

THE WESTERN FRONT

TUESDAY, MAY 21, 2013

Winner of three 2012 SPJ Awards

VOLUME 163, ISSUE 14

Provost resigns after four years

By Stefanie Donahue

Western's Provost and Vice President for academic affairs Catherine Riordan announced her resignation Monday, May 20, and will be leaving Western in July.

Riordan and President Bruce Shepard were unavailable for direct comment.

"I have had the pleasure of serving as the provost at Western for the past four years, but I am at a point where I wish to step away and refocus," Riordan said in an email addressed to colleagues. "While I love the work of being provost, it is extremely demanding and time-consuming."

The provost and vice president for academic affairs is the chief academic officer of the university and provides administrative oversight and academic leadership to the president, according to the Western website.

Riordan was named Western's provost and vice pres

See PROVOST on page 5

Automotive engineers cruise in to 24th place



Above: Western sophomore Jake Blagg navigates through the Baja racecourse at Hannegan Speedway on Sunday, May 19. Blagg was competing in the endurance race portion of the event where teams try to outlast and drive further than other cars throughout the day.

Right: SAE Baja team members help prepare Blagg for a run around the track at the Hannegan Speedway.

Photos by Nick Danielson

Story on page 4



Senators skeptical of VP's suspension

Attendance records show other absent members

By Keegan Strandness

Student Senator William Campbell is calling for a public hearing regarding the suspension of AS Vice President for Diversity John Deng Duot, to be held today, May 21, at 6 p.m. in Viking Union 567.

The process regarding the recent decision by the Associated Students Board of Directors to suspend Duot drew skepticism from student senators. The AS Board of Directors passed a public motion 4-3 May 9 to suspend Duot.

Duot said his suspension was made because he was unable to attend mandatory board meetings.

According to the board meeting minutes, however, Duot was not the only member

See SUSPENSION on page 5

Western is a worthwhile investment, recent study shows

By Yuri Prater

The cost of attending Western is an investment worth making, according to a recent study.

On a list comparing the total cost of investment for obtaining a degree and possible earnings throughout a 30-year career of 1,542 U.S. colleges and universities, Western ranked 342 and 425 for in-state and out-of-state tuition, respectively, according to the 2013 study from PayScale.com.

For in-state students, the

"That's a pretty good rating, considering we're not one of the bigger state schools."

-Meghan Larsen,
Western senior

cost of a bachelor's degree is \$85,220. Students can expect to earn \$663,500 after 30 years in the work force, after subtracting school cost. For out-of-state students, the cost is \$134,400 with expected earnings of \$614,300, accord-

ing to the study.

The study showed Western graduates make an average starting salary of about \$41,700, and more popular degrees include a bachelor's in communication, computer science and accounting.

Western graduate Meghan Larsen received a bachelor's degree in environmental science with an emphasis in marine ecology. Larsen took out \$20,000 in student loans her first two years and received funding for school through the G.I. Bill her last two years because of her father's military

service in Iraq, she said.

"I'm not really sure what my balance is now because my loan gained interest," Larsen said. "It's definitely an eye-opener to look at that and know you're in debt thousands of dollars."

After a long job search, Larsen landed a job working for the city of Everett taking water samples at the local filtration plant and checking their state and federal drinkability parameters, she said.

"Right now, [the job will] help me pay rent and probably make some loan payments,

COMPARISONS:

Western placed higher on the study than Central (355) and Eastern Washington University (841), but lower than University of Washington (117) and Washington State University (238).

more so than a minimum wage job," Larsen said.

Larsen was pleased with the school's placement and

See INVESTMENT on page 6

Sports



WOMEN'S SAILING: Being a female in predominantly male-sport is difficult for the women of Western's sailing club. One all-female team has overcome the struggles and made it to the National semifinals in St. Petersburg, Fla. The five-person team is part of a 50-person club, consisting of more than half males.

Story on page 16

News

WOODRING RATES: Woodring College of Education was recently ranked first with the highest percentage of graduates working in the field of study. Story on page 3

FIREWORKS IN BELLINGHAM: A public hearing will be held to discuss a year-round fireworks ban within the city. Visit westernfrontonline.net

Features

RELAY FOR LIFE: The Western community circled the track last weekend to honor loved ones affected by cancer. Story on pages 8-9

DISABILITY AWARENESS: A Western Front reporter rents a wheelchair for a day to understand the community with disabilities. Story on page 7





Western freshman Brady Phillips practices using devil sticks, a stick-twirling and balancing game Monday, May 20, in Red Square. Devil sticks requires a middle stick being manipulated by two side sticks, according to wisegeek.com. Some additional tricks can include lighting the ends of the middle stick on fire while juggling. Two jugglers can toss the middle stick between each other. **Photo by Danny Miller**

Cops Box

Bellingham Police

May 17

Someone reported a sexual assault that happened more than 20 years ago.

May 18

Officers issued a verbal warning to a male for playing his electric guitar too loudly and disturbing neighbors at 10:38 p.m. on the 1600 block of North Carolina Street.

May 19

Police were called to the 500 block of Grand Avenue because a 6 year-old boy assaulted his mother and grandmother. No arrest was made.

Compiled by Stephanie Kirk

Workshop clarifies dietary needs for students

Morgan Olberding

Cost concerns should not be a student's main focus when considering a vegan or vegetarian lifestyle, said Sarah Richey, Western's registered dietician.

Students should be more concerned with maintaining a healthy balance of nutritional needs, Richey said. If you're eating a balanced diet, you should be getting all the nutrients you need, she said.

Richey conducted a workshop describing the health advantages and disadvantages of the vegan, vegetarian and omnivorous lifestyles at 4 p.m. Monday in the Wade King Student Recreation Center.

The average college student is concerned with the costs of food, and a vegan or vegetarian lifestyle can seem intimidating, with a heavy price tag.

It's not always necessary to buy organically, Richey said. What's important is that everyone is eating their fruits and vegetables, whether they are organic or not.

Many practicing vegetarians and vegans rely on veggie meat substitutes for meals. These substitutes are a good source of protein, but should only be

Did You Know?

- Corn, soy and grains are just as high of a demand as meat
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For more information visit VRG.org or schedule an appointment with Sarah Richey at 360-650-3766.

eaten about twice a week due to the high sodium content, Richey said.

Vitamin B12 is a key vitamin for the body to function, Richey said. B12 is only available for consumption through meats and animal by-products such as milk, eggs and other dairy products.

A vegetarian who consumes dairy should be getting enough vitamin B12 into their diet. For a vegan who doesn't consume any animal by-products, it's

important they complement their diet with a supplement, Richey said.

For vegans or vegetarians who don't eat fish or other marine life, it's essential to include an Omega-3 supplement into their daily regimen, Richey said.

As long as the individual is maintaining a balanced diet, the only problem they would mainly face otherwise are the social disadvantages. Having to tell someone who is hosting you for dinner about your dietary restrictions can be uncomfortable. Not being able to go out for ice cream with your friends or you may experience "vegilemma," an uncomfortable experience at an unaccommodating restaurant for a vegan or vegetarian, Richey said.

Richey recommends a staple of two supplements: vitamin D for living in a not-so-sunny area, and Omega-3s if someone leads a vegan or vegetarian lifestyle.

If someone is considering making the switch from an omnivorous lifestyle to a vegan or vegetarian diet for ethical reasons, they can choose to purchase meats locally to eat ethically while continuing an omnivorous diet, Richey said.

Corrections

The Western Front strives for accuracy and will correct errors of fact promptly and courteously. Please notify us of any factual errors at westernfrontonline@gmail.com.

In the article, "Living Ink" in the May 17 issue of The Western Front, Western professor Christina Keppie was misquoted. The quote should have read, "The tattoos a person has do not interfere with their knowledge or professional capabilities."

The Western Front

Winner of three 2012 Society of Professional Journalists Awards

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Survey shows success of 2011-13 Woodring graduates

By Katie Saryerwinnie

Woodring College of Education has one of the highest percentages of graduates employed in jobs within their field out of Western's colleges, according to data found by Western's Office of Survey Research.

The data was based on a survey given to graduates within the last two years. Alumni were asked about their current job and whether the job is in the same field they studied at Western, a related field or a different field. The survey had a 23.3-percent response rate.

Of those who responded, 79 percent of Woodring graduates had jobs in the same field they studied. The results didn't surprise Mason Weathers and Jenny Rodgers, both Woodring seniors, who were aware of the college's success prior to attending Western.

"It's highly respected as one of the better education programs in the state," Weathers said.

Woodring's reputation of excellence is what attracted her to Western.

The survey results were more of an expectation than a surprise for Emily Haynes, also a Woodring senior.

"If you're not cut out for teaching, you can tell pretty early on in the program," Haynes said. "Once you get into teaching, you are well-prepared, so you're not as likely to back out."

