

# THE WESTERN FRONT

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## Inside


### News

After months flying solo, international students have a new adviser  **p. 5**

### Features

Logan, the terminally-ill puppy, gets his wish of 100 hugs.  **p. 8**

### Sports

Determination on and off the court got Micah Winn to where he is now.  **p. 12**

## Impeachment pending for AS VP

AS Board of Directors votes 6-1 to hold recall election for Meza-Roa, VP of Business and Operations

**Colton Redtfeldt**  
THE WESTERN FRONT

The Associated Students Board of Directors voted to initiate a campus-wide vote to recall AS Vice President of Business and Operations Genaro Meza-Roa at their meeting on Friday, Jan. 18. Following a unanimous recommendation for Meza-Roa's impeachment from the Associated Students Student Senate this week, the board voted 6-1 in favor of his impeachment, with Meza-Roa as the only dissenter.

The student body re-

call vote for Meza-Roa will occur at the earliest on Feb. 1 and at the latest Feb. 8th. The recall will require a majority vote against Meza-Roa by the student body to pass, according to Leti Romo, Assistant Director of Student Representation and Governance.

In a letter signed by all members of the board except Meza-Roa, the board said their decision to seek a recall election was because of his inability meet responsibilities laid out in his job description.

According to the letter, Meza-Roa failed to attend or take part in numer-

ous events, including a mandatory fall training for all AS employees, the first AS board meeting of the year, and an important goal-setting exercise during the board's work-related retreat to Anacortes.

The letter also said Meza-Roa had left a December AS board meeting and was later found drinking wine at a College of Science and Engineering party. In an article by the AS Review, Meza-Roa previously asserted that all AS board members have drank during their duties. The letter said this claim was

false and that while other board members had shared drinks before, it was only during time that they were not serving in their work-capacity and they weren't being paid at the time, according to an article by the AS Review.

In the letter, the board said it was unsure about the direction Meza-Roa wishes to take the position, if any.

"We continue to recognize that people are not disposable, and we desperately desired to give Mr. Meza-Roa the opportunity to change and grow as an individual," the board's letter



**Genaro Meza-Roa**  
// Photo by Oliver Hamlin

said. "However, we acknowledge that we gave too many chances, and for this, we would like to apologize to our fellow-students."

According to an article by the AS Review, at board meetings during *see AS, page 3*

## Mothers of the Movement remember and honor MLK Jr.

**Brooke Weisbecker**  
THE WESTERN FRONT

Kathryn Fentress captivated the audience at an event in celebration of Martin Luther King Jr. Day with a message of love and acceptance, something she said she learned from King himself. The crowd grew silent as Fentress began her story of engagement in the civil rights movement, where she met King years ago.

Fentress was one of many speakers who presented to a crowd of eager listeners at the Mothers of the Movement event at Mt. Baker Theatre on Monday, Jan. 21, an event commemorating and honoring the women who fought during the civil rights era. The speakers at the event celebrated King's legacy and how the Bellingham community is work-



**Jazzmyn Hannah speaks at the Mothers of the Movement event on Monday, Jan. 21.** // Photo by Brooke Weisbecker

ing toward his dream of equality.

"[King] lifted our spirits, challenged our minds and he spoke to our hearts," Fentress said.

The Mothers of the Movement event fea-

tured performances by the Kulshan Chorus, The Jefferson Sisters and Bellingham Repertory Dance. A number of speakers were present at the event, including Fentress, who marched

alongside other activists during the civil rights movement.

Monea Kerr, City of Bellingham Legislative Assistant and co-organizer of the event, said *see MOM, page 3*

## BORDER PATROL QUESTIONING GREYHOUND BUS PASSENGERS

*ACLU pushes back against citizenship questioning occurring without a warrant in WA State*

**Stella Harvey**  
THE WESTERN FRONT

Upon boarding a Greyhound bus in Spokane last September, Kayden Grey Rinaldi was surprised to see a U.S. Customs and Border Protection officer climbing onboard as well. The officer began walking up to passengers and questioning them about their citizenship status.

Rinaldi, a recent Western graduate, said they frequently use Greyhound buses to travel between Bellingham, Seattle and Spokane, and that a similar incident happened again in late December.

"[The officer] basically asked 'Are you a citizen of the United States?' to all of the white people," Rinaldi said. "I

noticed anytime he was questioning a brown person he would ask them multiple questions and would also ask to see their I.D.."

According to Enoka Herat, Police Practices and Immigration Counsel at the American Civil Liberties Union of Washington, Border Patrol Agents have been boarding Greyhound buses and questioning people about their immigration status for some time. However, under the Obama administration there was a policy in place that required Border Patrol to have actionable information that someone or something they were looking for was on the bus they wanted to search. Herat

*see BORDER, page 4*



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An artist paints their piece in front of a live audience at the Alternative Library while various musicians take the stage. // Photo by Emily Porter

## The Western Front

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**Corrections:**  
-In a story last week about the AS Student Senate meeting, clarifying that a senate investigation only takes place if the AS Board does not vote to impeach Meza-Roa, and that he was only accused of walking out of one meeting early, not several.  
-In a story about Winter Haven, correct the date of the permit expiration, the spelling of the company HomesNOW! and update the amount of potential residents at the site from 40 to 30.

### AS, continued from page 1

fall quarter, Meza-Roa clashed with fellow board members as they confronted him after his use of a derogatory term for people with mental disabilities to describe a committee. Similar tensions arose when AS VP Ama Monkah accused Meza-Roa of misogyny after he was the only board member to vote no on appointing Celia Major to the AS Activities Council, on which Monkah is the only female member. Meza-Roa denied these allegations of misogyny.

During the meeting, statements written by several AS employees who had worked with Meza-Roa were read by Levi Eckman, AS Vice President for Academic Affairs and Interim Senate Pro-Tempore.

One of the statements was from Nate Jo, AS assistant for internal committees.

According to Jo's statement, Meza-Roa failed to attend or was late to many meetings for the AS Personnel Committee and the AS Management Council. He had also failed to update the charters for many committees, making it impossible for them to legally meet. Because of this, other AS board members had to update the charters instead, Jo said.

Jo also said Meza-Roa failed to post five office hours a week until the AS Board passed a policy that would reduce the pay of board members who didn't post the required number of office hours. This statement was confirmed by other AS employees, including members of the AS board. Meza-Roa denied this accusation, saying he had posted his office hours before the policy was passed.

Another statement was written by AS Business Director, Ally Palmer. In the statement, Palmer said Meza-Roa regularly canceled meetings and did not complete assigned projects.

"Genaro has displayed a lack of commitment, engagement and respect to myself and others by continually choosing to disregard his responsibilities and not following through on communications," Palmer's statement said. "It is my opinion that he does not have enough time to dedicate to being AS VP of Business and Operations."

