



Mustang Express

Online Edition

Western Wyoming Community College

Feb. 4, 2011

Upcoming Events

Fri. Feb. 4, 2011

- Mustang Women's Basketball Home Game 5:30 p.m.
- Mustang Men's Basketball Home Game 7:30 p.m.
- Theater Production of (mis)Fitting In 7:30 p.m.

Sat. Feb. 5, 2011

- Mustang Women's Basketball Home Game 3 p.m.
- Mustang Men's Basketball Home Game 5 p.m.

Tues. Feb. 10, 2011

- "Overcoming Anxiety" 1 p.m.

Weds. Feb. 9, 2011

- "Tips on Taking an Online Class" Noon
- RA program on drugs

Thurs. Feb. 10, 2011

- Cupid's Ball Valentine's Day Dance

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New gallery artists on exhibit

By LEEANN FLEETWOOD

If you have walked past the admissions desk at Western Wyoming Community College at any point this semester, you might have missed the little art gallery situated right across the hall.

WWCC Art Instructor Florence McEwin prides herself on ensuring the art gallery has an eclectic collection of art on display at any given time. She is continuously searching for new local talent in order to instill a sense of artistic pride in the surrounding community, but doesn't restrict her searches to

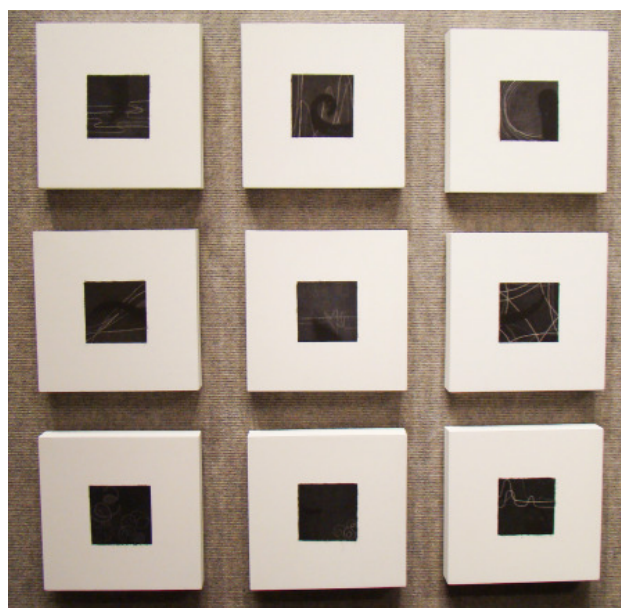
Rock Springs, or even Wyoming. McEwin has been known to travel to different countries when her interest is grabbed by an up and coming artist.

Currently she has the combined efforts of four different artists on display in the gallery. A quick glance is all one needs to see the diversity and creativity that each artist has developed into their own art form. One does not need to know a thing about art to be able to view and enjoy the efforts an artist has undertaken to express an emotion or

thought.

Of course, one can also look at art and decide it's not "quite art," or in other words...what the heck is that? Viewing art is subjective and no two people will ever come away with the same thoughts and feelings when faced with the same piece.

If one were to sit down on the bench provided in the gallery and watch the reactions of students as they wander by, pause as their eye is caught on something colorful or striking, and then cautiously steps in with a sheepish look





THE WHITE TRASH BASH



Photos by ZACH GUNYAN

WWCC Gallery.....Continued from Page 1

around , one gets the feeling thoughts of being underdressed for the occasion have flitted through their minds or the fact that they have no idea what constitutes art anyway so what are they doing here proposing to look at art and potentially judge it?

However, once they are inside, they approach paintings and drawings on the walls as if in search of the Meaning of Life...and spend considerable amounts of time just gazing at the work of art and, assumingly, trying to make heads or tails of it.

You can see a certain cocking of the head at an angle...the better to grasp the meaning? A step back...to take in full affect? Maybe even a step closer...to better see each tiny stroke and gauge the artist's intentions and message.

For the art connoisseur, the gallery has something for every taste. The styles are varied and striking; ranging from Kazuko Goto, a former WWCC student who hails from Japan and who likes to "touch, sniff,

and sometimes taste" what eventually ends up as his art work; to Ellen Newel's, A Day in the Life of a Paper Doll series of simple yet striking depictions of paper dolls in a variety of settings.

The black and white with a dash of color that all the art work displays is very pleasing to the eye.

Joshua Tollefson's pieces are bold yet simple images that still manage to keep the eye busy taking in all the details; while the final artist is Dylan McManus, who uses his images to facilitate dialogue among the viewers who are "politically disinterested" and are not "engaged in the world" enough.

