



Volunteers collect clothes for campaign
Page 4-5

Western receives California basketball transfer
Page 7

THE WESTERN FRONT

Volume 176, Issue 5

westernfrontonline.com | @TheFrontOnline

TUESDAY, JULY 19

Retired professor passes away

TJ Olney, 64, was a marketing professor at Western for 30 years

Nick Jenner
THE WESTERN FRONT

Retired associate professor Thomas J. "TJ" Olney died in an accident while paragliding above Blanchard mountain on Wednesday, June 13. Olney's chute collapsed, which led to his crash. Olney was 64 years old and had retired from teaching marketing this past June, Western Communications Director Paul Cocke said.

"Without a doubt, TJ was one of the most brilliant people I have ever met. He was an amazingly wonderful and empathetic colleague as well as a gifted teacher. He believed in his students," wrote former CBE Associate

Dean Sandra Mottner in review of Olney's 30 years at Western.

Olney would cherish his professional fulfillment and take the time to live each day at its fullest, wrote Craig Dunn, current dean of the College of Business and Economics.

Dunn first met Olney 10 years ago when he began teaching marketing at Western. He remembers Olney as a quirky professor with a thorough understanding of the social context of marketing, he said.

"He's one of the smartest guys I've ever met," Dunn said.

Olney wasn't a traditional academic in the sense that he wasn't interested in furthering his own career, Dunn

Bellingham plays its Downtown Sounds



The band Snug Harbor performs on Wednesday, July 13 around 6 p.m. in Bellingham's Downtown Sounds concert. The funk and soul group formed in 2006 and released their EP, "This Is Snug," in 2013 on Bandcamp. Snug Harbor will play Saturday, July 30 at Boulevard Park. // Photo by Matt Pearson

RentHoop goes live

Alumnus's app gives students and others a tool to find a roommate

Jesse Allred
THE WESTERN FRONT

Paul Burke, a 2014 Western graduate, recently launched a new roommate-finder application. After the debut of the beta version, it took less than three weeks for the application to reach 1,000 downloads.

On May 2, 2016, RentHoop went live nationally for iOS and Android phones, giving college students and recent graduates a safer and easier alternative to finding roommates.

Burke, who received a degree in business administration with a concentration in marketing and a minor in economics, said the university impacted his career as an entrepreneur.

"I got a really good education at Western, and having really good marketing professors kind of helped me get to a place to where I feel like I could run my own business," Burke said.

He said he cites Western's marketing professors, specifically Ed Love, Ann Stone and Dan Purdy, as teachers

who had the biggest impact on his education.

Love, who taught the marketing innovation class that Burke took over summer quarter, said he saw the entrepreneurial drive Burke had.

Due to smaller class sizes that can occur during summer quarter, Love said he was able to work with Burke individually and give him advice about the entrepreneurial process.

"Not only did he have a passion for entrepreneurship, he had a real interest in solving a

problem that was tied in with the whole process of being a renter," Love said.

Love was not surprised to find Burke had found an entrepreneurial solution to a problem that he grappled with while attending Western, he said.

It was after graduating that Burke saved his money and set a goal to move out of his mom's house. He then faced difficulties in safely and easily finding a roommate.

After searching the usual sites like Craig



Thomas J. Olney was an associate professor of marketing at Western for 30 years. He was known for his quirky behavior and his drive to further students' studies and success the field of marketing. He recently died in a paragliding accident at the age of 64. // Photo courtesy of Western Washington University's communications office



@thefrontonline



@thefrontonline



facebook.com/westernfrontonline

INSIDE EXCLUSIVES

Westernfrontonline.com

-Q&A with diversity award winner, page 3

FIRE SPINS AT LOCUST BEACH



Matt Coble, 29, owns a mixed martial arts gym, Livewire MMA, in Burlington and started spinning around a year ago because the discipline of martial arts didn't allow him to express himself as much, he said. He performed at EverLife Entertainment's Fire Spinning at a Locust Beach event on Sunday, July 18, 2016. // Photo by October Yates

Professor TJ Olney dies paragliding

continued from page one

said. Instead, he was more concerned with helping students achieve their own personal aspirations.

