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THE WESTERN FRONT

Winner of seven 2013 Society of Professional Journalists Awards

Volume 173, Issue 12

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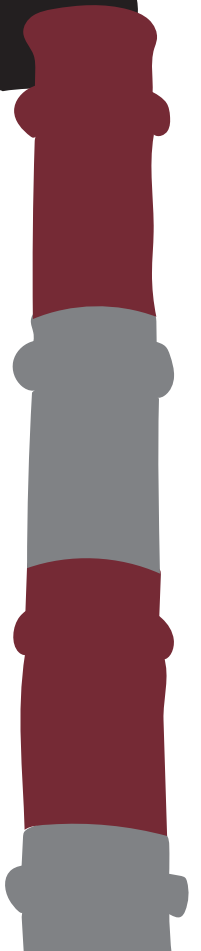
TUESDAY, NOVEMBER 3

Suffocating the coal vote



Junior Shelby Kremenich hands a flyer to freshman Kaliae Van on Monday, Nov. 2, in Red Square on the day before Whatcom County Election ballots must be submitted. Kremenich and other students were protesting the coal industry and encouraging students to vote certain ways on different measures. They encourage voting yes on proposition 9 and 10 and no on proposition 1, 2 and 3. Their position on these propositions would change the election procedures and would help stop progress on the Gateway Pacific coal terminal. Ballot boxes close at 8 p.m. on Tuesday, Nov. 3. // Photo by Christina Becker

Illustration by Nicole Swift



Grade changes

Upcoming policy vote to get rid of grade averaging

Sarah Mikkelborg
THE WESTERN FRONT

democratic matters and curriculum, chair Mark Kuntz said.

The faculty senate will consider the policy on Monday, Nov. 9, and majority approval will be needed to implement it.

Western students who retake a class are often unaware that current policy averages their old and new grades together and both factor into their GPA.

“What’s odd about averaging is if you took a class twice — first time you got an F, second time you got an A — the averaging is that you have a C knowledge,” Kuntz said. “You actually have an A knowledge.”

see *GRADE*, page 5

After discussion last year, the Academic Coordinating Commission unanimously approved a new grade replacement policy at its Oct. 27, meeting.

It will now be voted upon by the faculty senate and, if approved, will change how students’ GPAs are affected when they retake classes. Starting fall 2016, it would allow the most recent grade to replace the first, usually resulting in better cumulative grades.

The ACC is responsible for making recommendations to the faculty senate about aca-

New option for buying textbooks

McKenna Kloes
THE WESTERN FRONT

A vote next week will determine how Western promotes a new choice for buying and selling textbooks for students. Texts.com is a site that allows students to post books for sale and compare prices in order to get the best value possible.

The site is a student-to-student textbook marketplace wrapped inside a price-comparison engine, according to its website. They provide free student listings and give options of other vendors who are also selling the book students may be looking for.

Texts.com has come to the attention of Western’s Associated Students Board of Directors as a possible option for

them to sponsor, according to Hannah Brock, AS Vice President for Business and Operations.

One of the main factors

holding the board back is their concern for the AS Bookstore sales, Brock said.

see *BOOKS*, page 4



Freshman Sydney Berger buys books for her English 201 class on Monday, Nov. 2 in Western’s bookstore. // Photo by Christina Becker



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OPINION ON THE NEWS

The Western Front Editorial Board weighs in on the lack of student involvement in the first presidential search open forum. Read the story covering the forum on page 3. Read the opinion on page 4.

TRANSPORTATION WEEK STARTS MOVING



Ethan Wise (left) tables for transportation week, while Rachael Belisle (right) fills out surveys about the late night shuttle. Four events will be going on around campus this week. On Tuesday, Nov. 3, there will be a winter bike clinic in Viking Commons 552, during which bike lights will be given out. On Wednesday, Nov. 4, there will be a bike maintenance workshop at the Outdoor Center. And on Thursday, Nov. 5, there will be a showing of "Bikes vs Cars" at the Pickford Film Center. // Photo by Christina Becker

What's happening? Events on campus and in the community

<p>Tuesday</p> <p>Open Mic Night 7 p.m. - 9:45 p.m. Viking Union Underground Coffehouse Enjoy various performances by Western students. Free admission. Sign up start at 6:30.</p>	<p>Trivia Night at Skylark's 6:30 p.m. - 12 a.m. Skylark's Hidden Café General knowledge trivia. Teams can be 1 to 6 people. \$2 per person. Winning team wins cash prize.</p>
<p>Wednesday</p> <p>Product Designers Sallyann Corn and Joe Kent 6 p.m. Fraser Hall, Room 4 Department of Design hosts designers who opened Fruitsuper, a company that designs fun objects that are made well and from honest material.</p>	<p>Ask an Alum: Career Conversations with Viking Alumni 4 p.m. - 8 p.m. Academic Instructional Center West Meet, ask questions and talk to Western alumni about internships, careers and networking. Open to all students. Pre-registration is required.</p>

Cops Box

8 a.m., Oct. 30
Police contacted a homeowner regarding a vegetation encroachment into the neighbor's yard.

12:16 a.m., Nov. 1
Police responded to a malicious mischief report in the 2900 block of Wilson Avenue after someone shattered the sliding glass door of a house for an unknown reason.

6:34 p.m., Oct. 30
Police received a report of one neighbor flipping off another neighbor in the 4000 block of Northwest Avenue.

2 a.m., Nov. 1
A man reported being assaulted by three men who were unhappy that they could not enter his residence for a party, which had already ended.

10:15 p.m., Oct. 31
Uninvited guests stole items from people at a party on the 1200 block of North Garden Street. The items were recovered by police.

5:41 p.m., Nov. 1
A man was jumped by mutual acquaintances in the woods near the 3100 block of Cornwall Avenue.

// Compiled by Ariana Hoyer

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Corrections

In an Oct. 30 story about the Office of Civil Rights visit, The Western Front mistated the days of the visit. They will be on campus from Sunday, Nov. 1 to Tuesday, Nov. 3.

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.

First presidential search meeting lacks students

Mikayla King
THE WESTERN FRONT

The 15 members of the Presidential Search Advisory Committee met Monday, Nov. 2, with senior Galen Herz to discuss what characteristics students want to see in the new president. The conversation lasted 45 minutes.

One student attended the first public forum to hear students' voices in search of the new university president.

Committee members represent various interest groups within Western's campus including students, professors and trustees.

The forum asked participants three questions:

1. What should the new president achieve in the next three to five years?
2. What skills and characteristics should the new president have?
3. What are some points of pride you have in Western?

Members have already met for hours to discuss the search for a new president, Jan Greenwood said.