Woodring associate professor David Carroll shared a similar view on the college's intense preparation.

"In comparison with many other teacher education and human services programs, we provide a more extensive and rigorous sequence of courses with



Western seniors (from left) Jenny Rodgers, Emily Haynes and Mason Haynes pose Monday, May 20, in Miller Hall. As students of the Woodring College of Education, they endure a grueling program but they say they expect good job prospects as a result.

Photo by Daniel Pickard

extensive field experiences," he said.

Woodring students must complete practicum. These are courses that involve supervised teaching practice.

The program requires six practicums total. After senior year, students are required to do student teaching for up to a year before graduation, Rodgers

said. Student teaching involves observing classroom instruction or teaching under close supervision in an elementary or secondary school.

While Woodring's rigorous preparation may play a key role in the success of the college, Carroll believes the quality of the programs plays a significant role as well, he said.

"The quality of our programs attracts students who are serious about their professional aims, and who take on the challenges of our programs with enthusiasm and stamina," he said. "That makes them stand out among employers."

Weathers, Rodgers and Haynes are special education and elementary education dual majors. All three said they look forward to the year of student teaching ahead before graduation and the beginning of their teaching career.

Following Woodring, graduates of the College of Sciences and Technology were also likely to find work in their field of study, with 61 percent of responding graduates employed in the same field they studied. Fairhaven College followed with 56 percent employment in a similar field. Graduates of the College of Humanities and Social Sciences were the most likely to work in a field different than the area studied.

More information about Woodring major options can be found online at wce.wvu.edu, or contacted by phone at (360)650-3319

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Engineering team places top 30 in Baja car competition

By Daniel DeMay

Despite being plagued by mechanical problems, Western's Society of Automotive Engineers Baja team managed to finish 24th out of 68 at a competition held May 16-19 at Hannegan Speedway in Bellingham.

The Baja competition is a three regional competition held to simulate real world engineering projects and challenges related to them, according to the SAE International website.

The team considered the finish to be a success overall, team captain Patrick McLean said.

"The team goal this year was to produce something we could compete with and to build the team," McLean said. "We really accomplished both those things."

Derek Stout, the chassis and suspension designer who designed the new frame and suspension this year — his first time designing such a large project — said he was happy with the finish as well.

"We did pretty well, considering we're a pretty inexperienced team," Stout said. Throughout the weekend competition, the team broke four drive axles on the car, bent and then broke one brake component and lost the car's reverse gear, McLean said. The car also rolled twice and developed a steering problem the team has yet to figure out.

Stout said the mechanical problems discovered during the competition will help the team prepare the car better for next year.

"We learned where we're losing



The SAE Baja Team car, driven by Jake Blagg, makes a jump during a race Sunday, May 19 at the Hannegan Speedway. The Baja team took 24th place in the competition. Photo by Nick Danielson

points," Stout said.

In the days leading up to the competition, McLean said the team started working around 3 p.m. to get the car running and stayed up until 8:30 a.m. the next day, just to get it driving in the parking lot.

"It's just huge for the team to see that payoff at the end," McLean said.

Jacob Blagg, a fabricator who just joined the team in January, said he was surprised he got such a big role in build-

ing the car and got to drive it in part of the competition.

"I got into fabrication and they started letting me build pretty much everything," Blagg said.

McLean, who will graduate next winter, said he had his doubts going into this year about how the team would turn out.

"The point we were at this year, we could have just withered away and never built a car," McLean said. "Or we could

have done what we did and build something completely different and new."

McLean said the competition gave the newer team members a big motivation to become more involved with the team next year.

"When we got the car actually running and we were testing, a lot of the new people didn't necessarily know what they were doing there or see any kind of payoff from it," McLean said. "A lot of the new guys realized what kind of payoff you get from spending 16 hours straight in the shop."

McLean also said that, since Western hosted the competition, a lot of alumni came out to watch it. Many of them told the team they had never seen a design like it before and asked how they had come up with it, he said.

"We didn't really have a good answer for how we did it," McLean said. "Derek [Stout] came up with a good design and we got a few people together who were willing to pretty much sacrifice everything. We all sacrificed a lot to get it going."

McLean added that it felt good to be done with it, but Stout was quick to counter him.

"It's not done; it's just starting again," Stout said.












Stout wasn't the only one talking about next year and McLean said he was glad to hear it.

"Right when we parked the car, I hear about five or six people talking about things to do better for next year," he said. "That's just a good feeling to have."

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PROVOST: Campus supports Riordan's choice

Continued from page 1

ident of academic affairs in 2009, said university spokesman Paul Cocke.

She succeeded Dennis Murphy, who was provost and vice president for academic affairs at Western for two years, he said.

"I regret that I am stepping away with a number of important and exciting initiatives in progress," Riordan said. "However, I do so with the confidence that we have a talented and committed team of faculty and academic leaders in place who will see this work through to a successful completion."

Shepard sent his remarks through an email to colleagues on Monday. He expressed his full support of her decision.

"I feel I speak for the entire campus community when I thank Catherine for her service to the university as provost," he said. "She has left her mark on Western through her leadership and tremendous dedication."

Shepard also noted that, starting this week, he will be consulting with leadership across campus to discuss plans



Catherine Riordan, provost and vice president for academic affairs.

Photo courtesy of Western's Office of Communications

for the future in terms of leadership for academic affairs, he said.

"There are many I wish to thank for the ways they create and sustain the excellence that is Western," Riordan said. "I look forward to thanking these individuals – the president, fellow vice presidents, deans, faculty, staff, students and community partners – over the next month and a half."

SUSPENSION: AS Board of Directors' actions questioned

Continued from page 1

with a record of absences.

AS Vice President for Governmental Affairs Patrick Stickney has been absent from three meetings, and both AS Vice President for Student Life Katie Savinski and President Ethan Glemaker have been absent once. No official meeting minutes have been posted since April 10.

The details surrounding personnel issues cannot be disclosed due to employment laws, President Glemaker said. Additionally, matters discussed in executive session are not made public. As a result, the AS was unable to provide details or comment regarding the suspension.

Because Duot is an elected AS member, not a traditional employee, he does not align with standard AS employment policies. Instead the policy has specific clauses regarding discipline within the Board of Directors.

Because Duot is in an elected position he cannot be suspended, only recalled or have his pay suspended, said Student Senator William Campbell. The language of the motion however, specified the

suspension of both duties and pay.

The established process for discipline and recall procedures of AS Board members are found in section 8.06 of the employment policy.

In order to begin a recall process, a Western student must collect signatures equal to 40 percent of the membership that voted in last year's election, which is about 12 people, Campbell said. Following submission of the signatures, a vote would be opened to the student body to decide if the elected AS member should be recalled or not, Campbell said.

Suspension is a multi-step process, and it was not followed by the board in this situation, Campbell said.

First, the board must receive a complaint regarding the member in question and investigate the claims.

If undesirable behavior is found, the president will send an official warning to the member, Campbell said.

"It's unclear if they ever properly investigated," Campbell said. "Deng never received an official warning until after his suspension."

After the warning is recognized, the board will then be able to go into an executive session to discuss the matter and produce, in public, a performance contract outlining the appropriate behavior, Campbell said.

"The employment policy outlines a sequential process," Campbell said. "Part of that process is that the board of directors should develop a solution to the problem, which may include a written performance contract. The board did not attempt to make a contract."

In addition, when the board goes into executive session they are explicitly required to have the AS personnel director at that meeting, Campbell said. The director was not attending when the suspension was made, and the decision was not widely discussed within the AS or the public.

"Some of the board were not aware it was going on until the day of," Campbell said.

The AS employment policy can be accessed on the AS website at www.vu.wvu.edu/policies/ASStudentEmploymentPolicy.pdf

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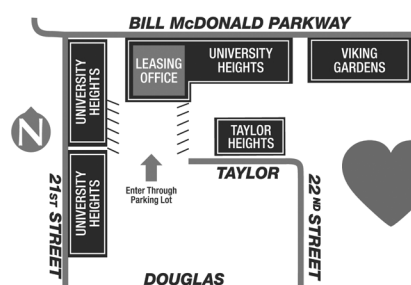
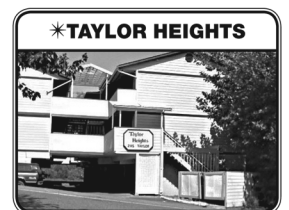
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Bill offers loan assistance, scholarships to med students

By Daniel DeMay

Gov. Jay Inslee signed a bill offering loan forgiveness and scholarships to health professionals who work in rural areas Monday, May 21. The bill is incentive for workers whose salaries are likely to be lower than urban salaries.

Sponsored by Sen. David Frockt, D-Seattle, Senate Bill 5615 expands the existing Health Professional Loan Repayment and Scholarship program to allow medical and dental practitioners to be eligible for assistance and allows outside funding sources for the program.