In his career, Olney taught students topics such as the principles of marketing, the fundamentals of marketing research, buyer behavior, sales management, internet

marketing, consumer culture and marketing strategy.

Aly Howisey took a sales class with Olney her final quarter at Western, Dunn said. He eventually became her favorite professor in the program, despite their conflicting personalities. He was a wildly disorganized free spirit, Howisey wrote in a blog post one year ago.

Howisey recalled a time when she drove out to Olney's house at 10 p.m. to pick up her group's project.

"You know what my office looks like?" he had said on the phone, according to her blog shared by Dunn. "That's how you'll know you're at my house."

She picked up her project, but also received harsh but

helpful feedback aimed at making her group's project the best it could be, she said. Although Olney and Howisey didn't always see eye to eye, she said she respected him.

A memorial was held for Olney at 5:30 p.m. on July 18 in the Church of Jesus Christ of Latter Day Saints.

Alumnus's Tinder-inspired app finds roommates

continued from page one

slist, for roommates, Burke said he found them to be outdated and risky. He wanted to develop an app that had similar characteristics to Tinder, Uber and Airbnb. Burke's vision was an app that had yet to be made: one that could connect users finding roommates, one that people felt safe using, and one with a distinct brand.

While there are already applications specifically college students for college students to find a roommate, and applications for those not in college to find a roommate, RentHoop is an app that seamlessly caters to both.

After downloading the application, users can log in using their Facebook account, giving them an opportunity to make mutual connections.

They then can set up a profile and start searching for possible roommates, based on location, preferences and similar interests. If a user sees someone that could be a possible roommate, they can swipe right on that person.

The feature, as inspired by Tinder, provides a safer interface by allowing prospective roommates to send and receive messages, but only if both users anonymously swipe right.

"You're not going to be spammed or solicited with people who you don't want to connect with," Burke said.

Students at Arizona State University are hearing about the app through fliers, posts on social media, and even hearing about it on campus tours.

This is because of Paul Burke's younger brother Ely Burke, whose involvement with

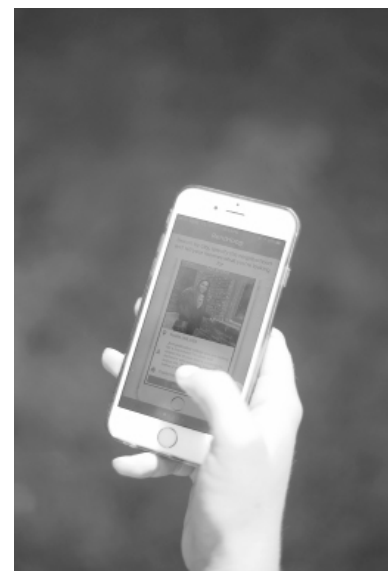
RentHoop includes marketing and working with schools interested in utilizing the app. "It's going to blow up. It's crazy how much traction we've gotten after only two months. I think schools are going to want to partner with us and we'll be a brand name that millennials know and love," Ely said in an email.

Ely said starting the grassroots efforts at the school he attends, ASU, has been successful thus far, and is promising for the future of RentHoop.

As for the app's future, Paul said he hopes for students on every college campus to be using RentHoop in a year. Aside from the growth of the app, he says it's a lot of fun hearing success stories.

"The potential of those connections are life-changing and to be part of that is very cool

for our team," Burke said in an email.



