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KLIPSUN

Western Washington University
April 1992





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RISKY BUSINESS

Blind Date disasters

By Kristin Kline

Jolyn Mason finished putting a few dabs of Eternity perfume behind her ears and waited expectantly for the doorbell to ring.

Casual friends set her up on a "hot" date and she spent all day getting ready. In a new black dress and shoes, she felt stylishly dressed and ready for a good time.

Twenty minutes later the doorbell rang. Opening it, Mason was confronted by a man wearing boots a cowboy hat, flannel shirt, and a big brass buckle with the word "Jerry" spelled out in 3-inch high letters.

Mason kept the dinner reservations at a nice restaurant. She politely listened to Jerry endlessly talk about his string of women, his souped up Chevy and his views of world events. He could have impressed Mason, who said she likes a man who keeps up on politics. However, Jerry's knowledge of world events ended at about 1985.

"It was awful," Mason said. "When he dropped me off

at my door, he tried to kiss me. Then he told me we were going to go out again. I looked him right in the eye and said, 'I'd rather go in my backyard and play with rats.' But, I

should have known better than to let people I only knew casually set me up on a date."

Whether it happens when you're 13 or 35, a date from hell is a familiar story for any generation. From grandmothers to little sisters, everyone seems to have their own personal horror story. Whether you've dated someone for years or were set up on a blind date, when a date from hell happens, it's something you'll never forget.

Kari Finley was only seventeen when she experienced her own date from hell.

Finley's voice lowered with repulsion as she told of her evening. "He was really weird. I found out later he was a drug dealer.

"Anyway, I got my period at some point during the evening, and I didn't have anything with me. I asked him if we could stop somewhere and use a bathroom. He stopped at a house, and said his friend lived there. We went in, and it was totally dark, with only a TV going somewhere. I dived into the near-



Illustration by Scott Sahagian

est bathroom and there was no toilet paper," Finley said.

"I walked out the second door in the bathroom into a bedroom. Five girls, in various stages of undress were in bed with one guy. My date was talking to them all like nothing out of the ordinary was going on. I asked for toilet paper, and I had to walk out into the kitchen and get it, and back through the bedroom into the bathroom. It was awful! I had him take me right home."

But dates from hell don't plague only women. Men also have their share of horrible dating experiences. Dan Lucksted, a paramedic, recalls a date he had while living in Connecticut.

"The girl seemed really nice," he said. "I had dated her a couple of times, and always had a good time."

Lucksted went to his date's apartment for dinner, but found

for a couple of months when they finally had their date from hell.

On Valentine's Day she found a Playboy magazine left in her car after her boyfriend had driven it.

"I was very proud of how I reacted," Baggenstos recalled. "I left Leo a note, telling him I would appreciate him keeping his magazines out of my car, but I understood if he felt the need to look at other pretty girls," Baggenstos laughed.

But her note backfired. "He exploded! He said the magazine wasn't his, and accused me of buying it! Yeah right, as if I want a magazine full of naked women!"

It turned out Leo's little brother had put the magazine in Amy's car as a joke. When Leo went to his parent's home to confront his brother, that's when the evening fell apart.

"His brother, Dave, grabbed a stun gun he had ordered out of a

taken to the hospital.

The memories of a date from hell can linger for a long time, sometimes years after the date is over. Gene Spencer, 50, can still recall his date from hell.

"I was picking up a girl for a formal dance, and she was wearing a long strapless dress. I was in the living room talking to her father and some other people, right by a big picture window. The girl came downstairs, stepped on the hem of her dress, and the whole top of her dress came down," Spencer said.

Spencer tried to save the day. "In a split second, I knew how embarrassed she would be if anyone saw her right then. So I said, 'Look!' And pointed out the picture window. To my mortification, there were two pitbull terriers out in the yard mating. The girl got her dress up, and everyone, including her father, was looking at me like I was

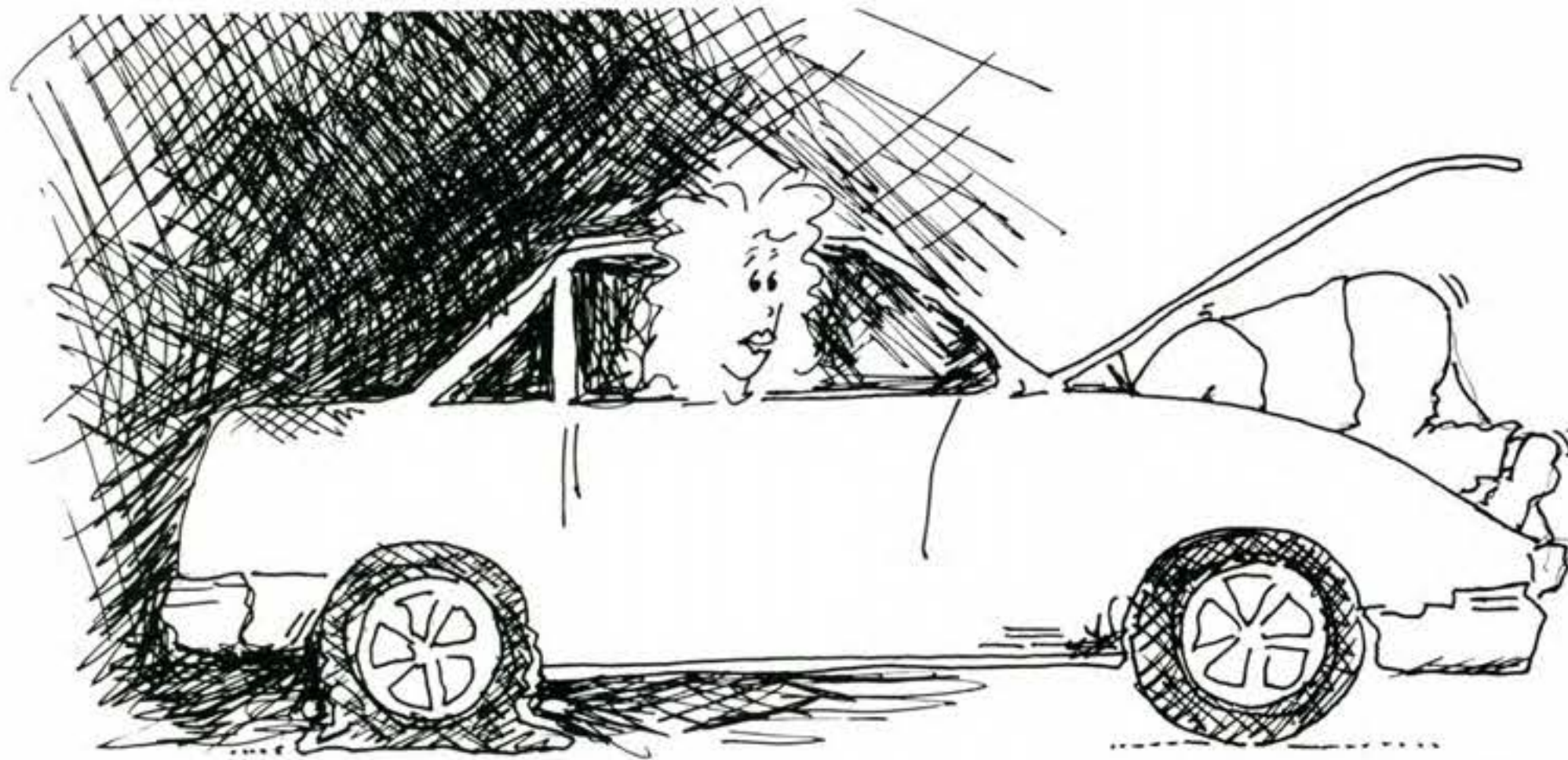


Illustration by Scott Sahagian

instead a lot of candles and books on witchcraft.

He asked her, "Oh, is witchcraft a hobby of yours? She looked at me blankly. 'A hobby? It's my religion.' I got out of there fast," he said.

Blind dates are usually associated with dates from hell, but sometimes the worst dating experiences happen with someone you know, or thought you knew. Amy Baggenstos had been dating her boyfriend Leo

magazine and held it to Leo's head. Leo was trying to grab it, Dave was trying to grab it, his mother was screaming and I tried to take it away from both of them," Amy said.

"Little volts of electricity are shooting in the air. It was something out of a movie!"

Leo and Dave both fell down the stairs in their parents home. They were soon followed by their mother who also fell down the stairs, sprained her elbow, and had to be

some weird pervert or something."

Throw in a bit of bad luck and a date can seem to come from your worst nightmare. But when talking about those dates from hell, laughter is the common denominator.