Greenwood is a consultant on the presidential search from Greenwood-Asher and Associates Inc. and has consulted for 2,000 universities.



Galen Herz gives his opinion on who the new Western president should be to the Presidential Search Advisory Committee on Monday, Nov. 2, in Fraser Hall. // Photo by Caleb Galbreath

Sue Sharpe, trustee and executive director of Chuckanut Health Foundation, serves as the committee chair.

The goal of the forums is to hear from the campus to see what student needs and desires are, Sharpe said. This will help direct how the position is advertised and set require-

ments for candidates.

The forums are scheduled to finish before Thanksgiving in an effort to maximize the time to advertise for the position and find candidates.

Members thought low attendance was due to the forum being held at 5 p.m. when many students are eating din-

ner and the forum did not offer food.

Committee member Tyler Tran, a graduate student in environmental science, said most graduate students do not know what the Associated Students does and are uninvolved.

Because Western is a primarily undergraduate institution,

it creates a disconnect between undergraduate life and graduate life, Tran said.

"One of the challenges that our university faces is being able to integrate those," Tran said.

Despite the lack of attendance, online participation has been high with 500 surveys completed, Sharpe said.

Greenwood said forums are rarely attended by students.

However, the committee brainstormed ways to better reach the student community, such as bringing the discussion to students in Red Square and reaching students through social media and emails.

Students may not have attended because they feel powerless in the bureaucratic structure of the university, Herz said.

If the student government was more accessible to students, they would become more involved and it could be a vehicle for social change, Herz said. "We're only in the system one to four years," Herz said. "By the time we try to initiate any change, due to how slow the university moves, we will have already graduated."

The next forum will be held at 8:30 a.m. on Wednesday, Nov. 4, in Haggard Hall 153.



Presidential Search

Campus Community Forums • NOV 2 - 4

The Western Campus Community is invited to provide input about the considerations important to selecting the next President of Western at a series of campus community forums that begin on November 2 and continue through November 4. Members of the Presidential Search Advisory Committee and the search consultant will be present to hear your thoughts.

In preparation for the forums please consider the following questions:

- What do you see as Western's strengths?
- What do you think are the most significant opportunities and challenges for Western in the next five years?
- What skills, professional experiences and personal characteristics do you think the next President should have to lead Western in addressing them?

Community members unable to attend the forums may share their thoughts online at www.wvu.edu/presidential-search-survey

COMMUNITY FORUM SCHEDULE

FOR STUDENTS:

Monday, November 2, 5:00 - 6:30 pm, FH 101 (Fraser Hall)

Wednesday, November 4, 8:30 - 9:50 am, HH 153 (Haggard Hall)

FOR FACULTY:

Monday, November 2, 3:00 - 4:30 pm, AW 210 (Academic Instructional West)

Tuesday, November 3, 9:00 - 10:30 am, VU 565 A/B (Viking Union)

FOR CLASSIFIED STAFF:

Tuesday, November 3, 12:00 - 1:20 pm, FH 101 (Fraser Hall)

FOR PROFESSIONAL STAFF:

Tuesday, November 3, 3:00 - 4:30 pm, BI 234 (Biology Bldg.)

OPEN TO ALL:

Wednesday, November 4, 5:00 - 6:30 pm, CF 120 (Communications Facility)

BOOKS: Textbooks online

continued from page 1

"I have to make sure I'm not overstepping my authority with the bookstore and make sure they're on board with this," Brock said.

Brock plans to meet with AS Bookstore Manager Peg Godwin next week to hash out the details of how the implementation of Texts.com would affect bookstore sales, but Brock doesn't think the site is in direct competition with the bookstore.

"These are two separate markets of students. Those that go to the bookstore generally want the convenience factor of going and physically picking up their books," Brock said. "The other market of students is those that are already kind of doing [what Texts.com does] by connecting with each other on Facebook and going to outside vendors."

Godwin is concerned about the site's reliability, she said.

"I think you've always got to be careful where you lend your name. This is a very young company, but it's a peer-to-peer sharing opportunity and those op-

portunities are sometimes where students get their best value," Godwin said. The site allows viewers to buy from all over the Internet, but the AS's intention is that it would be used for direct student exchange of textbooks, Brock said.

"I think it would be something really good to use because the bookstore doesn't always take your books back."

**Megan Horton
Senior**

Brock said she needed to know how the AS would make money before rolling out the new site.

"We were thinking this sounded too good to be true," Brock said.

When a student searches the site for a book, they are given a list of everywhere it exists for sale on the Internet with student listings shown first. The cheapest one appears at

the top of the list. When none of those student listings are exactly what the student is looking for, they may scroll down to find where else it can be purchased.

This is how Texts.com earns a commission. When students buy a book from somewhere such as Amazon or Biblio, the site earns a percentage of the money from that purchase, Brock said.

Sophomore Megan Horton said she would be interested in a place where you can get rid of old textbooks.

"I've only ever done it through the bookstore, but it's a secure website and I know I'm going to be able to get the books and sell my books back. I think it would be something really good to use because the bookstore doesn't always take your books back," Horton said.

The site is free to Western and to students, making it an attractive option for the AS to support.

"Hopefully by this time next year, if we do choose to implement this, it will be so widely used that it will be difficult to not find a book on here," Brock said.

OPINION: Get involved, find our president

Western prides itself for being a politically active student body. Students join clubs, volunteer, participate in protests, talk with their friends and family about the issues, register to vote and so much more.

Students get passionate and they get involved, which is why it was surprising to see that only one solitary student attended the Presidential Search open forum Monday, Nov. 2, at 5 p.m. in Fraser Hall.

There are a lot of reasons this could have happened. Maybe students didn't know about it. Maybe students were busy and couldn't make it.

But maybe — just maybe — this is an important opportunity that is slipping right through students' fingers, and we should all work a little harder at making some time to voice our opinions.

We, The Western Front Editorial Board, feel this is an important chance to have student opinions heard directly by the people who will find our university's next president. This is not an opportunity to be taken for granted.

The University of Washington, also looking for a new president, has recently come under scrutiny for not conducting their selection process publicly enough. Students and faculty at UW even started a petition to have the finalists of their selection to be publicly named.

If students don't get involved and share their thoughts on this selection the decision will be made without them. And Western could end up with a president who doesn't represent students' needs.

It's great that Western has so many active groups on campus that want to affect change at our school. But where are you guys?

We know students have opinions on the qualities the new president should have. We know this because we've heard students talk about what they're passionate about. We've interviewed students, reported on student protests and gone to the events students have organized.

Fortunately, there is another chance. There will be another forum held at 8:30 a.m. on Wednesday, Nov. 4, in Haggard Hall 153.