RentHoop is available on Android and iOS smartphones, equipping users with a safe and easy way to find roommates // Photo by Matt Pearson

The Western Front

The Western Front
Western Washington University
Communications Facility 222
Bellingham, WA 98225
Newsroom number:
360-650-3162
Email address:
westernfrontonline@gmail.com

Editor-in-Chief
Janae Easton
Managing Editor
Christian Conahan
News Editor
Nick Jenner
Features Editor
Forrest Dimond
Sports Editor
Harrison Amelag
Photo Editor
October Yates
Opinion Editor/Illustrator
Tyler Hillis
Online Editor
Alyssa Evans
Copy Editors
Robert Johnson
Ryan Parish
Photographers
Connor Jalbert
Matt Pearson
Letters to the editor:
westernfront.opinion@gmail.com
Press releases:
wfpres.release@gmail.com
Faculty Adviser
Carolyn Nielsen
Carolyn.Nielsen@wwu.edu
Advertising Department
360-650-3160
Advertising Manager
Kaelan Morris

The Western Front is published once weekly in the fall, winter, spring quarters and summer. The Western Front is the official newspaper of Western Washington University and is published by the Student Publications Council. It is mainly supported by advertising. Opinions and stories in the newspaper have no connection to advertising. News content is determined by student editors. Staff reporters are involved in a course in the department of journalism, but any student enrolled at Western may offer stories to the editors.

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.

An article headlined "Tysen Campbell case postponed until August" published in online at westernfrontonline.com on Monday, July 12 and in The Western Front on page 1 on Tuesday, July 13 failed to properly attribute information to police reports. The article should have clearly stated that police reports identified Tysen Campbell as the person who wrote "let's lynch her" in posts on the social media app Yik Yak. Additionally, the headline contained an error. It should have indicated that trial has been postponed.

An article headlined "Chuckanut foot race celebrates 50 races running," published online and in print on Tuesday, July 13 did not appropriately quote Jack and Cindy Louws. Cindy Louws did not know her running time when asked. In addition, Lindsey Mann-King's was misspelled.

Q & A with diversity award winner

Aubrey Sage
THE WESTERN FRONT

Western psychology professor Dr. Joseph Trimble has been announced as the recipient of the 2015-2016 Diversity Achievement Award, alongside Dr. Trula Nicholas of the Woodring College of Education. They will receive their award at the Welcoming Convocation service which opens the 2016-2017 school year.

The Diversity Achievement Award is awarded to a student, faculty or staff member each year to recognize one's efforts to promote diversity and multicultural awareness at Western. They



Dr. Joseph Trimble, recent winner of the 2015-2016 Diversity Achievement Award. // Photo courtesy of University Communications office

Q: How did you find out about winning the Diversity Achievement Award at Western? How did you feel when you found out?

A: I received the letter several weeks ago from the president [Bruce Shepard] announcing that I was one of the two recipients of the award for 2016. I was stunned, actually overwhelmed, flattered and deeply honored that I was nominated and that a committee selected me, probably from a number of applicants.

Q: You've been working at Western Washington University since 1979?

A: Well, there really wasn't really a position [for me at the time.] I was a research scientist at the Battelle Memorial Institute [Human Affairs Research Centers] in Seattle. I left academia to go into the research world, but after about a year or so, I decided I didn't belong. I enjoyed what I was doing, but I missed the students. I missed the classroom and I wanted to get back. So I started calling around different people. I called a colleague of mine here who said we don't have a job opening but if something comes up we'll let you know.

A week later I get a phone call [saying] "We have an opening, would you be interested?" and I said yes. So, I drove up first trip to Bellingham and thought, "Wow, this is a nice place." I was offered a contract, and here I am.

Q: You focus a lot of your studying and your teaching on Native American Cross Cultural Psychology. How did your interest start to develop into that?

A: That's a long story, but I always knew I wanted to go into psychology. I don't know why I knew that. There wasn't a book that I read, there wasn't a particular person that encouraged me to do that. As far back as I can remember, I wanted to go into the field of psychology and I wanted to be an educator. I don't know where that came from, but it was there.

