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KLIPSUN

A Western Washington University Publication

We interrupt this broadcast ...

B'ham's support system

"Play ball!"

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Fifty to 75 percent of sexually active people will contract Human papillomavirus in their lifetime. Tamara Harvey wades through the misconceptions of HPV, the most common and misunderstood sexually transmitted disease.

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So you wanna be on TV? Well, it ain't easy — just ask the Western students trying to start a campus television station. They tell Heather Baker about the complications and regulations they've encountered along the way and why they think it's all worth it.

contributors

Amber Hurley is a junior public relations major. She believes strongly in the importance of researching and implimenting alternative sources of energy in America. "The students in the Vehicle Research Institue are expanding the horizons of alternative and sustainable fuel source research, which is something that can benefit all of us," she said.

After learning that more than 100 people sleep at the Lighthouse Mission every night, senior journalism major Camille Penix decided to report on Bellingham's homeless population. She hopes to show readers that a world-wide problem can be found on their street.

Heather Baker is a senior journalism major who likes to ponder the uncertainties of a world outside of Western in her spare time. Her story taught her that the audio-visual club is not for dorks. Heather would like to thank all the members of the A.S. Broadcasting club for providing her with a wealth of ideas and for being an example of what First Amendment rights are about.

Jon Walsh is a senior public relations major and a long-time Seattle Mariners fan. His love for the team and Safeco Field inspired him to take a closer look at vending outside the stadium. He hopes his article is as informative and interesting to his readers as it was to him. He would like to thank everyone involved for their work and time.

Mindy Ransford is a junior public relations major. This summer Mindy will intern at the Whidbey Island Naval Air Station in the Pubic Affairs Office, assisting with their air show. Mindy thought others might find the life of a professional extreme athlete both interesting and inspiring. Mindy plans on graduating winter quarter.

Sara Colness, a senior communications major, hopes to do public relations for the Seahawks upon graduation. She wrote about the Warbirds becase she loves football and is excited to see the league take off. She's a country girl at heart, with a passion for big trucks, hot rods, movies and Cheetos.

Tamara Harvey, a senior public relations major, exposes the facts regarding human papillomavirus (HPV), cervical cancer and genital warts. She hopes this story will teach people about HPV and encourage them to make wise sexual decisions.

Tyler Hendrick is a communications major and couldn't resist writing a story about one of his favorite sports — baseball. He hopes people will see the passion the Newell family has for the game and each other.

(a). A lummi word meaning beautiful sunset *(b)*. A student publication of Western Washington University distrubuted twice a quarter *(c)*. Available free for Western students and the community.

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Above: Gregory Jackson hands off a Seattle Sausage hot dog to a hungry Mariner's fan. **Below:** Dominic Baylon attracks potential customers to his hot dog stand. **Right:** Randy Stevenson completes a transaction in front of Safeco Field.

The smell of hot dogs and the shouting of vendors greet fans as they migrate toward Safeco Field. Jon Walsh talks to merchants about an ordinance that could force some to raise their prices or shut down. Photos by Heather Trimm.

The middle-aged man stands behind the grill with sausage and onions piled high. He serves fans making their way to Safeco Field with his silver spatula, to the tune of Bob Marley's "Buffalo Soldier." Randy Stevenson of Seattle Sausage has sold sausage, kettle corn and drinks to Seattle sports fans for the past 12 years.

Stevenson, and vendors like him, add to the excitement of attending a professional sporting event while saving fans money. A sausage inside the stadium costs a fan $6.50, while outside, at Stevenson's stand, it's just $4.

Many vendors outside Safeco Field could be forced to raise their prices or eventually shut down if the Seattle City Council passes an ordinance that would replace the current vending fee of $86 with a permit fee of $187.50 per month or $1,125 for a full season.

Besides placing a high price tag on vending, the new ordinance would establish rules of street vending around the stadium. The proposed fee would pay for two city inspectors to work a few hours of overtime before most Mariners games to enforce street vending regulations.

With the growing success of Safeco Field and the Mariners, vending has become increasingly popular near the ballpark. Vendors' tables and merchandise have become obstacles for fans walking to the stadium, causing people to be pushed out into the

VENDORS' WOE

street. Because the number of vendors has increased, concern for public safety has motivated lawmakers to examine vending laws.

Mike Prebo has been a vendor for four years selling "Yankees Suck" T-shirts. He believes the ordinance will hurt smaller vendors.

"I think the city is just looking to make more money and we're an easy target," Prebo said. "The city controls the street, the space and the access to the street. Basically we must pay this high price or quit. It's extortion. Vendors add to the excitement and festivity of the games. It's like a carnival out here, a symphony of carnival barkers selling their food and wears."

Prebo saw the "Yankees Suck" T-shirts while visiting Fenway Park in Boston four years ago. When he arrived back in Seattle with the idea, he immediately started his vending career.

"When I was visiting Fenway there were Yankee fans so angry about the T-shirt that they were chasing the Boston fans around," Prebo said. "I thought if I sold those shirts here maybe it would bring out that same emotion that I saw back East. That's what this game is all about."

Smoke stirs and swirls into the air from the many vendors lining the sidewalks selling freshly popped kettle corn, hot dogs and sausage links to the thousands of faithful Mariner fans on their way to the stadium.

Steve Love, a Mariner fan and season ticket holder since Safeco Field opened in 1999, believes vendors outside the ballpark contribute to the fun of Safeco Field.

"Vendors outside the stadium add to the excitement of attending Mariners games; the game starts when you park the car," Love said. "They contribute to the festive atmosphere of ball games and give fans deals on food that inside the stadium cost you an arm and a leg. I always make sure I get something outside the stadium, so I can save a few bucks; parking costs enough."

If the price for a vending license gets too high for some vendors, they will be forced to raise their prices in order to maintain a profit. Many vendors support the new ordinance and many do not.

A price tag of $1,125 may cause vendors like Tamara Beck of Jeff's Food to raise their prices. A hot dog at Jeff's food is just $1.50, the lowest price of any vendor at Safeco Field.

"We hope we can stay at our low price," Beck said, "But it's going to be hard if they charge us that much. I think the permit is a good idea to keep guys out who don't have them, but I think it's all part of the greed on the inside. We're working on a petition and have many fans behind us."

Seattle City Transportation Department has looked at different baseball cities throughout the United States to get a feel for how much other cities charge their vendors. They found that street vending fees were much higher elsewhere than in Seattle.

In Pittsburgh, street vendors must pay $1,000 a year to set up within 100 feet of the stadium. At Wrigley Field in Chicago a vendor is charged just $75 a year, the cheapest license in the country. At Fenway Park in Boston a vendor must pay $15 per square foot of space per year.

The standard size vending space for vendors at Safeco Field is 20x20 and, according to the ordinance, any vending location that exceeds the standard will have to pay a surcharge based on additional space of the vending area.

When the Kingdome was still standing, a city ordinance barred street vending near the stadium, forcing vendors to set up shop much further away. When it was demolished in 2000, the city ordinance no longer applied and the rules of vending became unclear.

With the concern for public safety a high priority, Seattle Transportation decided to run a pilot program for the second half of the season last year, said Richard Richmire, street use section manager. A street use permit system, similar to the type used elsewhere in the city, was established to regulate street vending on public property around Safeco Field until an ordinance was passed. The pilot permit was only $68. With the success of the program, the city council will consider extending the pilot program or making it permanent.

The Seattle Transportation staff has recommended continuation of the 2001 pilot program to permit street vending in selected areas of the public right of way on game days. The higher permit fees will cover the cost of issuing the permits and for providing inspection at roughly two-thirds of the games. They say the permits will ensure public safety by restricting vendors to specific areas. This will make room for fans making their way to the ballpark.

Julie Carpenter of Seattle Transportation's street use division believes the permit will help weed out vendors who set up shop wherever they want, block passageways and create safety hazards.

"It's our goal to reduce the number of non-permitted vendors in the area," Carpenter said. "Many reputable vendors support this, since it detracts from their business. It's unfair to those who follow the rules and tarnishes everyone's views on street vending."

"Fans show up to ball games an hour early to take in the experience, walk the streets, look for the best deals because it's part of the game. I don't want to raise my prices and have fans pay more. This is for them."

- Dominic Baylon, Hot Dog Joe's

Carpenter also believes that permits will help inspectors identify non-permitted vendors operating from trunks of cars, shopping carts and cardboard boxes in unauthorized areas. If a vendor does not have a permit, an inspector has the authority to issue a civil citation of $150 for a first offense and $500 for repeat offenses. The street use permits will include non-reproducible color-coded stickers, similar to license tab stickers. This will make it easy for inspectors to identify which permits are current.

Clothing retailer Lane James, of Seattle Sport, has been a vendor for the past nine years and thinks the ordinance is going to be positive for the vendors of Safeco Field.

"I'm 100 percent in favor of the ordinance," James said. "You must have an ordinance to keep order, and for order you need inspectors. To have inspectors you have to pay for them, so I'm all for it."

James also believes that inspectors at two-thirds of the games will help enforce the new ordinance rules.

"If you don't have inspectors, there will be no rules and people can come and go as they please without paying," James said. "I believe the ordinance will help that. I'm very impressed with the city council and the work they have put into the ordinance. They recognize the value vending has to the community and Mariner baseball."

Dominic Baylon, who has operated Hot Dog Joe's across from Safeco Field for two years selling hot dogs, Red Vines, peanuts, pop and candy, disagrees with James about the ordinance.

Baylon is opposed to the ordinance because he believes the vendors that follow the rules and have permits should not be punished for the ones who don't.

"Fans show up to ball games an hour early to take in the experience, walk the streets, look for the best deals because it's part of the game," Blaylon said. "I don't want to raise my prices and have fans pay more. This is for them.

"It's going to be hard for anyone to be for this ordinance. I have already had a handfull of fans ask me if I'm going to petition this whole thing."

While there are vendors on both sides of the issue, some are just worried that all the attention brought to the issue will attract more vendors and eat into their share of the market.

"I have been a vendor for 12 years and believe that in the long run this may do some good," Stevenson of Seattle Sausage said.