If you absolutely can't make it to that, share your thoughts online at www.wvu.edu/president-search-survey. Or ask for another forum at another time, this committee really wants to hear from you.

So get out there and talk to them. Be heard. This is important.

For this story, The Western Front Editorial Board is comprised of Heidi DeHart, Stephanie Bishop and photographer Caleb Galbreath.

GRADE: New policy helps students GPAs

Proposed grade replacement could improve grades from previously failed classes

continued from page 1

Such grade averaging is uncommon. Most universities in the nation use grade replacement, which strikes the first grade from the GPA entirely.

The averaging policy was introduced in 1995, likely with the intention of reducing demand for bottleneck courses, Kuntz said. Grade averaging can place students who start at Western at a disadvantage.

Transfer students coming from schools with replacement policies can take a class as many times as they need, and arrive with a higher GPA than a Western student in the same situation. That GPA then gives them a leg up when applying to degree programs, said Zach Dove, Associated Students vice president for

academic affairs.

Dove has attended ACC meetings and channeled student feedback into the discussion.

Kuntz and other supporters of grade replacement are also hoping the policy change will encourage students not to use withdrawal privileges as often, he said. As a result, classes would be kept full and students would receive greater benefit.

"They're willing to take a risk on a class," Kuntz said. "That may open a door for them that would not otherwise be opened."

Senior Eric Menter withdrew from a math course twice, never completing it because

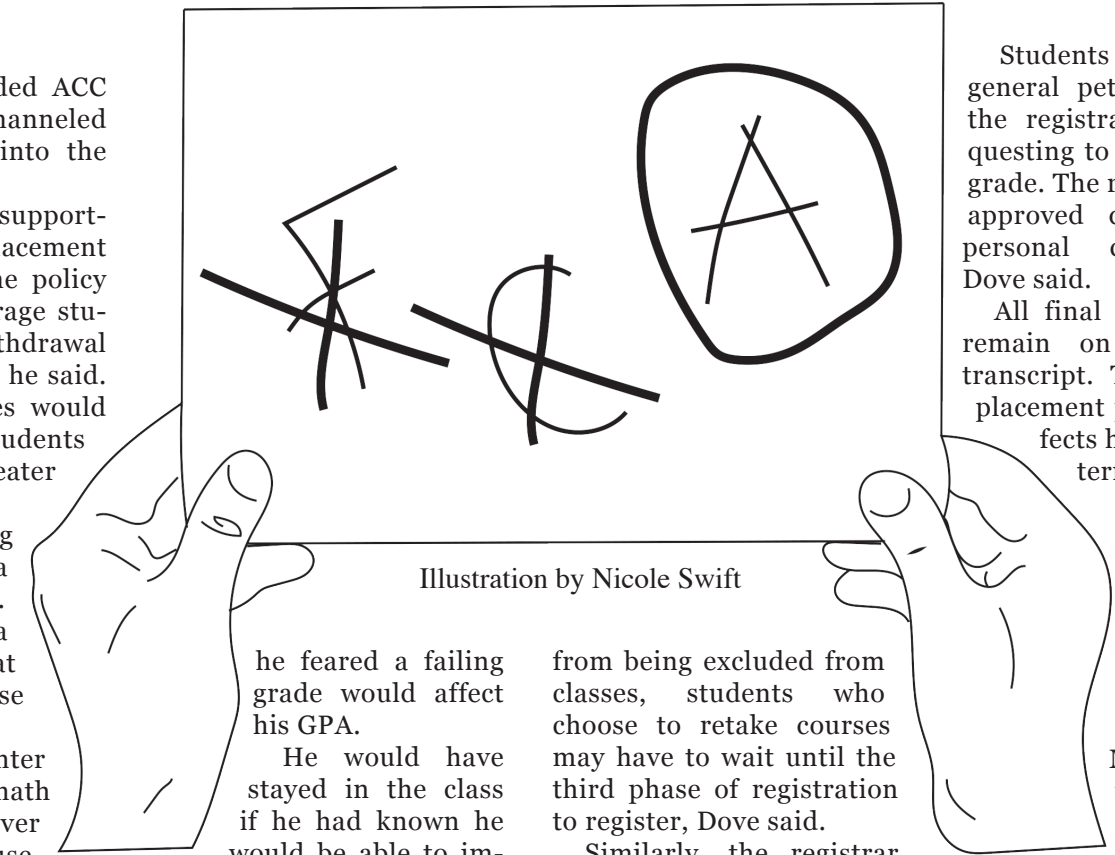


Illustration by Nicole Swift

he feared a failing grade would affect his GPA.

He would have stayed in the class if he had known he would be able to improve his grade, Menter said.

"I definitely support [the policy]," Menter said. "My experience is getting discouraged and having to drop out just for fear."

To protect freshmen and sophomores

from being excluded from classes, students who choose to retake courses may have to wait until the third phase of registration to register, Dove said.

Similarly, the registrar may ask a repeating student to drop a class they have already enrolled in if demand is particularly high.

The caveat of the policy is the latest grade earned is weighed in the GPA, Dove said. If a student earns a worse grade when retaking a course, their grades will be lower than before.

Students may submit a general petition form to the registrar's office requesting to use the better grade. The request may be approved depending on personal circumstances, Dove said.

All final course grades remain on a student's transcript. The grade replacement policy only affects how GPA is determined.

For those who wish to attend the faculty senate meeting at 4 p.m. on Monday, Nov. 9, in Old Main 340 and is open to the public.

SENATE MEETING FOR PUBLIC:

4 p.m. on Monday, Nov. 9, in Old Main 340

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Professor, students aid schools in Laos with technology

Rachel Hunter
THE WESTERN FRONT

A series of apps are being created to help detect at-risk schools in Laos that have a high chance of crumbling due to disasters.

Huxley College of the Environment professor Rebekah Paci-Green, who teaches Western's disaster risk reduction minor, and two of her students, senior Heidi Gottschall and junior Micah Van Zant are creating part of the apps.

The creation of the app is an international job, Paci-Green said. Once she and her

ters and helping communities avoid them," Paci-Green said. "You can't actually prevent the event but you certainly don't have to have the impacts."

Gottschall and Van Zant have been working with Paci-Green for about three weeks Gottschall said. They are both a part of the disaster risk reduction minor.

Although homes and other buildings are often built just as poorly as the schools, Paci-Green said there is a different level of responsibility for schools to keep children safe.

"Public schools are public

The app focuses on getting the community and the school officials to identify the risks, Paci-Green said. The team of three is working on the second of three parts of the app.

The first step is the first in the series of apps. It focuses on students and parents, Paci-Green said. It is a really basic app that is meant to get parents asking the right questions like, "Is the school sturdy enough to stand up during an earthquake?"

