer, she helped the Vikings to three district titles and three regional playoff appearances. During her career, she scored 32 goals and had 10 assists.

Walford was a member of Western's undefeated and untied 14-0-0 squad as a freshman in 1983 and regional playoffs in 1984.

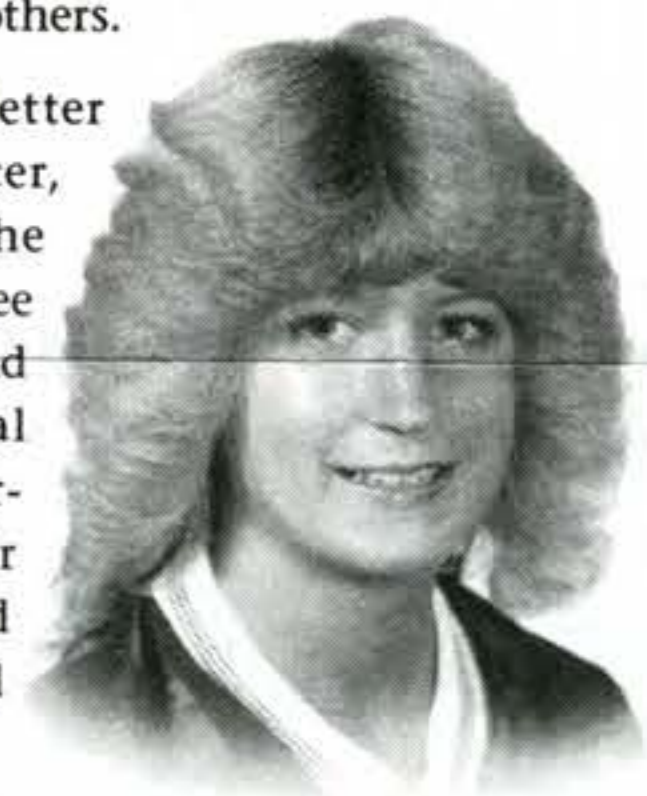
She is the co-founder of the Kirkland Dance Center where she serves as vice president and treasurer. She also teaches Irish hardshoe dancing and completed the Chicago Marathon in 1993.



Venable



Thibodeau



Walford

Center offers career services for alumni and students

Western's Career Services Center, which hosts several job fairs, resume-writing workshops and other career-enhancing events every quarter for students and alumni, has teamed up with Target Stores in a collaboration that has resulted in jobs for about 20 WWU graduates in western Washington.

And Target Stores donated \$3,000 to the Career Services Center, in recognition of the center's support of their recruiting efforts.

"We're thrilled with this generous gift from Target, which so clearly demonstrates how much they value Western and the services of our office," said Tina Loudon, the center's director. "We're also very proud to have been able to

help so many of our grads launch successful careers with Target."

Brooke Grandinetti, campus recruiting coordinator and store team leader of the Target store in Bellevue, said WWU has been "an awesome campus to recruit on."

The center in Old Main also offers individual career counseling for those seeking a career change and works with the Alumni Association to provide mentoring opportunities for current students.

For more information about the Career Services Center, call (360) 650-3240 or go online to <http://www.careers.wwu.edu>.

Have you connected at www.alumni.com?

CALENDAR 2005

February

- 12 **Alumni Association:** Day trip to Whistler, B.C.
- 18-20 **Alumni Association:** Ski Weekend, Big White, B.C.
- 24 **Alumni Association:** "From Backpack to Briefcase" Speaker Series by/for recent alumni, 6 p.m., Bellingham

March

- 5 **Alumni Association:** Dinner before men's basketball game, 4-6 p.m., Copper Canyon Restaurant, Nampa, Idaho

- 8 **Alumni Association:** Networking/ Happy Hour, 6 p.m., FOX Sports Bar, Seattle
- 19 **South Puget Sound Alumni Association:** Theater and dinner event, 2 p.m., Capital Playhouse, Olympia
- 19 **Alumni Association:** Mariners' Spring Training Camp ballgame, 11:30 a.m., Peoria, Ariz.
- 19 **Winter Commencement,** 10 a.m., Carver Gym
- 31 **Alumni Association:** Huxley reception, 6 p.m., Heritage Room at Capitol Lake, Olympia