"But I feel that this could open the flood gates for people who hear that it's going to 'only' be $12.50 a game or $187.50 a month. Those people may want to come out here and give it a try, thinking they can make more than that.

"If that happens the money's not going to be an issue any more because no one will be making any. All of our profits will get cut. What people don't know is that $12.50 a day adds up. I'm here for all 81 home games and over time it just adds up, and that's the bottom line."

Left: Shannon Frank serves a hot dog to Western alumus Terry Fox, complete with extra relish. Frank serves dogs across from Safeco Field in the Home Plate parking lot. **Below:** Specializing in hot dogs named after Mariner players, Joe Bernstein, demonstrates the size of his Edgar dog to attract customers.

The CREATIVE drive

Western's nationally recognized Vehicle Research Institute is constantly working on new concepts for cleaner, greener transportation. Amber Hurley spends some time with the VRI students to see what drives them to make it such a success. Photos by Amber Hurley.

It's 10 a.m. Friday morning; while some Western students are waking to attend their first class or still in bed sleeping off a hangover, Scott Bolin is finishing his 26th straight hour at Western's Vehicle Research Institute. Bolin is the team captain for the redesign of the Viking 23, a biodiesel-fueled car, although that's not the only thing he does in the VRI.

The biodiesel-fueled Viking 23 car is only one of the major projects Western students are working on in the dark corners of the Engineering and Technology building garage. Students at the VRI work on projects that consistently break new ground in the search for alternative fuel sources. The research in the VRI becomes increasingly important as the world's fossil fuel supply quickly depletes. Michael R. Seal, founder and director of the VRI, has pioneered much of the technology the students now use to work on their projects.

Machinery lines the walls; scraps of steel and grease marks cover the floor. A stocky man in dingy, grease-stained clothes makes his way out from behind the graveyard of car pieces; although they were once made for someone's cutting edge project, now many of them are being redesigned and engineered by new students.

"We tend to collaborate on a lot of projects," Bolin said in a soft, deep monotone. "If it comes down to crunch time for one of the teams, then we will jump in and help."

Crunch time recently arrived for Bolin and the Viking 23 team. In May, the team traveled to Washington D.C. to participate in the 2002 Tour De Sol: The Great American Green Transportation Road Rally. The race is put together by the Northeast Sustainable Energy Association and is the culmination of the year's work on educating the public about sustainable energy. The tour began this year on May 12 and ran from Baltimore to New York City, taking six days. Participants stop in several cities along the route and show their projects at sustainable energy conventions with food and live entertainment.

The Viking 23 is one of three cars in the race that runs on a combination of vegetable oil and some fuel additives — commonly called bio-diesel.

"Biodiesel is essentially vegetable oil that has gone through some

chemical processes to remove some of the fat," Bolin said. "The fat makes it thicker and it will clog fuel systems."

The Tour De Sol began as a strictly solar power race, but now other types of fuel-efficient vehicles may enter.

"The Tour De Sol is all about alternative fuels and fuel economy and greenness, for lack of a better word," Bolin said.

The Viking 23 has been to the Tour De Sol in the past, Bolin said. "It wins awards every time it goes."

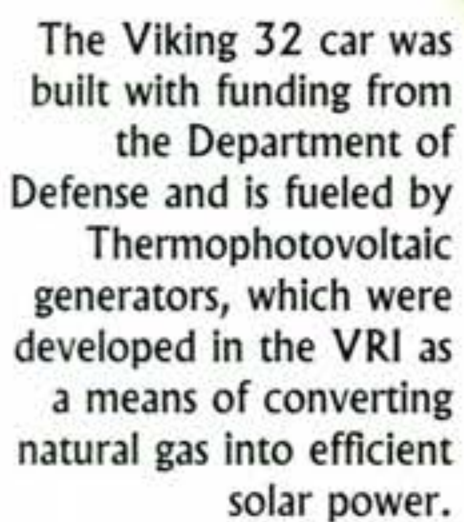
A previous body of the car sits outside the VRI garage in the rain, a deep blue, bubbly fiberglass shell that has been discarded to make way for a new body the eight members of the Viking 23 team constructed for this year's race. The team hopes the major improvements may help the Viking 23 continue the award-winning tradition. But the body work had to wait until the team finished installing a diesel engine that also accepts bio-diesel. The process provided a significant challenge for the team in the weeks leading up to the race.

For senior Drew Lamneck, another student working in the VRI, driving has never been so cheap, even if it means having his car smell like a whole array of fried foods as he drives. "It smells beautiful, like french fries, fried fish, donuts," Lamneck said.

Lamneck converted his Chevy truck to run solely on vegetable oil. The fast food grease he runs his truck on has also supplied many Western students with some yummy dorm meals. He gets his grease straight from the Viking Union cafeteria.

"None of the ideas that I've researched or implemented have been my own," Lamneck said. "I first heard about biodiesel two years ago in a class with the Northwest Freedom College and soon after traded my Subaru for the 6.5 liter turbo diesel monster."

Lamneck said he came to Western from the University of Vermont to study in the technology department, but quickly became interested in the VRI, where he learned more about how



The Viking 32 car was built with funding from the Department of Defense and is fueled by Thermophotovoltaic generators, which were developed in the VRI as a means of converting natural gas into efficient solar power.

to convert his Chevy monster to run on vegetable oil.

Lamneck said he keeps the vegetable oil in an auxiliary fuel tank in the back of his truck. After the engine runs for 10 minutes on diesel, the vegetable oil is hot enough to be pumped through the fuel injectors. A switch on the dashboard changes his truck's fuel source to the vegetable oil tank.

"To be honest it's always a work in progress," Lamneck said. "I'm constantly making modifications. The initial steps were easy compared to the ever-present trouble shooting."

To Lamneck, this creative fuel source means more than avoiding the rising gas prices the rest of the fossil fuel-dependent nation pays.

"The US has a horrible dependency on non-renewable, non-domestically produced fossil fuels," Lamneck said. "It just doesn't sit well with me that we fight wars for oil or that we drill for oil in marginal and environmentally sensitive areas. There are better ways to do things and if I don't have to support the destructive and corrupt oil men, then I sleep better at night."

Lamneck said he doesn't think he will ever see mainstream America using vegetable oil or biodiesel to power its cars, but he does believe there is a use for it.

"There is a niche for it: mass transit, fleet vehicles, boats, generators, farm equipment," he said. "It really comes down to economics. If it can be cost competitive and in constant supply then it can be a viable alternative."

Lamneck said his truck usually runs just as well as any other of its kind would, and it gets about 20 miles per gallon from the vegetable oil.

Western senior Jason Kilgore works on another important project in the VRI program called the Viking 32.

"The project we have right now is to build a hybrid sport utility-sedan type car," Kilgore said.

The car is funded by a grant from the Federal Highway Administration. The goal of the project is to focus on developing new, safe and strong materials for building cars. The two-year grant is for $800,000, with an additional $200,000 provided by Western.

"I've been doing a lot of research into what type of materials are going to work and how well they are going to absorb energy," Kilgore said. "Then I have been trying to simulate the way those materials will work on the computer using models."

Kilgore said the ultimate emphasis of the project is to bridge the gap between big cars, like SUVs, and fuel-efficient cars.

"We're saying we can design a car that's just as big, has the same offroad capabilities, but is going to get really improved gas mileage," he said. "It's going to get around 40-50 miles per gallon. A normal sport utility vehicle would be 15-20 max."

Kilgore said a market for fuel-efficient cars in America exists, as hybrid gas and electric cars such as the Honda Insight are selling fairly well.

Most of the designs at the VRI are experimental and will not see mass production, like the Insight.

"None of our cars here are going to hit the showroom," Kilgore said. "This is a research facility and these are pretty radical ideas, but ideas from here might evolve into showroom cars."

A natural gas-electric Honda Civic motor and an additional

electric motor power the Viking 32, Kilgore said. Combining the extra power with the lightweight design, the car ends up with more horsepower than the average Honda Civic.

Western senior Marcus Latham also works on the Viking 32. Latham said clubs run by students in the VRI build most of the cars there. The projects usually have a specific purpose, such as good speed combined with low emission. One car usually can't do it all, he said.

Lamneck said he came to Western from the University of Vermont to study in the technology department, but quickly became interested in the VRI, where he learned more about how to convert his Chevy monster to run on vegetable oil.

The students at the VRI make most of the car and engine parts themselves, although they get some help from Janicki Industries in Bellingham, where two graduates assist the students and donate equipment for the research.

Another project underway at the VRI includes some work for the Department of Defense in collaboration with partner JX Crystals of Issaquah, Washington. With the help of professors, this VRI team has designed something called "Midnight Sun," which is basically a way of creating and using efficient solar power, Kilgore said. The midnight sun device burns natural gas inside a coil, which heats up and glows. Highly efficient solar panels, "kind of like the ones on your calculator, but much more efficient," surround the coil, Latham said.

The solar panels convert the light into energy and the car is on its way with almost no emissions, Latham said.

He said the Department of Defense was interested in the system as a means to fuel military vehicles or as a generator to power other equipment needed on remote sites.

The solar power generators are called Thermophotovoltaic generators, and are among the many accomplishments created in the VRI.

As the students in the VRI finish their projects for the year, they begin to prepare for the new challenges of the future. Bolin and his colleagues have spent many late nights in the VRI perfecting their accomplishments and there will be many more before their work is done. Luckily, the cars in the VRI, while very small, are comfortable enough to sleep in, as he has often done.

Above: Dick Vanderbrink and Robin Jansen, exchange students from Holland, are working on cars in the VRI for internship credit.
Right: The interior of the Viking 32 cramped making room for the thermophotovoltaic generators which sit behind the seats.

Coming off the

Sundays, beer and large television sets projecting images of large men colliding with great force: football has traditionally been a man's world. Follow Sara Colness as she investigates the Warbirds — Seattle's contribution to a new women's football league.
Photos by Sara Colness

Saturday morning wasn't ideal for a car wash. The chill in the air and ferocious wind would send most people to seek shelter inside. The wind cut through jackets, chilling bones. Ketia Wick reached into her soapy bucket to rinse her sponge as the next car parked in front of her. She flashed a bright smile, exposing perfect teeth, as her blond hair whipped around her face. Her petite, yet athletic frame stood in front of the large van as she sized it up. She pulled up her sleeves and started scrubbing.