The second is a self-assessment app, which the team is working on now. It is focused on informing the school administration what it can do to protect their school. This app allows a principal, a committee or other school administration to go out and assess their own schools to see what changes need to be made to make sure the building will stand up against various disasters, Paci-Green said.

The final app is the most technical and complex and is not being created at Western, Paci-Green said. It is being created by engineers at the University of Udine in Italy.

The third app is used after parents and school administration have asked their questions and done self-



Illustration by Nicole Swift

assessments of the schools. The schools with the highest risks and most problems will be flagged, which will then alert engineers to what schools need the most help, she said.

Paci-Green said nobody on the team has the complete picture and everyone plays a different role. There are people in Laos who understand what the schools look like, while people in Turkey and Italy understand the engineering and web development, she said.

Part of Gottschall's job is to help bridge the language barrier when translating questions and concerns be-

tween the US and Laos, she said.

Gottschall also works on making the icons that will be used in the app.

"It's a visual aspect, like a universal symbol so people can understand," Gottschall said.

Van Zant is in charge of organizing photos of school building with specific codes that go to the app developers in Turkey.

Van Zant said she is excited to be working with others in the process.

Western's portion of the creation of the app is expected to be finished in December, Paci-Green said.

"These kids don't have a choice in what the building looks like."

Rebekah Paci-Green
Director of Resilience Institute at Western

team are finished with their portion of the app, developers in Turkey will finish setting up the actual app itself.

The app has been adopted by UNESCO, which works to join nations through international projects.

"I was interested in disas-

institutions and that is the state saying to a child, 'we require that you come here, we require you to spend your waking hours in this building,'" Paci-Green said. "These kids don't have a choice in what the building looks like."

Networking table gives students business opportunities

Sarah Sharp
THE WESTERN FRONT

Western is now one of only a few Council of Supply Chain Management Professionals student roundtables in the nation.

The roundtable for manufacturing and supply chain management students will host industry professionals from companies like Google and Microsoft.

They are taking an alternative approach to standard presentations. The speakers won't stand still in front of timed PowerPoint slides, roundtable vice president Eve Maher said.

The CSCMP sponsors roundtables around the world for industry professionals and students to connect and discuss supply chain management.

"We're putting Western on the map when it comes to our program," roundtable president Cole Morgan said.

The student roundtable, formed in June through the Council of Supply Chain Management Professionals (CSCMP), will allow students to actively engage and network with industry experts.

"We're not doing any events where the speaker is just giving a presentation," Maher said.

They wanted something interactive to get professional experience and this was a perfect fit, she said.

The club's roundtable structure means the president, five officers and 20 founding members deliberate together to brainstorm events. During regular club meetings, titles lose importance, Maher said.

"A lot of the time at meetings you're just sitting and listening," Maher said. "We wanted everyone to have a chance to talk and share their ideas."

Morgan was one of the first Western students to attend the Council of Supply Chain Management Professionals' annual conference in September.

Morgan was sent on a de-



Western students Cole Morgan and Jeremy McLaughlin at the Council of Supply Chain Management Professionals Annual Conference in San Diego earlier this year. // Photo courtesy of Cole Morgan

partment scholarship to San Diego for four days where he met with other student roundtables and professionals in what he said was a "career fair on steroids."

Being a part of a professional organization has allowed him to make business connections while still completing his education, he said.

"Once I got involved, all these things started happening to me," Morgan said. "I started getting invited personally by some faculty members to do these networking events, and that's how I ended up with

an internship. Next thing you know, I'm the founding president of a new club."

The roundtable asks students interested in regularly attending events to pay \$40 to cover part of the cost of becoming a member of the Council of Supply Chain Management Professionals, Morgan said.

All of the money from membership fees goes to its parent organization, he said.

In turn, students receive four main benefits: visibility, supply management certifications, access to an online forum and opportunities to attend

networking events, Morgan said.

"You get the have the name under you, on your resume so people know you are associated with the [Council] and you can get that experience," public relations officer Jameison Stromberg said. "Then, of course, we're working on the actual experience here at Western."

The club plans to host several speakers, workshops and professional dinners throughout the year, Morgan said. Part-time adjunct Denny Organ will instruct two workshops in win-

ter and spring quarters on networking and LinkedIn.

The goal is to provide students with relevant, real-world applications outside of the classroom, Stromberg said.

"If you're in Manufacturing and Supply Management Operations, there's no reason why you shouldn't take advantage of all the opportunities, including CSCMP," he said.

The round table meets at different locations depending on the event, but students interested in joining can email cscmpwvu@gmail.com for more information.

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◆ The King's Crowning Glory ◆

From building to burritos, Ruben De La Garza, owner of Burrito King, has served the Western community for 15 years

Rachel Hunter
THE WESTERN FRONT

Hungry faces come in numbers as students clasp their change, falling under the spell of homemade salsa and spicy chicken tacos. The line can stretch through the entirety of the walkway from the Viking Union to the bookstore; the aroma of mexican cuisine chasing it from end to end.

Curing that craving for homemade tamales and melty cheese quesadillas is Ruben De La Garza, owner of Burrito King and member of the Western community long before his food filled the air of north campus.

Almost 15 years ago, De La Garza, now 52, became part of the Western community when he started working for Dawson Construction, Inc. With nails and hammers to the Wade King Recreation Center, the Academic Instructional Center and Miller Hall, De La Garza and the rest of the construction team spent almost every day working on Western's campus.

Come lunch time, De La Garza would put down the tools and head to Vendors Row with the team, he said.

"When we were remodeling Miller Hall, we used to come [to Vendors Row] and eat QQ Li's," De La Garza said. "But there was no Mexican food."

That's when a light bulb came on, De La Garza said. Knowing that authentic mexican cuisine could make a good addition to the then existing vendors, QQLi's Chinese food and El Capitan's hot dogs, De La

Garza began to plan his business.

The food reminds Freshman Israel Valladares of home. The food is authentic mexican food and he enjoys speaking Spanish with the staff, Valladares said.

De La Garza's food followed him from his roots in Camargo in Tamaulipas, Mexico. His family of six lived on the same block as most of his relatives, he said.

But at the end of fourth grade, De La Garza's family packed their bags, moving to Corpus Christi, Texas. It wasn't long before he and his family found themselves in Washington to begin jobs in migrant work, he said.

"We started in Eastern Washington with crops," De La Garza said. "Then we came up [to Bellingham] to pick strawberries and raspberries."