The Board decided to consider the recall vote after it was recommended to them by the newly-formed AS Student Senate during their first ever meeting on Jan. 14. After their vote, the student senate wrote a statement that was emailed to all students Friday evening. It was read at the AS board meeting by Eckman.

"This type of behavior is unacceptable in any profession," the statement read. "We believe the AS Board of Directors and the AS Student Senate should be held to the highest standard as we are the elected representatives of the student body."

Eckman urged Meza-Roa to resign before the final vote, but Meza-Roa refused, saying it would be "a sign of defeat."

In an interview after the meeting, Meza-Roa accused the board of working as a hive mind. He said that 90 percent of what the board had said was inaccurate and he was disappointed the board "would stoop so low."

"I am looking forward to the next steps I can take which is to keep this position and do what's necessary," Meza-Roa said in the interview. "I am going to speak with the student body and do a campaign to keep my position. It is up to the students now and I am actually happy about that."

If the recall vote receives a majority vote by the student body, Meza-Roa will be removed from office and another special election will be held to fill the his position, Romo said.

### MOM, continued from page 1

the goal of the event was to be inclusive of all members of the community who want to celebrate the legacy of King, while also being a safe haven for people of color in the community, she said.

"This event will show women and girls of color that they can go do the things they want to do regardless of if it is normally done by someone who looks like them," Kerr said.

Fentress had the opportunity to cross paths with King during the civil rights era, and told the audience he made a lasting impact on her life.

"My time with him was brief, but the man and his wisdom had guided me my entire life," Fentress said.

Fentress described a meeting she had with King and a community of civil rights activists at a church in St. Augustine, Florida in 1964. The local black community had been demonstrating and getting arrested and beaten for a year-and-a-half by then, she said.

At the time, the sheriff and the deputies were called the Klux Klan, Fentress said. King was invited by the activist community to encourage and aid them in their protest.

The civil rights activist community had a few days to strategize with the help of King, and they planned a campaign to fill the jails on charges of civil disobedience, she said.

They had to meet in different churches to hear King speak every time they met because people would go through the black neighborhoods and open-fire into peoples homes. King's home was firebombed, but he wasn't there.

Fentress, alongside King and other protesters, was arrested on charges of civil disobedience during the protest.

King had a gift with words, but she thinks his real power came from his faith and his vision of the world, Fentress said.

"He said to us, I'm going to



Juanita Jefferson, a Lummi nation elder, speaks at the Mothers of the Movement event on Monday, Jan. 21. // Photo by Oliver Hamlin

ask you to march for freedom. I'm going to ask you to go out into the night and face the anger of the people in this community. But don't go unless you have love in your heart," Fentress said. "I'm going to ask you to march and face the possible violence of these people, but don't go unless you have looked into their faces and know them to be your brothers and sisters. I'm going to ask you to march, but don't go unless you have love in your heart because it is love that is needed to heal this community."

It is love that is needed to heal this country and this world, Fentress added. Many other speakers took to the stage of the Mt. Baker Theatre to talk about their experiences and the importance of King's message in the community.

"This is the kind of message that I want to bring into the classroom," said attendee Mikaela Michalson, a Sociology major at Western in the Elementary Education program, "It's so easy to feel such anger about the injustice in our world and taking that energy to action is so important."

Jazzmyn Hannah, local liberator and organizer with Black Lives Matter Bellingham, read Maya Angelou's poem, Caged Bird.

Hannah took a charging breath, and the whole room took another breath with her as

she began the poem. "A bird that stalks down his narrow cage, can seldom see through his bars of rage, his wings are clipped, her wings are clipped, her wings have been clipped," she said. "I am carrying this pain, will you hold it for me?"

"Yes, we will," the audience responded collectively. Many other speakers highlighted the importance of community in the fight for equality and in King's message.

The band Thunderbirds Raised Her, also known as the Jefferson Sisters of the Lummi Tribe, expressed their desire for King's dream of change and peace in our society.

"He not only stood for his people, beautiful colored people, but he stood for all," said Katherine Jefferson. "As people, we need to come together and be equal and stand as one so our power can break through racism and break through hate and anger, and I think that is what makes America."

The event also featured eighth-grader Eleanor May, who gave a speech she wrote about the civil rights movement for her class.

"Today, we honor the sacrifices of those before us," May said. "We also acknowledge that the future is in our hands. It is now our responsibility to build a better tomorrow. It is our turn to fight for equality."

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# Winter Farmers Market

Over 40 local vendors brave cold weather to connect with community

**Claudia Cooper**  
THE WESTERN FRONT

On an unexpected sunny day in the middle of the winter season, Bellingham residents gathered and shopped downtown on Railroad Avenue on the morning of Jan. 19 to support local businesses at the Bellingham Winter Farmers Market.

As eager lines formed to buy fresh fruits and vegetables from the Foothills Farm produce stand, others stopped to sample ginger beer made by Bright & Sunny Wild Fermented Ginger Beer, owned by Miranda LeonJones.

The market is held weekly from April through December and monthly during the winter season, with over 40 local vendors setting up shop at Depot Market.

Kylie Lewis, an employee at Bellingham organic

mushroom farm Cascadia Mushrooms, is one vendor that can be found working behind her stand with crates of mushrooms and kits for customers to grow their own mushrooms at home. They are also the only mushroom stand you can find in the whole market, Lewis said.

"The more you get to know the vendors, the more you get to know their impact," Lewis said.

Also at the market were Meredith McDowell and Abby Rand, employees of 11th Hour, a tea and coffee bar on State Street in downtown. Jars filled with superfood and hot kettles full of tea lined their booth as they smiled at prospective customers.

"The biggest place to sell and meet others in the community is in the market," McDowell said.

Many vendors have locations for their businesses right in town

and others take advantage of the market because they work right from home. LeonJones, owner of Bright & Sunny, and her husband Jay Jones put out samples of homemade wild fermented ginger beer for passersby in the market. LeonJones makes her ginger beer with a wild fermentation process so everything is natural, organic and brewed right in Bellingham.

Since she does not have a permanent location, LeonJones said she'll count down the days until the next farmers market to get new customers on her "batch list" for her ginger brew.

The Bellingham farmers market will open its doors again Feb. 16 with its regular hours from 10 a.m. to 3 p.m. and will continue to have monthly events until April where the market will occur every Saturday through December.



Customers explore the Foothill Farms produce stand. // Photo by Claudia Cooper



Kylie Lewis of Cascadia Mushrooms helps customers at her booth. // Photo by Claudia Cooper

## BORDER

continued from page 1

said under the Trump administration, this policy is no longer in affect.

Since this change, Herat said the ACLU has been informed of incidents of Border Patrol stopping Greyhound busses across the country. She said while everyone has the right to remain silent and refuse questioning, in many reports, Border Patrol Agents often do not inform passengers of this right.

According to Rinaldi, when an officer boarded their bus in September, a young man who was sitting in the aisle

shaking as he returned to his seat, Rinaldi said.