"The only thing that got me through my date from hell is knowing how I could laugh about it with my friends later," Mason said. ■

EMOTIONAL PIT

College students get help through counseling

FALLS



Illustration by Eric Brown

By Martin E. Knutson

The world is a troublesome place now more than ever. AIDS, economic concerns, homicide, muggers—there are all kinds of scary things to worry about now.

Nearly all of us will have personal disasters throughout our lives, and college students serve as prime examples of people suffering from common emotional ailments.

"College is a pretty hazardous place and students are trying to succeed socially, as well as academically," said Michael King, clinical director of Western Wash-

ington University's Counseling Center.

King said at any moment as many as 10 percent of the student population at Western is probably depressed and 1 to 2 percent of these are clinically depressed, which requires medical treatment.

King said he sees students suffering from homesickness, test anxiety, personal loss, basic-anxiety and depression. Being a college student can intensify an already aversive situation.

"College is the first major transition in life that most students face and it's a very difficult one," said Faye Hayes, a Bellingham therapist and counselor. "Many students have problems learning how to live independently and end up feeling isolated and alone."

Hayes said college students often come to her with relationship problems, depression, adolescent transition and drug and alcohol abuse problems.

Although other people face similar dilemmas, students must also deal with a lack of control over their schedules.

"Students are constantly being told what to do and they rarely have any say in how they conduct their lives," Hayes said.

Hayes said people seem to be more open about their problems and are more willing to seek help. An outcome of this is the formation of the support groups commonly referred to as 12-step programs.

Twelve-step programs are grass-roots organizations where the participants share the same difficulties resulting from family problems, alcoholism, sexual abuse, and other dysfunctional situations they have been faced with.

Hayes said most of the support groups are free, open to the public and easy to find in Bellingham. Meeting dates and times are listed every Thursday in The Bellingham Herald and support groups of many kinds are listed in the yellow pages of the phone book.

"[Support] groups allow people to change, grow and find out that they're not alone...the groups build empowerment in people," Hayes said.

One of the first steps in coming to terms with emotional difficulties should be to normalize one's

anxieties and realize that he or she is not alone or weird, said James Orr, counselor at the counseling center.

"College is a time where the only constant is change and if you can't handle it you're in trouble," Orr said. "We shouldn't disown the part of us that is troubling us."

Orr said college life is nothing like what people deal with on a daily basis in the world outside college. He said he thinks the most difficult aspect of being a student is that life is so fragmented and unpredictable.

Like King and Hayes, Orr said he sees many students working on relationship issues. College students' relationships with parents and friends are constantly changing, and in many cases, the student changes and the parents and friends away from school remain the same, Orr said.

Coming to the conclusion that one needs help coping with his or her problems should be considered a healthy step in the right direction and should not be considered a last resort, Orr said. He said the strong American value of independence is imposed on people making them feel like they shouldn't turn to anyone else for help with solving personal problems.

Orr leads assertiveness training groups that teach skills in coping with common personal difficulties, including irrational belief systems. Most people get locked into an ineffective way of approaching their problems and think they do not have the ability to act any other way.

A person who is effectively assertive directly communicates his or her needs to other people clearly, honestly, with direct eye-contact and without aggression. Aggressive behavior is irrational and usually causes a person to demand something rather than request it.

An assertive way for a person to ask his or her roommate to turn the stereo down would be to say (with eye-contact), "Please turn down the stereo because I am having a hard time concentrating on my homework." An aggressive way of solving this disturbance would be for the roommate to say, "Turn down that damn stereo now!"

Orr said in order for communi-



Illustration by Eric Brown

cation between people to be effective, individuals cannot assume others will or ought to understand his or her needs.

Hayes said counseling requires that each person's problems be approached individually. A variety of methods are used, depending on what the person is suffering from. For example, biofeedback is used to reduce anxiety and to teach the client to relax in order to avoid headaches and high-blood pressure.

Biofeedback is a progressive relaxation technique that uses

monitoring devices to measure muscle tension and galvanic skin response. Through this process, Hayes said the individual learns to monitor, control and reduce the negative effects of stress in his or her life.

Many of the stigmas attached to counseling have been reduced or removed. People are realizing the value of getting help for problems, King said. Understanding the value of counseling may have begun with the parents of present college students since they were college age when counseling became more socially acceptable.

Paul Kovach, senior, said although his friends and roommates serve as his surrogate counselors, he said he would go to a counselor if he felt a personal situation in his life was getting out of hand.

"I don't think there is anything wrong with going to a counselor now and then...it's not like you're a major mental case if you do," Kovach said. "It would seem to good to be true if nothing ever bothered me."

Mark, (who did not want his last name revealed,) senior, said counseling has helped him deal with feelings of uncertainty about his future. Mark said talking to someone who is unbiased and non-judgemental has helped him to figure out his own problems.

"It (counseling) helps you get the things out that are running around in your head," Mark said. "I've gotten some good hints...I feel like I'm stabilized now and just taking things one step at a time."

Contact the counseling center for information on support groups or individual counseling programs available. Brief-oriented counseling services are free to enrolled students at Western and referrals are also available for students seeking more extensive therapy. ■



Loganita

Lummi Island's
weekend retreat

Story by Christina Prather
Photos by Matt Hulbert

When you think of taking a weekend vacation to get away from it all, you don't have to look far. Loganita, a bed and breakfast retreat located on Lummi Island may be just what you need for an escape.

The retreat is set upon a grassy hill overlooking the Strait of Georgia, with views of Orcas Island and Canada's Gulf Islands beyond. The house seems completely isolated, even though the nearest neighbor is just a little way down the road.

One of the San Juans' less populated islands, Lummi is a 17-minute drive from downtown Bellingham plus a 10 minute ferry ride. There are ferries leaving every hour on the hour from 6 a.m. to 12 a.m., and the cost is \$3.

Once at the retreat, its owners, Ann and Glen Gossage, will do everything they can to ensure a peaceful, pleasant stay.

"It's very special, very quiet. It's another world here," Ann said.

The summer home for the Gossage family was opened for guests three years ago when the vice-president of Japan Airlines suggested it to Ann.

At first it was used for business retreats, but within a year and a half, the Gossages had opened their home as a full-time bed and breakfast.

The house and grounds are approaching their 100th year anniversary. It was built in 1898 and began taking guests in 1918. People came who liked to fish, and many cabins were built behind the main house that have long since been removed.

When World War I hit, business at Loganita came to an abrupt halt. Many of the guests were Canadian, and due to financial restrictions imposed by the government, they could no longer afford the get-away.

Legend has it that the original owners, the Grangers, gave Loganita its name. Log stands for lodge and nita stands for beautiful, thus the beautiful lodge.

The Gossages purchased the estate in 1975 from its fourth owner, a woman who had never



The Blue Room has a view of the gardens and water . An adjacent blue-tiled bathroom with a window next to the tub also overlooks the water. The Blue Room comes complete with a king-sized bed and bathrobes, which the guests can use to access the hot tub.

lived inside the main house, and a fire was started in the stone fireplace of the Great Room for the first time in 24 years.

The Great Room is perhaps the most impressive room in the house. It is basically several different rooms tied together. In one corner there is a pool table, and another area has black leather couches covered with sheepskin rugs from Poland. The couches surround a fireplace, and there is a TV off to the side that Ann said seldom gets used.

A long dining table runs down the center of the room, complete with chandelier overhead. Ann said breakfast at the table is one of the many ways guests get to know each other. An average breakfast lasts about two hours with all the conversations that take place.

To the side of the table is another area for sitting, this time in wing-backed chairs. There are books everywhere on every imaginable subject.

Ann recalled what the vice-

president of ABC news once told her, "The trouble with this place, and you can't cure it, is there's just too many wonderful places to sit. I can't make up my mind where I want to sit."

There is a separate room off the Great Room that can be closed off with French doors. This room also contains a fireplace, guitar and grand piano, as well as a TV and VCR.

The white furniture in this room is accented with touches of gold, and a table is placed against the windows in the front of the room. Ann said couples often use this room when they want a little more privacy.

She said guests chose their own level of intimacy. There are as many opportunities to be with other guests as there are ways to be alone.

Ann said guests often meet while sitting in the outdoor covered hot tub or while enjoying a drink by the fire. Loganita also offers a private beach for quiet walks or afternoon picnics.

If students were to come to Lummi Island for the day to bike around or go exploring, Ann said she would be more than happy to let them enjoy her beach, as well as use the restroom facilities at the house.

Loganita has brought guests in from all over the world. Ann said the place has a sort of universal appeal, and that the artwork is especially appealing to Europeans.