Quickly after De La Garza thought of the idea to join the restaurant business, he contacted the Viking



Ruben De La Garza, owner of Burrito King, poses for a portrait in front of his booth on Vendors Row. // Photo by Daisey James

Union to begin the application process to get his own stand in Vendors Row. In order to have a stand, he needed to have a commissary kitchen, which is a place to store and cook food or his own restaurant in order to start.

De La Garza then purchased his first restaurant Burrito King in Ferndale, and although he was excited to take on a new adventure, he continued to work part time for Dawson Construction, Inc. He didn't want to

lose out on the pay of construction and being a part of a union, De La Garza said.

"In restaurant work, you need to be there 24/7," De La Garza said. "Or else it's not going to work."

Putting too much of his focus and time on his job in construction, De La Garza's new restaurant was lacking the attention it needed, he said.

Eventually he had to close the doors. He found himself in a dilemma: he wanted



Luisa Govea prepares food to order as customers line up to pick up their food on Monday, Nov. 2, on Vendors Row. // Photo by Daisey James

to continue his job on Vendors Row, but no longer felt he had the energy to operate his own restaurant, De La Garza said.

"I told myself that I would never, ever again buy another restaurant," he said.

No longer running the Burrito King in Ferndale, De La Garza ran into a problem; he was no longer able to meet the requirements set by the VU to sell food on Vendors Row. Not satisfied with leaving the Western community, De

Senior Conor O'Keefe eats at Vendors Row three to four times a week, he said.

"I like that they are quick even though they are in high demand," he said. "I am definitely a big fan."

Starting to search around, De La Garza said he was very fortunate to locate a spot on 32nd street, the spot the Burrito King still holds today.

De La Garza then met his fiancée, Maria Car-

"The students are what made us start over again. We were getting so much support"

Ruben De La Garza
Owner of Burrito King

La Garza found a recently closed restaurant in Everson and rented out the space to use as a commissary kitchen, he said.

He cooked out of the commissary kitchen, traveling back and forth from Everson to Western multiple times a day. After a year, the back-and-forth became too much of a hassle.

De La Garza decided to give the restaurant business one last shot.

"The students are what made us start over again," De La Garza said. "We were getting so much support."

De La Garza said the students kept asking him where his restaurant was, and kept telling him they wanted to eat his food after school and on the weekend.

men Govea, whom he credits with helping him run a successful business.

Govea already knew the basics of working in a restaurant, De La Garza said. Between the two of them, sales started increasing and the food started getting better, he said.

"We started messing around with adding a little more of this or that and we made our own recipes," De La Garza said. "And between her and I, I think we've got something."

De La Garza credits the students and staff of Western for his success.

"Students, staff and maintenance support us," De La Garza said. "We'll be here as long as they want us."



Ruben De La Garza poses for a portrait along Vendor's Row. // Photo by Daisey James

Fostering Success

Senior Jonathan Park is working toward a leadership camp for foster kids



Senior Jonathan Park stands for a portrait in Haskell Plaza. // Photo by Caleb Galbreath

Ash Lambe
THE WESTERN FRONT

When senior Jonathan Park talks about his Teen Growth Leadership Camp, the same few words always come up — he wants to make a difference.

Park is hoping to make a significant change in the lives of foster children, many of whom fail to succeed through college due to lack of resources, he said.

Park's dream camp, a three-day overnight affair, hopes to accomplish just that. The goal for his project is to inspire students that will come after him, and show them that they can chase their dreams like creating the leadership camp, Park said.

"I feel like this would be a huge way of paying it forward to the [local] community," Park said. "The community has been such a blessing in my life, this would be a huge honor to leave a legacy that goes beyond myself and serves kids and other people in the community."

Describing himself as motivated and driven, Park feels like he's able

to do what other people are not able to do. In his eyes, his motivation makes him a great candidate to make a difference, Park said.

So far, Park has made contact with investors, as well as other foster care organizations for research purposes. There is already one investor on board, Park said.

There is still much to be considered for his project, Park said. While he wants it to be a yearly event, he's

lege. Kooistra is who made him believe his dream was possible, Park said.

Kooistra speaks from experience as he was once a foster child and was adopted at a young age. His experience revealed just how much the foster care system can lack stability, Kooistra said.

Through the struggles and challenges that Kooistra faced, Park came to realize that people have it worse than he does. If Kooistra could overcome the struggles that he had, Park said, then Park could as well.

"There are a lot of foster kids that move place to place because there's behavioral issues or because the foster parents just don't have the room for them," Kooistra said. "They get false hopes."

Even though he was never in foster care, his experiences could inspire the children in his camp, Park said. His own experience growing up led the project to become something

"The community has been such a blessing in my life, this would be a huge honor to leave a legacy that goes beyond myself and serves kids and other people in the community"

Jonathan Park
Senior

unsure of how he will work it out. He still hopes to see it become sustainable, however, as other organizations have proven that the model is successful, he said.

The next step for Park will be drafting a marketing plan, he said. Eventually he wants to become a nonprofit organization.

Park's biggest motivator has been his friend Justin Kooistra, whom he met at Whatcom Community Col-

he feels personally invested in, Park said.

"I was, in a sense, abused as a child," Park said. "I can relate to a lot of these kids' situations, even if it's not on the same level."

READ MORE ONLINE

Read the full story online at westernfrontonline.com

IN A LEAGUE OF THEIR OWN

Western's League of Vikings capture community through online game

Cameron Caplinger
THE WESTERN FRONT

A battle of keystrokes and mouse clicks is raging on Western's campus. Players control their characters, leading them into combat against opponents across the world. These are no ordinary players however; this is the League of Vikings, Western's own home team.

The game of choice is League of Legends, one of the most-played computer games in the world with 27 million players daily, according to parent company Riot Games.

Out of the millions, Western players meet every Thursday to play together and hopefully conquer their opponents.

Senior Michael Chun leads the League of Vikings as club president. Chun has helped the club become one of the largest on campus with 557 Facebook members to its official page. The club is gaining momentum, with up to 80 people attending club meetings and 100 coming to public events, Chun said.

Starting in late spring of 2016, the collegiate playoffs for the game could lead the League of Vikings to the final rounds. The rounds will be played in California on a stage in front of an audience of 500 and a live stream audience of 50,000, Chun said.

Playing in the Collegiate Starleague, an intercollegiate gaming league spanning North America and

Europe, the League of Vikings have three different subdivisions that are arranged by skill level that Western students can play in. Teams play a best-of-three series to decide the victor, Chun said.

"There's Division I, which is very competitive like a varsity

the statistics that each player accumulates for their teams, Chun said.

Beyond being a space for gamers, the League of Vikings has had a great impact on sophomore Jesse

Chow's social life while in college, he said.