Washing cars for donations is not a typical past time for a lawyer. But for Wick, the work was for a good cause; she was helping to raise money for a football team — one she was trying out for.

Starting last year, Seattle hosts a women's professional, full-contact football team, the Warbirds. The team is helping pioneer a new genre of professional women athletes.

The team is part of the Women's American Football League. The WAFL rated the Warbirds first for defense last year, allowing a mere 29 points throughout the entire season.

The Warbirds finished its first regular season undefeated, with nine wins and one tie. The team's record placed it as the Pacific Northwest Division champion, making it one of the best teams in the league.

Twenty-four teams have signed up to play for WAFL's 2002-03 season, expanding the Pacific conference, of which the Pacific Northwest division is part, to 11 teams.

This is the first time the Pacific Northwest has hosted a division for women's professional football.

This year, the Rose City Wildcats, Vancouver Victory, and Oregon Pumas will also battle it out in this division.

A few leagues have tried their hand at making women's professional football work; none so far has been successful. In 1965, a league began in Ohio, starting with two teams and expanding to eight before it fizzled.

Another league emerged in 1974, but also failed in the early 1980s, attributing its failure to a lack of die-hard fans like the NFL has.

Photo by Heather Trimm

when he heard this team was looking for coaches and an owner.

"I was interested in this team because it was a challenge and it was out of the norm," Stuart said. "No one had really seen it before, and I wanted to be a part of making it happen."

Nine other women's pro leagues have sprouted across the country, fighting to make their way into this historical man's world.

The Warbirds play a 10-game regular season during the fall, followed by playoffs, which culminate with the Women's World Bowl, the equivalent of the NFL's Superbowl, in February.

Last year, the Warbirds made it to the playoffs, but lost the final game with four seconds left on the clock. The Phoenix Caliente was able to penetrate the Warbirds' defense, squeaking past its safeties and making it to the end zone. Stuart said the two safeties were replacement players, who substituted for that game only. The two regular safeties, both FBI agents, were at Salt Lake City, Utah, protecting the nation at the Olympics.

Stuart said some of the other players are police and other law enforcement officers, doctors, Sea Gals (Seattle Seahawks cheerleaders), lawyers, scientific researchers, and stay-at-home mothers.

Time management is essential for the players during the season. The games and practices consume much of the players' time and energy. Making time for families and work becomes difficult, which is why several women won't be returning this season, Stuart said.

"Playing four days a week gets really tough," said Richelle Gorman, 29, returning offensive and defensive tackle. "We don't have any free time at all."

One of the biggest challenges for Gorman was balancing football, work, and caring for her son. She said her family was very supportive and helped take care of her son while she was at practice.

"We play football, not women's football," —Warbirds coach Michael Stuart

Many critics have said the WAFL, like its predecessors, will not last.

But those critics did not daunt Michael Stuart and his family, who collectively invested $25,000 to create the Warbirds. Stuart is the general manager and head coach; his daughter Jennifer Stuart is the owner of the team.

The money helped set up the team and purchase professional-caliber uniforms.

Stuart has devoted his life to the game. He is also the coach of the Eastside Chiefs, a men's semi-pro team and assistant coach at Sammamish High School. He said he jumped on board

"It's like having two full-time jobs," Gorman said.

Gorman, a record coordinator for Northwest Dermatology and Skin Cancer Clinic, said she originally went along to tryouts to provide moral support for her neighbor. Her friend dropped out, but she stayed because it was so fun. She said she plans to play ball as long as she can.

The team's practices make daytime jobs especially difficult.

"It was hard waking up for work after late-night practices," said Kasey Rivas, returning middle linebacker and research associate for a biotech company. "During the season, life is all work and all football. There is no time for anything else."

Rivas had some experience from playing flag football at Whitworth College. She said she has always loved football and

wanted to play, but until now, no serious women's league existed.

Last year, grueling practices were what made the team so successful, Stuart said. He said the players were given no special treatment for being women, with the exception of a smaller ball. He said he ran the training camps and practices just as he did for his men's semi-pro football team.

"We play football, not women's football," Stuart said.

Each team member has her own reasons for playing, but all have two common bonds; they are athletes, and they love football.

Most of the players have a background in soccer, rugby or softball.

"I've wanted to play practically since I was born," rookie Kim Blay said. "I always said if there was ever a women's league, then I'd play."

Blay recalls watching football games as a child with her dad. She'd play with the neighborhood kids every chance she had,

Left:
Warbirds Ketia Wick and Kasey Rivas team up to wash a car during the Warbirds carwash.
Right:
Sisters Holly and Amanda Kazer attract customers to a car wash the Warbirds hosted to raise money for the team.

but it wasn't enough. She said the opportunity has arrived and she finally has a chance to fulfill her dreams.

"If I was a guy, I'd already be playing pro," she said.

Blay works at a gas station and her employer has already agreed to be flexible with her scheduling for this season.

The Warbirds made it through the inaugural season with practically no advertising. Stuart said he would have liked to advertise, but there was not enough funding. He gave away promotional tickets to increase attendance, but normally charged $10-$12 per ticket.

Ticket sales have helped the team survive financially. About 3,000 spectators usually come to cheer at each home game in Kirkland at Juanita High School, Stuart said.

The coaching staff posted rookie camps and tryout information on the team's Web site, but otherwise, most information has traveled via word-of-mouth. Stuart said he didn't want to post an ad for tryouts in the paper, fearing it would attract too many players for the staff to handle.

The coaches' methods seem adequate enough, though. Last

WARBIRDS

year they had 177 women try out, and took 55 players. They expect a higher turnout this year, Stuart said.

Those who do try out, however, will likely not do so for the pay. The players earn only $25-$50 per game, which comes from profit sharing from tickets and merchandise

"Even if we make no money, it doesn't matter," rookie Holly Kazer said. "I'd choose not to get paid, just so I could play."

Stuart said the Warbirds ended the season last year "in the red," but he said he is confident the financial situation will improve this year. He attributed the negative balance to start-up costs, such as buying uniforms, equipment and banners.

So far, women's pro football has not brought in big revenue. Stuart said he doesn't see the Warbirds becoming as big as the NFL, but that the league isn't trying to compete. He said he is interested in making the team the best possible team at its level.

The team hosted rookie camps late March and early April to seek new players for the upcoming season. Another minicamp will be held in July.

Rookie Ketia Wick said the camp was pretty tough, but it wasn't too bad, because she keeps herself in good shape by running and working out. She said she has always loved playing sports and got exposed to the inner-workings of football when her husband used to coach a team. She said she felt prepared for the tryouts. But not everyone felt that way.

"No matter how hard I trained I don't think I was ever ready for the minicamp," Kazer said. "The girls are so athletic."

She said the coach made them do everything that men do for a camp. This is her first year trying out, because she didn't know a team existed last year. She saw an *Evening Magazine* special about the Warbirds and had eagerly anticipated the tryouts.

The coaching staff does not make any exceptions or lower standards for the players being women, Stuart said. He ensures that the players will be in excellent physical condition by running hard practices and camps.

"You can't tell they are women unless they take their helmets off," he said.

The players practice two to three times a week for three hours in preparation for games on the weekends.

"We created football players from people that never played," Stuart said.

He attributes the team's skills to the challenging practices and the education process implemented by the staff.

"We put the players in the classroom before we started banging them around," he said. "We took the time to put fundamentals in their head and then we [repeated] them until they didn't know night from day.

In the beginning of the season, the team had virtually no media coverage. Stuart said he sent out press releases to virtually every media outlet, but no one was taking notice. After the first few games ended in shutouts, the media took notice. *Evening Magazine* featured the Warbirds. Several other sports programs on television and in the newspapers also did features. *KING 5 News* and the Seattle Times informed Stuart the Warbirds didn't need to bother sending press releases next year, because they will already be there to cover the games.

The team recently signed a deal with Public Broadcasting Service to do a full-length documentary.

The Warbirds had several sponsors in the 2001 season, but need more for this year, Stuart said.

"Last year was tough," he said. "No one knew we could play. This year people know we are for real."

Several local companies have already agreed to sponsorship and many of last year's sponsors are staying on board. Stuart said this year he is making funds for travel expenses his top priority. In the 2001 season, the women had to travel to games by bus. It would take several days to travel to and from games as far away as Southern California. Stuart said he hopes to raise enough money to fly the team to its games.

The money raised at the car wash will go to the team's travel fund. The team has several more sponsors lined up for this year and more car washes to come, and doesn't plan to fade away any time soon. Its financial situation is promising and the many players plan to stick around as long as possible.

"I'm playing because I have always loved sports and I missed being part of a team," returning defensive end Heidi Ellis said. "I'll continue to play as long as there is a team to play for."

Seattle hosts a women's professional, full-contact football team, the Warbirds. The team is helping pioneer a new genre of professional women athletes.

T

 Photo by Chris Fuller

EX-RATED

How many bones have you broken at work? For Tex Devenport, injury is just part of the job. This local legend has already made his mark in snowboarding and motocross. Now, as Mindy Ransford reports, Tex Games is introducing him to a whole new audience.

Some might call Mike "Tex" Devenport lucky. Here's a guy who snowboards and rides dirt bikes for a living. He drops out of helicopters to ride untouched snow, videotapes motocross races from a paraglider and built a dirt bike jump in his front yard. What more could anyone ask for? How did Devenport get so lucky? Those who know him best say he is anything but lucky.

Sitting down with Devenport, 37, it is hard to tell this man is a local legend. In a soft-spoken voice, with a slight Texas accent, Devenport tried to piece together the events leading up to his success.

Kicked back in an easy chair, one eye following whatever extreme sport footage was on his TV, Devenport was surrounded by a group of guys covering every age group. In a laid back, modest way, Devenport seemed to face his life with calm confidence. His walls were plastered with pictures of mountains, snowboarders and dirt bikers. Tex Games paraphernalia was littered across his living room. Devenport surveyed the scene with a contented grin on his face.