"I can't explain the visceral feeling of the Border Patrol officer looking into my eyes and asking me the question, 'Are you a citizen?'" Rinaldi said. "I could see the aggression in his eyes and the fear he was trying to instill in people."

According to its website, Greyhound is the largest provider of intercity bus transportation, serving more than 3,800 destinations across North America. However, over the last year the company has faced pushback from lawmakers and organizations such as the

practices to work with their representatives to pursue policy change.

Herat said in Washington, the majority of reports about Border Protection questioning people on Greyhound buses have occurred in Spokane. She said the ACLU of Washington currently passes out "Know Your Rights" cards at the Spokane Greyhound station to inform people of their rights if immigration officers ever question them on public transportation.

"We've heard reports consistently in Spokane and across the country that while Border Patrol may ask everyone on the bus what their citizenship [status] is, if you're a person of color they'll ask you follow up questions," Herat said. "That kind of profiling, discrimination, and harassment that impacts citizens and noncitizens alike is really unacceptable in our country."

These questionings of Greyhound passenger have occurred outside of the Pacific Northwest as well. After videos of agents questioning passengers on a Greyhound bus in Fort Lauderdale, Florida surfaced in January 2018, Greyhound released a statement saying the company is required to cooperate with all state and federal laws.

According to the Customs and Border Protection website, the Immigration and Nationality Act 287 states that immigration officers can search for undocumented immigrants without a warrant on any vehicle within a reasonable distance

of the border. A reasonable distance is defined by 8 Code of Federal Regulations as 100 miles from the border.

Nearly two out of three people in the U.S. live within the 100 mile border zone according to the 2010 census, leaving many people vulnerable to warrantless search and seizures.

While immigration officers have the legal authority to conduct searches within 100 miles of the border, both lawmakers and the ACLU have argued that without probable cause, Greyhound must give consent in order for officers to question their passengers.

According to Herat, on March 21, 2018, 10 ACLU affiliates signed a letter to Dave Leach, Greyhound president and chief executive officer, and Tricia Martinez, senior legal officer at Greyhound, urging the company to change its policy and require Border Protection to have a warrant prior to questioning Greyhound passengers.

"We asked them, you know you have this right," Herat said, "why aren't you protecting customers from this harassment?"

On June 13, 2018, 23 members of Congress also sent Leach a letter stating concerns of Greyhound's policies leading to the violation of their constituents' constitutional rights.

In addition to providing information to Greyhound travelers, Herat said the ACLU of Washington has also worked closely with a variety of organizations in Spokane to create policies that would protect passengers from

Border Protection.

On Oct. 22, 2018, the City Council of Spokane passed an ordinance by a margin of 6-1 that requires federal immigration enforcement agencies to have a warrant before setting foot on non-public areas of city-owned property. This includes the bus-boarding areas of Spokane's bus station, according to their website. Herat said 300 people were present at the hearing, and 114 people testified in support of the ordinance, with four people testifying opposed.

Herat said even with the ordinance in effect, Border Patrol Agents have continued to enter the Greyhound station in Spokane.

Booker said in an email that the safety and dignity of their customers is important to Greyhound, and the company has recently added resources to its website informing customers of immigration practices and their rights. She said conversations between Greyhound and the ACLU were an important part to creating these materials.

For Rinaldi, the repeated incidents of Greyhound allowing Border Protection to search and remove passengers from their busses is good enough reason to boycott the company.

"I want everyone to know about this so they can choose not to ride Greyhound," Rinaldi said. "Where we have the power as citizens is to say we're not going to support this person or this business with our money because we don't believe in [their] ethics."

# International Program welcomes new adviser

Valerie Kimble steps in as International Student Adviser after the position had been left vacant since May of 2018

**Zoe Buchli**  
THE WESTERN FRONT

At the beginning of winter quarter, the International Student and Scholar Services program welcomed Valerie Kimble to its department as International Student Adviser, a position that had been vacant since May of 2018.

Kimble said the main responsibilities of her new position include advising students on immigration issues, cultural and personal adjustments and general academic guidance.

"Much of my advising has to do with personal issues such as looking for employment on campus, extracurricular activities, housing questions, health issues, learning about the area and the like," Kimble said.

Executive Director of the Institute of Global Engagement Vicki Hamblin said the previous International Student Adviser, Abigail Borchert, had left after five years of working in the ISSS, and so the department had to conduct a search to find a new adviser.

In October, a handful of

international students voiced concern over not having an adviser to turn to for support.

Hamblin said they followed Western's official hiring policy for a professional staff position. She added that the

position was vacant, ISSS Director Richard Bruce acted as the temporary adviser.

"It takes a while to hire professional staff with that kind of expertise," Hamblin said.



International Student Adviser Valerie Kimble will guide students on immigration issues, housing and academics. // Photo by Zoe Buchli

position required someone who had experience working with international students, a master's degree in a related field, professional organization memberships and training in immigration.

Hamblin said while the

Most students ISSS works with are degree-seeking undergraduate and graduate and short-term exchange students, Bruce said.

Fifth-year Joohyun Kim is an international student at Western from Seoul, South

Korea. He said he has worked one-on-one with Kimble for immigration document advising, and to maintain secure status as a student. When he goes back to Seoul for breaks, he said he checks with Kimble to make sure that his documents for leaving and re-entering the U.S. and Korea are up to date.

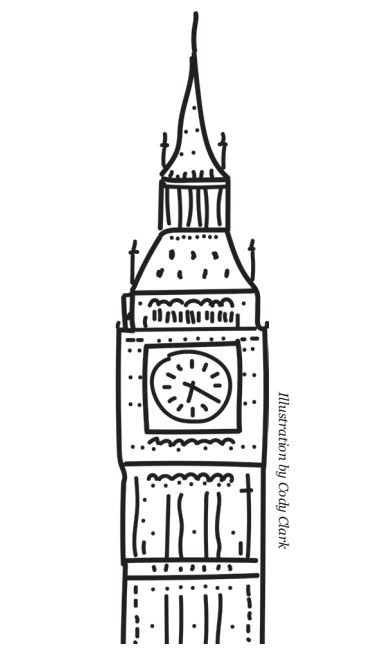
Kimble also plans orientations and activities for international students, she said, including the International Buddies program, a group of American and international students who collaborate on activities together.

Kimble said she is also organizing the Global Gourmets Banquet, a large, international event on campus.

"[Global Gourmets] shares a lot of the diversity of international students through food," Kimble said.