I felt that... psychology wasn't really talking about native people; maybe in an anthropology setting it was, but psychology wasn't. More than that, psychology wasn't really giving attention to culture and how it influences who we are as people. It was

very ethnocentric and almost racist. Well, it was racist. After I left Harvard and I went to Oklahoma and decided to start exploring ways to include native people and their concerns and their problems in the conversation about what psychology was, is, and started corresponding with people. I would meet people at conventions and we would talk about what can we do.'

So, I got heavily involved in the American Psychological Association and bringing about change in that arena. I started teaching classes and putting the cultural variable into classes and it just snowballed.

Q: How do you feel about multicultural psychology today?

A: Fifteen years ago I didn't know where it was going to be. I had hopes that it would be where it is today but we still have a long way to go. There are still pockets of resistance but nowhere near what there were 15-20 years ago.

can be nominated by students or staff who turn in nomination letters to the Equal Opportunity Office, according to the office's website.

During his time teaching at Western, Trimble has also remained active in native communities in Washington and Alaska, focusing on drug and alcohol abuse prevention. He has held positions in the International Association for Cross-Cultural Psychology and American Psychological Association, as well as many others.

Q: How has your career unfolded as you've been here at Western?

A: It's been amazing. Everyday is a new day; a new day of learning something new, reading something new and helping somebody someplace with their research and careers and it's just so exciting to see all of this happening all around me and I feel blessed and honored to be a part of that.

Q: Do you work with the Native American communities in Washington?

A: Yes, I have. I'm not as actively involved as I was years and years ago. I was very actively involved in developing alcohol and drug abuse prevention; programs targeted for native youth. We worked on that for years and years and it was very draining emotionally and challenging.

I still have very strong contacts in the native communities in this nation, especially out at Lummi and down at Tulalip and a few other communities over on the peninsula.

Q: You've offered a lot of praise for Western's interest and advocacy of ethnocultural themes in psychology. Do you see any areas where we, as a university could improve?

A: Oh, yeah. I think what happened last November is a classic example (editor's note: this is in reference to threats made over the social media Yik Yak). It's certainly aroused a lot of concern in our department collectively. What can we do to promote diversity? What can we do to be more culturally sensitive to the different cultural backgrounds of our students, in the classroom and out of the classroom?

I think that we're headed in that direction of being very proactive and I'm really proud of the efforts we're taking although we still have a long way to go. But I'm not alone in my thoughts on that. But I respect and therefore highly value the direction that the university is heading in this area. I have not been presented in any difficulties about my interests and concerns. I'm not a radical, so I approach it from an academic and a personal perspective and I've been supported all the way. I feel blessed that I am here for that reason.

ADVERTISE WITH THE

WESTERN

FRONT

360.650.3160

BELLINGHAM FAMILY HEALTH CLINIC
Health Care for Living Well

Primary Health Care, Family Practice
Birth Control, Nexplanon, IUD
Coughs and Sore Throats
STI, ADD, UTI, Depression
Acupuncture, Weight Loss

Sports & Travel Physicals
Discounts Available Call for Details

Bonnie Sprague, ARNP, Tay Kopanos, ARNP
Steve Bogert, LAC

Near WWU
Convenient Same-Day Appointments
Most Insurance, Cash Discount
Call for an Appointment Today!
(360) 756-9793
www.BellinghamHealth.com



Minister Cross (left), 55, and Ryan DeVore (right), 20, enter a raffle to win a phone at the Make.Shift art space. Cross is a travelling evangelical who arrived in Bellingham last week from Littlerock, Washington. // Photo by October Yates

Piles of Compassion

Bellingham locals start a nonprofit around the value of giving



Global Acts of Compassion volunteer Kiya Driscoll (right), 24, and Brandon High (left), 20, show off a cross-stitching at The Free Market on Sunday, July 17, 2016. // Photo by October Yates

Elizabeth Cutler
THE WESTERN FRONT

Entering the Global Acts of Compassion Free Market, the aroma of buttery popcorn fills the senses. Laughter bounced off the walls as people searched for hidden treasures among the used items.