Devenport began the Tex Games two years ago, with a 48-hour party on his property in Glacier, Wash., at the foot of Mount Baker. The advent of this annual, weekend-long, motorcycle jumping, truck tug-of-warring, snowmobile jumping, mud wrestling, beer blast with music made Devenport's name known even by those unfamiliar with the motocross and snowboard scene.

What started as a spoof on the X-Games, the bi-annual "extreme sports Olympics" created by ESPN, turned into something really big, really fast.

"One thing led to another, and people thought the Tex Games were on even though it was just a big joke," Devenport said.

Devenport and some friends had been sitting around one evening discussing the X-Games. They began joking about how funny it would be to have an event similar to the X-Games, but with truck pulls, chainsaw contests, boxing and motocross, along with live music and plenty of partying.

"Sponsors started calling because they had heard about it," Devenport said. "Once people wanted to give us money to throw the event; we just threw it together."

Interest kept growing as the games grew near. Meanwhile, Devenport was in the hospital recovering from a broken tibia and fibula.

"People started calling me in the hospital asking me what was up with the Tex Games," he said. "I would just say, 'yeah, it's on, it's already set,' when there was hardly anything done."

With so many people wanting to see Tex Games happen, the event took on a life of its own.

People showed up at Devenport's house two weeks before the event and started setting up in the rain. They built ramps, moved dirt and built a stage and a tree house.

"We thought we were going to have a mud bog," he said. "But, the Friday of the games it just got sunny for some weird reason."

The first games took place May 12-13, 2000 at Devenport's house in Glacier. More than 2,000 of his "good friends" showed up to help him celebrate. He raised more than $10,000 to stage the events.

Last year's Tex Games were held in Omak, Wash. in front of larger crowds and more reporters and photographers. This June the games move again, to Reno, Nev.

A portion of the money raised at the games goes to the Scott Stamnes Give to Kids Fund, an organization that helps underprivileged kids pursue their dreams in skateboarding, snowboarding, art and music.

Although Tex Games is the latest project to get Devenport's attention, the event comes after years spent competing in snowboarding and motocross. Devenport's success has not come without injury.

With a deep breath, he rattled off, without pausing, what injuries he could remember.

"Let's see, my first injury was in the second grade fighting with the big kids across the street and I got my left arm broken," he said, pointing to each body part as he spoke. "When I started snowboarding I kept spraining an ankle over and over and finally had to get the bone chips taken out. I've broken my jaw, teeth, hip, I have a rod where my tibia and fibula are, both legs, my left arm three times, never my right arm, but my right hand twice, seven ribs. I've punctured a lung, both of my eardrums have busted, I've separated both shoulders. That's about it," He

"Back when I first started I was just happy to ride with a pass and a place to stay."
—Tex Devenport

paused, then added, "Oh yeah, I broke my elbow not too long ago."

George and Bobbie Dobis, owners of Mount Baker Snowboard Shop for the past 12 years, have known Devenport long enough to see him through many of his innumerable injuries.

Devenport decided to call the tiny, mountain community of Glacier home in 1990. After spending a few hours in Glacier, it feels as if time has slowed and the only thing that matters is making that time good. When he first arrived in town, he made a stop at the Dobis's shop.

"He came into our shop and bought his first snowboard from us," Bobbie Dobis said with a grin. "He had this curly hair, he looked so young, and he was very polite."

"I will stand by Mikey 100 percent, for better or for worse," George Dobis said. He sat in the back room of his snowboard shop, recounting story after story about "Mikey." Three friends sat near Dobis, laughing along with his stories. With a fresh Coors in hand, he chuckled, remembering when Devenport broke his jaw.

"That poor guy was so hungry," Dobis said. "He's a big guy

From top:
Mud wrestling in Omak.
Photo by Chris Fuller
Motocross jumping in Omak.
Photo by Chris Fuller
Tex Devenport.
Photo by Lesley Keefer
Motocross jumping in Glacier.
Photo by Lesley Keefer
Snowmobile jumping in Omak.
Photo by Chris Fuller

you know. I felt so bad, I brought him in my shop, took some pliers and pried those wires open. Mikey wanted some pizza, so Bobbie threw some in a blender. That pizza was so dry.

"I threw three Coors in there and poured it in his mouth. Mikey got so drunk."

'Big guy' is certainly one way to describe Devenport. Former pro snowboard rider Steve Graham, 34, said he probably would have many more broken bones if not for his size.

"If Devenport wasn't built like a brick shit house he'd be in trouble," he said.

It's a popular cliché used by Glacier locals describing Devenport.

Most people are amazed Devenport has kept up his lifestyle. Despite his age, he's managed to keep performing at extreme levels on the dirt and on the mountain. Most 37-year-old men have kids, a steady job and are thankful they can make it down the mountain, let alone do a double back flip off a cliff.

"Whatever he does, he flies. Reflex, speed, coordination, everything, that is him. Tex looks at something once and does it perfectly."
—George Dobis, Mount Baker Snowboard Shop owner

Devenport started riding off-road motorcycles in high school in Bonham, Texas.

"All the neighborhood kids had bikes," Devenport said. "My mom wouldn't let me have one. I got caught riding everyone else's bikes, got in trouble all the time."

Devenport said he and his mom came to an agreement when he was 16 — he could have a motorcycle if he bought it himself. After purchasing a dirt bike for $175, it ran for one day and died.

After that, Devenport went back to riding BMX bikes, until one day, his mom finally gave in.

"She came around the corner with a new bike in the back of the truck. She had finally broke down and bought me one," Devenport said. "I think I broke the shocks the first day I had it."

Devenport played college football as a linebacker at Cisco Junior College in Texas for two years, and then joined the Navy to get out of his hometown. In the Navy, he was stationed on an ammunition ship in the Bay area and eventually the Persian Gulf.

While in the Navy, he continued riding, until his two dirt bikes were stolen. Soon after, he was skiing in 1986 at Boreal Mountain Resort in California, near Lake Tahoe, and saw snowboarding for the first time. He saw all the snowboarders on the hill, took a lesson and started snowboarding while saving money to replace his stolen bikes.

Devenport remembered seeing pictures of Mount Baker while he was in the Navy and decided that was where he wanted to go when he got out. He immediately moved to the area when he was discharged and began working as a cook at the ski area.

The first year Devenport spent in the area, he taped some footage with the Mount Baker Hard Cores, a group of first generation snowboarders. He rode Mount Baker every day for two years, and in 1992, when he was 27, he was asked to ride in the invitation-only, first World Extreme Snowboard Contest in Valdez, Alaska. The riders traveled up the mountain via helicopter and dropped out onto the snow. Each run was a first descent, meaning no one had boarded the run before. Devenport won the competition, beating 20 other riders.

"Some guys would have a real good run, and then a really bad one," he said. "I just tried to stay down the middle."

"We were all scared," Devenport said. "We didn't know you could ride down shit so steep. No one, unless they were from Alaska, had been on anything that tall, big and steep."

After that contest, things began to fall into place for Devenport. He met Mike Hatchett, who ran a company called Standard Films. Hatchett had been approached by Fox Racing to create motocross videos, and he asked Devenport to help out. Devenport began working with Hatchett, rolling video cameras, setting up trips and arranging for professional riders to be flown in for film footage. Standard Films produces the "Totally Board" snowboard series, and the "Terrafirma" motocross series.

He also started working with Jon Freeman, Dana Nicholson and Cami Freeman at Fleshwound Films, the company responsible for "Crusty Demons of Dirt" motocross videos. Devenport continues to work for the two companies.

"When I started working with those two companies, I'd get a shot in on my dirt bike here and there," Devenport said. "We started mixing it up and showing dirt bike and snowboard footage."

Graham said he has seen footage of Devenport on his dirt bike in the Terra Firma videos.

"I'm amazed at the things he will try," he said.

The 10 years since Devenport rode in the World Extreme Snowboard Contest have kept him busy. Pictures of him on his dirtbike appear on advertising billboards in Japan. He can also be seen in POWERade commercials.

Devenport said friends often call to say they just saw him on TV. Then it's up to Devenport to call and make sure someone is going to send him a check.

So, is Devenport just a lucky guy, living in a suspended state of adolescence, not wanting to grow up? Maybe so, but Devenport's good friends stand by what they say.

"I don't consider skill luck," said Jason James, an employee at Mount Baker Snowboard Shop. "His boisterous attitude has helped him along, but he is a highly talented individual. People come through and want to be a Tex. They try for a while, get beat up and quit."

"Whatever he does, he flies," Dobis said. "Reflex, speed, coordination, that is him. Tex looks at something once and does it perfectly."

"I didn't think about anything when I started riding," Devenport said. "I was just happy to be out of the Navy. Anything was good. I just live for today. I have to look ahead now that we are pushing the Tex Games, but I still don't look too far down the road. Back when I first started I was just happy to ride with a pass and a place to stay."

So what's Tex's advice to other riders?

Just ride.

Christina Frost eats a well balanced meal in the dining room of the Lighthouse Mission. "I'm thankful to God for a place to live, or else I wouldn't be alive," Frost said. She said she suffers from a disease that makes her unable to work or afford a home.

Hunger and homelessness affect many communities across the nation. **Camille Penix** visits the Lighthouse Mission and Soups On, two places in Bellingham that provide basic necessities for the poor. Photos by Heather Trimm.

fundamental support

One winter afternoon, when the rain was unusually heavy, two men volunteered to help sandbag a levee near Bellingham. They worked steadily, in the rain, until about 4 a.m. One man who had stood beside them, complaining about the work, took a coffee break.

"They ought to go down to the Mission and wake up some of them bums and get 'em up here," the man said, while sipping coffee.

The two men, still working, looked at each other and laughed. One of them, Rory Reublin, turned and said, "Well, you've got two of them bums right here and we've been here all day."

Reublin, 51, first came to the Lighthouse Mission in 1995 looking for food and a place to sleep. Today, he is one of the Mission's residential managers.

"Back then, I was still living the way I wanted to live, so I'd go out to drink, come back, and they would make me leave again," Reublin said. "So I would go out and drink again, until finally I realized that wasn't working. I started getting into Jesus Christ. I knew I wasn't doing myself any good health-wise. I just started realizing how stupid it was. It wasn't the way I wanted to spend the rest of my life — picking up beer cans during the day to have beer at night, and sleeping where I could."