The Gossages collect art of all kinds, but their favorite is Northwest art. They also enjoy music. Pavarotti is the house favorite, but a Natalie Cole recording was what Ann called, "a gift of love" from the owner of the Chateau Whistler resort, runs a close second.

One room is the Sunset Suite, which Ann calls the "happy room" and says it's a favorite of honeymooners. The suite has its own deck which leads to the hot tub, and a separate entrance for more privacy.





A table in the Great Room that overlooks a view of the Strait of Georgia.

The room is decorated in white with pictures from different Northwest artists lining the walls, and a Norman Rockwell original hangs above the fireplace. The room always contains fresh flowers and books pertaining to the guest's interests.

Occasionally she said the students who come out with their parents bring a friend with them. For this she recommends a suite in the Carriage House, as it offers more room and privacy for the larger parties.

The Carriage House is one of three suites the retreat offers, as well as two single bedrooms. All the rooms come with their own private bath and bathrobes to be used for slipping down to the hot tub. The largest party Ann said the house can take is 14 to 16.

Most of the rooms offer king size beds with Laura Ashley down comforters and views of the gardens and water. Several of the suites have fireplaces and sitting areas. The house is open from Thursday until Sunday. Prices range from \$85 a night for a single room and a full breakfast, to \$165 for one of the suites.

Outdoor concerts are sometimes performed on the

deck of the house. The first concert they gave was put on by the conductor for Prince Rainier and Princess Grace's symphony in Monaco, and his wife. The conductor was on Lummi Island for the summer visiting his sister, and he said he thought Loganita looked like the perfect place to have a concert.

Their violin/viola duo brought a crowd of 238 people to the front lawn of Loganita.

Ann said she never goes looking for anyone to put on a concert, people come to her. She said it's the same way with her guests. She's never done any formal advertising, yet the retreat is booked weekends in advance and the calls for reservations keep coming in.

Steve Lenge of Bellevue, a recent guest of Loganita, said Loganita is a marvelous place to stay.

"The whole house is articulately decorated," Lenge said. "We were lucky enough to be here on a clear day, and we had a gorgeous view all the way from the Canadian Cascades to Orcas Island. It's a fabulous place." ■

RECYCLING MADE SIMPLE

Apartment dwellers find
a way out of the dumpster



Illustration by R.E. Dalrymple

By Lyle Crouse

"Mayday! Mayday!"

The distress signal's been heard around Bellingham from apartment tenants who want to recycle, but don't receive the curbside recycling service available to homeowners.

"Mayday!"

Some apartment residents who want to recycle don't have the time or transportation to drive their recyclables out to collection sites at the Bellis Fair Mall or Recomp in Ferndale.

"Mayday!"

They can save their recyclables until they have time to drive to a recycling center. But there's not much storage area in an apartment, and it's not practical to

move the refrigerator into the parking lot just to make room for recyclables.

"Mayday!"

Fortunately for apartment tenants, that mayday should be answered on May Day.

May 1 is the goal for offering curbside recycling to apartment complexes, said Jack Weiss, recycling coordinator for the Whatcom County Solid Waste Division.

Recycling Services, Inc., a division of Sanitary Services Co., already offers curbside recycling to Bellingham and Whatcom County homeowners, who leave their recyclables in three stacking bins, ready for pickup.

But Sanitary Services also wants to collect recyclables from apartment dwellers as well as homeowners, using different methods. Under the



Illustration by R. E. Dalrymple

proposed method, instead of giving each apartment tenant a set of three small bins, each apartment complex would have five large, 90-gallon "toters."

Apartment tenants could then put their recyclables in the toters, instead of throwing those valuable recyclable materials away as garbage.

Weiss said the five toters would each be designated for different, specific materials: mixed waste paper such as cereal boxes and newspaper, clear glass, brown glass, and the fifth toter for green glass, aluminum and tin cans.

Apartment tenants will also be able to recycle scrap metal, cardboard and motor oil, but the methods aren't set yet and may be different for each apartment complex,

Weiss said.

The curbside recycling program has progressed one step at a time. After establishing residential curbside service for homes, the next step was devising a plan to offer curbside recycling at apartment complexes.

But turning that plan into reality takes a lot of time.

"It's taken a couple years to get this up and running," Weiss said. He said in 1989, the county's recycling authorities hoped to have the program incorporated by 1991.

"The goals posted have been moving ever since I got here," said Vern Williamson, Recycling Services general manager since 1990.

Sanitary Services charges for the garbage collected

in the county, and has proposed adjustments to its rates to absorb the cost of curbside recycling in apartments.

Weiss said the future of apartment curbside recycling depends on these new rate adjustments, under review by the Utilities and Transportation Commission.

"That's the only real obstacle," he said.

The apartment tenants won't directly pay for curbside recycling: The bill goes to the owner of the entire apartment complex, who will pay commercial fees instead of residential, Weiss said.

The monthly commercial rate apartment complexes currently pay for a one-yard dumpster, emptied once per week, is \$58. The proposed rate adjustment lowers that cost to \$50.80, but adds another \$18.50 for recycling.

Weiss said the rate changes could actually be favorable for apartment complex owners, because the rate structure offers incentives to recycle.

The incentive, Weiss said, is that apartments generating more garbage will pay higher rates. On the other hand, the complexes taking part in curbside recycling, and reducing the amount of garbage generated, will pay lower rates.

"They're going to pay for it, whether they use it or not," he said.

Whether or not the rate adjustment will affect rent depends on apartment owners and tenants.

"It depends on what the owner does," he said. "If the tenants choose not to use it (curbside recycling) at all, rent may go up."

So, that provides incentives for tenants to use the recycling program, thus driving down the owner's commercial rates, which could keep rent at a steady level. And it provides incentives for the owner to promote use of the curbside recycling program.

Sanitary Services will use the

first seven months of the program as a guide to setting permanent rates for collecting recyclable materials. After permanent rates are established, any rate changes would occur annually, Weiss said.

Success of the program relies, in large part, on the apartment tenants, who must learn the proper way to sort and care for recyclable materials, Williamson said.

For example, it's important to protect recyclable containers from contaminants such as mold and bacteria caused by leftover food, rendering recyclable material useless.

Rinsing any remaining food and beverages out of containers before putting them in totes cuts down on the risks of contamination.

If tenants don't sort properly and keep materials free of contami-

for us, is there a good reason to even try curbside recycling?

There are definitely good reasons, according to the recycling professionals.

Lisa Meucci, who oversees advertising and promotion for Recomp, said that Recomp encounters problems in its recycling operation. When trying to separate recyclables from garbage, it's inevitable some of the recyclables become contaminated by contact with trash.

Meucci also said glass products are often broken when they arrive, and colored and clear glass are often mixed together making it impossible to easily sort.

Also, Recomp often has to compost paper instead of recycle it.

"By the time the newspaper and

It's important to protect recyclables from contaminants. Contaminants can render a recyclable material useless, so recyclables should be separated from the rest of the garbage.

nants and garbage, it will make the job difficult for the recycling professionals who handle the large quantities of recyclable materials collected each week.

"Because of the volume of the material, contaminants would be much harder to find," Williamson said.

Weiss said apartment owners and managers can help inform incoming tenants of proper ways to participate in curbside recycling.

"A lot of that has to do with the commitment of the property owners and the managers," Weiss said.

Sanitary Services delivers all of the county's garbage to Recomp on Slater Road in Ferndale, where workers sort and separate recyclables from garbage.

So, if our trash is being recycled

mixed paper are mixed in with the garbage, they are exposed to significant moisture and food contamination," Meucci said.

For those reasons, Meucci said curbside recycling provides a helpful service.

"That creates the opportunity for the material to be sorted at its source," she said.

If the recyclable material is sorted by the homeowner or apartment tenant, the material often remains unbroken, is free from contaminants and, very importantly, is put into its proper tote, eliminating the sorting process at the plants.

"We're significantly effecting what goes to Recomp," Williamson said. "They know what we're doing and they think we're doing a good job." ■



A Day in the Park



Photo by Gerald Reilly

Water rushes under a bridge at Arroyo Park.

By Vanessa Loveland

It's a place where you can fly a kite in the breeze, count shamrocks in patches of grass, read poetry in the shade or lie on your back counting clouds. Some like to spread a red and white checkered blanket on the grass and sit and eat fried chicken, sandwiches and potato salad, brought in a wicker picnic basket. Others like to explore its bountiful nature or use its recreational facilities.