Whatever your taste and preference when it comes to art, you are sure to find it in WWCC's little art gallery. If you don't like what is on display right now, wait awhile, and McEwin is sure to change it up and get some totally different artists and styles on the walls the next time around.

You may not know the first thing about art and the deeper meaning...but it doesn't hurt ones image to stand there looking as if you do.



Australian speaker presents on aboriginal culture

By CORI PERRAULT

It isn't very often that Americans take the time to really show an interest in cultures of different countries, or even within our own borders for that matter. We get so caught up in our own ventures and plans for our lives that we forget how nice it is to look into how others experience life and the things they value the most.

Students at Western Wyoming Community College had the opportunity to witness Yidumduma "Bill" Harney and Paul Taylor's beautiful presentation on the culture of Australia's Aboriginal World. This presentation not only amazed but really enlightened on how strongly and deeply attached people are to their roots.

Paul Taylor mentioned at the beginning of the presentation that he had been visiting Wyoming for 15 years and resides in

Laramie.

However, he is originally from Australia and that is where he met Harney. In 2003, the duo began the Watermen Dreaming Project which stems from Harney's tribe in which the men were called the Watermen. Taylor took a strong interest in Harney's storytelling skills and how his people "sang the land to make it happy." His curiosity led to numerous visits where Harney, an Aboriginal elder and master story teller, spoke about his tribe's creation story and played the didjeridoo, an Australian wind instrument. After a period of time, they began traveling, giving presentations and spreading international awareness at each new venue.

It is so obvious how passionate these two men are about sharing this culture

with everyone. They had so many colorful pictures that Harney painted himself and coinciding with the oral presentation, was a very well-thought out slideshow that documented Harney's home and the rock paintings that tell the story of their creation.

Every aspect of this was vibrant; the paintings, the music, the story telling and the slideshow all added to the impact they had on everyone watching.

Taylor shows such a love of what he does, at each moment he was up dancing or singing and when it was Harney's turn to speak, he sat and stared as if it was his first time hearing the stories. It was a refreshing and enlightening experience, and anyone who experienced it would agree.

Poet Laureate of Wyoming to read and workshop

David Romtvedt, accomplished writer and musician and the Poet Laureate of Wyoming, will read from his work on Friday, February 11. The event will take



place at Western Wyoming Community College in Room 1302 at 7:30 p.m. It is free and open to the public.

Raised in Southern Arizona, Romtvedt attended Reed College and the Iowa Writers' workshop. He lives in Buffalo, Wyoming and teaches half time in the University of Wyoming MFA program for writers.

His books of poetry include *Some Church, Certainty, How Many Horses, and A Flower Whose Name I Do Not Know*, which was a selection of the National Poetry Series. He is a recipient of fellowships from the Wyoming Arts

Council and the National Endowment for the Arts and has received the Wyoming Governor's Arts Award.

Romtvedt also writes essays, fiction, histories, and nonfiction. Among his other books are the anthology he edited, *Wyoming Fence Lines* (Wyoming Humanities Council, 2007), *Windmill: Essays from Four Mile Ranch* (Red Crane Books, 1997), and *Crossing Wyoming* (White Pine Press, 1992).

The state's fourth poet laureate, Romtvedt started his term August 15, 2004. The position of poet laureate is filled by the governor, who selects an appointee from a list of recommendations submitted by a nominating committee. The position is honorary and without compensation, and invites the appointee to "submit writings for selected historic occasions" of choice. The incumbent serves a term concurrent with that of the governor. Romtvedt succeeded Robert Roripaugh (1995-2002), who followed Charles L. Levendosky (1988-1995), and Peggy Simpson Curry

(1981-1987).

A musician as well as a writer, Romtvedt plays dance music of the Americas with his band The Fireants. He is the founder and a board member of Worlds of Music, a foundation that provides opportunities to participate in music-making involving cultures all around the world. His series on traditional music of the American Southwest aired on Montana National Public Radio.

In addition to his public reading, Romtvedt will give a three-hour poetry writing workshop on Friday afternoon, January 28, as part of a one-credit Visiting Writers course.

The event is sponsored by the Arlene and Louise Wesswick Foundation and by the WWCC English Department. It is the second in a series of readings planned for the spring, which will also include poet and editor Maria Melendez from Pueblo, Colorado on March 4 and fiction writer Karen Brennan, formerly of Salt Lake City and now from Tucson, on March 25.

Mustang Op/Ed

Attitude report: National signing day has changed

By NICK ANDREWS

Wednesday, Feb 2 was national signing day for NCAA college football.

In the past, this day has been filled with excitement, hype and promise. Usually college football fans across the country are building up their team's signees and making claims of who is going to win what in the upcoming college football season.