"It gave me some place to belong in,"

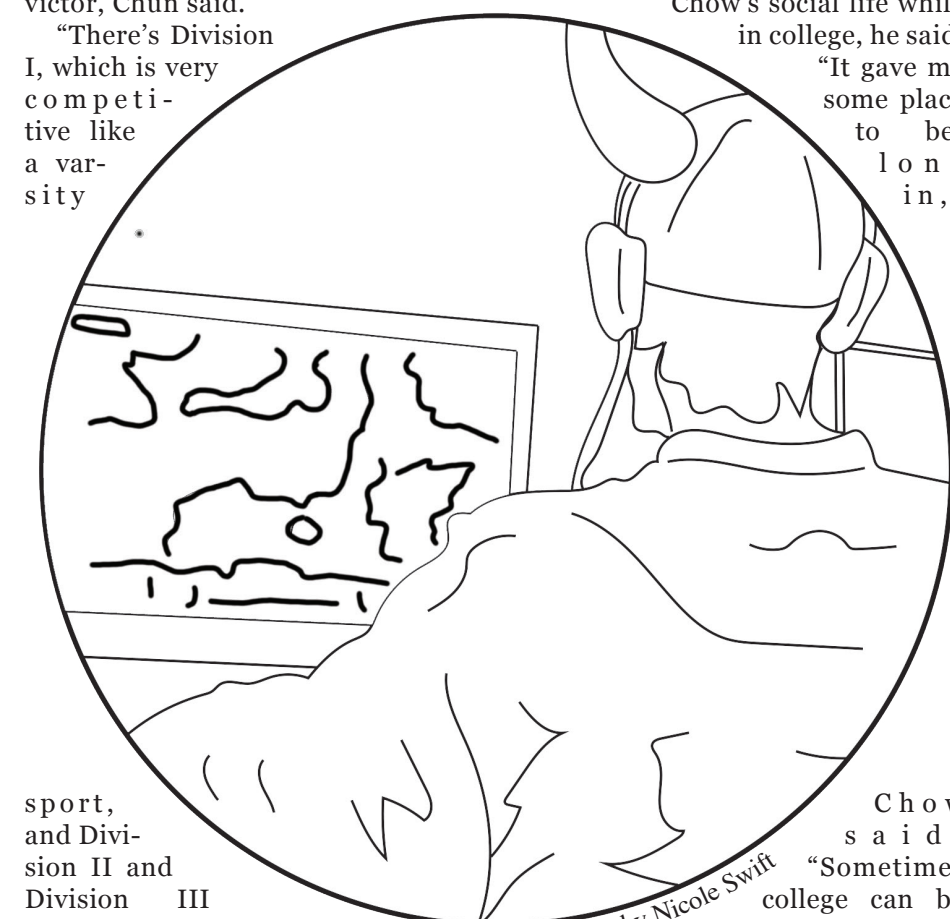


Illustration by Nicole Switt

sport, and Division II and Division III which are like JV sports," Chun said.

League of Legends organizes players in a six-tier system. Beginning with "bronze" and ending with "challenger," each tier is based on how many games a player wins and

president of the club, has been playing League of Legends for about four years and estimates that he logged more than 1,000 hours of gametime.

The gameplay follows a five-versus-five format, with everyone playing online, Carlson said. Each person chooses a character and moves them around the map, casting abilities to kill off enemies and destroy their base.

There are particular roles for each player in the game as well, each playing a necessary part in order to win a match, Carlson said. Each player starts at level one and can play up to level 30, Chun said.

"There's three lanes going from your base to their base," Carlson said. "[The roles] are referring to the three lanes. There's the top lane, which is usually just one-versus-one, middle lane which is also one-versus-one, and bottom lane which is two-versus-two."

The span of League of Vikings is not just contained within Western, as it also gives students opportunities to compete between universities across the world, Chun said.

Chow said. "Sometimes college can be so crazy and stressful and sometimes you don't know where to find people. I feel like this is a great space for meeting new people and playing League."

Junior Spencer Carlson, vice

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Viking Voices

How did you come to decide on your major? How are you feeling about your current major status?



Remington Morris
freshman, biology chemistry

"I decided to become a Bio Chem major because I am a big fan of biology and chemistry. In high school I found it was something I was very interested in and I did well in."



Allie Sanchez
junior, communication sciences and disorders

"To be honest, originally I was going to be a linguistics major, but then I realized I did not know what I could do with that major. I took a communication science and disorders class in the spring of 2015 and I really liked it."



Joshua Reavis
junior, undecided

"I went back to school because it seemed efficacious to reaching my goals and the science path seemed good to me so I dabbled in that for a bit, but then I decided it wasn't for me."



Adrienne Mollet
sophomore, business

"I decided on business because knowing the possible careers that I could come out with after school, and the larger margin and more options out of school as well."

Compiled by Rossella Bernocco

NEED SOME ADVICE?

Submit a question for the online column Libby's Corner at libby.westernfront@gmail.com and read the responses at westernfrontonline.com

FRONTLINE: Changing Majors isn't Major

Opinions of the Editorial Board

Monday, Nov. 2, marked the start of week six for fall quarter 2015. At this point, there's no need to remind anyone about finals steadily creeping up.

But there's another worry on the minds of many students this time in the quarter: majors.

Some student start experiencing major panic as far back as high school, taking those "find your perfect career" tests and listening to speeches from guidance counselors.

Others arrive at college and begin to feel the pressure when they see their peers declaring.

But it's a phenomenon felt by a great many college students, and one that often ends up causing more stress than it needs to.

As classes begin to head into their final laps, many students may begin to consider whether the tracks they're on are really the ones they want to be running.

After six weeks, it's easier to see whether those creative writing classes are just something you'd enjoy doing in your free time, or whether accounting is a job you'd enjoy going to every day.

But it's also easy to feel like it's too late to do anything different. Time and money have already been invested toward classes, so doing something completely different would be a waste, right?

Absolutely not. College is a time of self-exploration and experimentation and we all deserve the chance to spend as much time as we need finding our paths.

It's easy to think once a choice has been made it's been signed in blood, sealed in concrete and never to be changed again. One trip to the counselor's office equals one future all wrapped up and ready to go.

But statistics from La Verne University prove that's not true. On its website, the university says that about 50 percent of college students across the country enter universities as undecided about their majors.

Not only that, but 50 to 70 percent of students will change their majors at least once while in college; most will change at least three times.

Finding new interests is what college is all about, and Western houses hundreds of options. On Wednesday, Nov. 4, Western's Career Services Center will be hosting Ask an Alum, an event where students can talk to graduates about their experiences after leaving school.

Weaving such events and workshops into the final weeks of fall quarter can be extremely in planning for quarters to come.

In addition, the Career Services Center offers a place for students to go to seek guidance choosing their majors, changing their majors and finding jobs and internships.