It is a park. Bellingham has 1,700 acres of parklands open to the public. Each park is unique in its plant and wildlife makeup. Whether

the park is orientated for nature lovers or for people interested in fitness and recreation Bellingham parks have something for everyone. However, Cornwall Park, Fairhaven Park, Arroyo Park, Bloedel Donovan Park and Marine Park typify the array of activities offered at all the parks throughout Bellingham.

Cornwall Park

Cornwall Park, located at 2800 Cornwall Ave. off Meridian Street, possesses a lush carpet of green grass sprinkled with leafy ferns and cedar trees. The land was donated 83 years ago by Bertha James Cornwall Fisher

so it could be made into a park. Cornwall Park serves as a memorial for Pierre Cornwall, Fisher's father.

The 65-acre, popular park offers a smorgasbord of opportunities for visitors and is perfect for family outings. If you enjoy tossing horseshoes, checkout the park's horseshoe courts. Or if you are an exercise buff, try the 1.8 mile fitness trail which is home to 19 exercise stations, guaranteed to help tone and condition your entire body.

If slam-dunking a basketball is more your style, try it at the park's basketball court. Or if you would

rather play tennis, you can do so at one of the park's four tennis courts.

A bubbling creek, filled with steelhead, flows through the north-eastern part of the park. If you have a fishing license, grab your rod and reel and fish off the banks of the creek.

Cornwall Park also has a small playground complete with swings and a slide. In the summer, you can take a dip in the park's wading pool.

From June to October, take a stroll through the park's fragrant rose garden where 100 different varieties of roses bloom.

Hungry? Want to roast a marshmallow or barbecue a juicy hamburger or hot dog?

Cornwall Park has barbecue grills available as well picnic tables and two picnic shelters. To rent the large picnic shelter it costs \$4 per hour and to rent the small picnic shelter it costs \$3 per hour. Contact the Bellingham Parks and Recreation Department at 676-6985 for rental information.

Fairhaven Park

Six patches of land sewn together between 1906 and 1946, made Fairhaven Park the 16 acres it is today. Located at 107 Chuckanut Drive, the park was designed by the Olmstead Brothers, who were the sons of Frederick Law Olmstead, architect of Central Park in New York. The park is frequented by families and senior citizens.

Fairhaven Park combines

grassy meadows with a rose garden filled with sweet-smelling roses. The garden also serves as a place for the American Rose Society to test new and old varieties of roses, creating a popular place for summer weddings.

Fairhaven Park offers a number of facilities for picnics and get-togethers. The Pavilion, which can be rented from \$6 to \$12 an hour, contains a fireplace, tables, chairs

start from the park including the 6.3 mile Interurban trail that winds its way south to Larrabee Sate Park and the Lower Padden Creek Trail, which borders Padden Creek and eventually ends at the shore of Bellingham Bay.

For more information or to reserve the Pavilion or the other two picnic shelters call the Parks and Recreation Department at 676-6985.



Photo by Gerald Reilly

and a kitchen, is perfect for family reunions or large groups.

Barbecuing, and don't want your napkins and paper plates to blow off the table? You can seek shelter from the wind in one of the parks' two picnic shelters complete with utilities. The large shelter rents for \$4 per hour and the small shelter rents for \$3 per hour. Outdoor picnic tables and barbecue grills are also available.

Fairhaven Park also sports two tennis courts available for public use year round. For kids who like to climb and slide, the park also has a playground. During the summer heat, the wading pool is open for anyone to cool off in.

For hikers and walkers, Fairhaven Park boasts gravel paths and trails. In addition, several trails

way from Mount Vernon to Bellingham. Today pieces of the trestle remain.

You can explore the wooden fragments of the trestle on the park's canyon walk. The canyon walk is a trail laced with interesting wildlife.

The walk has a footbridge where Chuckanut Creek rumbles underneath, its swirling waters mixing rocks with sediment. Fishing is permitted along the banks of the creek.

In addition, the walk is surrounded by cedar, maple and Douglas-fir trees. On the sides of the walk are clumps of sword fern and bushes bearing red elderberries.

Other trails run through the park including horse trails and the Interurban Trail which extends from Fairhaven Park to Larrabee Park.

Arroyo Park

Nestled in 38 acres of dense forest with a canyon-like appearance is Arroyo Park. Located off of Samish Road the park's quiet setting is ideal for nature enthusiasts.

In the early 1900s, a wooden trestle, 700 feet long and 130 feet high, was built across part of the park, to carry the Interurban rail-

Bloedel Donovan Park

Twelve acres of land on Electric Ave. on Alabama Hill, was donated by Mina and J.H. Bloedel in 1946. The donated land was to be turned into a park. Originally, the land was a lumber yard owned by the Bloedels. Today, pieces of the lumber yard and its mill remain in the southern part of the park. Bloedel Donovan Park, which can become severely crowded especially during summer months, is perfect for the entire family.

The cool waters of Lake Whatcom hug Bloedel Donovan's sandy shores. Take a dip in the swimming area or dive off one of the three diving boards or off one of the two wooden docks. For your safety, from Memorial Day through Labor Day, lifeguards are on watch.

If you have a fishing license, you might try your luck at hooking a fish in Lake Whatcom. Or take your boat out. Bloedel Donovan Park has the only public launch onto lake Whatcom in Bellingham. On weekends and holidays from Memorial Day through Labor Day, 8 a.m. to 6 p.m., a \$2 boat launching fee for Whatcom County residents and a \$6 fee for non-residents is in effect.

Located next to the boat launch is the picnic area featuring picnic tables and barbecues. During the summer a concession stand selling snacks is open.

Bloedel Donovan Park also has shuffleboard and horseshoe courts. Grassy meadows are strewn throughout the park inviting such activities as Frisbee or volleyball.

If you like to toss the football around or play softball, Bloedel Donovan Park offers a large field throughout the year, for both scheduled and unscheduled athletic events. However, you must reserve the field through the Parks and Recreation Department. In addition a fee is charged for use of the field depending on the activity, need of field preparation and time length.

The park also boasts a com-

munity building offering a gymnasium, kitchen and classroom for activities ranging from crafts to flint napping. The rental rates for the facilities range from \$4 to \$16 per hour.

The park also offers its beach pavilion which doubles as a facility for pre-school programs and a place for meetings and family picnics. The cost to rent the pavilion ranges from \$4 to \$12 per hour.

To rent the pavilion or to receive a schedule of events contact the Bloedel Donovan Community Building at 676-6888.

Marine Park

A block away from the Alaska Ferry terminal in Fairhaven, on the shores of Bellingham Bay, is Marine Park. The small beach at Marine Park is ideal for beachcombers hunting for such sea objects as shells, seaweed, starfish and clams and crabs in tide pools. Farther south, a wooden trestle painted with barnacles can be explored.

On sunny days, sunbathers are found laying out on the park's grass. Marine Park also invites picnickers with its covered picnic table area and if you are thirsty, there is soda machine. Around noon workers are commonly seen spending their lunch breaks at the park.

For more information about Marine Park call the Parks and Recreation Department at 676-6985.

Cornwall Park, Fairhaven Park, Arroyo Park, Bloedel Donovan Park and Marine Park are only a sample of the parks that offer you a chance to discover the scenic beauty and recreational activities offered by Bellingham parks. For more information call Bellingham Parks and Recreation Department at 676-6985 or Whatcom County Park Department at 733-2900. ■

Remember, when you are visiting a park to follow Bellingham park code regulations. Park regulations are printed on signs in each park and pamphlets are available at the Parks and Recreation Office located in Cornwall Park. The parks are patrolled regularly by police and if you violate park regulations, you can receive a misdemeanor and fine up to \$500.

If you would like more information call the Parks and Recreation Office at 676-6985 or stop by the office at 3424 Meridian St.

Bellingham Park Code Regulations

1. Bellingham parks are open to the public from 6 a.m. to 10 p.m. everyday.
2. If you want to take your dog to a park, keep the dog on a leash and bring a pooper scooper.
3. No littering.
4. No alcoholic beverages allowed in parks.
5. No firearms or campfires are allowed in parks.
6. No disorderly conduct.
7. No removal or destruction of park property.
8. No overnight camping.
9. No selling.
10. Twenty m.p.h. speed limit in all parks.