April

- 5 **Seattle Business Forum,** with keynote speaker Alan Mulally, 11:30 a.m., Westin Hotel, Seattle
- 7 **Alumni Association:** "From Backpack to Briefcase" Speaker Series by/for recent alumni, 6 p.m., Bellingham
- 16 **Alumni Volunteer Day,** various locations

May

- 5 **Distinguished Lecture Series:** Robert F. Kennedy Jr., 6:30 p.m., Carver Gym. Free, but tickets are

- required: <http://lectureseries.wvu.edu> or (360) 650-7545
- 6 **Distinguished Alumni Dinner,** 5:30 p.m. VU Multipurpose Room
- 11 **Alumni Association:** Dinner at Hangar on the Wharf, Juneau, Alaska
- 13 **Alumni Association:** Dinner at Petroleum Club of Alaska, Anchorage
- 14 **Alumni Association Whale Watching Trip,** Seattle to Friday Harbor, 6:30 a.m. to 7:15 p.m.
- 28 **Ski to Sea Parade,** 10 a.m., Bellingham
- 29 **Ski to Sea Race**

COLLEGE OF FINE AND PERFORMING ARTS

CFPA "Taste of the Arts"

Saturday, March 5, 5:30 p.m.
PAC Lobby and Mainstage Theatre, \$50 per person

Join us for a fund-raising gala to benefit the College of Fine & Performing Arts. Sample hearty appetizers, wine and spontaneous student art experiences, followed at 7:30 p.m. by the comic opera, "Die Fledermaus," a joint production of the music, theatre, dance and arts departments. For more information, contact Jill Clark, 650-2829.

SANFORD PIANO SERIES

Sponsored by the Spirit Fund of Whatcom Community Foundation. Proceeds support the music department's Arthur Hicks and Ford Hill Piano Scholarships.