If money is your concern, talk to representatives from the financial aid office or the scholarship center. All it takes is a little effort and you can be rewarded for your dedication to education.

So don't be afraid. Go out and try some new things during these final five weeks of fall.

Check out some different departments between classes; talk to some professors and other students; talk to graduates and upperclassmen and find what's right for you.

People don't move in straight lines; we twist and turn and change direction. So don't think your education has to be straight and narrow.

The Western Front Editorial Board is composed of Libby Keller, Heidi DeHart and Stephanie Bishop.

Submission Policy

The Western Front publishes submitted opinion items on a space-available basis. Submit letters to the editor and guest columns, along with your name, title (such as "Western sophomore") and major to westernfront.opinion@gmail.com. Anonymous letters or those containing hate speech will not be published. The Western Front reserves the right to edit for length, spelling, style and grammar.

Word count limits: letters to the editor: 250 words, guest columns: 400 words

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Read The Adventures of Victor Viking comic strip every Monday at westernfrontonline.com

Illustration by Nicole Swift



Women's soccer heads to GNAC tournament

The Vikings enter this weekend as the No. 1 seed in the Great Northwest Athletic Conference

Mikayla King
THE WESTERN FRONT

Western women's soccer teams heads into this weekend as the No. 1 seed for the Great Northwest Athletic Conference Tournament. With a nearly undefeated conference season, 11-0-1, the Vikings prepare to play competitively and intensely in the upcoming games, head coach Travis Connell said.

The GNAC Tournament will be hosted by Simon Fraser University Thursday, Nov. 5, in Burnaby, British Columbia. The Vikings will face Concordia University, Seattle Pacific University and Montana State University Billings.

If a team loses, it will be

out of the tournament. This means all the teams the Vikings face will be highly motivated, Connell said.

The Vikings finished the GNAC regular season in first place with 11-0-1 and 16-1-1 overall. Last year, Western women's soccer also finished the conference season undefeated.

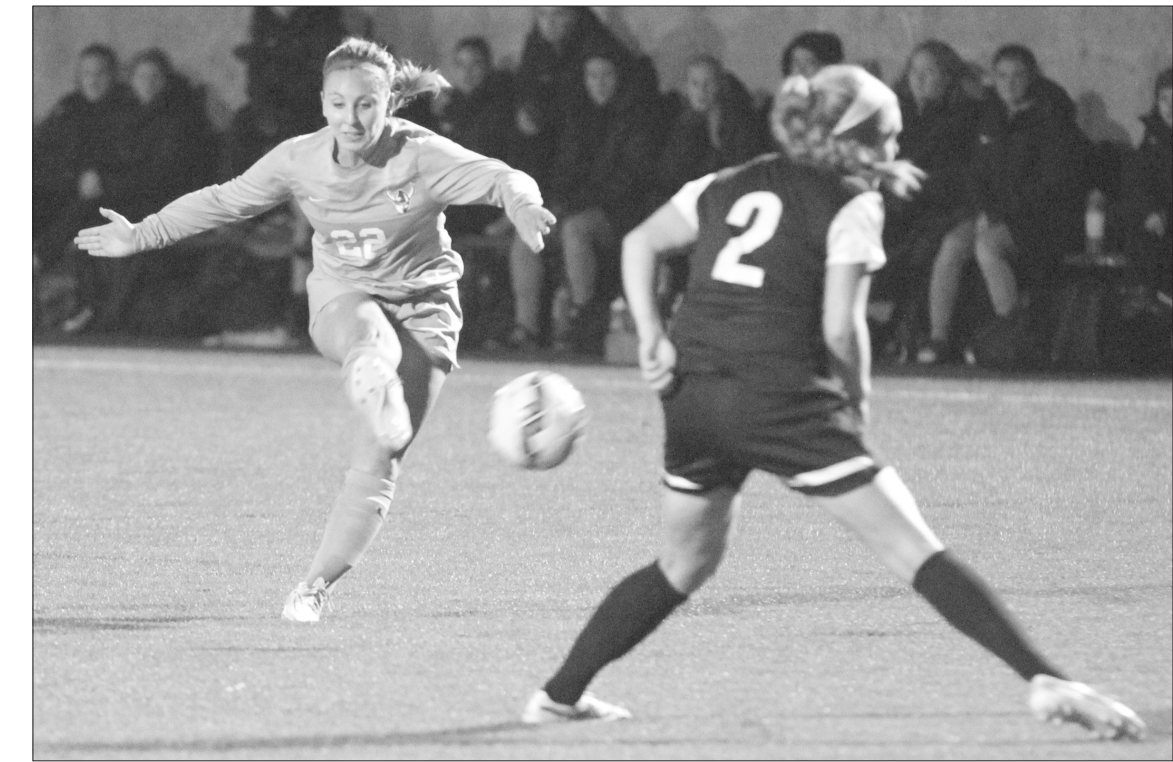
The Vikings will face the same teams they play in the regular season, giving the opposing teams a strategy to know Western's strengths, Connell said.

However, this also means Western knows how to prepare for the upcoming games, senior midfielder Delanee Nilles said.

The Vikings want to work on scoring early. It is important not to underestimate teams they have beaten in the past, sophomore defender Sierra Shugarts said.

"We need to focus on playing our game and not playing down to our competition," she said.

Western approaches each game as the toughest opponent and works to do their best, Connell said.



Senior forward and midfielder Stephanie Hamilton kicks the ball toward the Northwest Nazarene goal during a match on Thursday, Oct. 29, at Robert S. Harrington Field. // Photo by Daisey James

WHAT'S NEXT

The Vikings play the Montana State University Billings at 7 p.m. on Thursday, Nov. 5, in Burnaby, B.C.

In the last two GNAC tournaments, Western has lost in shoot-outs, Nilles said. This year, the team is determined to avoid shoot-outs altogether.

The Vikings will also need to focus on their transition

from offense to defense, Connell said.

In addition to working on gameplay, the team has to focus on keeping themselves healthy and managing injuries as they prepare for the upcoming tournament,

Shugarts said.

"We're all working off each other and wanting to do better for each other," Shugarts said.

Western is looking forward to the upcoming tournament, Nilles said.

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The hockey player has become the coach

Former Western hockey player Adam Moon has moved up in the ranks

James Hearne
THE WESTERN FRONT

The head coach of the Western hockey team may be new at his post, but he knows the team pretty well. After all, he is also a former teammate. Adam Moon, 22, has been playing hockey most of his life, and now he's carrying the coach's clipboard.

It was not until last season, however, the opportunity would come to him. The previous coach was let go, for reasons Moon declined to discuss, and Moon took on the responsibilities halfway through the season, even though he was a student

at Whatcom Community College at the time.