There was no lingering presence of anger or hate that people encounter on a daily basis, only compassion from all participants.

This was the fourth Free Market that has been held by Global Acts of Compassion on Sunday, July 17.

Global Acts of Compassion is a nonprofit organization that was founded in January 2016. Although the organization has only been around for a year and a half, all the founders have been

on an exciting ride.

“There are going to be people who are well off who are going for a free, fun family event, there’s going to be people our age who are also interested in free and fun and then, ideally, we can get the people in there who really need to be there for the food or clothing that we provide,” said Serena Barr, Founder of Global Acts of Compassion. “That way they are all in an atmosphere where judgment isn’t being taught it’s like embrace everyone as they are in this space.”

Compassion for humanity and the earth is the foundation of Global Acts of Compassion that Serena Barr, Kiya Driscoll, Chris Hayes, Jenna Riewer and Cilian Roche created.

“Compassion really can go so far, it is not something that can just be dis-

counted,” Barr said.

A group of friends who mostly met through the electronic music scene started the organization based on an

idea from Barr.

Barr was working as a fundraiser for other nonprofit organizations in Seattle when the idea of starting a nonprofit came to her. She started developing the idea when she was traveling around the United States at the age of 18.

“I decided I wanted to start donating to a nonprofit monthly because I was fundraising monthly for a nonprofit and I wanted it to be about what I was doing,” Barr said. “Then the idea [for Global Acts of Compassion] popped into my head.”

Three years after the idea of Global Acts of Compassion came to fruition in Barr’s head, she consulted Driscoll, Hayes, Riewer, and Roche. She said she knew they would understand her values and would understand her vision for the organization she wanted to create.

With all Barr’s friends on board with her nonprofit idea, they all set out to create Global Acts of Compassion in 2015.

“The second market was crazy,” Hayes said. “That’s what got me like absolutely stoked about Global Acts of Compassion.”

Since the first free event, the free markets have doubled in crowd size. Free Markets has not been the only event Global Acts of Compassion has done.

They’ve also done an event called Tips For Humanity. Tips For Humanity is an event where you can go into one of Global Acts of Compassion’s participating restaurant and donate a part of your meal.

“Anyone from the community can come in and basically buy a meal,” Hayes said. “We do not discriminate on who gets the food, if you need it we will give it to you.”

“Compassion really can go so far, it is not something that can just be discounted.”
- Serena Barr

“Our goal isn’t to be compassionate, but it’s to inspire others to be compassionate.”
- Jenna Riewer

world.”

The founders of Global Acts of Compassion are working hard to make their events successful and to help bring compassion to the Bellingham community.

“Our goal isn’t to be compassionate, but it’s to inspire others to be compassionate,” Riewer said.

Although the Global Acts of Compassion is a new organization, the young founders are dedicated to learning about new business opportunities to help their organization grow and continue to spread compassion.



Stephanie Childs (right), 36, sifts through heaps of second-hand clothes to find something she likes with her friend Darlene Sibrt (left), 54, who told her about the event. // Photo by October Yates



Former Western student Elli Anderson (center-left), 27, tries on a sweatshirt with Western senior, Mischelle Johnson (center-right), 23, and shops through the Free Market. Other items at the market included books, dishes, condoms and toys. // Photo by October Yates

FRONTLINE

Opinions of the Editorial Board

Using emotion as a political weapon

As I write this, I have the Republican National Convention, the gathering together of Republican politicians to elect their Presidential Candidate, playing in the background. This is an event that I usually wouldn't take a second look at, but I am genuinely curious how the party will justify their support of the presumed presidential candidate, Donald Trump. And so far, I am not impressed.

It is easy to get caught up in the hive-mind frenzy surrounding Donald Trump. People see him as either the savior of the free world, or the bringer of destruction. There is no mild adjectives used to describe the Republican hopeful. But I have tried my very best to withhold judgement and determine for myself how good Trump would be for our country, and I encourage everyone to do the same. Take a minute to forget what the media, on either side, has told you, and do some research on the candidates.