Reublin has a gift of storytelling and a throaty, expressive voice. He makes an easy transition from talking with a knowing seriousness to falling into contagious laughter.

"We don't make people line up. We wanted to honor people and not make them feel like part of a program. We wanted them to feel like they were at a restaurant."

Marty Knapp
Pastor of Vineyard Fellowship

"I guess I finally got sane again," he said, laughing. "Re-sane. The two brain cells I had left clicked together one day and said, 'This isn't right.'"

Homelessness and hunger are worldwide problems that can be seen on the familiar streets of Bellingham. In Washington, more than half a million children and adults, or nearly 12 percent, live below the poverty line, according to the Fremont Public Association. One in eight Washington households does not know where its next meal is coming from.

The Lighthouse Mission on Holly Street is one of the organizations addressing hunger and homelessness in Bellingham. Other meal programs operate through the Bellingham Food Bank, Salvation Army and several local churches, including the Vineyard Christian Fellowship.

In 2001, the Lighthouse Mission Ministries provided more than 38,000 overnight stays and more than 122,000 meals. On average, they provide beds for more than 100 people a night and serve about 330 meals a day.

Around dinner time, men gravitate toward the Mission from every direction. They head straight for the white building from the gas station parking lot across the street, from over the green hill diagonal to the Mission, or from either direction on the sidewalk. Men smoking outside, or sitting along the front walkway usually frame the Mission, which sits on a busy street corner. A small yard with manicured flowers leads to the front steps. Through the front door is a reception area, where people receive their meal tickets. Roughly half the meals are served to people who do not live at the Mission. A room dedicated to Christian sermons is on the main floor as well as the administrative offices. The dining room is downstairs while the bedrooms are upstairs, sometimes reached by passing several men sitting on the steps.

For those staying at the Mission, curfew is 7 p.m., which is when chapel begins. The service, presented by any of several Whatcom County pastors, lasts from 30 minutes and an hour.

"It's not hard core," Dave Ashton, operations manager, said. "It's not 'take five tablespoons of Jesus Christ and turn into a saint.' It's just a chance to present the Gospel."

The Mission is a Christian establishment funded by donations from churches, businesses and individuals. When someone walks into the Mission, he is given a place to live, access to showers and three meals a day. Visitors can stay for a week without working and then are required to take classes at the Mission and look for a job. The classes are basic; residents learn lessons including how to turn on a computer, open Windows and print out documents. Other classes focus on managing stress or addiction counseling.

"If they are going to be here, they need to get busy on the things that cause them to be homeless, so they can get a job, get out and avoid those things," said the Rev. Al Archer, the Lighthouse Mission's minister, who has run the Mission for 29 years. "If there is a physical or mental illness that has brought them here, we try to deal with that differently."

Some Mission residents pay a housing allowance. If they have a job, they pay a prorated fee based on the number of hours they have worked. If the residents receive public assistance money from the state or social security, they pay a flat rate of $210 a month. When a resident leaves, the last month's rent is returned.

Although the Mission is a shelter primarily run for men, women also struggle with hunger and homelessness in Bellingham. The Agape Home, which is also run by the Mission, is for women and children only and accommodates 16 people, whereas the Mission has 80 beds and extra mattresses and bedding to put on the floor. It is a rare occasion when families are split up between the facilities or when a father shows up with a child. If the Agape Home is full, which it usually is, women and children are allowed to stay in the Mission.

Some people find the Mission is a long-term solution to their struggles. Reublin had been living and working at the Mission on and off for more than a year when he assumed the graveyard shift at the front desk. He worked that position for a while, slowly receiving better shifts, until one day he was asked to be the front desk manager. He then moved into the food service manager position and eventually became a residential manager.

"When I first started as a resident manager, I had a hard time disciplining people because they were doing the stuff that I used to do," Reublin said. "Sleeping in the same area as these guys one day and then the next day having to tell them what to do—it just took me a while to get over that."

The operations manager took Reublin aside one day and told him when he lets someone come in drunk and doesn't anything to them, he is essentially enabling them to continue their negative lifestyle rather than helping them.

"Once it was explained to me that way, I realized friendship is one thing, but we have rules here, too, that have to be followed," Reublin said. "We have a lot of people upstairs that are trying to

"One of the greatest joys is to see one of those people turn their life around and be able to take over the reigns of a job."
—Rev. Al ArcherLighthouse Mission Minister

stop drinking, and drugs and this and that, and here's this guy sleeping right next to them that smells like he just crawled out of a beer barrel. It's hard on them."

As residential manager, Reublin is in charge of the building when the other staff is gone. He settles disputes, monitors medication and takes care of any women who are staying the night.

"Basically, just run the whole place and make sure it doesn't burn down and no real problems arise," Reublin said.

Archer said he gets a good feeling when the regular staff is at home and former alcoholics and drug addicts are in charge of the Mission.

"To know that a hundred people are in their hands and are being taken care of — to me, it just doesn't get better than that," Archer said.

About half the Mission's 23 employees first came to the Mission in search of food and a place to live. These employees are called resident staff because most still live at the Mission.

"One of the greatest joys is to see one of those people turn their life around and be able to take over the reigns of a job," Archer said.

Archer said he felt the calling to go into ministry during his four years in the Navy. After finishing his service, he earned a bachelor's degree from Western, majoring in sociology with a minor in psychology. He then completed another four years at Theological Seminary with a focus in social ministries. He had always been interested in delinquency, and for his fieldwork at Theological Seminary, he chose to work in a detention center.

Delinquency is only one of the factors bringing people to the Mission. Conditions are about an equal three-way split between people who are unemployed, physically disabled or mentally disabled. Although they don't give advice, employees within the Mission are trained in areas ranging from alcohol and drug abuse to mental health. The Mission sends some residents to a counseling and mental health facility in the community to receive testing and medication prescriptions.

"We don't look at ourselves as being [mental health] professionals," Archer said. "But we look at ourselves as recognizing when a person needs to see a professional."

Most people can tell if someone is not thinking clearly, Archer said. He told a story in his calm Kentucky drawl about an experience at the Agape Home. A woman checked in and asked Marty, a counselor, if she could join her for Sunday service at the First Presbyterian. Marty, a serious woman with little humor about her, took the woman to her church. After the service, the woman told Marty that she didn't like it at First Presbyterian.

"Oh you didn't?" Marty asked. "Why, didn't you feel comfortable there?"

"I felt like they were staring at me," the woman said.

"Well, maybe that's because you are wearing a football helmet," Marty said.

"And she was wearing a football helmet," Archer said. "This is kind of what I am trying to illustrate. You don't have to have a doctorate to have some thought that that lady needs to see somebody to help her with her issues."

Archer said one of the hardest aspects of his job is seeing what the mentally ill and homeless children have to go through.

"It's hard to see how the mentally ill are treated in our society, how they are ignored under the guise of treatment or the guise of being kind to them," Archer said. "It's especially hard to see what happens to mentally ill women who are out on the streets because they have no place to go. Sometimes their behavior is such that it makes it impossible for them to be in the women's home and I really wish we had a home for mentally ill women only."

Despite the 80 beds in the Mission and 16 beds in the Agape home, more space is always needed.

"There's usually always more people than we have beds for," Archer said.

The Mission recently purchased a building across the street. After the building is renovated, it will house 20 men from the Christian life and Resident Staff Work programs. Archer hopes it will be finished by this fall.

The summer months are a time of increased population at the Mission because migrant workers come to town to pick strawberries and raspberries, Archer said.

"Usually [occupancy] will start going up toward the end of the month on both the meals and the beds, because some people are on welfare and their money will run out before the end of the month," he explained.

The Mission has a supply of clothes for the residents to wear for job interviews. The goal is to get residents out as quickly as possible in order to clear space for someone else to have the opportunity to get back on their feet, Archer said.

Victoria Bash cooks stir-fry in the Soups On kitchen. Bash said Soups On lunches come from ingredients donated to the program and they somehow find a use for "just about everything."