"I thought, 'Hey, I could do this,'" Moon said.

Moon said the reception from the team has been very positive.

"So far, the boys have been really receptive of me," he said. "It's everything I thought it would be."

Having a player-coach is not new for the team, as they've had them in past years, but Moon is unique in that he is a coach only, not a player.

Moon refers to himself as a "player's coach" and said he doesn't shout out during the game.

"I'm there for the boys,"

he said. "These kids, for the most part, have been playing hockey their whole lives. They don't need me to sit there and tell them what they're doing wrong. If they make a mistake, they know what they're doing."

Moon said he envisions himself more as an advisor.

"I want them to come to me if they have a question on how we could be doing something different," he said.

Moon said he tries to go against the "uptight, angry coach" stereotype, while at the same time doing his job and bringing out the best in the team.

"I'm pretty laid back," he

said. "It's a fine line to walk between being their friend and their coach. So far, I think we're doing a pretty good job with that."

"So far, these boys have been really receptive of me. It's everything I thought it would be."

Adam Moon
Head Coach

One of the reasons why the transition from "friend" to "friend and coach" has been so smooth, is because it was the team who encouraged him to take the job in the first place, Moon said.

"Last year, the team sort of pushed me into [the coach position]," he said. "I feel that the respect was there from the team."

One of the main concerns for any coach is integrating new players, particularly underclassmen, into the team's structure. This was a particular challenge this season, as many of the plays and drills were being revised. Moon said the club structure made this an easier transition.

"It's a student-run organization, which means you have different types of leadership," he said.

"There's team leadership, which run and organize the club, and there's me."

Moon is not too concerned about the new players not learning the ropes.

"The new, incoming freshmen have picked right up on it and have jumped right in," he said.

Moon, grew up in Boise, Idaho. With limited activities, Moon's parents decided to have him try hockey at a young age. He got involved with the local hockey league, and has had a stick in his hand ever since.

Moon said Boise is no worse than anywhere else when it comes to junior hockey. Most junior hockey leagues have developed a reputation for having overly aggressive participants, including players, parents and coaches.

"I think anywhere you go, you're going to have overly competitive parents and kids who take it too seriously," he said. "Luckily for me, though, I've always had really good coaches."

In fact, Moon credits his positive experiences in the youth leagues for his current success.

Moon said the coaches he looked up to were responsible for him wanting to be a coach himself.

"That really influenced me into the coach I am today," he said. "It was always in the back of my mind that this might be something I want to do."



Western hockey coach Adam Moon stands for a portrait. // Photo courtesy of Adam Moon

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Volleyball sweeps MSUB, 3-0

James Hearne
THE WESTERN FRONT

Western's women's volleyball team won its second game in a row on Saturday, as it swept all three sets against Montana State University Billings on Saturday, Oct. 31. Western is now 12-2 in the GNAC and 18-4 overall.

"I think our serving was really good tonight," head coach Diane Flick said. "We created a lot of opportunities for our front-row hitters. It's something that you can't stat that well, but it was really important for us."

In addition to the defense, she said the strong serves really helped establish the transition offense.

Three Western players in particular had big nights.

Redshirt freshman and middle blocker Kayleigh Harper had 15 kills, and a .882 hitting percentage.

"Our goal is to have a balanced offense, so you're going to have different people shine each night,"



Redshirt freshman Abby Phelps digs the ball on Saturday, Oct. 31, against Montana State Billings at Whatcom Community College Pavillion. // Photo by Daisey James

Harper said.

Harper had a simple explanation for her performance.

"Good teammates," Harper said. "You can't do it by yourself."

Harper said that she had been working on making

herself more available to teammates on the court.

"The centers did a really good job setting things up," sophomore outside hitter Joellee Buckner, who had 11 kills, said. "It was really balanced, they set the ball up well."

Redshirt freshman and outside hitter Abby Phelps also had 11 kills.

Although the playoffs are three weeks away, Harper said that the team is not going to do much differently.

"We just take it one game at a time," Buckner said.

Scoreboard

MEN'S SOCCER

	W	L	T
SPU	9	1	3
Simon Fraser	8	2	3
NW Nazarene	7	5	1
MSU Billings	5	3	5
Saint Martin's	6	5	2
WWU	4	9	0
Mary	2	11	0

WOMEN'S SOCCER

	W	L	T
WWU	11	0	1
Concordia	8	2	2
SPU	7	3	2
MSU Billings	6	5	1
Simon Fraser	5	6	1
CWU	5	6	1
Western Oreg.	4	7	1
NW Nazarene	2	9	1
Saint Martin's	1	11	0

VOLLEYBALL

	W	L	Pct.
Alaska Anch.	12	2	.857
WWU	12	2	.857
CWU	12	2	.857
NW Nazarene	12	2	.857
Concordia	7	7	.500
Simon Fraser	6	8	.429
Western Oreg.	4	10	.286
SPU	4	10	.286
Alaska	4	10	.286
MSU Billings	3	11	.214
Saint Martin's	1	13	.071

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MEET FRESHMAN GABRIELA PELOGI

Alyse Boggs
THE WESTERN FRONT

Forward Gabriela Pelogi has had eight goals and three assists in her first year as a Viking. She sat down with *The Western Front* to discuss herself as a player as well as the season overall.

Q: How long have you been playing soccer?

A: I have been playing for eight years.

Q: What does your typical day look like?

A: I wake up, go to class, do homework, go to soccer practice, have dinner and then do homework.

Q: Do you have a favorite sports team?

A: My favorite team is the Brazilian soccer team.

Q: Why did you pick Western?

A: I picked Western because it's close to my hometown, Federal Way. I like how it's outdoors and I can go hiking. The girls on the soccer team are really nice to me.

Q: What are your goals for soccer?

A: I want to be freshman of the year. I also want to score at least 12 goals for the season.

Q: What are your goals as a student?

A: I want to get a GPA of



Gabriela Pelogi takes a shot on goal during a match on Thursday, Oct. 29, against Northwest Nazarene at Robert S. Harrington Field. // Photo by Daisy James

2.5 or higher. I'll push myself and do homework.

Q: Who is your role model?

A: My favorite player is Marta Vieira da Silva, a forward on Brazil's women's

soccer team.

Q: What do you do in your spare time?

A: I hang out with my soccer girls and watch Netflix.

Q: What is your favorite movie?

A: I like "Lord of the Rings."

Q: How are you preparing for the tournament this weekend?

A: I'm going to stay concentrated and not get

distracted. I'll push myself at practice and drink water.

Q: What is your best piece of advice for students?

A: If anything's hard, don't give up.

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