Funding for the program was suspended by the Senate in 2010 due to budget constraints and no new scholarships have been given since then. Two new loan-forgiveness awards were given in 2012. The program currently has 138 recipients of awards. Both current budget proposals re-suspend the state's funding for the program.

"This bill has the potential to reinvigorate a program already in state law to help repay school loans for health care professionals who work in these critically underserved areas," Frockt said in a press release Monday.

To qualify for loan forgiveness or scholarship assistance, health professionals must commit to work in underserved rural or urban areas of the state.

Sofia Aragon, senior governmental affairs adviser for the Washington State Nurses Association, which lobbied in support of the bill, said the program helps get health professionals

into areas where they're needed.

"We often have health professional shortages in many rural areas in the state," Aragon said. "The availability of these funds helps nurses and nurse practitioners go out into rural communities to work because often their salaries aren't as competitive as in urban areas in western Washington."

Aragon also noted the rising cost of tuition and said the assistance would inspire more students to pursue nursing and other medical careers.

"This is a really important program," Aragon said. "We're glad that Senator Frockt offered this solution to regrow the funds."

Frockt's press release cited a UW survey that found 72 percent of its 2009 Medical School graduating class had more than \$100,000 in debt from medical school alone.

"This bill kills two birds with one stone," Frockt said in the press release. "There are areas in this state that lack enough primary care professionals. At the same time, we have students graduating from medical school with huge amounts of debt."

The allowance to seek outside funding would allow the Washington Student Achievement Council, which administers the program, to expand it without adding cost for the state.

"This bill takes a proven loan repayment program and establishes a process for it to expand at no taxpayer cost," Frockt said. "It will enable more primary care professionals to go out and serve more areas that so desperately need their help."

INVESTMENT: Students reassured by Western's rank

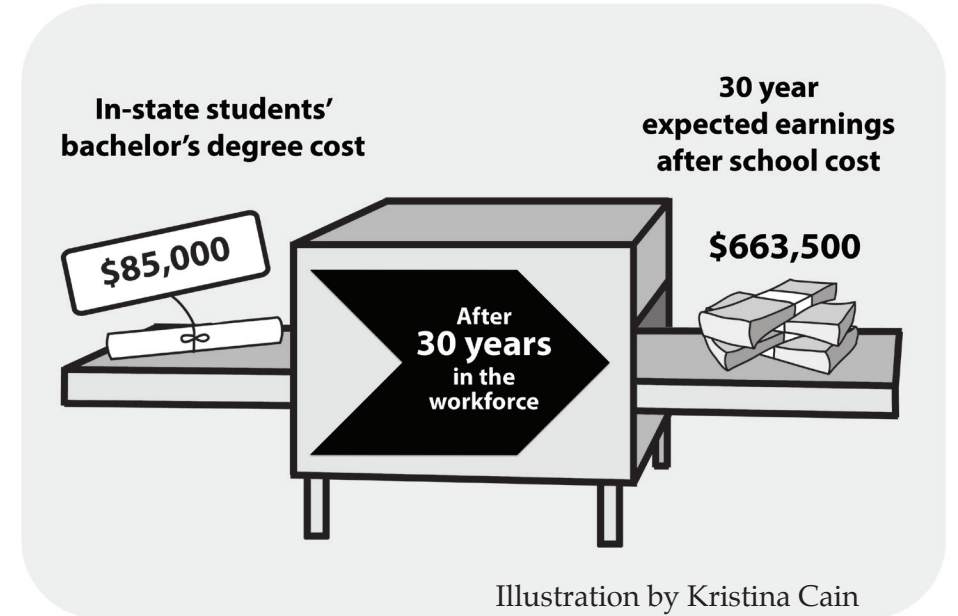


Illustration by Kristina Cain

Continued from page 1

said it was an investment definitely worth making.

"That's a pretty good rating, considering we're not one of the bigger state schools," Larsen said.

While impressed, Larsen felt Western could improve by adjusting programs and adding curricula rather than cutting them, she said.

Western junior Kariana Aldrich has never worried about paying off her loans, but said she feels better knowing Western is worth the cost.

"Given all the [schools] in the U.S., that's not too bad of a number," Aldrich said. "The [money] you put into it and the success at the end is definitely worth it."

Schools with large numbers of science, technology, engineering and mathematic majors typically place high because of the high earnings the majors can receive, said Steven Gottlieb, press contact for PayScale.com.

"Generally speaking, the top 20 [schools] remain consistent," he said.

PayScale also calculated the starting and mid-career salaries of 130 popular majors. Business ranked 63rd, while petroleum engineering, aerospace engineering and actuarial mathematics ranked first, second and third, respectively, according to the list.

The top three schools on the list are Harvey Mudd, Caltech and the Polytechnic Institute of New York University, according to the study.

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“The Wheelchair Experience”



By Keegan Strandness
Photo by Nick Danielson

Western's Disability Awareness Week is held annually by the Disability Outreach Center to get students thinking more consciously about disabilities and campus accessibility.

In one event, “The Wheelchair Experience,” student volunteers spent a day in a wheelchair. Later in the week, students who participated were given a chance to talk about what the experience was like for them.

This is Disability Awareness Week's sixth consecutive year at Western.

For more information on Disability Awareness Week or the resources available on campus, visit the Disability Outreach Center in VU 584.

In honor of Disability Awareness Week, I participated in the Wheelchair Experience. I began my day with opti-

mism and determination. I was excited to experience a day directly involved in the disability community, and I refused to let the wheelchair change my typical routine. I quickly realized this would not be as easy as I assumed.

After sitting in my new mode of transportation, I noticed how daunting everything became when viewed from a low-to-the-ground chair. Paths that would normally take a few seconds took several minutes. Small bumps in the road became large barriers to navigate around. A hill on campus became a mountain I had to climb.

Geographically, Western is not a wheelchair-friendly campus. With unsteady terrain, the myriad of loose bricks often wedged my wheels, and the countless slopes and unstable pathways turned crossing campus into a battle to remain upright.

Flat areas on campus are scarce, and it was extremely difficult to progress at a steady pace. It made me realize how much of a constant worry this could be for someone in a wheelchair by necessity. If I fall out of my seat, I can climb right back in. This may not always be a possibility for someone with a disability.

I was an outsider to the rest of the world. The other students appeared to be living a different life at a different pace, while I was beneath them. My view was lower. My life was slower. Being the only one in a wheelchair, I felt like I didn't belong.

As I was occupied with safely traversing the campus, I found my usual daily habits much harder than they used to be. Because I was constantly sliding my hands against the wheels to propel myself forward, I was unable to multitask. I couldn't use my phone to check the time or reply to messages. My daily coffee was not an option. I had one focus and one goal: steady movement.

I attended one class that morning. Reaching it was much more of a challenge than I had anticipated. I began my usual route toward Haggard Hall passing by the Haggard bus stop, but it proved too treacherous.

I decided to enter the building through Red Square, which I imagined would be a more accessible route. Just as I started to hit my stride, I ran into another obstacle. The accessibility ramp extending down to the Haggard Hideaway was not smoothly integrated with the street. An imbalance between the concrete ramp and the bricks of Red Square made it impossible for me to get the front wheels of the chair on the ramp.

As I tried to find a different way around, a kind student offered his aid, which I gladly took.

Although I was thankful for the assistance, it was demoralizing to be rendered powerless and defeated by a bump no more than a few inches tall. What would I have done if no one was around?

Once inside the building, I attended class with no issue. To my surprise, the

wheelchair did not draw any attention. After leaving the building, I had to face my next obstacle – getting back to my dorm room in Buchanan Towers. I faced the exhausting task of making it all the way to the other side of campus. I decided to take the bus.

I approached the bus with apprehension about the process, but it proved more streamlined than I feared. The driver was accommodating, and he gladly lowered the small lift to get me onto the bus. After maneuvering myself onto the panel, I was elevated up to the level of the bus floor and strapped into the handicapped spot. After some tough navigation through fellow students on the bus, I made it to the dorm.

I rode the elevator to my room and breathed a sigh of relief. The ordeal was over, and I could finally rest. I realized how difficult it can be to sit in a wheelchair every day, if I was exhausted after just a few hours of commuting to class. What I once viewed as normal everyday tasks turned to large and sometimes scary feats of emotional and physical strength. I thought I would rather remain in my room to avoid these ordeals altogether.

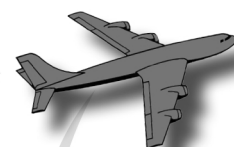
The day was a great experience and a great way to promote awareness on campus. I will walk with a new outlook and consideration for what I have and how inaccessible some of these things may be for people in the disability community.

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Faculty-led Study Abroad

Western Washington University has more than 15 faculty-led study abroad programs this summer.