For high school signers, it is one of the most exciting days of their lives. They are signing letters of intent to play football in exchange for a university education. Coaches, fans, players and player parents are usually filled with joy, and excitement on this day every year.

But, lately, with rumors surrounding

players like Reggie Bush and Cam Newton, national signing day comes filled with rumors and shadows. Bush was caught taking illegal gifts from the University of Southern California. Bush was on teams that played for three national championships, and won two of those titles. He was a two-time Heisman Trophy finalist and won the award his senior year in college.

After the NCAA found out about his deals with USC some years later, the university had to vacate nearly 40 wins, 2 national championships, and Bush was asked to return his Heisman Trophy and his name erased from the record books. Also, USC was penalized further, being forced to give

up scholarships and being banned from bowl games for two football seasons. Experts call it the second worst punishment to a program for cheating of all time.

Auburn University's Cam Newton's father was confirmed to be selling his son to Mississippi State University for upwards of \$180,000. Cam's father, Cecil has been banned from events at both universities.

The last time I checked, they still keep score in college football. As long as they keep keeping score and as long as winning is worth millions of dollars, colleges will keep trying to cheat when recruiting.

On Wednesday, when pen hit paper, someone's cheating paid off.

Both Mustang b-ball teams beat the Trappers

By NICK ANDREWS

Both the men's and women's basketball teams of Western Wyoming Community College took to the floor Saturday evening against Northwest Community College and both teams beat the Trappers of Northwest.

Thanks to the United Steel Workers, admission and concessions were free at the game. And while the USW local unions provided entrance and snacks, the Mustangs and Lady Mustangs provided the entertainment.

First, the Lady Mustangs and the Lady Trappers squared off in Rushmore Gymnasium. The Lady Mustangs rolled over the Lady Trappers 88-60. All 12 Lady Mustangs on the roster saw some playing time and 10 players got into the score books with points led, of course, by Jessa Jeppesen who dropped 27 points.

After the women of Western were done, the Mustangs took on the Trappers of Northwest College in Powell. After a heart-breaking two point loss the night before to perennial powerhouse Sheridan College, the Mustangs were looking to rebound on Saturday night. Rebound they did, and in a big way, fighting off the pesky Trappers and winning 104-90.

Payton Brooks, who averages a little over 6 points per game, hit 5 threes on his way to a 20 point game and huge victory for the Mustangs.

Western's basketball teams will be back at it this Friday and Saturday as Gillette and Casper come to town. This is a gigantic opportunity for the Lady Mustangs to gain in the sub-regional standings as well as for the men to distance themselves from the rest of the field.

The Lady Mustangs are 2-2 in sub-regional play and sit with soul possession of third place. The top two teams in each sub-region advance to the region IX tournament this March and the sub-region champion will host the tournament.

If the Lady Mustangs lose both games, it is probable that they will miss out on the region IX tournament despite having the best over-all record in the sub-region.

The Mustangs are a perfect 4-0 in sub-region play and sit alone atop the Central sub-region standings. If the Mustangs beat both Casper and Gillette this weekend, it is likely that they will have sewn up a Region IX tournament berth which will be held in the Eastern sub-region. Currently Northeast Community College leads in that sub-region.

Springs break backpacking trip to Zion National Park

By RYAN TIFFANY

This spring break, several Western Wyoming Community College students will leave the cold and snow behind for a backpacking trip into the desert.

This trip will comprise a three credit class in backpacking and desert living skills. Students will make several stops along the way, including Snow Canyon, Zion and Valley of Fire in Utah, Red Rocks, Nev. and Death Valley, Calif..

The cost of the trip is \$100, which includes transportation, entrance fees into the national parks the group will visit, and food for two nights.

The trip's organizers, Brett Zerger and

Mark Rembacz, hope to teach primitive survival skills and basic common sense. There will be no hotel rooms and, most of the time, no restaurants. Participants are required to bring a backpack, sleeping bag, portable cooking stove, food, spending money and clothes appropriate for the desert.

After talking to Rembacz and Zerger, the trip sounded amazing, and many others thought so too, because the class is already full with several waitlisted.

They encourage those interested to go ahead and sign up for the summer version, which will take place in August. This

group will be going to the Wind River Mountains. The class is currently available to enroll in as a summer class.

Overall, the two hope to instill an appreciation for the natural beauty here in Wyoming and in the American West. Mark even said,

"I bet more than half of the students have never been to these places," Rembacz said.

They hope the summer class will be just as full as the spring, which has been filled for the last few years and will probably continue that way.

Advertise with us! We offer competitive rates!

If you have comments or would like to submit

info on an upcoming event, email us at :

mustangx@wwcc.wy.edu