For me, this research led to a realization that Donald Trump is a powerful man. He has turned a career as a business man and reality-TV star into a bid for the seat of power for the Western world. He has no previous political experience, and yet he ran the race and won against a handful of long-time Republican politicians. No matter how that is twisted by pundits, it is impressive.

But right now, at the Republican National Convention, the speakers are not touching on why Trump is the best choice for America. Sure, he is the subject of the speeches, but the actual content within is aimed towards another. The Democratic opposition, Hillary Clinton.

Smear campaigns about opposing candidates are nothing new. Everyone has seen those local commercials about the shady past a candidate is hiding. They make you cringe, but they are more of a nuisance than a decision-changing argument. So why are they made? Because emotion is an easy way to speak to the public.

But in my opinion, there is a line. A line both Republicans and Democrats cross too frequently during campaigns. Politicians will bring out the victim of a certain event that is somehow attributed to the opposing candidate. The only positive thing the victim says is a quick note at the end about how the candidate they support would never do such a thing.

This was most apparent in the Republican National Convention when they brought out Patricia Smith, mother of State Department officer Sean Smith killed in an attack on a diplomatic compound in Benghazi, an event that many Republicans directly accuse Clin-

ton for causing. In her entire speech, Smith only mentioned Trump once, at the end, as she echoed his slogan, "Make America Great Again." The rest of the speech was a direct attack on Clinton and all the reasons she should not be President. If her speech was 10 minutes long, she only spoke about her preferred candidate for 30 seconds.

I'm not saying her pain is not real or should not be heard. She has been dealt a great loss and her son should be honored to the highest degree. But for the Republican National Convention to bring her out for one purpose, and one purpose only, is incredibly low. As Steve Schmidt of MSNBC said about the speech, "We're seeing the weaponization of grief."

When you get more speeches talking about the opposing candidate than about your own, positive or not, it is a bad sign. I wish I could say let's let the political actions of each candidate speak for themselves, but that would be rather one-sided as well.

I am hoping that the Democratic National Convention, taking place in Philadelphia on July 25-28, will lack these "weapons of grief," but I am not holding my breath.

--Tyler Hillis

The Western Front Editorial Board is composed of Tyler Hillis, Janae Eason and Christian Conahan.

Viking Voices

What does Black Lives Matter mean to you?

By Leah Adair

"That black people have been discriminated against and they don't have all the privileges compared to white people in this country, so the Black Lives Matter movement is trying to raise awareness about that fact and help that situation."



Tommy Holdefer Junior, physics major

"I'm really not sure; I feel they have the right message, but I feel like their methods sometimes are counter-productive and I wish that they would — like Martin Luther King, Jr. — take a more peaceful approach kind of like his."



Alex Rodio

Junior, education major



Illustration by Tyler Hillis

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

Men's basketball picks up new recruit

Tori Amber Benavente THE WESTERN FRONT

California Community College Basketball Co-Player of the Year DeAndre Dickson will transfer to Western this fall to be part of Western's Men's Basketball team.

Western head coach Tony Dominguez described DeAndre Dickson as one of the most versatile players the team has ever recruited.

"He's truly one of the best players in the country in his division," Dominguez said. The coaches are expecting Dickson to have a major impact on the team, and be a starter to play the center or power forward position.

Dickson previously played for Bakersfield College, where he averaged 18.0 points, 12.1 rebounds and 2.2 blocks per game, and shot 52.6 percent from the field and was a 75.5 percent free throw shooter.

Dominguez said he thinks

Dickson will have an impact on both ends of the court. On the defensive side, he has block shots and rebounds and will be a real force, Dominguez said. Offensively, he's skilled enough to play many different positions, he said.

"He is just so versatile, he can do a lot of different things," Dominguez said. "So it depends on how our team shapes together and figure out where we need to start him at."

