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Local jewelry store combats domestic violence, pg.10

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THE WESTERN FRONT

Volume 189, Issue 4

westernfrontonline.com

Wednesday, October 16, 2019

Western to implement new smoking policy

Smoking on campus will be restricted to designated areas under new policy in 2021

Reece Jennings THE WESTERN FRONT

Changes are being made to the rules for smoking on campus, following a recommendation made by West-ern's Central Health and Safety Committee (CHSC) for a more restrictive policy.

Western's director of environmental health and CHSC member Sue Sullivan estimates that the committee's plan will be ready for implementation fall of 2021.

The committee has led an ongoing discussion with Western President Sabah Randhawa and his cabinet on moving toward a smoke-free campus. A decision was made to restrict smoking on campus to designated smoking areas, Sullivan said.

Creating designated smoking areas was one of three options presented to Western students, faculty and staff in a survey conducted in January.

"We developed three



Ian Earle looks towards Desiree Pulido while smoking a cigarette in the smoking area near Wilson Library neighboring Red Square on Tuesday, Oct. 15. // Photo by Alex Moreno

policies for them to consider," Sullivan said. "Status quo, completely banning it on campus and then sort of in the middle, where smoking

would not be allowed on major walkways but only in designated areas.'

The survey found that 75% of those sampled

were unsatisfied with the current smoking policy on campus and most of those who responded preferred changing the policy

to include designated areas, Sullivan said. The committee was

given approval to move

see SMOKING page 4



Kiaya Wilson THE WESTERN FRONT

The Western Alert emergency communications team sent out a crime notice to students at 5:01 p.m. on Tuesday, Oct. 15.

The crime notice detailed an incident of reported assault that happened at Ridgeway Sigma on the night of Oct. 11.

"[University Police] found an 18-year-old male student and resident lying on the floor outside the door to his room, face up, naked from the waist down with his pants around his ankles," said the crime notice. University police learned the student had taken psilocvbin mushrooms and had "became erratic, out of control and aggressive," according to the crime notice.

us more responsive to the Clery Act," said Paul Cocke, university director of communications and marketing, in a phone interview.

Two Clery Act crimes were allegedly committed including fondling and assault, according to the notice. The student was cited by university police "on suspicion of indecent exposure and fourth degree assault," evicted from Ridgeway Sigma and trespassed from campus housing while a further investigation is conducted. the notice states. The Clery Act is a protection law that requires colleges and universities to be transparent about crimes that happen on campus, which include criminal offenses, hate crimes, domestic violence crimes and disciplinary action violations, according to the Clery Center website.



Campus policy restricts ICE access to campus, student records

Emily Feek THE WESTERN FRONT

Western President Sabah Randhawa passed a policy regarding U.S. Immigration and Customs Enforcement (ICE) limitations on campus on Sept. POL-U7100.03, 23. Regarding Access to Non-Public Areas of Campus or Student Records for Immigration Enforcement Purposes, outlines privacy for students and defines which areas on campus are considered nonpublic.

According to the policy, ICE agents are allowed on public campus areas, but require signed warrants to access non-public areas. Non-public areas include spaces such as classrooms, offices and residence halls, according to the policy.

Paul Dunn, chief of staff and secretary to the board of trustees, said in an email he believes Western is the first four-year public institution to put a formal policy like this in place.

"For example, while it would be appropriate for a person off the street to walk into an academic building to take a look around or find an administrative office, it wouldn't be appropriate for them to enter classrooms, labs, or employee offices, much less access-controlled spaces," Dunn

"We've added this crime notice to make Rukhsar Sadat, a third-year student, speaking with Justice Mary Yu at the Supreme Court Justice panel on Wednesday, Oct. 9. // Photo by Claire Ott.

Supreme Court visits campus

Read more on pg. 8

said.

Although access to campus is restricted for ICE agents, Western cannot entirely prevent ICE from entering campus spaces, according to the resource page for undocumented students. When ICE agents do have warrants to enter non-public campus see ICE, page 4



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Shirts hang outside Haggard Hall displaying powerful messages relating to sexual and domestic violence during a protest on Thursday, Oct. 10. // Photo by Max Gleiberman.



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The Western Front

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Publications Council. It is mainly supported by advertising. Opinions and ories in the newspaper hav 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.

Correction: A quote by Selome Zerai was misattributed to Adah Barenburg in the "AS Board of Directors to vote on revised election code" story on page 3 of the Oct. 9 issue. The quote referred to candidate endorsements.