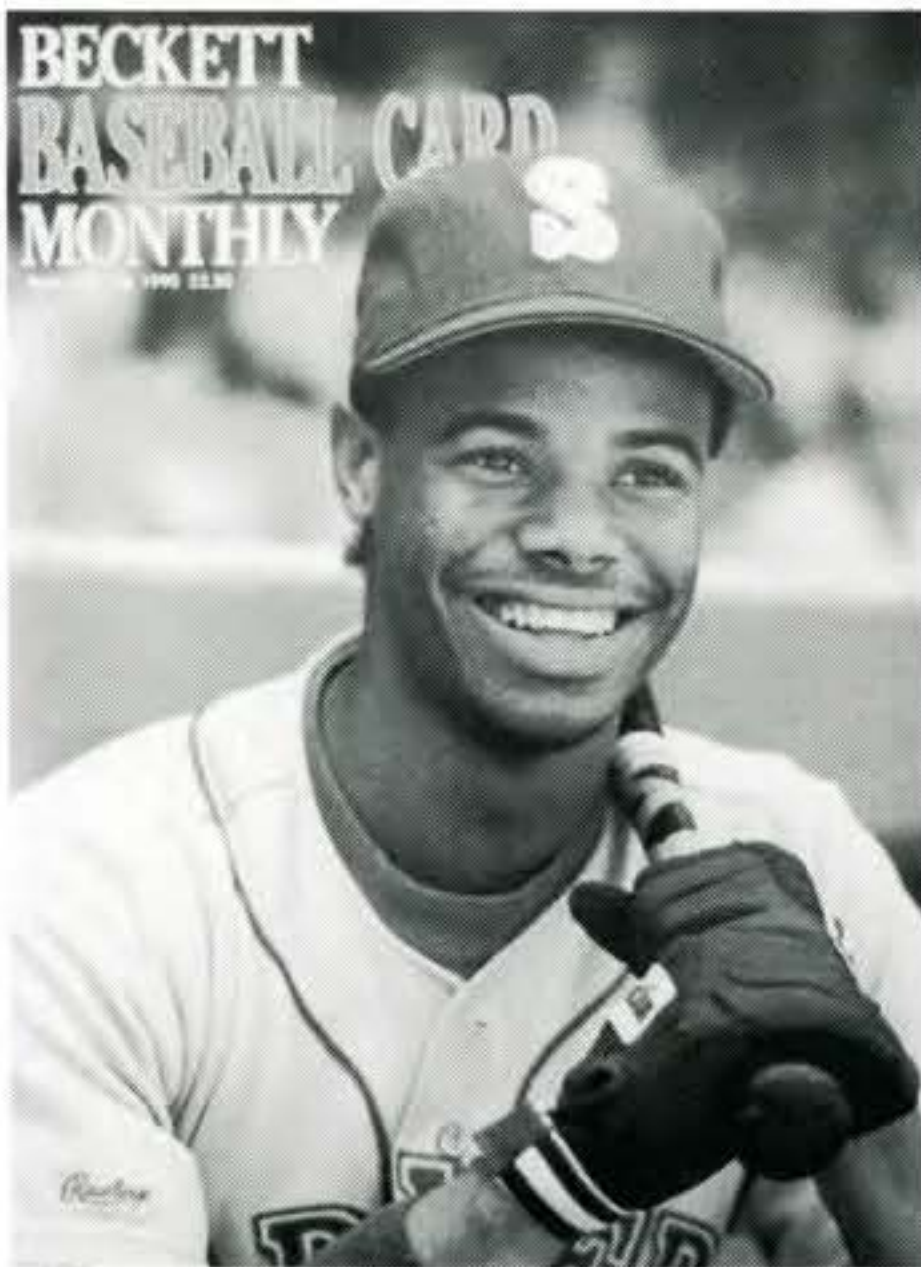


Photo by Gerald Reilly

COLLECTING      

BASEBALL

        CARDS

An American Tradition

By Rob Easley

It was the spring of 1987 when "the Kid" came to town. He came to play centerfield for the Bellingham Mariners Baseball team. He was quiet, young and inexperienced when he arrived, but when he left two years later, this "Kid" was the focal-point of all Baseball.

Ken Griffey Jr. was chasing a dream to follow in his father's footsteps to the major leagues, and his dream swept him through Bellingham. It was here in Bellingham that "Junior" made a name for himself.

During his first season as a Baby M, as they are affectionately called, Griffey Jr. was already making run saving catches and hitting 400-foot homers. People were dubbing him a future superstar. It was also here in Bellingham that Junior's first baseball card was printed.

Griffey Jr.'s minor league card in 1987 was available as part of a team set, largely purchased only locally. Because of Griffey Jr.'s success in Bellingham, his stay was

short-lived as he bounded up to the majors. When Junior made it to the Seattle Mariners, his "rookie card" was printed, and it went nationwide.

Griffey quickly established himself in the majors and began playing like he had in Bellingham. Again, people recognized the superstar he truly is, and the value of his rookie card began to increase.

It has been nearly four years now, and according to a Beckett sports card price guide, a single Upper Deck rookie card of Griffey Jr. is now worth \$60. Ken Griffey Jr.'s baseball card is an example of how much contemporary sports cards have risen in value throughout the past few years.

Sports cards of today have come a long way since their introduction during the 1880s. First introduced by tobacco companies to stiffen the cigarette package, as well as to sell more cigarettes, the first cards were pictures of many different athletes, such as boxers, billiard

players, runners, swimmers, and baseball players.

As the cards became more and more popular, candy companies began to give away cards with their products, using the cards as backing for caramel candies. It was in 1928 that bubble gum appeared with sports cards in an attempt to sell more gum, and it was the Topps Chewing Gum Company that later formalized the prototype sports card of today. Once meant as a sales pitch, sports cards have become an industry.

Evidence of a rising card market can be seen here in Bellingham with the increase in the number of card shops that have opened over the past three years. Paul Kratzig is owner of CanAmerica Sports Trading, 214 N. Commercial, the oldest card shop in Bellingham.

"There used to be one or two shops in town, and now there's 20 or more of them around the county. Instead of one card show

every month, there's two or three every weekend within the region," Kratzig said.

Speaking of the contemporary card market, Kratzig said, "It's going too crazy! It's become a business...a real business. Card companies today are not putting in millions of dollars—it's a billion dollar industry."

"There's so much hype and so much money being put into it—so much advertising, take Michael Jordan or Bo Jackson for example, that the business can't go down," Kratzig said.

The emergence of more card companies is another reason for more local card shops. Kratzig stated three years ago there were only four major card companies producing the top selling cards: Baseball, basketball, football and hockey. The companies were Topps, Donrus, Upper Deck, and

the investor.

"We're a throwback to maybe 10 to 20 years," Kratzig said. "Not very many places have older stuff. We were fortunate when we bought

make some stand out above others, and in turn make those cards worth more," Gladden said.

Take for example a pack of Topps Stadium baseball cards and



Baseball card collectors browse around Fairhaven Card and Comic.

Photo by Gerald Reilly



The popular Ken Griffey Jr. cards. The card on the left is his first card.

Photo by Gerald Reilly

Fleer. Today companies such as ProSet, Leaf, Hoops and Score have emerged, competing with the others and flooding the market with cards.

With so many companies producing a variety of cards, more and more people are opening businesses aimed at selling high volumes of contemporary sports cards.

Although CanAmerica Sports Trading sells contemporary sports cards, Kratzig calls his shop a hobby shop, aimed at the real collectors or

the shop to have a lot of older stuff that was inventory. But simultaneously, I went out and bought it as well because I saw the marketplace changing. I really did," Kratzig said.

The key to selling contemporary cards today is quality, stated Kratzig. Quality wins in the card market; good color, sharp pictures and good statistics all play a role in the sellability of cards.

Jeff Gladden, manager of Fairhaven Card and Comic, agrees. "It's the quality of cards today that

compare them to a pack of Fleer. Gladden said that the Topps Stadium are the "prestige" card of today because of the technology put into making them. Thicker, more durable cards, holograms, sharper images and great color make Topps Stadium a more expensive pack to buy than Fleer.

Fairhaven Card and Comic, 1100 Harris, is one of the newer card shops in town, having been open about two years. FC&C, Gladden said, does carry some of the older-issue cards for the real collector or investor, but it's primary market is for contemporary cards.

"It's a growing business because people are recognizing the market value of new cards," said Gladden. Furthermore, Gladden said he believes the card business has lost more of its collecting value and has become more of an investment.

"Instead of collecting just to collect, people are taking better care of each and every card they get be-



Photo by Gerald Reilly

Devan Schwartz, left, examines a new set of Upper Deck baseball cards; while Nick Valich, right, looks up the cards' values.

cause they know it's going to be valuable in the future. Especially right now because the companies are coming out with the prestige cards," Gladden said.

Gladden said that the card companies themselves have helped drive the value of card even higher. By printing only a limited number of certain cards, the company can control the availability of those cards. The more scarce a certain card is, the more valuable it is likely to become.

"It's supply and demand, and the companies recognize that," Gladden said.