Paul Roberts

Friday, Feb. 11, 7:30 p.m.
PAC Concert Hall
Ticket: \$8-\$14

Natasha Paremski

Saturday, May 14, 7:30 p.m.
PAC Concert Hall
Tickets: \$8-14

THEATRE

Die Fledermaus

March 4-12
PAC Mainstage
Tickets: \$10

The Story of Susanna

April 27 - May 7
The Underground Theatre
Tickets: \$4

The Cider House Rules

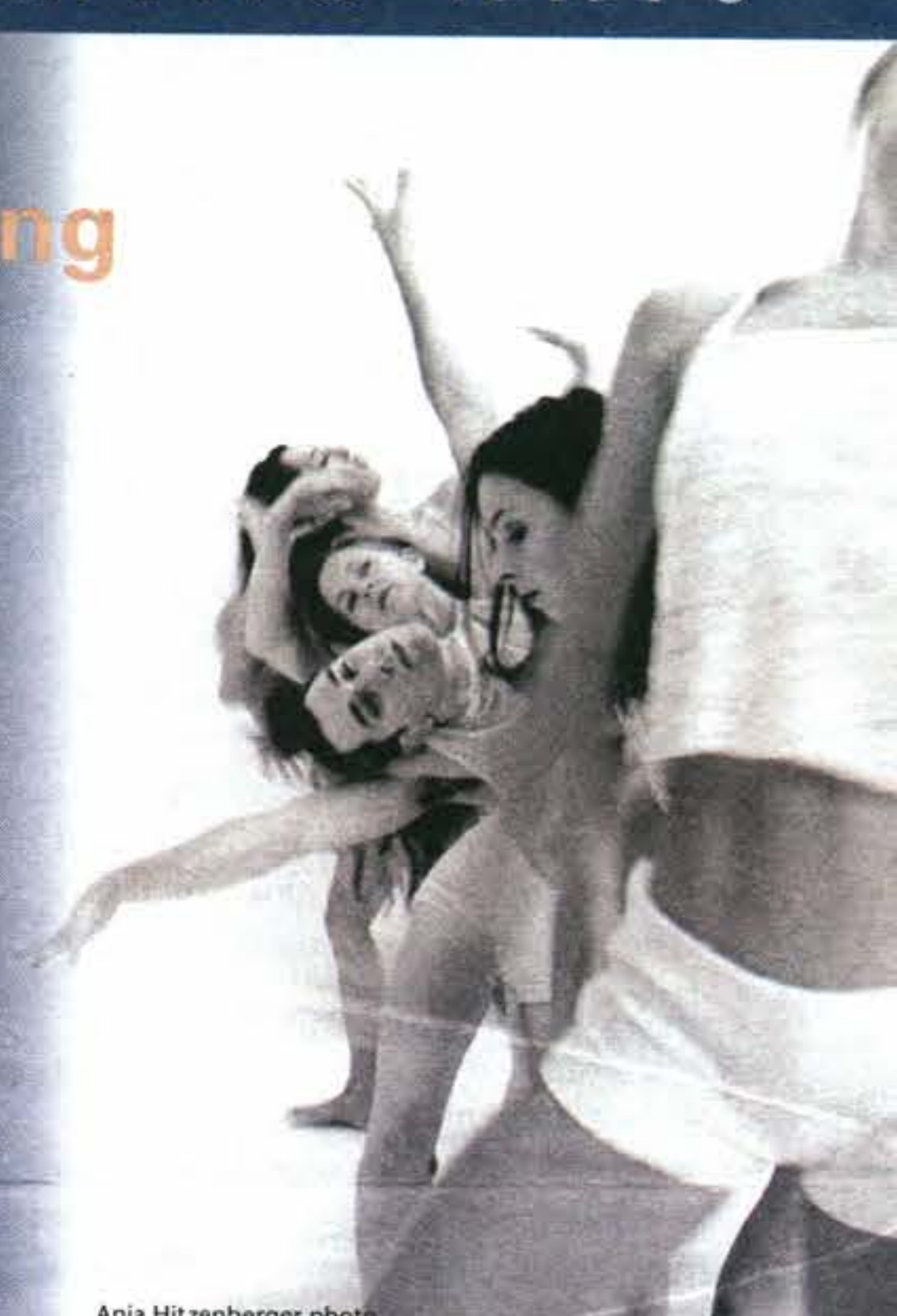
May 18-28
PAC Mainstage
Tickets: \$6

Western Performing Arts Center

ZviDance

Saturday, April 23, 7:30 p.m.
PAC Mainstage Theatre
Tickets: \$18-24

ZviDance will perform in the last show of the PAC Series, sponsored by *The Bellingham Herald*, *Bellingham Weekly*, Best Western Lakeway Inn and the Kukes Endowment. The dance troupe is led by Israeli-born choreographer and artistic director Zvi Gotheiner and makes its West Coast debut with lyrically musical dances that blend classical ballet, modern and folk elements.



Anja Hitzberger photo

Birds of All Feathers



Linda Mary Beech's "Big Crow"

WESTERN GALLERY *exhibit*

"Birds of All Feathers"

Through March 12

The kinds of houses they build help us to understand birds and their relationships to habitat and community. "Birds of All Feathers," an exhibit at the Western Gallery, delivers a powerful parallel.

The three-part show features exhibitions that "depict the visual and poetic power of our feathered friends," says Sarah Clark-Langager, director of the Western Gallery. The show includes a collection of artist-created birdhouses entitled "It's for the Birds," as well as Linda Mary Beech's "Big Crow" and "Incarnation Series" by Susan Bozic.

"It's for the Birds" presents birdhouses designed by artists such as Robert Huff, Helene Brandt, Hugo Moro and Vincent Casari, who built a "Levittown" of six identical houses, distinguished one from the other

with coverings of sheepskin, camouflage and faux leopard skin.

Using his birdhouse as social commentary, Bill Stewart's "Snowbird" – a rooster on wheels – reflects the human habit of travelers to roost anywhere when we hunger.

Linda Mary Beech's "Big Crow" is exactly that: a massive form crouched to fit within a human space, underscoring the artist's message of an "uneasy border" between urban and natural environments. The crow's towering presence evokes questions of co-habitation, ownership and territory.

In the "Incarnation" series, Susan Bozic has placed taxidermied birds in theatrical settings. With extensive experience staging photographs in a tableau format, ranging from Dutch still life to natural history dioramas, Bozic is able to create her own connections between time, nature and humanity.

Tickets & Information

<http://calendar.wvu.edu>

Alumni events
(360) 650-3353 or (800) 676-6885

Athletics
(360) 650-3109

Box Office for PAC
(360) 650-6146

Western Gallery
(360) 650-3900

Wilson Library Hours
(360) 650-3049