The presenters and menus are still being finalized, Kimble said, but Kim said he will be helping with the Korean food portion of the program

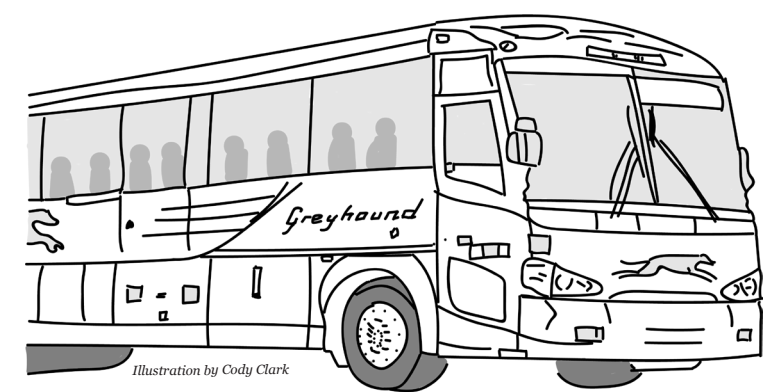
Kimble said before coming to Western, she spent seven years as an international



adviser at Peninsula College, and had been teaching for 20 years. She said she also has quite a bit of international experience; Kimble grew up in a bilingual household in Spain, and spent two years in the Peace Corps in Papua New Guinea, she said.

"I think it's important to have cultural experience," Kimble said.

Kimble said tickets for the Global Gourmets Banquet will be available in early February, and the event will be Feb. 27. Tickets will be



across from

them seemed nervous, his hands shaking as the officer approached. Rinaldi said when the officer asked the man if he was a citizen, he explained he was from Guatemala and brought out a folder with identification and other legal documents.

Rinaldi said the Border Patrol Agent asked the man to step off the bus. After reviewing his documents, Border Protection allowed the man to board the bus again. His hands were still

ACLU for allowing Border Protection to board its vehicles and question its passengers without a probable cause or a warrant.

According to an email from Crystal Booker, a communications specialist at Greyhound, the company supports reform to the current laws that allow Customs and Border Protection to board Greyhound buses. She said Greyhound encourages those concerned with current

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# IN THE SWING OF THINGS

Bellingham residents dance the night away in Washington's oldest brick building

**Haley McLendon**  
THE WESTERN FRONT

The clacking of dancing shoes sprang off the 160-year-old floors of the Whatcom County Territorial Courthouse as community members gathered to swing dance to prohibition-era blues music on Saturday, Jan 19.

Set up against a partially exposed brick wall, the Hot House Jazz Band played to the all-ages crowd. Wood panelling lined the bottom half of the cream colored walls around the dance floor, and yellow chairs were pushed against the edge of the room, holding coats and resting dancers.

The event took place during the second half of a weekend dedicated to bringing community and life to the oldest brick building in Washington state, according to Hot House trumpet player Pace Rubadeau. The Hot House Jazz Band, dance instructors from B'ham Hop and the Bellingham Circus Guild all donated their time to the cause.

The event had a pay-what-you-can policy with proceeds going to the Whatcom County Historical Society, which restores buildings such as the Territorial Courthouse, Rubadeau said.

The oldest brick building in Washington, the Territorial Courthouse was constructed in 1858 and became the Whatcom County Courthouse in 1863. In between that time, the building was used as a general store, a bank and a warehouse, according to the City of Bellingham website. It is located at what is now 1308 E St. in Bellingham.

Rubadeau was looking forward to seeing dancers from many generations come together for the event, including members of Western's Swing Kids club, he said.

"There's a lot of minors in that collective, so that's why I think it's important to do all-ages events, so they can have that education and that experience," Rubadeau said.

The Swing Kids members were excited to have a dance to go to in Bellingham, as they often have to travel to Seattle or Canada to dance, the club's co-president Rachel Lewis said.

"Bellingham is a big dancing town, but there's not a lot of swing dance events," Lewis said.

When asked about her favorite part of the event, Swing Kids member and second-year Western student Rachel Montoya said that the club members were thrilled to get the opportunity to dance on wooden floors and with a live band.

The club used to host their meetings in the Viking Union Multi-Purpose Room, but since



Hot House Jazz Band vocalist Savi Louise, center, sings during the Hot House at Courthouse swing dance event on Saturday, Jan. 19. // Photo by Oliver Hamlin



A group of swing dance enthusiasts dance to the sounds of the Hot House Jazz band. // Photo by Oliver Hamlin



Members of the Hot House Jazz Band perform at the Hot House at Courthouse swing dance event. // Photo by Oliver Hamlin

the Western Associated Students Bookstore has been relocated to that space, the Swing Kids now have to meet in a carpeted conference room on the fifth floor of the VU, Montoya said.

B'ham Hop instructor Damian Cade helped organize the event, and he taught a 30-minute swing dance lesson before the dance began. The dancers were led through various exercises to demonstrate hand positions, turns and how to both lead and follow with a partner.

"Whatever the music says for you to do, you can't be wrong," Rubadeau said during the lesson.

The room was soon filled to the brim with polka-dot dresses, suspenders and grins as dancers spun each other around to the music.

Members of the Bellingham Circus Guild performed in the

**"Whatever the music says for you to do, you can't be wrong," Rubadeau said during the lesson.**

courthouse the evening before on Friday, Jan. 18, with acts ranging from rope tricks and juggling to acrobatics.

Juggler Della Moustachella Plaster noted how the building's low ceilings added an extra layer of difficulty to their acts, she said. Her head nearly touched the ceiling when she was juggling while sitting on her partner's shoulders, as did the heads and feet of the acrobatic performers as they did lifts and flips during their acts, she said.

Despite the low ceiling, the guild's performance entertained the crowd, eliciting laughter and applause throughout the show.

The county outgrew the building in 1884, and the building has served many different functions since, including a church and a newspaper press, according to the Access Washington website. Today, it is owned by Rick Tremaine, who rents it out for events.

"We are donating our time, because we believe in the space," Rubadeau said.

He hopes the community can create lasting memories in the historic place, he said.

The Swing kids meet on Thursdays and host a dance lesson from 7-8 p.m. and a dance from 8-9:30 p.m., Lewis said.

The Hot House Jazz Band hopes to host monthly swing dances at the building, and upcoming events will be listed on their Facebook page, Rubadeau said.

# COMMUNITY HONORS MLK JR. THROUGH DAY OF SERVICE

Hundreds gather for environmental restoration of Whatcom Creek at Maritime Heritage Park

**John Olson**  
THE WESTERN FRONT

The sun shone down on volunteers in Maritime Heritage Park as they slipped on gloves and got their boots dirty for Bellingham's annual Martin Luther King Jr. National Day of Service.

Over 300 volunteers showed up to pick weeds, plant trees and help improve the bank of Whatcom Creek on Monday, Jan. 21.

This event, put on by the Parks Volunteer Program, Public Works Department and Nooksack Salmon Enhancement Association, had another reason for coinciding with the historic holiday, according to parks volunteer coordinator Amy Brown.

"We're honoring Martin Luther King Jr. and his vision of a beloved community," Brown said. "This is a day that we can come together and hopefully take some time to reflect on his legacy and his intention and how we can bring that forward into the work that we're doing."

Brown said community members experiencing homelessness who use the Maritime Heritage Park are also part of the community and deserve a clean park as much as the rest of Bellingham.