Because the market is becoming flooded with so many cards, not all cards will increase in value as rapidly as others. "People are saying that there's too much stuff out there; that you can't collect all of it—it's impossible. So we're going to see some sets drop off and the value decrease," Kratzig said.

Kratzig said it's the cards that can't keep up with the quality standard set forth by Upper Deck or Topps Stadium, for example, that will drop off in value. "Again, qual-

ity wins out," Kratzig said.

For people interested in starting to collect sports cards, both Kratzig and Gladden offer similar advice. First, one must decide whether to collect or invest. The collector has to decide what sport interests him or her and then buy cards of that sport. After deciding what sport to collect, it is necessary to choose a company.

Companies such as Upper Deck, Topps and Stadium tend to run in a higher shelf price range than companies such as Fleer or Score. Still, collectors may collect only players or certain teams, thus leaving no restrictions on which company to buy. It is easy and less expensive to collect cards you like than to collect cards as an investment.

Usually, the only way to make money is to spend a little first. For those who wish to start investing in sports cards, both Kratzig and Gladden agree on investing in a sports price guide, such as the Beckett sports price guide.

A price guide will not only show the current value of each card

in a particular set, it will also show which cards are hot on the market and which ones are not. The investor can use the price guide to invest in certain cards or sets that he/she feels will turn the most profit in the future.

Gladden also suggested talking to someone in the sports card investment business first, in order to maximize the investment.

Mike Nagle is a Western graduate student who knows the collecting aspect of sports cards. Collecting since 1976, Nagle has amassed over 30,000 card, most of which are baseball.

"I've always liked baseball, and when the Mariners came to town (Seattle), that's when I started to collect cards. I started buying packs and packs, and after I got a paper route I started buying boxes and boxes (of packs), Nagle said.

Nagle admits that his extensive collection is worth some money, but he insists that he's "not in it for the money."

"It's cool that they're worth money and everything, but I would never sell my cards. I have traded valuable doubles I've had for other cards at trade shows before, but I would never just sell my cards," Nagle said.

Nagle said he distinguishes himself from a true investor in that he invests in cards with no intentions of ever selling them. "Some people buy cards only to sell them and make a profit in the future. I'm just a collector who invests into my collection," said Nagle.

Sportscards have indeed come a long way since they were first introduced in cigarette packs and candy wrappers. Although the popularity has always been there for sports cards, it's the quality of the cards of today, as well as the handfuls of quality players who are represented, that have pushed the card industry skyward. ■



By Jeff Collins

As the spring days fill with sunshine they herald the start of a season filled with outdoor activity. The first appearances of blooming crocus, and freshly mowed lawns entice the winter-weary to take to the outdoors.

Anyone walking through Western's narrow campus walkways may find golfers, but not the kind who play with golf clubs, tees and golf carts.

These players still yell "FORE!" and aim for low scores. They're disc golfers - people who mix golf, a disc, Western's campus and sun (when it's available) into a creative blend of sport.

Disc golf, like ultimate disc (its football version) replaces a tiny golf ball with a 12-inch disc, thus changing the complexity of the game. Instead of using a club to putt the ball into a hole, players throw a disc at their target.

Without any formal leagues or official rules, most players have fun making Western's campus - the architecture, benches, lamp posts and trees - an 18-hole golf course.

"It's a stress reliever," Troy Ragsdale, a senior majoring in journalism said. "A game takes an hour or two to play, and it's nice to play in the late afternoons...just before dinner."

Ragsdale and his former roommate Kevin Johnson and five of their buddies designed eight courses for themselves and other golfers to play.

Each course has its own character, Ragsdale said. The easier "Putt Putt" courses are designed for beginners while the "Pro," courses require more skill.

The "Blue Light Special" ("Frisbee From Hell") course is only for die-hard golfers.

A modified score keeping technique is used where players try to make "par" (the amount of throws required for each hole). They don't keep score by the number of throws it takes but by how many "strokes" above or below par they are.

Disc golf can be played with as many as 10 players, but an ideal game involves six.

The instructions for Hole 16 on the "Blue Light Special" read: "Throw before you get past the art piece 'India.' Your throw must go under the Wilson Library sign, and also go under the Old Main sign. That's right...under two signs."

One of the biggest hazards to the game are innocent bystanders who unwittingly pick up discs off the ground, Ragsdale said. They may be trying to help, but where the disc lands is where the player should shoot from.

They may also be a hazard by their very presence in the playing area. A shout of "Fore!" should warn people a disc may be coming their way. But people aren't the only things on campus that are in danger of being hit by a disc.

Johnson said for the majority of holes, players only have to aim discs under signs and benches.

Western's Intramural Office sponsors a disc competition in late May. Golfers play "Amateur" and "Super Pro" courses designed by players and Tony Onofrietti, Intramural Coordinator at Western. ■

A PLACE TO LIVEVS..... A PLACE TO GROW

Outback farm faces extinction

By George Tharalson

A stream runs down the middle and joins with other waterways. Wildlife fly, roam and drink water from the stream and feed off various sources of food. Vegetables grow organically, planted by students and members of the Bellingham community amidst a cedar grove, a meadow and wild grasses.

Welcome to the Outback Farm of Fairhaven College on the Western Washington University campus. The Outback has been an organic farm since 1974, and is now classified as a wetland.

The state Department of Agriculture certified The Outback as an organic farm in the mid-1980s, following a set of stipulations on how the land was to be used, Gary Bornzin said. Bornzin teaches Fairhaven College's organic gardening class and is also the Fairhaven faculty liaison with the Outback.

The farm gives students from Fairhaven, Huxley College and Western a chance to study nature in the midst of an urban setting. It also gives local elementary, junior high and high school students a chance to explore the wildlife around them. All this is done on a

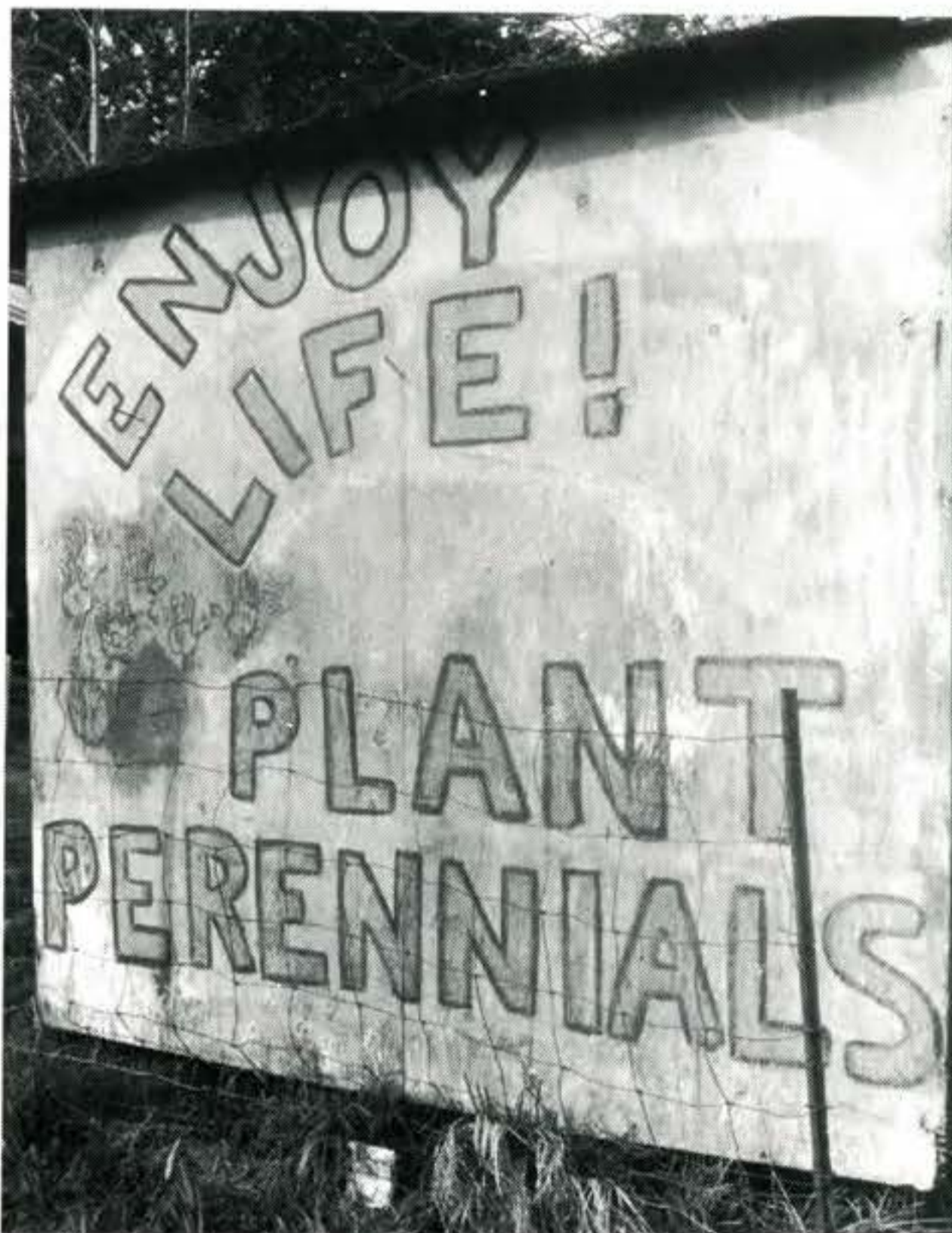


Photo by Gerald Reilly

shoe-string budget of \$200 a year from the university.