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Fighting Back

Students rally to raise money for cancer cure

By Ryan Evans
Photos by Daniel Pickard

Discs fly through the air and music fills the field

next to the Wade King Recreation Center as hundreds of students, parents and Bellingham residents walk the track. All kinds of people



Members of Western's Hip-Hop Dance Team (front right) join hundreds of others to participate in Relay For Life Saturday, May 18, at Center Track near the Wade King Recreation Center. The dance team performed at the main stage that afternoon.

showed up to support loved ones; one man even brought his dog to the event. In groups, the community comes together to remember those who are battling cancer and those who have lost the battle.

Relay for Life is a yearly event organized by the American Cancer Society to help raise money for a cure for cancer. The relay lasts 24 hours with people walking the track from 10 a.m. Saturday to 10 a.m. Sunday.

"Cancer never sleeps, so neither will we," said Western senior NaTasha Magnuson, captain of her team at Relay.

Teams are formed so participants can bond and walk at different times throughout the 24 hours.

Magnuson has been going to Relay for four years. Many people in her life have fought cancer. Her grandmother was diagnosed with breast cancer and survived, but later died of lung cancer when Magnuson was 11.

"She was a very important person in my life," Magnuson said. "She died too young and when I was too young."

For Magnuson, Relay for Life is a way to honor the people in her life affected by cancer, she said.

"It makes me feel useful," Magnuson said. "It gives me the power to feel like cancer is not going to rule my life."

With 689 people making up 68 teams at Relay, the

track and field were packed.

Western senior Sarah Thomas, Magnuson's team member, was struck by the amount of people smiling at the relay.

Thomas' mother was diagnosed with breast cancer right before Thomas left for her first year of college. Her mother won her battle with breast cancer, but Thomas has been indirectly impacted by cancer through losing other family members to the disease, she said.

"You always have to be strong for the people in your life who have cancer," Thomas said. "Relay is one of those moments where you can let your expressions show."

A majority of the money raised goes to the American Cancer Society, Gilman said. As of Saturday, Western's Relay for Life had raised \$60,680 for cancer research, according to the Western Relay for Life website.

"Relay is an amazing event about celebrating people who have had cancer and remembering those people that we have lost," Gilman said. "It's about fighting back so that one day cancer can be gone forever."

Magnuson and Thomas were co-captains on the National Society of Collegiate Scholars. Their team raised more than \$3,000 through fundraising before and at the event, the second-highest amount raised by a single team, Magnuson said.



Two teams battle it out over a game of tug-of-war at Western's Relay For Life Saturday, May 18. When not walking around the track, participants could enjoy a variety of activities such as this, which was part of a workout boot camp.

This year was Magnuson's fourth Relay and the best so far, she said.

"It was an incredibly positive and inspiring event," she said.

Magnuson walked 24 miles, most of which occurred in the early hours of Sunday. She walked for three-straight hours from 2 a.m. to 5 a.m.

Collectively, her team walked 150 miles, and all of the walking and money earned goes toward the hope of a cancer-free tomorrow.

"That's a large part of what

[Relay] is about," Magnuson said. "Trying to create hope and finding the cure."

The 24-hour event happens yearly at Western. Everyone is invited to join or create a team and get involved.

Interest in Relay for Life has been steadily growing at Western over the last few years, Thomas said. In previous years there have been fewer activities, and people mainly just walked the track, she said. Now, people dress up, run and have a large variety of activities to

get involved in.

One activity that many people participated in was Boot Camp.

Led by cancer survivor John Dadis, Boot Camp is a chance for Relay participants to get their blood moving and adrenaline pumping by doing workouts, tug-of-wars and mini-relays with jumping jacks, bear crawls and wheelbarrow races.

"Hopefully they realize that, while this is hard, it's nothing compared to what others have gone through,"

Dadis said.

Western sophomore Alicia Gilman, who is on the Relay planning committee, relayed to support her cousin, who was diagnosed with cancer at age 7 and lost her battle at 8. She said her family does relay to remember and honor her cousin.

"There is something about [Relay] if you have known someone with cancer or lost someone to cancer," Gilman said. "It's something you can do to keep their spirit alive and fight back."



Illustration by Kristina Cain

In the Moment

There is a feeling of solidarity at Relay, which culminates at the Luminaria ceremony. A luminaria is a small paper bag with a candle or other light source in it.

"It's the point where everyone is truly united," Thomas said. "You feel like you aren't alone."

At 10 p.m. on Saturday, everyone gathers around the main stage set-up for the relay and sits on the ground in a large group. Hundreds of people silently reflect on why they are at Relay, remembering those people affected by cancer.

The stadium lights snap off, engulfing the field in darkness.

But only for a second.

Paper bags encircle the track. Hand-written messages cover the outside of the bags, in remembrance of someone affected by cancer. The bags are adorned with messages like "strength and courage," "in support of Priya, who won her fight against cancer" and "Grandpa Dan," with a Facebook 'like' symbol. Red, yellow, blue and green glow sticks lay inside the bags, illuminating the paper and creating a circle of light all around the field.

On the stage, cancer survivor Anthony Hale is giving a speech.

"This is an opportunity to reflect on how the disease affects us," Hale said to the silent crowd. "We all share the hope."

Behind the crowd, in 10-foot-tall letters outlined by white Christmas lights, the word "HOPE" stands.

"Each bag represents a treasured person," Hale said. "As they glow through the night, they are [the hope] of a cancer-free tomorrow."

When he finishes his speech, a moment of silent reflection and remembrance falls over the crowd. The only sounds are the water tumbling out of the fountain by the rec center and quiet crying.

Volunteers pass out glow sticks, spreading light through the crowd.

Then hundreds of people, all together, walk a completely silent lap illuminated by glow sticks and the Luminaria bags.

The lap is slow and heavy with silence. People stop in groups and crouch down around specific bags. They wipe tears from their eyes, stand back up and walk around the track, arm in arm.

"You are remembering those who you have lost and those who are fighting," Magnuson said. "That's the part where everyone just kind of breaks down."



Hundreds of bags containing glow sticks, with personal notes written on each, line Center Track at 10 p.m. Saturday, May 18. Relayers were also given glow sticks and the lights were turned off for the Relay For Life's Luminaria Ceremony.



Western's Viking mascot high-fives participants in Relay For Life Saturday, May 18. When it was not walking around the track, the Viking encouraged others with hugs, high-fiving and dancing.

Western administrator retires after 34-year career

By Tyler Kendig

When Georgia Sentkowski started her career at Western in 1979, resident tuition was \$618. The “Stone Enclosure” installation behind what is now the Academic Instructional Center West building had just been built. The concrete stair sculpture, now outside the Communications building was built shortly after.

Thirty-four years later, 75-year-old Sentkowski is ready to retire from her job as administrative services manager of the art department. She has held the position for 26 years in the same corner office. She will retire at the end of spring quarter, just before her 76th birthday.

Some of Sentkowski’s duties include managing the department’s budget, purchasing, time tables and student waitlists.

“I’m not quite sure how I ended up in the art department, because I can’t even draw a straight line,” Sentkowski said, laughing.

Virginia Prowell, curator at the Slide/Visual Resource Center, has worked with Sentkowski for nearly 12 years.

“She’s the biggest resource we have here,” Prowell said. “The art department is Georgia’s department.”

Gaye Green, chair of the art department, admired Sentkowski’s even temperament throughout their 16 years working together. Green described Sentkowski as the most stable person in the department.

“She’s like the resident psychologist in a way,” Green said. “She talks to everybody; she hears everybody’s problems. She’s the one person everybody goes to.”

Sentkowski is the oldest person in the department and likes to call herself a mother figure for everyone she works with, she said.

Prowell said she and her coworkers were surprised when Sentkowski



Georgia Sentkowski transferred to the art and design department after working in the financial aid department and is now finishing her final quarter at Western Washington University before retirement.

Photo by Nick Danielson

announced she was leaving, but more surprised Sentkowski has passionately held her position well into her 70s.

“We were all amazed, because she has a lot of energy at her age,” Prowell said. “She just keeps going at it, and she’s on top of everything. She just wasn’t ready to stop.”

Sentkowski was born in Ogden, Utah, in 1938. Her parents are Greek and emigrated from Greece to New York before relocating to Utah.

After graduating from Weber State University, she held a job at Hill Air Force Base. She worked until she adopted her son Gene and daughter Julie, when she was told to quit, a common occurrence before the Pregnancy Discrimination Act of 1978.

After her children enrolled in school full time, Sentkowski was hired for an administrative position at her children’s elementary school.

“They may not have thought [it was fun] because Mom was there, but I enjoyed it,” Sentkowski said.

Sentkowski and her children moved to Bellingham in 1979. At the time, two of Sentkowski’s sisters lived in the area.