Lighthouse Mission, a nonprofit focused on homelessness in Bellingham, was asked by the parks program to participate in the event as well, according to Elizabeth Pitts, an event intern with Lighthouse Mission. They accepted donations of non-perishable foods and warm winter items.

"Martin Luther King Jr. was active in his community and passionate about his people, and I think we need

to find that same passion for our community and give back," Pitts said.

The social justice efforts of King pushed forward the environmental movement of the time, and thus went hand-in-hand with the volunteers' work, Brown said.

Community members, Americorp volunteers and those with Nooksack Salmon Enhancement Association worked throughout the day as part of a continued effort to restore the creek to optimal conditions for salmon.

Americorp volunteer Vilina Sanburn-Bill participated in the event as part of her day of service to Americorp as well as to celebrate Martin Luther King Jr. Day, she said.

"It's really cool to come be a part of the long legacy of restoration in making Maritime Heritage Park healthier," Sanburn-Bill said. "MLK was a spokesperson of love, acceptance and bettering a community while engaging everyone in [it]. If you come out and take part, you are doing something to better our community."

Other volunteers echoed their motivation for coming out in support of their community.

"There was no women's march here yesterday, and I felt like I had to do something," volunteer Amy Becke said. "I believe in community service, and how better to commemorate than on Dr. King's birthday?"

Brown said that the work these volunteers do in helping the community is also part of a larger restoration project. The plan over the last 20 to 30 years has been to remove invasive species and introduce native ones that provide shade to cool the water for the salmon, Brown said.

Brown said that the parks group has come a long way since 2012 when



Volunteers helped plant and weed Priest Point Park in honor of Martin Luther King Jr.. // Photo by Emily Porter

**"Martin Luther King Jr. was active in his community and passionate about his people, and I think we need to find that same passion for our community and give back," Pitts said.**

the entire hillside was covered in ivy and blackberries, but there's still work to be done.

"We're really grateful to everybody who's coming out to volunteer. We fortunately live in a community where there's an incredible ethic of stewardship and volunteerism, and we're looking to grow that," Brown said. "I want to find ways to empower our volunteers to really tackle more of these problems happening in parks."

The next volunteer opportunity is set for Saturday, Jan. 26 and will involve planting native species along Squalicum Creek at the Bay to Baker Trail. Those interested in volunteering can check out the City of Bellingham event page for more information.



Americorp volunteer Vilina Sanburn-Bill pulls English ivy that chokes native plants growing on the hillside of Whatcom Creek. // Photo by John Olson



Volunteer Amy Becke unroots English ivy and blackberry plants from the lower hillside along Whatcom Creek. // Photo by John Olson

# Puppy's bittersweet bucket list wish fulfilled

*Logan, puppy and professional heartbreaker, crosses off his goal of receiving 100 hugs before he dies*

**Anelyse Morris**  
THE WESTERN FRONT

A local celebrity was sighted at Mud Bay on Sunday, Jan. 20. He caused quite a commotion, stirring the attention of local news outlets and people from all over the Northwest.

While not a famous singer or actor, Logan, a 9-week-old German shepherd puppy, has gathered a following over the last few weeks, captivating people with his adorable face and heartbreaking story.

Diagnosed in the first few weeks of his life with pulmonic valve dysplasia, an inoperable heart condition, Logan was estimated to only have up to a year left to live, according to an interview by KOMO news with his foster mom, Lindie Saenz.

Saenz is a regular volunteer for Rescued Hearts Northwest, a shelter for at-risk animals. Her 4-year-old son Blake decided to name Logan after Marvel superhero Wolverine, hoping that if he was named after a regenerative superhero, he would be able to heal himself too, according to KOMO.

Saenz said she wanted Logan's life to have meaning, no matter how short it may be. Inspired by this, she reached out to Rescued Hearts

Northwest to make a bucket list for him.

The organization shared Logan's story on Facebook and started asking people for bucket list ideas, Bekki Dodd, President of Rescued Hearts Northwest said. The amount of people who wanted to meet him was so overwhelming that they reached out to Mud Bay, a natural pet food store, to stage a meet-and-greet.

"We're all about community here, so we were more than happy to be a part of it," Kara Raddatz, store manager at Mud Bay, said.

The goal of the meet-and-greet was to help Logan reach his goal of getting 100 hugs, Dodd said. While the final tally isn't in yet, the turnout alone was a great indication that the goal would be met.

"We always wanted his life to matter, and all these people showing him love has just been amazing," Saenz said.

The line of people waiting to meet Logan wrapped around the store and out the door. From Bellingham citizens to Oregonians and even Californians, people traveled far and wide to hug Logan.

Renee Showalter and her daughter Callie came to see Logan together after seeing his story all over local news

broadcasts.

"Meeting Logan was really awesome," Callie Showalter said. "It was so great being part of his story and his short life."

Many of the event attendees followed Logan's story on Facebook from the beginning and jumped at the chance to meet him. The promotional post for the event was published only four days prior to the meet-and-greet and was shared over 200 times.

Lindsey Hartsroad and Kristen Edwards were strangers when they walked into Mud Bay, but spent the whole time waiting in line talking to one another about their love for animals and their excitement to meet Logan. Hartsroad said that her love for German shepherds and Logan's story is what drove her to come to the event.

"I was reading all about his bucket list," Edwards said. "His story truly touched me and I knew I had to come and meet him."

Some of his other bucket list items are digging in the sand at the beach, picking out a toy at Mud Bay, going fishing with his foster family and having a camp-out in the backyard, according to KOMO.



**(Top) Lindie Saenz, right explains the condition of her dog Logan to Devon Alexander, center as he is comforted by Rodger Alexander at a Hugs for Logan Meet and Greet event on Sunday, Jan. 20.**

**(Bottom) Logan receives one of his hundred hugs.**  
// Photos by Oliver Hamlin



# Match made in heaven between author and illustrator

**Chris Butcher**  
THE WESTERN FRONT

Two creative minds, Western graphic design major, Olivia Mangione, and local author, Annette Balcom, have teamed up to bring their newly published children's book, "The Creep", to life.

The book tells the tale of a young teacher, Miss Potts, who befriends a creature known as the Creep, who helps her out of some trouble with her class.

The book depicts a simple theme, that today's society has misplaced the value of kindness. Balcom said she was devoted to writing this book because of her desire to encourage compassion among children.

"Kindness is a lost teaching and kids need to know to be nice to each other, to teachers, friends and classmates," Balcom said of her conviction for the book.

Balcom said she first conceived the idea for this story in 1986. At that time, she was a reading specialist for the Kent School District and her students encouraged her to write her own stories. However, it wasn't until she moved to Bellingham in 2017 and started taking classes at Village Books



**Local author Annette Balcom shares a favorite page from her new book "The Creep."** // Photo by Chris Butcher

on how to self-publish that she was inspired to finish the book and release it to the public, she said.