However, the future of the farm is uncertain.

All these opportunities for education may be lost as the 17-year-old Outback farm is now a proposed site for a new residence hall. It's only one of many sites on the university campus under consideration, and isn't the top priority, Western Vice President for Business and Financial Affairs, George Pierce said. The top priority now is a site at the Ridgeway Complex.

Western is looking at many sites to locate new dorms to house the increasing numbers of students enrolled at Western each year. The Ridgeway site is a good one because

people living there could dine at the Ridgeway Commons, Pierce said.

The Outback site and other sites are under consideration because the university wants to explore the space it owns for the best location, Pierce said.

Members of the Outback Farm have ideas of how they want to see the property used.

like to see it be low-profile housing where the students who live in it are involved in the daily activities of the farm," said Julie Muylleert, co-facilitator of the organic gardening class and member of the Outback steering committee working to preserve the farm.

The low-profile housing Muylleert spoke of would take up limited space on the south side of the property so as to not block the farm's exposure to the sun.

"We are looking at two 100-bed facilities," Pierce said. "We would like to have one operational by fall 1994 and another by fall 1995."

For now, the 10 to 15 students who enroll in Fairhaven's organic gardening class each quarter will continue to maintain and improve the farm.

Students spend about 50 percent of class time working on the farm, Bornzin said. The other time is spent in the classroom, studying organic gardening. Students also report to the class on subjects such as soil, mulching and organic fertilizing, he said.

The farm's history is varied. In the 1970s it served not only as a meeting place for the organic gardening class, but as living space for three or four students in two cabins located on the farm since the 1920s. The cabins were later determined unsafe for living but still remain on the farm property.

Students who lived in the cabins maintained the farm, and also cared for the farm animals they raised. When the students left, things changed. With no students to care for the animals, they were moved off the farm, Bornzin said.

The farm remains today and the students involved in its care want it to stay.

"I haven't seen such strong student support on the farm in the 10 years I have been here," Bornzin said.

The Outback provides hands-on experience in small farm management and organic gardening, he said. It also functions as a community resource and learning center for Fairhaven, Western and Whatcom County in alternative energy research and small-scale organic agriculture techniques, he added.

No pesticides are used at the Outback. The primary function of an organic farm is not to use chemically-based materials, Muylleert said.

"It's a known fact that pesticides and chemicals kill the soil, they render it infertile and useless," he said.

Organic gardening is better for the environment and for the soil in which crops are planted, Muylleert said.

"I think...organic gardening is a more harmonious way to interact with the environment and derive food from it," Muylleert said. "Basically, it's an understanding and compassion of how things work. We can't understand it fully, but we can have a pretty good idea and then we could work what we want to do around how nature works."

The Outback also provides valuable learning opportunities as a Class 3 wetland. The city of Bellingham classifies wetlands on a scale of one to five, Class 1 wetlands have the most protection from land development, while Class 5 wetlands have the least.

The Outback does not fall under protected wetland status, said Elaine Gold, a Fairhaven student conducting a study on wetlands.

Wetland status is determined primarily by the amount of water on the land, Gold said. "If water stands on it for seven straight days during growing season, it is a wetland." Types of vegetation and the condition of the soil also figure into the decision process, she added.

The Outback's wetlands serve as filters to cleanse the water on the property, making it safe drinking water for deer, squirrels, chipmunks, field mice or any other animals spending time there, Muylleert said. Animals can feed off the blackberry bushes located at the south of the farm. The cedar grove, meadow and wild grasses also provide other food for wildlife.

Fairhaven student Deborah Del George, who conducted a study last spring of 16 different bird species found at the farm, said the Outback is a good place for students to conduct studies like her own. The close



Photo by Gerald Reilly

The Outback Farm only uses organic means to grow plants.



Photo by Gerald Reilly

The barn at the Outback Farm.

location of the farm to the community means students wouldn't have to drive long distances to study nature, it's not only convenient but can help the environment, she said.

The farm's educational value isn't limited to Western students. Its many characteristics also appeal to the Bellingham School District, Muyliaert said.

"...organic gardening is a more harmonious way to interact with the environment..."

-Julie Muyliaert

Muyliaert said the farm's nearness to the Sehome Hill Arboretum is also a good teaching tool for students.

"You can go up onto Sehome Hill, talk about a lot of those different concepts (water, air, vegetation, etc.) and then come down (to the farm) and be a little more specific, smaller scale and do projects with kids," he said.

Muyliaert said a group of Huxley, Woodring and

Fairhaven students developed a seminar for spring quarter to be made into a 10-week program for fourth-graders from the YMCA and possibly the Bellingham Public School District to study the environment.

The possibilities for the farm seem endless. One plan would give local teachers curriculum and coursework they could take back and teach to their students. The Outback could also be used for interpretive tours, ecology classes, or just to let people gain hands-on experience by working in the garden.

Right now the focus for the farm is on something small and manageable, and to do that well, Muyliaert said.

"The purpose for that is to show the (university) administration the potential of the Outback, our desire, our interest and our ability and willingness to do the work to bring all these things together and to make it happen," she said.

"That's our purpose of getting this whole environmental ed. thing together and starting it on a small scale. It's to show the university we're serious about this; it'll help you in your application, it'll help us in our education, and it'll be a benefit to the community as well," Muyliaert said. ■

FOR DESIGNING DISABILITIES

By Crystal Brockway

He sits on the edge of Fisher Fountain under cloudy grey skies, leaning back on his hands, with his beat-up mountain bike resting beside him. He scratches his beard and runs his hand through his wispy, uneven hair, temporarily held off his forehead by a brightly-colored headband, which contrasts with the brown flannel shirt and gray sweatpants he wears. He's comfortable outside where he can escape the demands of his classes and talk at ease about his work and activities.

Brett Wolfe, a sophomore industrial design major and athletic person, is designing a prosthetic leg for athletic use as part of a class project, and for his own use as a disabled student with one leg.

Wolfe lost his leg in an accident two years ago, but it has not prevented him from continuing to participate in any of the athletic activities he enjoys.

"You just look at it (athletic activity) differently," Wolfe said.

He was competitive in snow skiing and mountain bike racing before his accident and continues to ski and bike, although now he does it just for fun.

Wolfe uses a prosthesis when he drives or will be doing a lot of

walking. Although he usually gets around campus on his single-pedaled bike, without a prosthesis.

A prosthetic leg for athletic use will help him improve in the activities he participates in and will en-

able him to take on new activities. Wolfe and co-designer, Rob Lanfear, also a sophomore industrial design major, are trying to make their prosthetic design durable for multi-use purposes in athletics, such as racquetball and soccer, which would normally be difficult or next to impossible for a prosthetic leg to handle.

above the knee, which means designing and building a knee that can withstand athletic use. The original design goal was to make a durable prosthesis for skiing. "There are ski legs available, but nothing for the type of skiing Brett wants to do," Lanfear said.

Wolfe has been an avid and competitive skier since he was young and skis regularly at Mt. Baker. He said the ski legs available aren't as durable as the leg he's trying to create.

"I'm hard on equipment. I break things. It's expensive and tiring when you have to re-fiberglass your own leg."

He said he's tried to ski without a prosthetic leg, but it was impossible, because he was too weak on one

leg and it was too hard to have full strength. He continues to gain strength, however, by riding his mountain bike everyday.

"Mountain biking is helping me slowly build strength and balance and it's something I can afford to do," Wolfe said. "You learn to be more efficient. I've learned to use my whole body for strength."

"There are high performance



Photo by Martin Knutson

Brett Wolfe works on a design project at the Ross Engineering Technology Building.