“I just needed to get my kids out of [Ogden], because they were 8 and 10 and it really wasn’t good for them there,” Sentkowski said.

Sentkowski has lived in the same house since she first moved to Bellingham.

She soon secured a position in Western’s financial aid department, where she processed student applications for seven years. Sentkowski was initially taken aback by the diversity of students that walked into her department.

“You see a lot of the orange, blue, green hair, all the piercings,” Sentkowski said. “At first it was really strange for me, but it doesn’t bother me

anymore. You get used to it. It’s just the way it is.”

In 1986, Sentkowski was transferred to the art department.

Green has worked in the office next to Sentkowski for two of her 16 years in the department. Green said she will miss Sentkowski’s sense of humor the most.

“One of the things that amazes me is that she’s 75 and she can out-work most of us,” Green said. “For her age – or even at my age – she’s got a work ethic that is unparalleled. It’s just amazing how she’s still going so strong.”

Sentkowski’s 26 years in the office has given her the experience needed to effectively keep the budget balanced and keep people’s needs met, Prowell said.

“Working with a fiery Greek is pretty fun,” Prowell said. “She really cares deeply about the people and the program here and making certain things are done right. She has always done it in a fun manner and a firm hand, but with a lot of love.”

Sentkowski shares her free time with her pet schnauzer Heidi and enjoys reading, sewing and gardening. She also has a passion for cooking Greek food to share with church members and her co-workers.

When Sentkowski’s not working 10-12 hours a day at Western, she volunteers at the Saint Sophia Greek Orthodox Church. She’s been part of the Greek Orthodox religion since she was born, she said. When she retires, she hopes to spend more of her time involved in the congregation, she said.

More than anything else, Sentkowski will miss the people she worked with in the department and around campus, she said. The majority of the faculty truly cares about the students, she said.

“I’ve enjoyed it up until now but I’m going to be 76 in July,” Sentkowski said. “It’s time to get out of here.”

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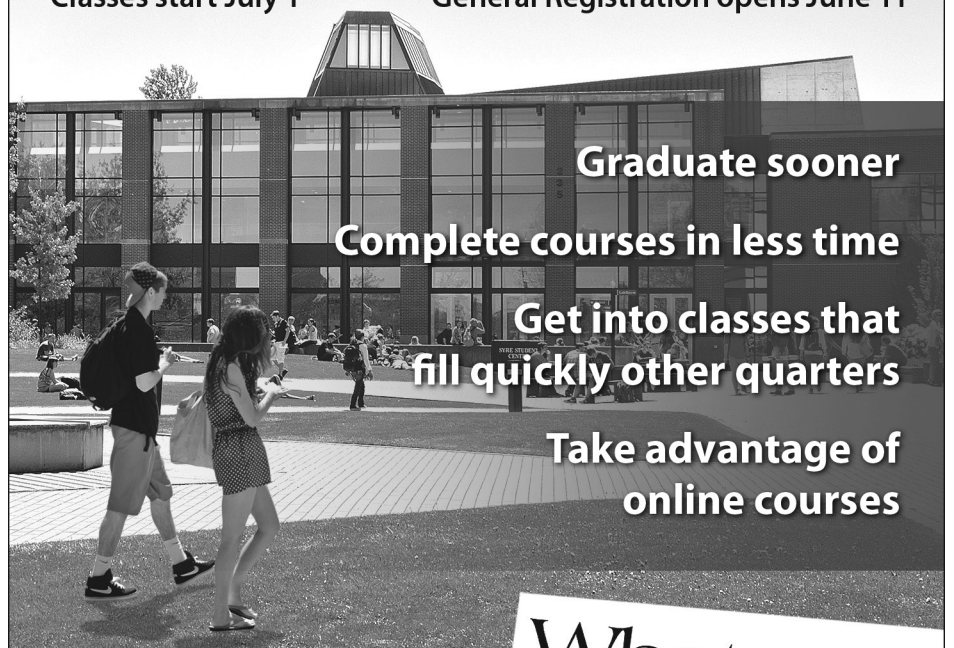


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COMMUNITY COLLEGE

Guest Column: Duot's suspension illegal, immoral

Vice President of Diversity John Deng Duot is currently suspended without pay. The Student Senate and a large portion of the student body are voicing, and will continue to voice, their disappointment regarding the decision to suspend Duot. As members of your Student Senate, we want to provide clarification on the process and feelings of students at large.

On Thursday, May 9, 2013, the Associated Students Board of Directors, with four votes approving and three votes dissenting, opted to suspend Vice President of Diversity John Deng Duot for two weeks without pay. In the process of taking this action, the Board of Directors specifically violated at least three tenants of the AS employment policy (section 7.05 of the version currently found online), disregarded the spirit of the way in which AS employees should be treated as outlined in the AS employment policy and proceeded with little to no warning or public mention.

Following the Board's decision, the Senate, with seven votes for and zero against, voted to approve a resolution calling for the reinstatement of Vice President John Deng Duot and condemned the process by

which he was originally suspended.

Based on testimony, John Deng Duot is a good man with strong morals and an even stronger work ethic. We have heard testimony regarding the positive impact he has had on individuals in this community while exercising his responsibilities as the vice president of diversity. It is for those reasons that the Senate is appalled that the Board of Directors would so easily, and without proper procedure, suspend Duot and his pay.

Even more disturbing is the reaction the Board has had to student outcry and opinion. The Board of Directors has attempted on multiple occasions to silence the Senate and opinions of students in this matter. At the Senate meeting held May 14th, with more than 40 people in the room, most of which

were there to support Duot, members of the Board of Directors attempted to prevent the Senate from hearing this matter. Their arguments have some validity. The Senate bylaws prevent the Senate from directly commenting on an AS personnel matter. However, the Senate maintains that Deng is not a traditional AS employee, but rather a stipend elected official responsible for his constituents and held to very specific and unique clauses in the AS employment policy. Those policies were violated, and the Senate discussion and opinions primarily reflect the incorrect process the Board followed and not the reasons why the board made their decision.

Even worse, the AS Board of Directors opted not to hear nor discuss the resolution passed by the Senate in a

timely manner. When Vice President of Governmental Affairs Patrick Stickney brought the resolution to the floor at the May 16 meeting of the Board of Directors, five of the Board of Directors voted not to hear the resolution. Additionally, during the public forum, the chairman of the Board of Directors, Ethan Glemaker, attempted to prevent members of the Senate from speaking due to a simple mistake in sign-up procedure. After substantial protest, Glemaker let the Senators speak.

The fact is that the Board has acted illegally, immorally and irresponsibly in the duties they are charged with. While our disappointment is great, there still is time for the Board to rectify their decision. It is even easy to do so. If the Board opts to refrain from such stubbornness, admits that they made a mistake and votes to reinstate Duot, then the problem is effortlessly solved. This is not only what students want but it is also the right action to take.

Written on behalf of the Student Senate by Senators William Campbell, Neil Christensen, Sarah Kohout, Matthew Hilliard, Marc Ooman and Glen Tokola. Senator Joe Levy abstained in the vote.

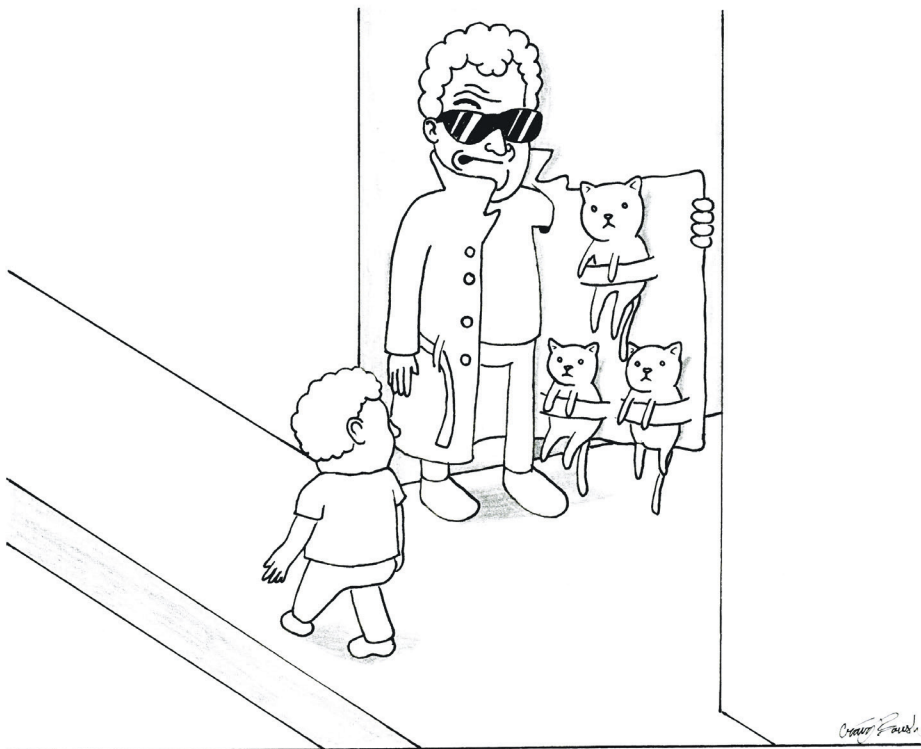
Letter: Front should support Duot

After your most recent front page, I think you guys should be more supportive of our Associated Students vice president for diversity [John Deng Duot]. Diversity is something that is a huge problem at Western, and bashing him by making him look like a bad person because he missed one board

meeting is kind of ridiculous. While your honesty on the issue is important, I think it could be worded in a more supportive light toward the students that make Western so great.