With the support of a local business, Balcom finally saw her dream turn into a reality. When her contact at Village Books introduced her to Mangione, Balcom realized she had discovered her creative equal to illustrate the world she had written.

Even though she had interviewed numerous other candidates for the position, Balcom knew after meeting Mangione that she had found the right talent to capture the vision of "The Creep."

"Olivia stood out because

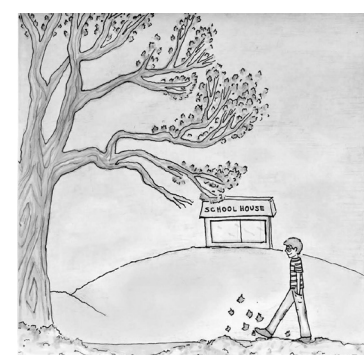
she was so positive. Positive personality, positive energy and I could tell she was really responsible," Balcom recalled.

Even before graduating, Mangione has taken giant steps with her career and in building an impressive résumé.

Mangione said her journey as a visual artist began when she was eight years old. Her father acted as a major inspiration by exposing her to comedic storytelling and cartoon drawings.

"He would make up stories for us all the time, so I liked to draw the stories he made up," Mangione said.

Through her father's knowledge of the arts and



**Drawing by Olivia Mangione that will be features in "The Creep."**  
// Drawing Courtesy of Olivia Mangione

drawing workshops, Mangione found a mentor she could look up to and teach her to refine her natural capabilities.

Since discovering her passion for drawing, Mangione has continued to advance her skills as an artist by taking classes taught by Paul Kearsley within Western's engineering and design program.

"I loved to draw before, but I had always done it for fun. So, it was learning actual techniques from that class to be able to apply and to make communication clear," Mangione said.

Kearsley said he was happy to see his students succeeding.

"It's really rewarding to see students use the stuff we're working on in class. The stuff we're working on is super marketable and everyone has a need for visual communications," Kearsley said.

Publishing this book was something that pushed Mangione out of her comfort zone, she said. Her typical artistic style lends to creating psychedelic characters in a cartoon-like nature. However, for this assignment she found herself designing fewer abstract figures and instead creating characters who convey realism within a fictional world.

"When it comes to drawing or art, I like to go with any direction," said Mangione. She said she's delighted with how "The Creep" turned out.

The process of making "The Creep" was a unique experience for Balcom and Mangione independently. Even though this was their first project together, it likely won't be their last. Balcom reiterated a mutual sentiment and hopes to work with Mangione on a future project she already has in mind.

"If [Balcom's] willing to work with me again, I'd love to," Mangione said.

# Ferns & Kelp - a platform for local art and clothing

*New online retail store featuring Pacific Northwest artists will go live in early February*

**Zachary Jimenez**  
THE WESTERN FRONT

Artists and artisans from around the Pacific Northwest, who share a passion for the local environment, are launching an online store to sell nature-inspired art and products.

The Bellingham-based artist collective Ferns & Kelp is set to open its online store on Feb. 1.

According to Ferns & Kelp founder Brittany Ervin, the collective's goal is to give people a platform to sell their products and for consumers to know they are supporting local artists.

"I want to buy from someone that I can really support who might be my neighbor, but I want to do it in my pajamas at 2:00 a.m. in the morning," Ervin said of her vision for Ferns & Kelp.

Ervin started developing the collective in the summer of 2018, and the Ferns & Kelp GoFundMe page has raised over \$1,500 since October 2018. Their initial goal of \$1,000 was met in December

2018. The money will be used for advertising, promotional materials and startup costs, Ervin said.

Ervin's idea for Ferns & Kelp began as a t-shirt brand she intended to market herself. By August 2018 she decided that selling products produced by local artists was a better idea because her strength is marketing, she said.

"I realized I have no artistic ability at all or design ability, but from just being in the media industry and being a mom, I have met a lot of people in the area who love to do arts themselves," Ervin said. "But they don't have the time to market what they do."

The collective is currently made up of 12 artists and artisans who are creating products ranging from t-shirts and hats to prints and soaps. It is important for materials to be sourced responsibly and for products to reflect the Ferns & Kelp brand of the local environment, according to Ervin.

Another part of the mission of Ferns & Kelp is to take care

of the marketing and business aspects for artists so they can focus more on creating and finding their inspirations, according to Ervin.

Artists either pay a monthly fee to feature their products on the website or pay through a percentage of their sales, Ervin said.

Websites like Etsy have become so oversaturated with content, making that it's difficult for artists to stand out said Gillian Powell, the owner of Sweet Pea Soap Co. Powell will be selling body products through Ferns & Kelp that are inspired by nature and culture of the Pacific Northwest, including coffee and beer-inspired soaps, she said.

"This is an opportunity for all of us to stand out and be unique in our own platform," she said "[We're all] coming together and creating this fun, little, quirky family."

Liz Park, another artist in the collective, finds inspiration for her art by exploring the outdoors and snowboarding in the Cascades Mountains. Animals and



**Liz Park, another artist in the collective, shows off her hat designs.** // Photo by Zachary Jimenez

mountain landscapes are some of her favorite subjects to bring into her art pieces and designs, Park said.

"I think as an artist it doesn't really make sense to keep all your information close the vest and just not share," Park said. "You want everybody to succeed."

The collective met at Redboots Design and the

Print & Copy Factory back in November 2018 to discuss how they can work with local business to produce products, she said.

"We had little group field trips there and then we would go get a beer afterward and all kinda chat about different things," Park said. "It's been great sharing information."

Park is looking forward to the opportunities Ferns & Kelp will give her, which will include creating a product line and getting her art and name out into the community, she said.

Erin Boyd, the owner of Redboots Design, met with several artists from Ferns & Kelp to discuss how their designs can be screen printed on different products.

"I really try to focus on helping artists find blanks to print on that are sustainable, socially responsible and environmentally responsible," Boyd said.

The collective is not exclusive to artists from Bellingham. Artists from anywhere in the Pacific Northwest can be a part of the collective, Ervin said.

There is currently a waitlist to join the collective, and the plan is to let more artists into the collective as the business grows and students are welcome to join, she said.

To find out more information about the Ferns & Kelp visit their Instagram and Facebook, or by email at info@fernsandkelp.com.



**(Left) Liz Park standing with her own original snowboard design.** // Photo by Zachary Jimenez

# College is about learning (to do your job)

There's some excitement on campus: The Associated Students Board is holding a recall election regarding AS VP for Business and Operations, Genaro Meza-Roa, upon a unanimous recommendation for impeachment by the AS Student Senate and a majority vote in favor of impeachment from the board themselves.

The complaints cited by fellow AS employees include missing his office hours, missing job trainings, leaving a meeting to drink wine, refusing to use peoples' pronouns correctly and generally not fulfilling job responsibilities.