Melody Kazel THE WESTERN FRONT

County council candidates stepped up to the podium to talk about regional issues on Wednesday, Oct. 9, in front of an audience of county residents in the Baker Creek Place Banquet Room. Most of the night centered around the live debate between Satpal Sidhu and Tony Larson, who are running for County Executive, the top administrative role in Whatcom County government.

There were two main points of contention between the candidates.

The first was the Cherry Point industrial zone. Since 2018, the County Council has been working to amend the Whatcom County Comprehensive Plan and Whatcom County Code to address ways to limit the negative impacts from crude oil, coal, liquefied petroleum gases and natural gas exports from the Cherry Point Urban Growth Area.

Each candidate was asked what they think about the Whatcom code amendments that address the comprehensive plan for Cherry Point.

Sidhu referred the audience to a resolution, number 2019-037, which outlines potential fossil fuel code changes and alterations to Cherry Point policy. The code, in part, would prohibit new fossil fuel refineries and facilities, but would still allow for limited expansion of current facilities.

It also states that renewable fuel facilities would be "treated similarly to fossil fuel facilities in terms of permit allowances." Larson said industry worked

with the Whatcom County Council for three years on amendments to the Whatcom County Comprehensive Plan. Larson said everything changed at a meeting on January 15.

"A new document came in. All the work that had been done prior to that had been dismissed," Larson said.

The new document was a different plan for amendments than what the committee had been working on cooperatively, according to a recording from a Council Special Committee of the Whole meeting on Jan. 15. The second point of



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Executive candidates debate regional issues

County council candidates debate Cherry Point industrial zone and environmental issues



Satpal Sidhu (left) and Tony Larson (right) participate in a debate on Wednesday, Oct. 9. // Photo courtesy of Noble Solana-Walkinshaw

disagreement occurred when the candidates were asked about how they plan to address environmental issues such as water quality. According to the Washington State Department of Ecology, there have been concerns about the lack of oxygen in Lake Whatcom due to increased phosphorus and fecal coliform bacteria, which could threaten fish and plant life in the lake

Larson proposed a plan to improve Lake Whatcom's water quality by infusing oxygen into the bottom of the lake.

"We could do a three year pilot program," Larson said. "It would cost about \$280,000 and we can actually test the results."

Infusing oxygen into a lake bottom is possible through a technique called destratification, which has been investigated by the Illinois Environmental Protection Agency. Destratification artificially circulates lake water, exposing it to more atmospheric oxygen which the water can potentially absorb, according to an issue of Lake Notes prepared by Holly Hudson and Bob Kirschner of the Northeastern Illinois Planning Commission.

Sidhu said this process of injecting air into Lake Whatcom and disturbing the bottom of the lake could create a bigger problem.

"It will offset all the work we have done in the last 10 years," Sidhu said.

The Department of Ecology is working with Bellingham and Whatcom County to improve the levels of dissolved oxygen in Lake Whatcom by developing a total maximum daily load (TMDL) for fecal coliform and phosphorus in the lake. The TDML shows the maximum amount of phosphorus and bacteria Lake Whatcom can receive daily while still meeting water quality standards, according to the Department of Ecology.

Despite these major points of contention, there was one topic that the candidates agreed on. It was the second part of a question on how they plan to fulfill their duties as an executive. The candidates were asked how they would streamline the permit and review process. They were also asked if there should be increased focus on customer services for people seeking assistance for projects submitted through the County planning services department.

Larson spoke about how the department needs to work together and create a culture where everyone knows that people respect the need for rules and regulations. He also said he wants to reach out to people in the community who want project assistance

"We need to get feedback from the people that are actually using the services," Larson said.

When Larson's time was called, Sidhu said, "Actually I will save you two minutes. I totally agree with Tony. What he said, I will do the same."

Candidates from the 4th District, Brian Estes and Kathy Kershner, spoke at the event as well. Each gave a short statement about themselves and why they are running for county office. They were followed by candidates from the 5th District, Ben Elenbass and Natalie McClendon. Candidates running for at-large position B couldn't make it to the event because they were out of the state. Their spokespeople gave statements.

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SMOKING continued from page 1

forward with the new policy, but no changes are planned until fall of 2021.

"The president and the president's cabinet wanted to make sure there was adequate time to prepare the campus for this change," said Paul Cocke, Western's director of communications and marketing.

CHSC is in the process of recruiting members for the Smoke-Free Campus Committee (SFCC), explained Sullivan, who will be working on both committees. The SF-CC's purpose will be to create an implementation plan for the new policy. According to the committee's charter, that will include choosing where to put the designated smoking areas, and developing an education plan for the policy.

The committee will also look at what other schools are doing to restrict smoking on campus while still being inclusive to the needs of stu-

> ICE continued from page 1

spaces or to detain students, the new policy requires faculty and staff to make reasonable efforts to notify any affected students.