The prosthesis is designed for



Photo by Martin Krutson

legs for certain kinds of walking. Most prosthetics are designed to work with the force of the curve of the foot, to mimic walking; for someone who's going to walk and sit," Wolfe said.

He said the prosthetic leg will be much like a snow ski in the way it bends and snaps back, jetting into a turn.

"We want a design that will work adequately at walking, but will excel at beating on it in any activity. It will store energy and release it."

The designers are beginning the fourth evolution of their prosthetic design, because the criteria changed from the original design. The first three attempts had problems that could have caused the prosthesis to shear or produce stress to the hip joints in its finished form.

Originally the designers started their design after looking at their own knees, and the way people run, and went from there. Wolfe said they weren't that far off, but the new model has a lot more going for it.

"Rob and I are building a design that won't tolerate failure. It has to endure beating on it. Sure, you can make this schmoozie design with all these curves and fancy designs, but it will probably collapse," he said.

"The new model is more compact and complex. We want to emphasize the full use of materials, using plastics to compensate for the mechanics, to keep it as simple as possible with the least amount of moving parts," Wolfe said.

The prosthesis Wolfe and Lanfear are designing relies on three main bearings and works on a linkage system-linking parts together through plastic members, with four major moving parts.

"It's like a high performance

car or mountain bike. Mountain bikes are all going to suspension systems with more weight and more complexity. This creates more control and performance in certain conditions because it can withstand a higher stress."

Everyone experiences a regular gravity (G) force when they walk. A person running adds nearly three times the force, which is three times their body weight. Wolfe is estimating five to ten G's for his prosthetic leg, because skiing and other physical activities can add even more stress to a leg.

"When your leg hits the ground it goes straight through your

"We want a design that will work adequately at walking, but will excel at beating on it in any activity. It will store energy and release it." -Brett Wolfe

body. Your body absorbs the shock of the initial impact but the leg must compensate for the weight and force," Wolfe said.

Wolfe and Lanfear are now working to finish a three dimensional mock up of their design to add to their portfolio. They plan to finish the actual prosthetic next year when they have more research and time.

Designing and creating a prosthetic leg for athletic use is Wolfe's first major project as an industrial design major. The project is an independent study and something his professors talked him into doing.

"The product wouldn't be completely finished this year, unless we dropped the rest of our school work," Wolfe said.

"When we start looking for funding, it's not so much for money as it is materials. We'll have to know the research and validity for what we're doing before we start asking for money," Wolfe said.

He said they could market the current design because it doesn't

infringe on anyone's copyright. However, they're not concerned with marketing at this time, but rather with finishing an example of their work.

Wolfe said the big trend is to make prosthetics very simple and very cheap. A normal prosthetic leg costs approximately \$10,000 to \$11,000, he said.

"We built a leg to do the fun stuff. It would make a good promotional piece for a plastics company, because they'd be helping the handicapped," Wolfe said.

The cost of the materials being used would be too expensive for most people to buy Wolfe's design if he marketed it, he said.

Lanfear has found only one book about prosthetics at Western, published in 1910. He said

talking to people from a prosthetic company in Bellingham and one in Seattle has been very helpful. The designers rely heavily on the information obtained from these professionals in the field, because it's the primary resource to gauge their progress.

"What we're doing, there are no books to follow. It's not like building a car where there are rules of how it will or won't work, which makes it more interesting," Wolfe said.

The designers are also pulling resources from Western.

"We're talking to profs in physical education and composite plastics, they helped us re-think our criteria, and create a socket without joints to flex without composites," Wolfe said.

Wolfe plans to use the leg for his personal use but is aiming the design to the widest market possible, which could include disabled persons without legs or with nerve damage. His primary goal though, is to create the strongest supportive leg available. ■

GETTING FROM HERE TO THERE

Alternate methods of transportation

By Juliane Fancey
and Sally James

You race out of your apartment, hop in your car and turn the key. Nothing. No sound. Dead. You're late for class and your car is dead. "This cannot be happening," you say to yourself.

The bus. You hear it rumbling down the road. You leap out of the car, bookbag trailing behind you. You reach the corner of the street just as the bus passes your stop.

But wait! Your roommate's \$50 million-Italian-racing bike stands alone and waiting in the corner of your apartment. Just walk up slow and casual-like, slip that baby out of the apartment and your roommate will never know you borrowed it.

You're pedaling along, the wind in your hair, the sun shining on the chrome of this Italian baby, when BOOM!

Sharp rock, flat tire, skinned knee.

It's time for old reliable and you could kick yourself for not think-

ing of it sooner. Smiling, you look down.

Clad in your favorite pair of white tennies it's time for your feet to do the walking. With bookbag and broken bicycle in tow, you head to school.

All days don't start like this. Luckily we have all these different ways to get ourselves to the local grocery store, school, shopping mall or hospital emergency room.

Each method of travel has its good points as well as bad and here's a quick checklist to help you pick the one that's best for you.

THE CAR

Convenience: With your own car you basically have transportation to go wherever you need to go, anytime, day or night. You can turn the heat or radio up as loud as you want and you don't have to share a seat with anyone else.

Safety: Cars are the only mode of transportation where seatbelts are required by law. Safety, of course, depends on the driver. Those

seatbelts weren't put there to hold your textbooks steady in the seat next to you, you know. (And remember, the rearview mirror isn't there to check your makeup or nifty 'do.)

Cost: Yeah, we know about repairs, insurance, tabs, license and gas. So what else is new? If you want the convenience of being able to putt around town whenever you want, you have to pay for it.

Drawbacks: Here we come back to some of those nifty, expensive, terms we covered in the cost section: repairs, insurance, tabs and gas. Parking on campus or in downtown Bellingham can be a chore. Campus permits are hard to come by, and when downtown, who has change for the meters? Don't forget about the pollution you're adding to the environment every time you put the pedal to the metal.

THE BUS

Convenience: You can get

from your house, to school, to the mall and all the way to Ferndale without even looking up from your book. The helpful bus drivers are always more than willing to answer any questions you might have about transferring, schedule changes or route information. With 27 buses running continually throughout the day and approximately 837 bus stops, including 79 shelters, you can catch a bus on nearly every corner at any time.

Safety: Buses destined for Western's campus, which are considered to be one of the busiest bus routes in town, are so packed in the morning it's usually standing room only. So it's wise to have a firm grip on the overhead handrail when going around corners so as to not end up in the lap of your neighbor.

Cost: Nothing could be cheaper than a 25 cent bus ride. We'd like to see how far you can go in a car for that much. A \$5 packet of bus tokens can save riders 20 per-

cent on the cost of rides. What a bargain.

Drawbacks: Patience has to be a virtue when waiting for the bus. Bellingham buses don't run on Sundays, nor do they run past seven at night. Nothing could be more frustrating than matching your work schedule with a bus schedule. If the mall closes at 9 p.m. and the buses stop running at 7 p.m. it looks like your feet will do the walking. Of course, when you transfer from one bus to another, the fares can add up yet it still is an economical way to travel.



THE BIKE

Convenience: You can take a bike with you anywhere, anytime without the worry of pumping gas, finding a parking spot, or waiting for a lift. Whether riding a bike just for fun, or using it as your only mode of transportation, you're always exercising and out in the fresh air.

Safety: As long as you have a helmet, knee and elbow pads, reflective clothing and a light on the front and back of your bike, you are taking the first steps toward a ride that's not only fun but safe.

Cost: Helmets, knee and elbow pads, reflective clothing and lights for your bike don't come cheaply, but it's nowhere near the cost of maintaining your own car. Of course this list doesn't include the optional fanny packs, book racks and water bottles.

Drawbacks: One must remember when trav-

eling through mud puddles, be sure to wear raingear or least something that's easy to wipe off. The spray from back tires has been known to soak many an unsuspecting rider's backside.



THE FEET

Convenience: Well, they're yours, no insurance costs and no maintenance costs outside of a good pair of shoes and socks. You can dress them up anyway you want or just go barefoot, whatever your fashion sense dictates. Besides all this, walking is good cardio-vascular exercise and gets you out in the fresh air.

Safety: Walkers always have to be on the lookout for drivers, buses, taxi's, bikeriders and the occasional stray dog. Other than that, safety really isn't a problem, just watch where you're going and don't trip.

Cost: Depending on your taste and your pocketbook you're either shopping at Volume Shoes or Nordstroms, buying no-name tennies or Reeboks.

Drawbacks: Tired feet are no fun. Neither are blisters, stubbed toes or corns. Walking isn't the fastest mode of transportation so you always need to allow yourself enough time to get to where you need to go. When it rains it pours, usually down your back, on your books and, when the wind blows, in your face. ■



Illustration by Eric Brown