Listen, we're all busy. It's college, after all. And we would all prefer to drink wine over attending a meeting. Again, it's college.

College is, in many ways, about making mistakes, learning from them and growing. Sometimes those mistakes are failing a final because you stayed up all night watching the seventh season of Gilmore Girls again, even though you know it's the worst one but you just have to finish it so you can watch the revival in good conscience, and sometimes those mistakes are drinking instead of attending a meeting you are paid to be at.

Both of those situations waste tuition money. The difference is that the first wastes your own tuition money, and the second wastes ours. Elected representatives have a re-

sponsibility to the campus community, and the bylaws of AS allow recall elections for this very reason.

Now, in the next couple weeks there will be an opportunity to fill the position again, either with a new student or Meza-Roa, who, to his credit, is not going down without a fight. Partially because, as he said in an interview with the AS Review, "to see a unanimous decision from a senate is, for me, a cause of great suspicion."

Meza-Roa was invited to attend the Student Senate meeting, but was not able to attend. It's possible that attending the meeting could have demystified some of that suspicion.

Again, college is a time in life when many make mistakes and learn from them. Countless young men learn to accept the fact that they cannot and should not try to grow a beard; students learn that trying to balance 18 credits, two nannying gigs and playing in a band is logistically and physically impossible; many come to understand that neither coffee nor Redbull are suitable replacements for water; and some people learn that they must show up to, and participate in, their job in order to keep it.



The Western Front Editorial Board is composed of Dante Koplowitz-Fleming, Monique Merrill and Laura Place.

## NETFLIX REVIEWS ARE IN

# FYRE

Good. Sometimes it's fun to watch disasters unfold. Plus, this documentary will make you feel much better about using your student loans to buy Sasquatch tickets, probably.

# FRIENDS From COLLEGE

Fine. This is a great look into our collective future, when our friends merely become our "friends from college," if you're into that kind of thing.

# YOU

Good AND bad. Warning: this show depicts stalking, voyeurism, violence and pretty much every other crime that happens in the neighborhoods that surround Western.

What do you want to complain about, Western?



**Kat Deboodt**  
Psychology

"That my freakin' landlord won't let me keep my dog at my house."



**Devin Doneen**  
Kinesiology

"The weather. I hate the weather. I wish it was sunny, a lot more."



**Derek Rajah**  
Electrical Engineering

"I hate when people judge me and look at me and the way I spend my money, like, don't f--- with me. Can I say that word?"



**Bo Devin**  
Communication

"I feel like a lot of people run around and complain about a lot of things they don't have reason to complain about."

Compiled by Malia Cantimbuham

# Western softball gets ready to play hardball

A new season and a fresh start have players and coaches ready to hit the field running

**Ashlynn Johnson**  
THE WESTERN FRONT

A Preseason Coaches Poll has Western's softball team projected to finish fourth-place in conference play this season, a prediction that reflects increased confidence in the direction of the program under the leadership of new head coach Sheryl Gilmore. The return of star senior players who sat out last season has only added to the buzz.



**Head coach Sheryl Gilmore.**  
// Courtesy of WWU Athletics

During her time at Edmonds Community College, Gilmore had a program record of 42-8. By joining the program, the hope is that Gilmore will improve on Western's 2018 season record of 15-32. According to Gilmore, the talent is there to make that happen.

When speaking of the seniors,

Gilmore could not contain her praise.

"They're out there and they're intrinsically motivated. When you see as a young player some of the greatest players to ever come through the program working that hard, I think it has to motivate you," Gilmore said. "They're probably going to start anyways, but to have them be out there every moment, that they get to find a way to get better, has been really neat to see. And that gets me excited."

Senior pitcher and third baseman Shearyna Labasan and shortstop Cylie Richards will return for their final season. Joining them are first baseman Emily Benson and pitcher/infielder Makinlee Sellevold, who both chose to not play last season.

Sellevold said she's returning this season healthy and enthusiastic to be coached by Gilmore. As one of the best two-way players in the program's history, she is constantly looking for ways to stay in the game.

"I feel like when I'm out of one part, I'm not as connected to the game. Whatever I can do to help my team, I'm there. Whether that be hitting, pitching or playing the infield," Sellevold said.

Gilmore explained how for softball players, this college experience is the last chance for student-athletes to play the game that they love.

"I think the unique thing about [softball] is that in men's basketball, football, baseball you can go pro, so that can turn into a job," Gilmore said. "You're really here to get your education, so we might as well make that fun."

Freshman Rachel Christensen joined her sister Rylie Wales on the team for that very reason.

"I would come up to visit her at Western and would watch her play," Christensen explained. "I don't know if coaching is in my future, but if this is my last stint, I want to be the best."

Christensen also credited fellow freshman catcher Sam Mutolo with pushing her to become better.

"She has a really strong arm, so she throws down really great, so I try to ask her for tips on that. I'm really good at blocking, so I give her tips on her blocking. We're good friends," Christensen said.

The biggest challenge Gilmore expressed was getting the players to put their egos aside and to always stay ready. With only nine spots on the field and a 21-player roster, for some players game time will be limited. Putting the team first was a common mantra throughout practice.

Labasan tried to embody that message, doing her best during practice to be a good mentor to younger players. She could be

seen assisting teammates with their bunting. The way they not only listened, but eagerly expected her feedback made their respect for her clear. If she wasn't leading drills, she was running around the field to meet all who wanted her attention, whether it was a question on how to improve, to share a joke or bolster team morale.

In two weeks, the team will head to Las Vegas to battle California State University Dominguez Hills for the 10th-annual Desert Stinger on Feb. 1. It will be the first game of the season for players, and the first game of coach Gilmore's Western coaching career.



Western's softball team gets ready to kick off the 2019 season. // Photo courtesy of WWU Athletics

# Sports Roundup: Catch it on the rebound

**Zoe Hilgedick**  
THE WESTERN FRONT

**Women's Basketball**  
On Thursday, Jan. 17, Western's women's basketball lost to Seattle Pacific University, 61-59. The Vikings initially led the first quarter 23-6, but SPU managed to pull ahead in the third quarter. During the fourth quarter, the Vikings started

to pick up the pace, evening out the score into a tie with thirty seconds on the clock but ultimately lost when SPU hit the game-winning layup.

The Western women's basketball team was victorious last Saturday, Jan. 19 at an away game against Saint Martin's University, earning the Vikings another win in the Great Northwest Athletic Conference.

After a slow start and some foul trouble, the Vikings pulled out a 75-67 win. Despite a quiet start to the game, junior center Anna Schwecke scored all 17 of her points in the second half, significantly aiding the Vikings' victory. This victory puts the Vikings at 10-6 overall and 5-3 in GNAC play. Up next, the Vikings will go toe-to-toe at home with Northwest Nazarene

on Thursday, Jan. 24 at 5:15 p.m..