*Kelsey Ray,
Western student*

Front Funnies



"PSST! HEY KID, YOU LOOKIN TO BUY SOME CATS"

Cartoon by Craig Boush

Need a place to vent?

The Western Front publishes submitted opinion items on a space-available basis. Please limit letters to 400 words or less.

Submit letters to the editor and guest columns, along with your name and title (such as "Western sophomore") to westernfront.opinion@gmail.com. We reserve the right to edit for length, spelling, style and grammar.

Want people to see your art?

The Western Front is looking for artwork from the campus community.

Submit cartoons, drawings, illustrations and other artwork to westernfront.opinion@gmail.com or submit on our website at www.westernfrontonline.net. Be sure to include your name and title (such as "Western sophomore") with your submission.

FRONTLINE

Opinions of the Editorial Board

How progressive are we?

Many students rely on university healthcare to help them access treatments that are essential to their pursuit of a full, happy life. These treatments include antibiotics, surgeries, birth control and more. The importance of a comprehensive healthcare plan is clear — students are often unable to pay the extreme costs of medical care.

Earlier this month, Duke University made a grand step toward equality when it added gender reassignment surgery to its student health plan. Duke now helps students in need by paying \$50,000 toward their sex-change operations. It may seem like a drastic step, but for the same reasons insurance covers antibiotics and physical therapy, assisting students with gender reassignment surgery is a logical and honorable course of action.

Insurance is supposed to cover health problems that truly affect people's ability to live happy lives. A gender identity disorder, classified by both the World Health Organization and the Diagnostic and Statistical Manual of Mental Disorders, more than qualifies as an ailment to which medical insurance ought to lend compassion and assistance. Living life in a body that doesn't match a person's mental alignment can do serious damage to that person's wellbeing. Offering financial assistance to those who suffer from gender identity disorder is as valid as paying for a patient's ingrown toenail surgery — it's a physical problem that requires medical intervention.

The cost to offer this program doesn't need to be extreme. Duke managed to incorporate sex-change operations into their system by raising student fees by a modest .3 percent. Full time Western students pay \$250 in fees per quarter. A .3-percent raise would amount to a 75 cent increase — a fee well worth the pride of helping those in need.

Western fancies itself a progressive university in regards to queer rights. It's a point of pride for our community and a mindset students coming to Western should be supportive of. If we truly consider ourselves to be on the forefront of social rights, we have to follow Duke's shining example and include gender correction in our health plan. Otherwise, we'll have to lower our heads and bite our lips whenever the topic of queer rights activism is raised.

Like the student tech fee or the green energy fee, the Associated Students should, at the very least, put the notion of gender reassignment coverage up to a student vote. If we really are the progressive school we believe ourselves to be, the vote will be a landslide. If popular opinion condemns the idea, so be it. Either way, we'll never know until the students have been given the chance to voice their opinion.

The editorial board is comprised of Opinion Editor Nathan Dalla Santa, Editor-in-Chief James Kozanitis and Managing Editor Michael Lydon.

Guest Column: Divestment is a course of action

We disagree with the implication that challenging the political stranglehold of the fossil fuel industry is less impactful than making modest reductions in electrical consumption. Lifestyle choices are necessary but insufficient measures to address the impending crisis. Reducing our energy consumption is progressive only if energy sources are being substituted with renewables.

Energy companies are intentionally slowing the transition to a sustainable energy infrastructure, partly through massive spending on legislative lobbying and electoral campaign finance. But time is running out to make this transition.

Current estimations show that emitting an additional 565 gigatons of carbon dioxide into the atmosphere would eliminate any chance of reversing global warming. Energy corporations currently hold 2795 gigatons in their known reserves, and continue to spend billions annually exploring for the deepest pockets. At our current rates of consumption and growth, the point of no return will be crossed in fifteen years.

The market value of fossil fuels relies on the assumption that known reserves will be extracted and sold. But we know that to combust even one-fifth of those reserves would destroy any chance of slowing climate change, thus jeopardizing human civilization. The discrepancy between current knowledge and the assumptions of the market is referred to as the "carbon bubble."

Global warming will continue, and ice caps will keep melting, if we do not reduce atmospheric concentrations of carbon dioxide to below 350 ppm, from their current level of 400 ppm. Five million years ago, the last time atmospheric carbon was at its current level, sea levels were 60 to 80 feet higher.

We face a dire situation that necessitates bold action. Divestment is one tactic in a growing worldwide movement to address this crisis of humanity.

When Western Washington University commits to divesting \$1 million in fossil fuel stocks, we will be upholding the ethical principle that it is wrong to profit on destruction. Six private colleges and 11 cities in the U.S., including Seattle and San Francisco, have moved to divest. When hundreds of institutions sell off their shares, the message will be strong and heard worldwide, likely to influence shifting market values as well as geopolitical discourse. If the WWU Foundation chooses to divest now, we will become the first public university to do so.

There are two paths before us. One in which we ignore the crisis, and presume that fossil fuel corporations will carry out their destructive plan, or one in which we face the crisis. By choosing to divest, we affirm the belief that the crisis should be faced. Western has the opportunity to lead the way down the path to climate action. We are at a historic crossroads. For us, the right choice is clear. Walk this path with us, and join the movement to Divest Western Now!

To learn more, come to our public panel about divestment moving forward, on May 22nd, 6-7:30 p.m. in AW204, hosted by Students for Renewable Energy.

*Edward Ury,
Students for Renewable Energy*

Viking Voices

How can Vikings save the planet?



"Not throwing away organic materials in the landfill is really important. Don't put paper products or organic stuff in the waste."

Stephanie Eckard,
Western graduate student



"Being aware of turning off the water when you're brushing your teeth, car-pooling and being aware of how much you're driving."

Nicole Quance,
Western freshman



"The big thing is banding together to get people to agree as a group."

Jenna Montgomery,
Western sophomore



"When off campus, be mindful of what you throw away. I live off campus and I notice a lot of people don't seem to be conscious of what they can recycle."

Preston Morrison,
Western senior



"Recycling and using less fossil fuels. So if you need to get to school, use the bus or ride your bike. Try to conserve electricity too, because you use gas to make it."

Joshua Tataran,
Western Freshman



"More solar panels would be a great thing, even though they're expensive."

Brennan Willhite,
Western senior

Compiled by Morgan Olberding

Letter: Exchange student's view of U.S. media

Watching TV for the first time here in the U.S., I was overwhelmed with how many commercials there were in just one movie. In Austria we do have commercials as well, but they do not interfere with my watching a movie, they are in between movies. Here it feels like I turn the TV on to watch commercials, not something I actually want to see. I have forgotten what's happening in the film or show I'm watching because of all the interruptions. This made me wonder about how public media works in the U.S. After some research I found some alarming facts. The U.S. public media funding is, with \$1.50 per person, the lowest in the world. Canada spends \$22 per person and among the highest public media funders in the world are Denmark and Finland. Both spend \$100 per person on public broadcast. This independence on private finances allows those countries' press the freedom to show whatever they want, with limited commercials.

Yet the never-ending flood of commercials is not the only issue in U.S. public media. The government is slowly and secretly handing over rights on print, broadcasting and radio media to private corporations who act only in their own interests. So nowadays when people turn on the TV they have to watch what those private stations want them to watch. The main tasks of public media are not only to entertain people but also to inform them, educate and broaden their cultural horizons, in other words to strengthen democracy. This is hardly in the interest of private corporations. However, apparently nobody wants the public to know what's going on. This is not a small issue and should not be ignored. Everybody has a political voice and it is everybody's responsibility to secure free press for future generations.

*Nicole Spreitz,
Austrian exchange senior*

Letter: Drive and ride safely, without cell phones

The bike accident that occurred on campus this past week was a strong, but painful reminder of the very real dangers of our world today. Frankly, I have lost track of the number of times that I have nearly been struck (walking or biking) by a red-light-running vehicle, or a clueless driver with a cell phone glued to their ear. (This is why I supported cameras at intersections). I cannot imagine biking without a helmet. Isn't your brain worth at least \$30?