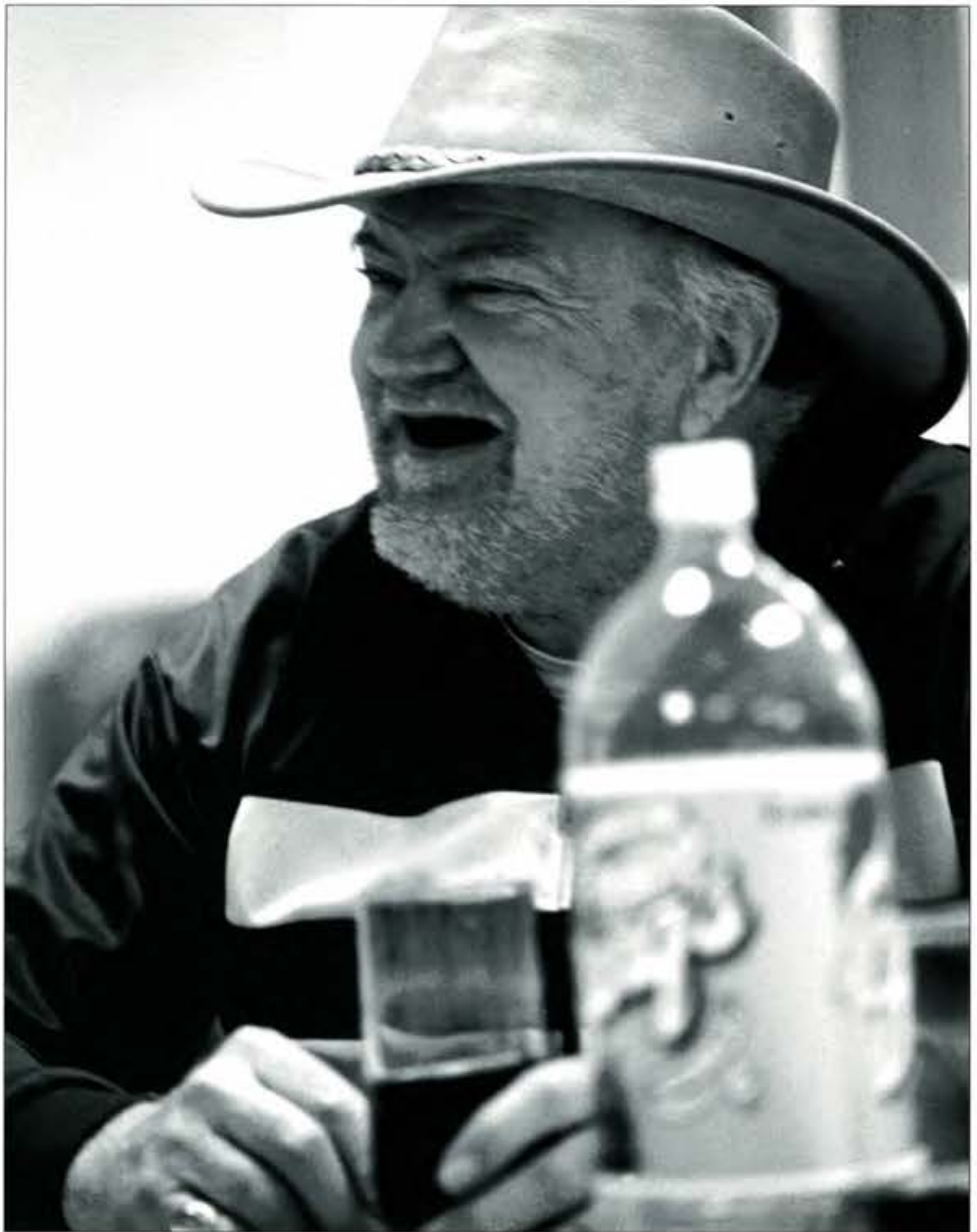
"I've seen so many success stories leave this place," Reublin said. "People come in, have one set of clothes they're wearing, get lucky within a week and find a job. A month later they are moving out, have an apartment, they're doing real good and then they get a vehicle. You know, I've seen it more than once; I've seen it more than 10 times, maybe more than 20 times. This place does do what it's supposed to do and what we like to do."

The Mission is not the only Christian establishment in town working to administer the poor. The Vineyard Christian Fellowship on State Street runs a meal program called Soups On.

Volunteers at Soups On prepare lunch every Tuesday and Friday, and open the doors to anyone, no questions asked. Although there are exceptions, many visitors are homeless and a high percentage have drug or alcohol problems, Marty Knapp, the Pastor of Vineyard Fellowship, said.

Knapp started the church six years ago out of his living room. In May of 1999, he took over the Soups On program, which was previously run by the campus Christian organization, the INN of First Presbyterian. The INN had cut the meals down to one day a week and was struggling. Knapp moved his church into the same building as the INN's offices and took over the program, using the same kitchen and many of the same volunteers.

The inside of the building, which is essentially a renovated bowling alley, smells like new construction and has no windows. The dining room has five long tables with pastel linens and flowers set on top. Clothes and shoes are piled in one corner, ready to be looked over and used by anyone who wants them. Down the hall from the dining room are the restrooms, each equipped with handicapped accessible showers. Two sets of stacked washers and dryers are also provided. The dining room can accomodate 65 people at a time, and an average of 100 come each day. As with the Mission, attendence increases near the end of the month.



Below: Curlen Randolph is involved in a pre-lunch conversation with Noel Taylor Jr. in the Soups On dining room. **Above:** Noel Taylor Jr. said he enjoys Soups On.

Instead of serving the food buffet style to lines of people, volunteers provide table service. The menu includes separate courses of salad, entrée, dessert and coffee.

"We don't make people line up," Knapp said. "We wanted to honor people and not make them feel like part of a program. We wanted them to feel like they were at a restaurant."

Volunteers at Soups On try to do something extra for diners around the holidays.

Victoria Bash, a volunteer at Soups On for three years, said she loves playing Santa to those that appreciate it. The first Christmas Soups On hosted, a group of students from Vista Middle School in Ferndale volunteered to play Christmas carols with a string ensemble. A group from the Happy Valley School also came to sing to the guests. The guests were also given various gifts including hats, gloves and socks.

"These are folks who are used to being told, 'Get out of here. We don't want you,'" Bash said. "To be invited to dinner is pretty neat for most of them but to be invited to dinner, have live music and a Christmas present — people were in tears. The biggest part to me were the really tough older men. They are sitting there, and their eyes are all misty, and they have tears coming down their cheeks. I've seen some break into giggles when they get presents."

Knapp said the best part about his job is bringing people a little hope. Many of the people coming to Soups On have been through horrible circumstances; some have a debilitating disease and are in a cycle of despair. He said he first became a pastor because he wanted to help people.

"Human beings aren't meant to go it alone," he said.

A WHOLE NEWELL *Ballgame*

When Dan Newell was named manager of the Bellingham Bells, he knew exactly where to find knowledgeable coaches — his own family. Tyler Hendrick tells the story of a busy family that uses baseball to stay in touch with each other. Photos by Heather Trimm.

Anthony and Brandon Newell stride into the living room of their grandparents house, talking to their parents, Dan and Kim, and apoligizing for being late. As they are talking, Kim is setting up a laptop computer in the living room. Sean Linville, Brandon and Anthony's cousin, comes into the living room and the conversation turns to baseball.

The family has gathered around the computer to listen to a Southeast Louisiana State University baseball game. Jesse, the youngest Newell at 21, plays for the team, and the only way for the family to hear his games is to listen on the Internet.

Dan stands in the middle of the living room pretending he is up to bat, taking practice swings and waiting for the pitcher to give him his best pitch. Jesse's team comes up to bat. The family members know he will be up, soon so they listen more intently.

He finally comes up to bat and gets two quick strikes. The family starts talking to Jesse like he is standing in the living room. They shout encouragement and tips so he can get a hit. He fouls off a few more pitches, then gets one in play and a hush falls over the living room as the announcer calls the play.

"The ball is hit to the second baseman. He can't handle it, and Newell is safe at first!"

Kim yells, "woo hoo" and Dan turns away from the computer and gives a short, crisp "yes."

This family that has such a passion for baseball makes up the coaching staff of the Bellingham Bells. The Bells are a semi-professional baseball team that plays its games at Joe Martin Stadium. The father, Dan Newell, is the manager of the Bells; his son, Brandon, is the pitching coach, his other son, Anthony, is the first base coach and his nephew, Linville, is the third base coach.

The four of them coach and manage the Bells for free. Dan said they made an agreement last year with Tony Larson, owner of the Bells, to coach the team for free so baseball could get up and running again in Bellingham. From the mid 1970s to 1996, Bellingham hosted minor league teams affiliated with the Seattle Mariners and the San Francisco Giants, respectively. In 1996, the Giants moved the club to Salem, Oregon, and Bellingham was without a team until 1999.

Dan, 47, grew up in Bellingham and has been playing baseball since he was two years old. He played with the Bells in the '70s and coached his sons when they were younger as well. He's now the principal at Blaine High School, and says he took the job with the Bells because he loves the game of baseball and wanted his son, Jesse, to

Photo courtesy Dan Newell

Sean Linville, Anthony, Dan and Brandon Newell are the coaches of the Bellingham Bells.

have a place to play during the summer.

"I don't know if we would be doing this if Jesse wasn't at the semi-pro age," Dan says.

Semi-pro baseball is mostly made up of college players from all over the country who come and play for different teams during the summer, after the college season has ended. They make no money for playing — if they were paid it would void their college eligibility. The Bells are part of the Pacific International League and play teams from Everett, Wenatchee, Yakima, Seattle and Portland. They play 29 games during June and July and have a championship at the end of July to see who goes on to play in the National Baseball Congress World Series, in Wichita, Kan. The PIL championship is being played at Joe Martin Stadium this year on the 26-28 of July.

After Dan became manager of the Bells, his first choice for assistant coaches was his family.

"I went to the most knowledgeable people I knew and it just happened to be relatives," he says. "They jumped at it; it was very cool. They were the first people I asked and they all thought it was a great idea."

Like his father, Brandon Newell, 30, began playing baseball at a young age. He played Little League in Bellingham and later played for the University of Washington. After he completed his four years at UW, he signed a professional baseball contract and played for several teams up and down the East Coast. He now works as a scout for the Milwaukee Brewers.

Dan's nephew, Sean Linville, who is the same age as Brandon, says he shares the same passion for baseball with his cousin and uncle.

"I like giving back to the game," Linville says. Because so many coaches took time out of their lives to coach him, he says he wants to return the favor. "What baseball gave me in my life experiences I want someone else to have. I really feel like it is my obligation to give back to this community."

Linville works for Pro Stock Athletic Supply in Bellingham and grew up playing baseball with Brandon. He played at Washington State University for three years before transferring to UW to play.

Although he and Brandon were at the same college, they never got a chance to play together — NCAA rules state that transfering players must sit out one year before they may play. By the next year, Brandon had signed a contract with a pro team.

Anthony Newell, 23, who is the first base coach for the Bells, goes to school in Louisiana with his younger brother Jesse. He says he enjoys baseball as much as his family and learned the game from them.

"I learn a lot from these guys everyday," he says. "These guys know so much more about the game than I do. I am just trying to pass it along to my little brother."

The Newells love to spend time together, but because of their jobs and school, they don't get to see a lot of each other during the year. Coaching gives them the opportunity to be together on a daily basis.

"We don't find a whole lot of time during the rest of the year to spend with each other," Brandon says. "Our jobs are taking us different places, so this almost makes us spend time together."

Their first game last year could have gone smoother, but it's still an experience they will never forget.

"Most of the time we are yucking it up," Dan says. "The first night we were down in Portland, and it was a Murphy's Law day." He says the team's uniforms made them look like the Bad News Bears, and he was wearing tennis shoes instead of cleats. Plus, he'd forgotten to bring belts for the uniforms.

"It was raining, we didn't have a chance of winning, we didn't have a catcher, half our team wasn't there, but it was still so enjoyable," he says.

Being part of a family means having arguments and disagreements. But for this family, there is no fighting when it comes to baseball. They have a firm belief in being respectful of each other's ideas.