### Men's Basketball

After a promising start, Western's men's basketball team lost to Montana State University Billings on Thursday, Jan. 17. Although the Vikings led by 16 points in the first half, the second half pulled into a tie and MSUB

was able to get the lead during overtime, resulting in a 81-72 loss for the Vikings. However, the Vikings were not without their impressive plays. Junior forward Trevor Jasinsky scored 24 points and managed to sink half of his attempted shots. Next the Vikings will face the University of Alaska Fairbanks at home this Thursday, Jan. 24 at 7:30 p.m..

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# DRIVEN TO WINN

*Whether in L.A. or Bellingham, Micah Winn's true home is on the court*

**Malia Cantimbuhan**  
THE WESTERN FRONT

When Micah Winn sits down to study, his demeanor is every bit as intense as when he steps onto the basketball court. Brow furrowed and eyes alight with determination, it would be hard to tell the difference between a picture of him guarding an opponent and one of him writing an essay. Without this determination, Winn said his life could have turned out much differently.



**Winn sets up to play defense.** // Photo by Oliver Hamlin

Winn, 23, had to overcome plenty of adversity while living in South-Central Los Angeles. Winn said where he grew up, crime was everywhere. Drugs, alcohol and gang violence were the options for a lot of kids his age, but Winn chose differently.

Winn, who is now a redshirt junior at Western, started playing basketball at the age of four with his dad, Steven, and brother, Joel. His older brother played basketball and his dad was talented in many sports. Winn wanted to play like both of them. He started playing in adult leagues with his dad and brother at age 11. By the time he was in middle school, he had fallen for the game and was playing anywhere he could.

At Crenshaw High School, Winn established himself as a skilled player on the basketball team by the time he was a senior. He was named First Team All-Coliseum League, First Team All-Wave Newspapers, First Team All-City, First Team All-Area, Honorable Mention All-State as well as league champion in his senior year at Crenshaw High School.

He carried his talent to Cerritos College in Norwalk, California, where he played basketball under head coach Russ May.

May, who is in his 10th season coaching at Cerritos, said he saw incredible dedication and determination in Winn. He saw Winn as a competitive and

driven student athlete, who was incredibly focused on what he wanted. He described Winn as a tireless worker, putting in extra time to achieve his goals. May said he appreciated Winn's devotion to both school and basketball.

"Every morning he walked, he took a bus, he took a train to get to Cerritos College and was here every morning by 8 a.m. religiously," May said. "Living in a very tough neighborhood, it was just incredibly inspiring and incredibly dedicated for a kid like that to get up every day and be here first to get in extra work."

During this time, Winn's family lived from paycheck to paycheck. Most of the money his family received went to his mother Rochelle's medical bills, he said.

"We didn't have a whole lot. I got a lot of clothes and things from my brother and friends," Winn said. "Sometimes, I had to stretch some meals out and ask some of my teammates for help. I was so shy with everything, I wouldn't ask them, but I would go along with them if I knew they were gonna pay for some food."

Aside from the more obvious hurdles in Winn's life, he was also battling against an opponent he didn't even know he had. In 2015, Winn was diagnosed with dyslexia, which helped explain many of his difficulties in school.

"Growing up, I thought everybody saw things the way I saw them. When I figured out everybody saw words differently and that I didn't see everything the way that it should be, it was a big challenge and it made me kind of shy and insecure," Winn said.

As a vicious competitor who hated to lose, Winn also hated to admit his struggles.

"Some days were tough with him because he wanted to do everything himself," May said. "He didn't want to address it, he didn't even tell anybody."

Coach May and Winn's wife, Imani, were eventually able to break him out of his insecurity and help him realize that he needed to get help. Winn talked to his school and began to receive assistance from Cerritos' disability services. With their help, he was finally able to turn the corner and begin to overcome this challenge.

"My grades started going way, way, way up and everything else started flowing after that. I was finally able to break through. Ever since then, it just became so easy for me," Winn said.

When Winn came to Western, he immediately contacted the disability center to make sure he would get the same accommodations he received at Cerritos. He let his coaches and his teammates know, who all help Winn however they can.

"It takes practice and really being patient in taking my time when I read things," Winn said. "I'm turning the corner with it and this is probably the most comfortable I've been with it my whole life."

**"Every morning he walked, he took a bus, he took a train to get to Cerritos College and was here every morning by 8 a.m. religiously."**

**Russ May**  
Cerritos College Head Coach

Tyler Payne, senior co-captain of Western's men's basketball team, transferred from Cerritos College to Western with Winn in 2017. Although he knew Winn to have a mellow, laid-back personality, Payne could also see a fire in him.

"He's really disciplined. He gets in the weight room every day, he goes to class every day, gets his homework done, goes to practice every day. Even after practice, he gets extra work in, gets shots up in the gym," Payne said.

This year, Winn is the second leading scorer for the men's basketball team, averaging 10.4 points in 16 games.

"On the court, I would best describe him as an attacker. He's coming at you every play. That's what he brings to the table, that's who he is as a player and that's

what we need him to do for the team," Payne said.

After graduating from Western with his communications degree, Winn plans to play professionally overseas in either Europe or China, with hopes of moving up to the NBA G league. Winn said after he's done playing basketball, he would like to go into sports broadcasting or become a head coach so he can provide for his family and wife of two-and-a-half years.

What drives him to do it all?

To be the best. That is his biggest motivation.

"I have a very, very, very high competitive spirit to be the best so I can one day be professional,"

Winn said. "I want to be the best every time I step on the court. Whether it's practice, workouts, games or whatever. Being the best and proving myself every single time I step onto the floor is the main reason why."

Once graduated and playing professionally, he said he would like to return to his hometown and show kids growing up in his area that it's possible to make it out.

"On the streets, in jail, or dead became the outcome for many of the people I grew up with," Winn said. "There's more to life than just being in the streets, being on the block and that's all you see growing up, but it's not. It's possible."



**Winn shoots from the free throw line.** // Photo by Oliver Hamlin

## Upcoming Vikings Action

### Home

#### Women's Basketball

- Thursday Jan. 24 vs. NW Nazarene 5:15 p.m.
- Saturday Jan. 26 vs. Central Washington 7 p.m.

#### Men's Basketball

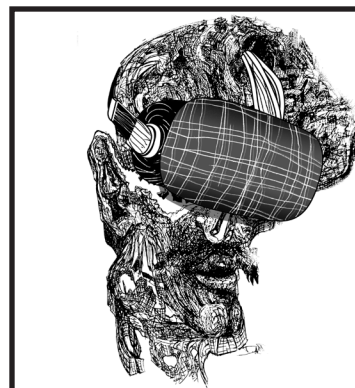
- Thursday Jan. 24 vs. Alaska Fairbanks 7:30 p.m.
- Saturday Jan. 26 vs. Alaska Anchorage 3 p.m.

### Away

#### Track and Field

- Friday Jan. 25 @ UW Invitational All day
- Saturday Jan. 26 @ UW Invitational All day

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