It is illegal to drive while talking non-hands-free, yet it ignorantly continues. Just yesterday evening I was

nearly struck by a clueless girl with a phone glued to her ear as she crossed the intersection. She was completely unaware of my presence--despite my light-colored jacket and that it was full daylight. "Hello, people! Hang up and live ... and let others live, too!"

As a post-baccalaureate, cell phone usage by students is my largest scourge. I have not only been nearly hit and killed by cell phone users, but cell phones end my (and others') chances of meeting new people, girls/women in particular, who seem to walk everywhere with their phones glued to their ears and unaware of their surrounding

environment. (This, too, is a big safety concern for people that are tuned-out to their environment as it dims or mutes our senses to danger.)

Not to sound like a grumpy curmudgeon, but not only is it a safety hazard, but cell phones have fast become a social crutch and inhibitor to meeting new people who choose to live their lives to the fullest -- in the here and now. Hang up and live your lives to their fullest ... which, as it turns out, is also achieved by being your safest.

*Ben Kinkade
student teacher*

Vikings wins All-Sports crown by record margin



Varsity athletes (from left) John Allen (men's basketball), Emily Cotter (volleyball), Claire Rachor (women's golf) and Dylan Gordon (track and field) pose in front of the Western Athletic's trophy case in Sam Carver Gymnasium Monday, May 20. Western won the Great Northwest Athletic Conference All-Sports championship for the fifth-straight year.

Photo by Danny Miller

Vikings win seven conference championships in 2012-13 season

By Sigourney Gundy

After a year of sweat, hard work and dedication to their sports, Western athletes have been recognized for the record-breaking score of 206 total points from athletic competitions throughout the year.

Breaking their score from last year, the Western athletic program was given the Great Northwest Athletic Conference 2012-13 All-Sports championship for the fifth time in a row,

with both men and women winning the separate all-team titles.

Scores are calculated from regular season and postseason performance based on two-point increment with the top team receiving 20 points, the second place team 18 and so on.

The GNAC All-Sports title can be explained as a mathematical indicator of which university has the best overall sports program, said Bob Guptill, the GNAC information

director.

Both the men's and women's athletic programs have won their respective all-team titles as individuals and will receive plaques to honor their accomplishments.

The men finished the season with 3 conference championships and 90 total points, and the women with four conference championships and 116 total points.

The Vikings won seven total conference champion-

ships including women's soccer, volleyball, men's indoor track, women's basketball, men's golf, women's golf and men's outdoor track.

There are 16 total championships in the GNAC, with Western participating in 11 of them.

"All of the Western athletes are really determined and hardworking, and it shows when we win titles like this," said Emily Cotter, junior vol

See VIKINGS on page 15

Freshman walk-on lone Viking at Nationals

By Douglas Archuleta

Freshman Bethany Drake will be the only representative for Western's track and field team at the NCAA Division II national outdoor track and field championships on May 23-25 in Pueblo, Colo. She was the only Western athlete that qualified for the national competition.

Drake will compete in the javelin throw, an event she has competed in all season.

"I'm really excited," Drake said. "It's been a long season of training and a lot of hard work, and it's awesome to see it all come together."

Drake will be the No. 2 seed in the event, after throwing an automatic national-qualifying mark of 157-4.

As a freshman, Drake said this will be a fantastic experience in her first year competing at the collegiate level, but she has room to improve over her next three years of eligibility.

"I haven't been super consistent this season," Drake said, "So I'm hoping that, over the next few years, it will give me time to be more consistent and become more of a sturdy, reliable part of the team."

If Drake were to win a national championship, she would join Western alumna Monika Gruszecki, the champion for 2007 and 2011, on the list of Western women to have won titles in the jave

See DRAKE on page 15

Women's soccer recruits five to bolster team for title run



Western women's soccer recruit Caitlyn Jobanek dribbles up the field in a game playing for Thurston High School in Springfield, Ore. Jobanek will join the Vikings in August and compete for a starting forward spot. Story on page 14

Men's golf nationals kicks off

Senior-led Vikings fourth after day one in head coach's last run

By Grace Blum
Photo courtesy of Western Athletics

Western's men's golf team began competition at the 2013 NCAA Division II National Championships in Hershey, Penn., on Monday.

The Vikings are tied for fourth place in the national championship with Nova Southeastern University after the first day of competition.

The team is going into the competition with high hopes, red-shirt freshman Jack Kelly said.

"I have a lot of confidence in our team and our coach," Kelly said. "We've had a good season,



Head Coach Steve Card

we're one of the top teams in the country and we're just looking forward to showing it."

The men ended Monday at only eight strokes above par. Barry University of Miami Shores, Fla., stood in first

place at even par.

Senior Jake Webb led the Western men on the scoreboard with a even par 71, and he was tied for ninth place at the end of the day. The change of time zones was a struggle for the men, but Webb is still happy with their performance, Webb said.

"This being the first day, we played pretty solid."

The men begin playing tomorrow with a tee time of noon EST.

The competition will be the last under Head Coach Steve Card, who stepped down after 20 years to focus on the interim Athletic Director positions.

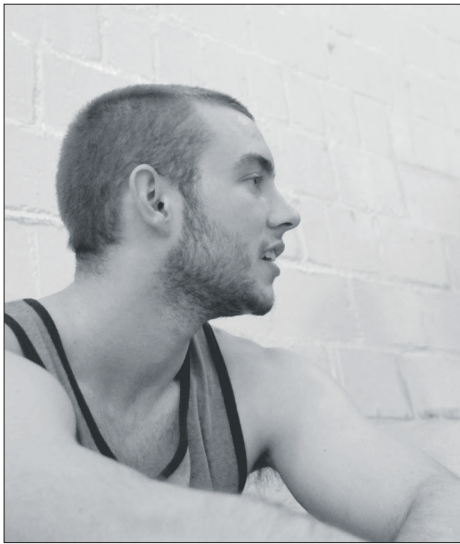
Western junior continues family legacy of male cheerleaders

By Kari Kato

After being the only man out of 40 women to tryout, the Western Athletics cheer squad welcomed their first male cheerleader in four years.

Junior Cody Maltz, a geology major, began his cheerleading career seven weeks ago, when sophomore cheerleader Chloe Borba asked him to tryout.

The last male cheerleader Western had was Maltz's older brother, Kyle



Western junior Cody Maltz takes a break during cheerleading tryouts Saturday, May 4, in Carver Gymnasium. Photo by Danny Miller



Cody Maltz stands among cheerleader hopefuls during tryouts Saturday May 4. Maltz is a member of the 2013-14 Western cheer team.

Photo by Danny Miller

Maltz, who graduated in 2010.

Having a male cheerleader on the team brings a new quality to the squad. He will mainly be stunting and calling out chants, senior cheerleader Lauren Forbes said.

"He doesn't do all of the hip shaking motions; he has his own set of motions but he still does the cheers with us," Forbes said.

Maltz's favorite part about cheer-

leading is throwing girls up in the air and not being around the "bros" all the time, he said.

"I get my fair share of being around guys, so a little time around girls is never bad," Maltz said.

In the past, Maltz has participated in rowing, soccer, football and baseball. Cheerleading offers a change of pace from the athletics he's used to, he said.

"Cody will not only contribute strength, but also diversity to the team," Forbes said. "It will be really nice to have that dynamic added to the squad. Maybe if other guys see that we have a male cheerleader, more guys will want to try out and be a part of the team."

One of the biggest assets Maltz brings to the team is the ability to partner stunt, sophomore cheerleader Erica Redman said.

One of the stunts he will perform is "toss hands," in which Maltz grabs a partner's hips, tosses her in the air, then catches her feet and extends her above his head.

Maltz has no problem interacting and socializing with girls. He was raised by his mother most of his life after his father passed away, he said.

For the upcoming cheer season, Maltz is most excited to be in front of everyone and participate in partner stunts.

"All the other girls are excited for it too," Maltz said. "Now that I am on the team, we are probably going to be able to throw some pretty high basket tosses, so we will be able to do some cool stuff."

Maltz plans on cheering for the remainder of his college career, and hopes more men will want to tryout.

Transfers and recruits join women's soccer for season full of promise

By Beth Carlson

New recruits for next fall hold promise for Western women's soccer team. Five newcomers will join the returning players on the field in August.

Only two players, Joana Houplin and Jamie Arthurs, are graduating this year. With a large group returning from a school-record breaking season, next year's team looks strong, Head Coach Travis Connell said.

Although the new class is small, each player holds promise, Connell said. Among the recruits are attacking players Elise Aylward and Caitlyn Jobanek.

Aylward and Jobanek will be vying for Houplin's position, who was a key member of the attack, Connell said.

Aylward is a forward from Lindbergh High School in Renton. She was the team captain and MVP for her high school team.