Richard Hughes, head coach at Bakersfield College, said Dickson is low maintenance, family oriented and unselfish.

"From a coaching standpoint, he's very easy to manage. He does what you ask him and never complains," Hughes said. "He's a quiet leader in a sense that he will speak up when need be. Otherwise he goes about his business and leads by example. But when things go south, as they do with teams, he's the first person to raise his voice and get guys to dial back in."

Dickson is from Fresno, California, but attended school at Bakersfield College.

"I really love the sport and the opportunity basketball gives you," Dickson said. "For me, I'm getting a full scholarship, so basketball is helping me get an education."

Dickson is the first in his family to attend college, he said. Dickson hopes he is showing his younger siblings that college is do-able and paving the way for them, he said.

One of Dickson's biggest accomplishments will be earning his associate's degree from Bakersfield this summer, he said.

The coaches Dickson has worked with throughout his career have helped him a lot, he said. He is still in contact with his high school coach and Hughes helped him throughout the recruiting process.

Dickson said he looks forward to new experiences, such as competing against different teams, playing with his new

teammates and meeting people.

Dickson has visited Western and toured the campus. The green environment of the Pacific Northwest caught his attention, because it's different from what he is used to, he said.

While at Western, Dickson said he wants to learn as much as possible, make whatever contribution he can to the basketball program and graduate. After achieving those goals, he said he would like to play professionally.

"I think that it's a possibility, and that the coaches at Western will help me get that, but that will come with working hard," Dickson said.

Dickson has yet to decide what he wants to study at Western.

"I'm stuck in the middle of something involving sports medicine and business," he said.

The team has five new recruits for the fall: Logan Schilder, Bellingham, Washington;

Siaan Rojas, Concord, California; Taylor Stafford, Chicago, Illinois; Daulton Hommes, Lynden, Washington; and Trevor Jasinsky, Camas, Washington, according to WWU Vikings sports press release.

Dominguez thinks that top athletes from outside Washington are attracted to Western because of the long-standing tradition and developed culture within the basketball program, he said.

"I've been coaching here at Western for almost 22 years, and I think we've developed a culture where we're not only trying to win basketball games, but we're trying to develop [the players] into men, and getting them graduated and help them be successful in life. And basketball is a vehicle that we use," Dominguez said.

Western's basketball season will tip off Friday, November 11 at the Pioneer Challenge in Hayward, California.

From the sidelines

Opinions from The Western Front staff on all things sports



Forrest Dimond Features Editor

James is probably one of the most committed athletes in the NBA and deserves as much praise as the world is giving him. After winning best male athlete and the finals, he announced he's coming back to the Cavs next year; showing his love for the game and not just the fame.

LeBron James just won the NBA Finals MVP (by unanimous vote) and ESPN awarded him ESPY's for best championship performance, best NBA player, best male athlete. The Cavaliers received an ESPY for best team. While Cleveland's accomplishments are impressive, do you think LeBron deserved all of the awards he received?

San Antonio Spurs' center Tim Duncan just retired after 19 years in the NBA. Nicknamed 'The Big Fundamental', he was admired by many for his humble nature and quiet disposition. Compared to Kobe Bryant's year-long retirement extravaganza, do you think Duncan deserved more coverage than what he has received?

Point guard is the flashiest position in basketball so don't be surprised when centers don't get as much attention. Would Duncan's humble demeanor serve people's craving for flashy egoism in a player? Rather, I think Duncan's dimmed spotlight tends to fit his modest personality.



Trevor Dickie Reporter

I don't think he deserved all the awards. I think most of the attention he has received is a result of the Cavs winning the finals which is great, but just because he won, doesn't mean he was the best player and athlete.

I don't think he deserved more coverage, because he is the kind of personality that doesn't draw constant coverage, but the coverage is so amazingly positive, which says a lot about his impact as a player and person.