"I am a strong believer in putting together everybody's ideas and coming up with the best solution," Dan says. "I am constantly asking these guys for their ideas and when it is all said and done they feel like their input was honored."

"Our family is really close and this gives us an opportunity to spend a lot of quality time together."

— Dan Newell

The Newells don't know how long they will continue coaching the Bells and they all say it wouldn't be as much fun if they weren't all there.

"My guess is this year and next and that will be it for me," Dan said.

Brandon said he is taking it on a year-to-year basis.

"I really enjoy doing this, but a lot of this is being around these guys," he says. "Without these guys I would have a hard time doing this."

Linville says he wasn't sure he was going to come back this season, because last year it was difficult being away from his 4-year-old daughter so much.

"The time away with a young child is very very hard," he said. "I didn't think I was going to do it this year but I had so much fun. I would never do it without these guys, but at the end of this season I might love it so much I might do it again."

Assumed

Fifty to 75 percent of sexually active people will contract Human papillomavirus in their lifetime. Tamara Harvey wades through the misconceptions of HPV, the most common and misunderstood sexually transmitted disease.

It may be fatal, or not. It may cause genital warts, or not. Human papillomavirus (HPV) is a sexually transmitted disease that is causing confusion among doctors and victims.

Last year, Ingrid (not her real name), a 22 year-old Western student, went to the doctor for an STD test and to get a prescription for birth control pills. Doctors told her that her Pap smear results, an examination of the cells on the cervix, came back abnormal. The news came as quite a shock.

"That's the last thing that I thought, that I would have something," Ingrid said.

She was diagnosed with a condition called cervical dysplasia, which is the growth of abnormal or precancerous cell in the cervix. The condition was the result of an HPV infection. Not all women diagnosed with cervical dysplasia get cancer. Close monitoring is used to prevent further cell changes.

Today more than 20 million people are known to be infected with HPV. An estimated 50 to 75 percent of sexually active people will get the virus some time in their lives. More than 80 different strains of the HPV virus exist. According to the American Social Health Association (ASHA), some strains are high-risk and lead to cancer in the cervix, anus and penis. The low-risk strains may lead to genital warts.

According to the Washington State Department of Health there is no cure for HPV. Genital warts can be removed by freezing, burning, applying topical creams or treating with laser surgery. But 25 percent of people who get treatment will have a wart again within three months. Twenty to 30 percent of all warts go away without treatment.

Condoms cannot fully protect against contracting HPV because the virus is transmitted by skin-to-skin contact.

"HPV is not obvious, it's invisible," Ingrid said. "Everyone says that using a condom, you are protected, but they don't protect against HPV. Safe sex isn't really safe."

From a folder in her room, Ingrid retrieved the paperwork that was sent to break the bad news. She stumbled over the scientific jargon as she read the letter aloud. The letter finally ended with "it is recommended that you should return every six months."

"I felt dirty because I was concerned about getting genital warts," Ingrid said.

"Then I got pissed off because I thought a certain boy had lied to me about how many partners he had. I have always used protection, so that pissed me off even more."

According to ASHA, HPV is the most common sexually transmitted disease in the United States.

A large number of college students are infected with the HPV virus and don't know it, said Dr. Emily Gibson, Director of Medical Services at Western's Student Health Assessment and Information Center (SHAIC).

Ellen Hauge, a nurse at Seattle OBGYN, estimated 70 percent of the sexually active population carries the virus. She said the virus is dangerous because it can be spread asymptomatically, meaning even if a person does not have a lesion, he or she can still spread the virus to their partner, who may develop lesions.

Gibson said this is because some people are predisposed to developing symptoms while others are not.

Western student Sara (not her real name), 22, found out she

Safety

tested positive for the virus after an annual physical with her family practitioner. Sara said her doctors were unhelpful because they were uneducated about the virus and its effects.

"They brought out the health dictionary and read it to me because they didn't know about it," she said.

Sara said her family practitioner misinformed her about the severity of her HPV, causing her an unnecessary amount of anxiety.

"I was thinking I couldn't have sex again," Sara said. "I was thinking I was dirty. It was really traumatic. I wanted to kill myself. I thought everyone would view me as a dirty girl, and I only had unprotected sex one time."

Doctors told Sara she would need a colposcopy, a diagnostic test that determines the cause of abnormalities found in Pap smears. A colposcopy is a visual examination of the cervix and it's generally a simple and painless procedure, though some women, such as Ingrid, find the procedure uncomfortable.

Sara visited a gynecologist in Seattle to get the colposcopy. It wasn't until then, weeks after her original diagnosis, that she learned there are different strains of HPV. Sara said the gynecologist told her she did not have the strain that leads to genital warts.

"HPV is not obvious, it's invisible. Everyone says that using a condom you are protected, but they don't protect against HPV."

— Ingrid, HPV carrier

HPV can take months or even years to show up. Even without symptoms or visible warts the virus can still be transmitted, Gibson said.

"Sometimes the wart virus can be there and not be noticed," she said.

In males, HPV can be as unnoticeable as a flat dry patch on the penis. A woman can have a wart on her cervix and not know.

"She doesn't know if she has an active lesion or not, you can't see up there," Hauge said.

Two forms of HPV are most dangerous for women.

"Type 16 and Type 18 are the two forms that cause cervical cancer," Gibson said.

Each year an estimated 12,900 cases of cervical cancer are diagnosed in the United States. Approximately 4,400 women die from the disease every year. Typically, one woman a year is diagnosed with cervical cancer at the Student Health Center at Western.

Few methods of detecting the virus in males are currently available, unless there is an actual lesion, Gibson said. Women usually find out they're infected when they get a Pap test during annual checkups. She said often people who test positive for the virus still have unanswered questions.

"Most people who test positive for HPV don't know what type they have," she said.

Gibson said a new form of DNA testing can distinguish between different strains of HPV. This would let carriers know whether or not they carry a high-risk strain, but at a cost of $80 to $100 per test, it is rarely used.

The Washington State Department of Health said some genital warts are so small they can't be seen with the naked eye. Ranging in color and size, visible warts appear as growths or bumps. They can be single or grouped in clusters.

Although genital warts have been around for centuries, it wasn't until the 1970s that doctors discovered there were different strains of the virus. Before that, doctors believed only one virus caused all types of different body warts, Gibson said.

Gibson recommended using latex barriers, including condoms, dental dams and gloves, during all sexual activity, but she insisted there is only one way to positively prevent HPV infection.

"Abstinence is the best way to reduce your risk of getting HPV," she said. "You have to be extremely cautious in your sexual activity."

and...action?

So you wanna be on TV? Well, it ain't easy — just ask the Western students trying to start a campus television station. They tell **Heather Baker** about the complications and regulations they've encountered along the way and why they think it's all worth it. Photos by Heather Trimm.

It's a warm, sunny day at Western, and Brian Rudin and Casey McNerthney decide to stop studying and go outside to enjoy the rare weather. Heading to the parking lot, they leap down stairs and bump off each other to the tune of OMC's "How Bizarre." When they get to their car they see a little yellow envelope on the windshield. They know exactly what's waiting inside the envelope.

"What? Another ticket?" McNerthney screeches with his hands on top of his reddish hair. "I can't believe this!" Rudin tries to say his line, but instead covers his mouth and doubles over laughing.

The camera stops rolling and McNerthney and Rudin take their places and prepare to shoot the scene again. They try it again with more emotion and bravado and this time it's McNerthney who starts laughing. It takes four tries and a few dialogue changes, but they finally get the shot they wanted.

The scene is a part of a show called "The Spins," a sketch comedy show the pair is making to broadcast on KVIK, Western's newly formed television station. The "No Parking" sketch, which is about three minutes long, took two hours to film and 30 more hours in post-production editing.

The station is the result of efforts by Phil Shuyler, president of the Western Broadcast Club, to provide students with a showcase for their video-producing talents.

The show was set to premiere May 7 on KVIK, channel 15, but a problem came along that forced the cancellation of the broadcast.

A week before the air date, Shuyler, a junior marketing major, received a phone call from Western Video Services manager Noel Newell that made his heart skip a beat. She said Residence Life officials had a concern about the broadcast premiere and weren't going to allow them to broadcast the show.

Residence Life, the department in charge of on-campus housing, holds the contract with the school's cable provider. They decided there needed to be clearer guidelines about who has permission to broadcast.

"Our concerns are not with KVIK directly but with who has the right to broadcast," says Tasha Yules, Residence Life assistant director.

Residence Life has postponed the air date twice so far, and the club members have no idea when their shows will actually premiere.

"We need more time to set the policies," Yules says. "We're at a very early research stage right now. Part of the issue is who has access and part is who has jurisdiction. We need time to figure out where we stand." She says she does not even know if Residence Life is the agency in charge of granting access to the station. But she said the staff is continuing to work to figure out who is in charge.

"The ball is rolling," she says. "It's just not the KVIK ball that's rolling."

Shuyler says he's puzzled by Residence Life's stance on the issue.

"Residence Life seems kind of confused," he says. "They seem to be wanting to take control, but we're having trouble figuring out what their role is in this." He feels the station's student staff should be in charge of programming, not Residence Life. He says he has drafted a constitution that outlines station procedures and requirements for broadcasting shows.

"I don't know if [Residence Life officials] think we don't want to take that responsibility, but we do," Shuyler says. "They think this is just a bunch of students throwing anything on the air. We are serious, we have structure and we're thinking this through."

The complications haven't stopped club members from working on their shows, however.

"They are committed, enthusiastic and organized; all the ingredients that are necessary to kick something off as complex as this project," Newell says.

Shuyler can often be seen talking on the phone with a Western administrator and trying to build support for the station. He carries a black notebook filled with information about KVIK shows, people he has talked with, people he still needs to talk to and plans for the future of the station.

"I put in 20-30 hours per week talking to people and sending e-mails," he says. "Plus, I am thinking about the different ways to promote the station and get the shows to a point we can air them. I wish I could spend more time doing this and not have to go to school. The further we come along the more obstacles we face."

