

Deaths increase after Bessie Burton closure

Katie Farden
Senior Staff Writer

English professor Victoria Kill was preparing to leave to teach class on Jan. 8 2007 when her office phone rang and she heard news that filled her with dread: Seattle University was closing Bessie Burton Sullivan nursing home.

"The closure of Bessie Burton was devastating for my family in many ways," Kill said, who's 88-year-old father Louis was a resident at Bessie Burton at the time of the facility's closure.

At least 14 of the 120 residents, including Louis Kill, who moved out of Bessie Burton have died since the home's closure in 2007, according to Louise Ryan, the Washington state Long-Term Care Ombudsman.

Kill said the closure of Seattle U's nursing home made her father's dying days stressful.

"Seeing the facility close down around him with people moving out every day the last months of his life

was not what we would have wished for his serenity in his dying time," she said.

Kill's father resided at Bessie Burton until March 15, 2007, the facility's last day of operation. He died at home 10 days after the University closed Bessie Burton.

Ryan, the state Ombudsman overseeing the closure, said she has seen "a fair amount of stress and some death," in the 120 residents who moved out of Bessie Burton.

Ryan said the amount of trauma in the former Bessie Burton community is significant.

"Based on my 13 years of experience and seeing homes close before, she said, "the numbers seem higher than usual."

Ryan added the state has been to follow up with 84 of the 120 former elderly men and woman living at Bessie Burton. Many of the remaining 36 residents, Ryan said, moved into the homes of their families.

Women's hoops wins in OT



Joshua Lynch
Senior forward Chelsie Morrison goes for two against South Dakota. Morrison made two critical free throws in overtime.

Redhawks beat S. Dakota 57-53

Jourdan Myles
Volunteer Writer

With an eight-game winning streak on the line, Seattle University's women's basketball team defeated the University of South Dakota 57-53 to maintain its spotless home record and effectively extend its current overall streak to nine.

The regulation 40 minutes were not enough to determine a winner, and the game was not settled until Chelsie Morrison made a pair of free-throws with 10 seconds remaining in overtime, which pushed the Redhawks' lead to four and sealed the win.

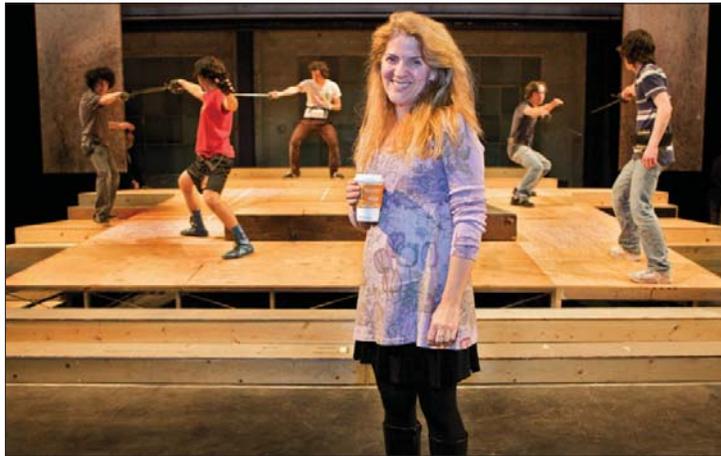
The Redhawks (16-7) looked to be in jeopardy of suffering their first loss in more than a month after shooting just 20 percent from the field in the first half, amounting to a 10-point halftime deficit, 28-18.

"I think they scouted us pretty well. They packed it in, so we didn't know exactly what to do in the beginning," said senior forward Morrison. "I also think that we had a hard week of practice so a lot of our legs were dead, and we just needed to warm them up."

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Shakespeare 'Shines' at SU



Braden VanDragt
Stephanie Shine, of Seattle Shakespeare Company, preps for the "Romeo & Juliet" premiere Feb. 19.

Emily Holt
Assistant News Editor

A production of "Romeo & Juliet" with any other director might smell as sweet, but it wouldn't have the passion that Stephanie Shine

will bring to Seattle University's production of the Shakespeare classic. Shine, the artistic director of the Seattle Shakespeare Company, says the play is her favorite and has special resonance for today's society.

"I think the basic story of this

play is something that can never be told enough," Shine says. "And I think it is something that our society needs to hear over and over and over, which is why this play seems so contemporary."

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SOJ files bankruptcy

The Oregon Province of the Society of Jesus filed for Chapter 11

Joshua Lynch
Editor-in-Chief

The Oregon Province of the Society of Jesus filed for bankruptcy Tuesday in Portland Federal Bankruptcy Court.

The province—which includes Alaska, Idaho, Montana, Washington and Oregon—filed for Chapter 11 reorganization in response to a lawsuit in which 63 Native Alaskan victims thus far have alleged they were sexually abused by Jesuits.

Fr. Patrick Lee, S.J., current provincial of the Oregon Province, said in a statement, "Our decision to file Chapter 11 was not an easy one, but with approximately 200 additional claims pending or threatened, it is the only way we believe that all claimants can be offered a fair financial settlement within the limited resources of the Province."

Seattle University President Stephen Sundborg, S.J., was

named as a defendant Jan. 14, in the lawsuit for allegedly covering up sexual abuse of minors. Sundborg denies the accusations. He did not respond to an e-mail requesting comment regarding the bankruptcy late Tuesday night.

According to bankruptcy documents, the Society of Jesus has \$4.8 million in assets and \$61.7 in liabilities. The province paid \$50 million in settlements in November 2007 in response to a previous sexual abuse lawsuit.

Patrick Wall, a representative of the victims, said the bankruptcy is an acknowledgement of sexual abuse. He added that he believes the province has misrepresented its actual assets.

"We believe that this is an affirmation that the Society of Jesus knowingly and purposefully dumped priest perpetrators in Alaska," Wall said.

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Friday
February 20, 2009

56°
38°

Saturday
February 21, 2009

55°
42°

Sunday
February 22, 2009

51°
40°

A celebration of evolution **6**

School advocates fight closures **2**