Gabby Roppo Reporter

I have a slight bias towards the Golden State Warriors and my favorite player on their team, Steph Curry. However, LeBron's achievements don't go unnoticed and that is apparent after receiving so many awards. Yes, I do think he deserved the awards after putting in so much hard work throughout his career and this last season LeBron really proved his ability to perform.

To be honest, in all of my years watching basketball I had heard the name "Kobe Bryant" far more times than I'd heard the name "Tim Duncan." The sports industry is an industry that feeds off of what the people want to see and I think Kobe's retirement was a show for the fans and a moneymaker for the industry. However, all players deserve to be respected and given a warm send off and "thank you" for their contribution to the game.

THERE'S ALWAYS MORE WESTERN FRONT ONLINE WESTERNFRONTONLINE.COM

89.3fm KUGS www.kugs.org NEWS PROGRAMMING DEMOCRACY NOW +STREAMING NEW MUSIC 40 HOURS / WEEK STUDENT OPERATED

Round and Round: group promotes exercise through hula hoop

Kylie Wagar
THE WESTERN FRONT

Hoops were spinning, music was playing, people were laughing and drawing attention to an exercise trend seeing a revival — hula hooping.

It was a cloudy evening, July 14, at Boulevard Park, when The LifeStyle Evolution Project hosted its second event.

LifeStyle Evolution Project, founded by Annette Walbon, is a new group that

focuses on providing new and fun ways to exercise.

Hooping for Health is an event that Mallory Wiebe created for community members to come out and learn how to hula hoop. Unlike the childhood sport that many are familiar with, this gathering focused on using hula hooping to workout.

“I’m tricking myself into exercising is what it comes down to,” Mallory Wiebe said.

Mallory Wiebe, a hooping teacher and performer

for 10 years, taught tricks and moves to all who wanted to join at the park.

“I’m a blossoming flower!” said Kaylee Wiebe, Mallory’s sister, as she performed one of the moves taught.

There were people of all skill levels at the event.

“Don’t get discouraged when you drop the hoop or you hit your face,” Mallory Wiebe said. “You just got to pick it up and keep going.”

Mallory Wiebe ensured that each hooper was able to fully understand each activity and provided encouragement.

“It brings people together and you can’t be mad when you’re hula hooping,” Kaylee Wiebe said. “It’s the only sport that I see that you can never get upset about not figuring it out.”

The motto of this project is “where everyday life meets health,” as indicated on their Facebook page.

Walbon is a health coach who wants health to be a fun activity that anyone can do.

“Our project is about getting people thinking about how they can build their everyday lives,” Walbon said as she was hit by a hula-hoop. “Ultimately, it’s about getting people to add to their exponential value.”

In the future, Walbon hopes to continue doing events such as this one; an event that is fun and local.

Later this year, Walbon hopes to add a charity aspect to her work by pairing up with Skookum Kids, a facility that cares for children who are in the process of transitioning in the foster

care system.

The LifeStyle Evolution project hopes to promote active children along with giving them healthy meals.

The LifeStyle Evolution Project has many other events coming up around the local Bellingham Area such as Polarity Yoga in the Park on Thursday, July 28 at Boulevard Park.

“This was something I would like to have access to,” Walbon said. “So I kind of built [the project] for me.”

To participate in event such as this one, visit The LifeStyle Evolution Project’s Facebook page for more information.



Mallory Wiebe, sister of Kaylee Wiebe, leads the hoola hoop class at Boulevard Park Thursday, July 14. // Photo by Connor Jalbert



Kaylee Wiebe, 26, hoola hoops at Boulevard Park with a few friends in their hoola hooping class hosted by LifeStyle Evolution Project. // Photo by Connor Jalbert



Mallory Wiebe shows her skills by using two hoops. // Photo by Connor Jalbert

Advertise

IN THE WESTERN FRONT'S

Welcome Back Edition

A SPECIAL EXTRA-LARGE PAPER PUT OUT
THE FIRST WEEK OF FALL QUARTER

(360) 650-3160 FOR RATES

comes out
Sept 19