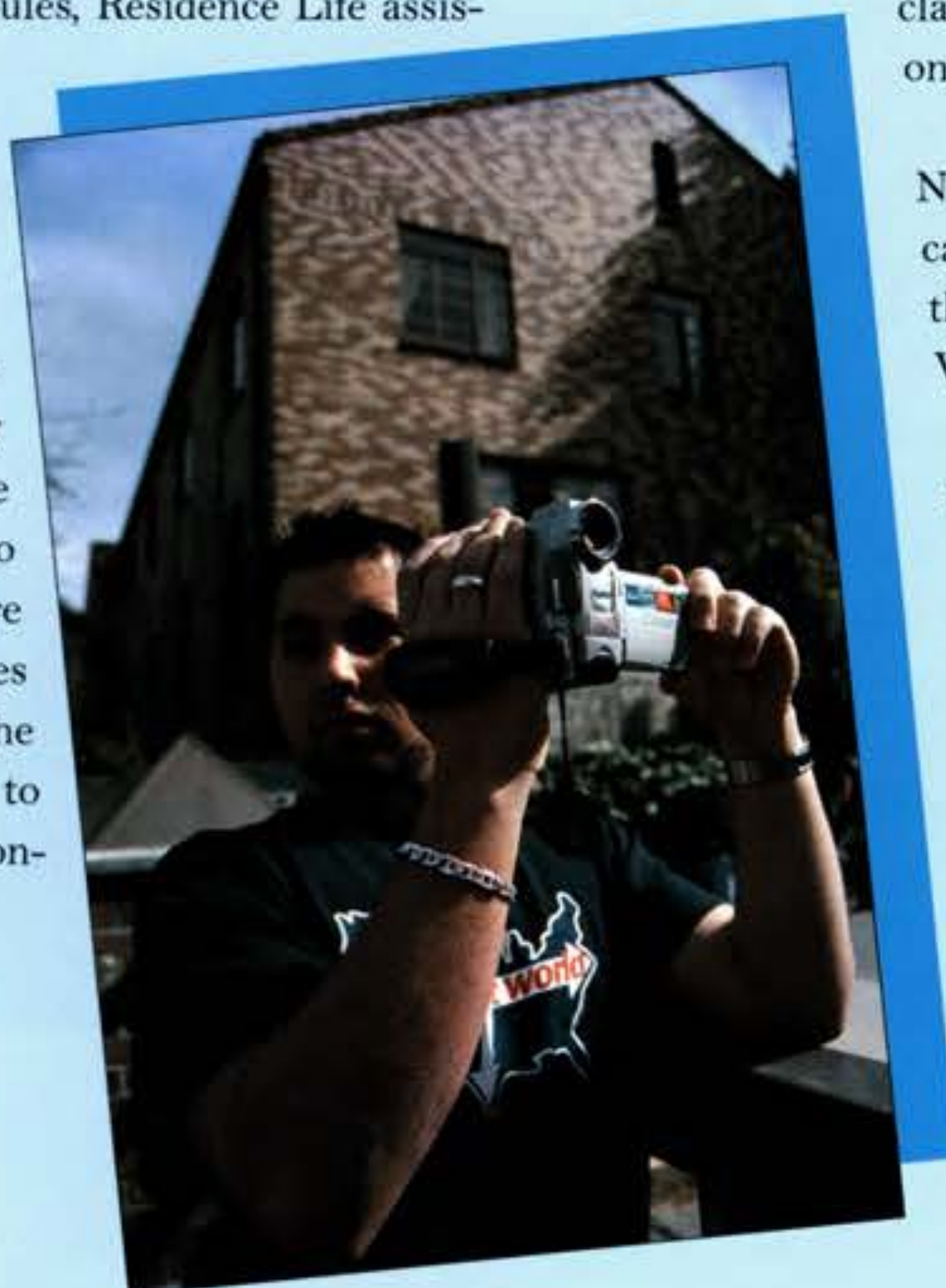
Shuyler says in one instance, the club thought it had approval to broadcast, and then another branch of Western's administration immediately stepped in and ask to hear the club's proposal. In the beginning, Shuyler talked with every department chairman about the station and asked if students in that department would be interested in participating.

He first got the idea of broadcasting when he took a video production class through the communications department. The class taught him how easy it would be to broadcast on the campus's blank cable channels.

"The technology has been around for years," Newell says. The only problem was that the old cable system offered such poor signal quality there was little point in broadcasting anything. With recent upgrades, all that has changed.

The college sometimes uses the blank channels to broadcast lectures and videos for individual classes. Shuyler went to Newell and asked if it was possible to broadcast videos to dorm rooms and she said it was.

With that knowledge, Shuyler decided to start his own station. He formed the Broadcast Club fall quarter of last year. The club has



Opposite page: Brian Rudin and Casey McNerthney tape a skit for "The Spins," a comedy show scheduled to air on KVIK. **Left:** Jim Nardo films Rudin and McNerthney doing a skit based on parking problems at Western.

since expanded to roughly 15 members, though the number fluctuates. Shuyler says he hopes once the station is on the air more people will join the club.

The focus of the club is to produce entertaining programming that still follows Federal Communication Commission regulations. One of the concerns Residence Life had was how to censor material. Shuyler, Newell and Residence Life officials agreed to form a review committee to view the shows. The committee would be responsible for not only previewing material, but also making sure such things as copyright laws are followed. If producers want to use music for their shows, they may only use 10 percent of the song or 30 seconds, whichever is less.

"We realize there will definitely be controversial subjects," Newell says. "However, these subjects can bring about dialogue that in turn can bring better understanding to issues. Sometimes it will be irreverent, I'm sure, but if done well — not slanderous or libelous — why not?

"TV 15 [KVIK] is an activity that is worthwhile, and the University Residence staff does recognize this fact. However, the broadcasting medium can also be controversial and at times disrespectful. What is meant to be funny or ironic may come across as sexist or racist. There needs to be a mutually understood policy that sets responsibility, procedures and criteria of student television."

Shuyler insists the review board will allow students a fair amount of latitude.

"We're not going to be very strict," he says. "The whole idea is to allow students to have a place where they can show off their work."

It costs nothing to broadcast on campus and he says any student with an interest should have access to the station.

"To broadcast on campus is our right as students because the capabilities are there," Shuyler says. "If we can get it approved by the right people, then it is our right to use the technology Western offers.

Shuyler has big plans and sees KVIK and the Broadcast Club as separate entities. The club would be a support mechanism for KVIK, but the club would do other activities besides producing and running the station.

The station's tentative weekly broadcast is two hours long, with four 30 minute shows.

"The ball is rolling. It's just not the KVIK ball that's rolling."

- Tasha Yules, Residence Life assistant director

McNerthney says when students find out a television venue exists for their ideas, club membership will grow. It's the club's goal to make an impact in campus dorms, he says. Students living on campus are the only audience for KVIK, since it cannot be seen off-campus, though Shuyler hopes to eventually broadcast on local cable.

McNerthney says his "Spins" co-host Rudin is like a brother to him. Both worked together at KUGS 89.3 FM, the campus radio

station. They co-hosted a show called "The Pre-Funk Party To Go," airing last year on Fridays from 4-6 p.m.

McNerthney says he admires Rudin's intelligence, which he says is the key to humor. He says he likes having a friend who can add to his own ideas and make them even better.

Rudin, a political science and Spanish double major, says he and McNerthney have a chemistry that allows them to play off each other's humor.

"We know where the other one is going," he says.

As much fun as they seem to have making shows, McNerthney says it's also a lot of hard work.

"One thing about production is if you allocate an hour for it; it will take four," he says. He estimates that he and Rudin spend 10-15 hours per week filming and editing a show.

One can see their relationship at work as they stand with camera in hand talking about how they will shoot the next scene and going over any last minute changes in the script. Sometimes friends have to remind them that they still need to shoot the scene.

"We need to get on these guys," cameraman Jim Nardo says. "They'll talk forever."

McNerthney, a marketing major, says he applies what he learns in the classroom to his producing job on the show. He says he is not interested in making shows that appeal to the masses;

instead he is interested in making something distinctly Western.

Parking frustrations, hippies and the ads about how many drinks the average Western student consumes are the few things addressed in the premiere episode. The show also features local music acts.

Another show ready for broadcast is simply called "The Cooking Show," hosted by Brandon Ivey, a lanky journalism major, and his stout, talkative co-host, Mike Murphy. This Laurel and Hardy facsimile met in Dead Parrots Society, a Western improv comedy group.

This isn't the first time with a video camera for either of the hosts. Ivey recently submitted a film to the Western Film Festival and Murphy produced a live-action variety show when he was in high school.

The show, which was originally going to be a late night talk show, comes from an "age old passion for cooking and comedy," Murphy says.

"The idea got warped when we added more people," Ivey says. "We kept it to five guys. There are already too many cooks in the kitchen as it is, if you know what I mean."

"The Cooking Show" is unlike other shows of its type, which simply feature a cook and a kitchen. The cast of this show includes a troll, baseball players, construction workers and a robot, who all come together to make kielbasa pizza.

"We try to make simple dishes one can cook using a George Foreman Grill," Murphy says. "The cooking segments are aimed at starving college students."

Shuyler remains confident about the future of the station and says he doesn't want all their hard work to go to waste.

"We're quickly running out of time," he says. "We've only got a few weeks left in the quarter."

Yules, from Residence Life, said she understands KVIK's frustrations, but insists they will not proceed until the questions of regulating access and identifying who should be in charge of the stations are answered.

"I understand their sense of urgency," she says. "While they feel very urgent, we need time to do what we need to do to figure this issue out."

If they can't reach an agreement with Residence Life before the end of the quarter, Shuyler says they may record the shows on video tapes and sell them for a small fee.

Shuyler says he's worried about his club members thinking that the station doesn't exist and never will because the air dates continue to be pushed back.

"I e-mail them telling them we are making progress," he says. "It doesn't look like it, but we are making progress."

"We're quickly running our of time. We've only got a few weeks left in the quarter."
- Phil Shuyler, Western Broadcast Club president

Left: Phil Shuyler, the President and founder of the Westerns Broadcast Club. **Below:** Casey McNerthney and Brian Rudin, filming a scene for "The Spins."

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