Jobanek, also a forward, is com-

ing to Western from Springfield, Ore., where she helped her team at Thurston High School become state champions.

In Jobanek's junior year, Connell showed her around campus and told her a little about the team. "I definitely think that a team should have that character, cohesiveness and family feeling,"

"I'm looking forward to being a part of a really good soccer team," Jobanek said. "I hope to come in and make a difference."

The new recruits also include Miranda Head, goalkeeper and transfer student from California State University San Bernadino. Head will replace goalie Jamie Arthurs, an All-American player who will graduate this year.

Arthurs posted a school-record 39 shutouts during her four-year career, tying her at sixth-best all-time for career shutouts in NCAA Division II history.

Defender Nicki Williams, another transfer student, will also be joining

the team. Williams is coming to Western from Gonzaga University. Erin Russell, a left-footed player, is joining the team as well.

"Left-footed service is something we don't have on the roster right now, so we're excited to have her on the team," Connell said.

Brina Sych, a junior and midfielder, is excited for some fresh faces and expects to make it to regionals again this coming year.

"It's always nice to have someone come in and change up the dynamic of the team a little bit, give us a push," Sych said.

The team has a strong backbone and therefore needs a strong incoming class to carry the torch to the next generation of players, she said.

"We need players who are willing to work hard and bring spirit to the team," Sych said.

For preseason, Connell's goals are to make sure leadership is strong and



Women's soccer recruit Caitlyn Jobanek cuts back against a defender while playing for Thurston High School in Springfield, Ore.

Photos Courtesy of Caitlyn Jobanek

the team is unified. The new players must be able to work well with those returning, said the coach, who has brought more wins to Western women's soccer than any other women's coach in Western's history.

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Athletics Hall of Fame hits 125 in annual celebration

Women's and men's basketball stars inducted, along with track and soccer legends



The newest members of the Western Athletics Hall of Fame, (from left) Lori DeKubber, Rudy Thomas, Brandi Stevenson and Scot Swanson celebrated their induction with family and friends at the Bellingham Country Club on Saturday, May 18. Photo by Nick Danielson

VIKINGS: Western adds to prestige with fifth-straight title

Continued from page 13

leyball outside hitter.

This year the volleyball team had a successful season, from being undefeated at home to winning a GNAC conference champion title, Cotter said.

"[Winning the title] is great recognition as a university that is trying to achieve to be the best," said Tony Dominguez, the men's basketball head coach.

Dominguez is very proud of what the basketball team did this year, he said. Falling short of the national title by just one game, this year was the second best men's basketball team in school history, Dominguez said.

By winning the GNAC all-team title, Dominguez said the teams are gaining more recognition and are creating a way for students to engage in their school.

"When you are at the top and recognized it helps the pride of the students," Dominguez said.

This year will mark the fifth year in a row that Western will get to keep the traveling trophy and add another plaque to mark the program's success, Guptill said.

It is great to be part of a successful athletic program, the teams focus on doing the best they can individually and it's a plus when that helps the program win all team titles, Cotter said.

2012-13 Season at a Glance

7 GNAC championships

36-0 record in Carver Gym

8 teams appeared in a national tournament

DRAKE: Javelin title within Western grasp for third time in six years

Freshman ranked No. 2 in competition seeding

Continued from page 13

lin throw.

Head Coach Pee Wee Halsell expects Drake to throw close to her qualifying throw, or even surpass it.

Drake said she has enjoyed her time and successes with the team, which has become like a second family to her.

Both men's and women's track and field teams have had successful seasons, taking first and third in the Great Northwest Athletic Conference respectively.

Halsell expressed his satisfaction

with the way that his teams contended this season.

"It was a good season," Halsell said. "I think it was comparable, even a little bit better, than the past few years."

Western's men were particularly impressive, winning their eighth GNAC crown with a 42.5-point gap between them and the second-place finishers.

This capped off a season that saw the men compete consistently, Halsell said.

Halsell was also satisfied with the women's season, and he is optimistic moving in to next season, regardless of



Freshman Bethany Drake holds the javelin at the Wade King Student Recreation Center turf field. As a walk-on, Drake is the only athlete to qualify for the national championships in Pueblo, Colo. Photo by Nick Danielson

"It's been a long season of training and a lot of hard work, and it's awesome to see it all come together."

**-Bethany Drake,
freshman javelin thrower**

the fact they are losing 16 seniors from this year's team.

"[Drake] is returning, and we've got just a good group returning. I look

to do well," he said.

For the third time in the last six years, Western will aim to take the national women's javelin throw crown.

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Women hit the water as part of Western's sailing club



Western sailing team members (from left) freshman Jazzy Geratty, senior Angela Gossom, and junior Rachel McCrady pose for a picture. The three will accompany two other women to compete in the national semifinals on May 22 in St. Petersburg, Fla. **Photo by Nick Danielson**

Five female sailors fight to get to the national championship for the second straight year

By Quinn Welsch

Not only is Western women's sailing team excelling in a predominantly male-dominated sport, but they've also succeeded in taking Western to the semifinals for a national championship, said Rachael McCrady, a 20-year-old junior on Western's sailing team.

Western's sailing team comprises 50 members who pay dues, and 22 consistent sailors. Less than half of them are women.

"It's a big deal to be a woman sailor, because you're not taken seriously, generally," she said. "There's a different sense of pride in being on a women's team."

Five of Western's sailors from the women's team will compete in a regatta against teams from around the nation in the Inter-Collegiate Sailing Association's College Sailing Women's Nation-

al Championship's semifinals in St. Petersburg, Fla., on May 21. If the women's team wins they will compete in the championship on May 22.

McCrady began sailing as a college freshman for the social experience, but found that she had a talent for sailing, she said. She serves the women's team as a crew, making sure the boat is flat and working the lines and the jib sheet. Senior Angela Gossom, 22, is McCrady's skipper, whose job is to steer the boat and control the main sheet. The two will sail a 13.3-foot boat, known as a Flying Junior, at the semifinals.

Last year, the women's team made it straight to the finals in Austin, Texas, after they beat the University of Washington's team. This time they lost to Washington, leaving them to qualify in the semifinals. This is the first time any of the sailors have been to the St. Petersburg venue.

The team's weaknesses vary person-by-person, McCrady said. Overall, the team is less experienced than last year, she said.

Kyle Eaton, the team's coach for the event, said the team's skippers are relatively new to their roles, making them less experienced than others. Because the sailing team is a student-run club and is mostly self-funded, it's unusual for them to even have a coach.

Eaton is also a Portland, Ore., high school sailing coach and alumni president of the North West Inter-Collegiate Sailing Association. He said he already had plans to attend the Florida event when the women's team asked him to coach.

Getting an all-women's team together can be difficult because so many women work as crew, and because most skippers are men, McCrady said.

"If a girl does go into the skipper role we try to make it very encouraging," said freshman Jazzy Gerraty, 19, another team member going to the St. Petersburg regatta.

Even though the team didn't qualify straight into the nationals this year, the mental stamina of the women's team is stronger than last year's, McCrady said. Being on the team requires constant situational awareness as well as knowledge of the water, she said.

"A lot of sports require you to be as strong as you can, or as fast as you can and that's it," Gossom said. "Sailing is a combination of both. You need to have good cardio, but you also need to be able to think."

Jeff Davis, Western's Lakewood facility manager, said the team has put in their time on the water per-

fecting their boat handling. The tournament is a good opportunity for the team to compete against big-name schools with full-time coaches and more funding, he said. Davis acts as an unofficial part time coach for Western's sailing team.

Eighteen teams will compete in the semifinals and nine will advance to the finals. There are already nine teams awaiting the semifinal winners for the championship, including Washington.

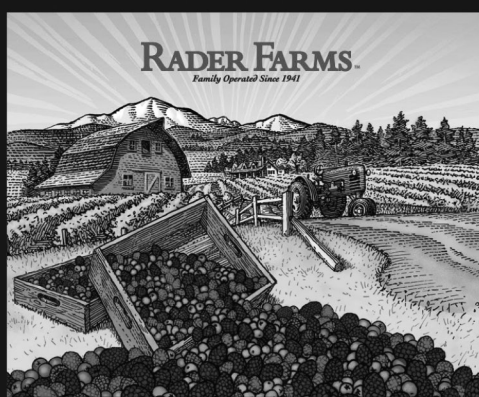
The event is hosted by University of South Florida St. Petersburg's Eckerd College. The finals regatta can be watched live at Collegesailing.org on May 21.



Western freshman Jazzy Geratty switches to the other side of her boat with a fellow sailing team member to turn the vessel while headed to shore during a practice on Friday, May 17 at Lake Whatcom. **Photo by Nick Danielson**

"It's a big deal to be a woman sailor, because you're not taken seriously, generally. There's a different sense of pride being on the women's team."

-Rachael McCrady,
junior sailor



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