"Because Western has a relatively small population of undocumented students who are in contact with advisors, faculty and student support staff, it is likely that contact with the student would be made relatively quickly through these personal networks and relationships," Dunn said.

One student-run resource is Western's Blue Group, a group intended to support undocumented and mixedstatus students by creating community. The group aims to create a safe space on campus for undocumented students and their allies to meet and support each other.

Ana Ramirez, Blue Group's media and public relations representative, said the policy hasn't changed much for undocumented students on campus. Not all students feel protected by the new policy

"This policy is very, 'Oh, this might happen if they come to campus,' instead of having an actual plan beforehand," Ramirez said. "They need to be more strict and concise with what they want to do."

Western's protection of students undocumented identifying extends to student information and documentation status. Western does not require students disclose to documentation status and will not share student information unless in compliance with court orders, warrants or subpoenas, Dunn said.

Western international

dents and staff who smoke. "This two-year process is not unlike what our peers have done," Sullivan said. "They are mindful of taking the time to develop something that is of substance and mindful of our community while engaging in shared governance.'

The committee prioritizes taking time to educate everyone on campus on how and why the policy is changing in the hope that it will actually be followed.

"I feel like people will still continue to smoke wherever they want," said Ethan Horan, a second-year student at Western. Horan, who is a smoker himself, was unaware of what the current smoking policy is on campus, and feels that it will be difficult to get students who smoke to follow the new policy.

Cocke said he believes the plan for changing the policy will work for the campus community.

"I think this middle ground, allowing smokers to have a place but also provid-

Cigarettes litter the ground among leaves and garbage near Wilson Library on Tuesday, Oct. 15. // Photo by Alex Moreno

ing education and resources on how to lead a healthier life will work well," Cocke said.

The new policy will also apply to vaping and the use of electronic cigarettes.

The committee wants to use this as an opportunity to create a positive impact

interim policy with the same

intent was established by

Randhawa in 2016 after

hearing that Deferred

Arrivals (DACA) privileges

may be altered or revoked.

Western intended to create

a developed formal policy

after more information

about DACA changes became

available, but went ahead

with the policy because of a

not been forthcoming, and

"That clarity has obviously

lack of information.

for Childhood

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WEDNESDAY, OCTOBER 16, 2019 | THE WESTERN FRONT

"We have this significant population that we can potentially influence [to practice] more healthy behaviors," Sullivan said.

The plan for changing the policy is early in devel-

doesn't look likely to come anytime soon," Dunn said. "When President Randhawa and Vice President for Enrollment and Student Services Melynda Huskey met with Blue Group students last year, the students expressed concerns that the University didn't have a permanent policy in place, and so it was decided that the interim policy should be made permanent and revised if and when necessary."

Student Outreach Services and Lending Library

The policy also requires Western to make students aware of the resources offered on campus. It links to the Western website's undocumented students resource page which further outlines what resources are available to undocumented and mixed-status students. These resources are a mix of student-run programs and assistance from Western's administration.

"I would say we support students in many different capacities, the main [capacity] just being a network of other undocumented students," Ramirez said. "Sometimes freshmen come to campus, and they haven't revealed their status to anyone, or they don't feel comfortable coming out as undocumented or even being with other undocumented people, so [we are] providing that support network in their personal lives."

Ramirez said Blue Group also receives support from faculty on campus who are willing to attend their meetings and events, but the group is driven by students. Newer resources were also created, including the Blue

opment, but Cocke said information will be shared on campus as it becomes available.

"As soon as we get something concretely to start reporting out, then we can start providing information," Cocke said.

Resource Center (BRC), which was approved by the Associated Students in spring 2019 and opened fall quarter. The BRC is located in the Multicultural Center and is another resource intended to advocate for undocumented students and provide education, according to the BRC proposal.

Student Outreach Services provides staff resources as well. The Ally Directory provides students with a list of staff and faculty committed to supporting undocumented students. These faculty members also often work with the Blue Group to support their events and meetings.

"Most of the people on [the Ally Directory] have always supported Blue Group, for years, and most of our members have gotten to know them," Ramirez said. "They do what we ask them to... Like if we ask them to come out to our events, or get the word out to other faculty [and] sending emails of support.'

In addition, Western financial offers some assistance to undocumented and mixed-status students through programs including the "We Share The Dream" lending library. The lending library helps students access required textbooks that may be a financial burden, according to the Student Outreach Services website.

Information about Blue Group can be found on the Western Washington University Blue Group Facebook page and on their Instagram profile, @ wwubluegroup.

More information about how to apply for the lending library and who is qualified to use it is available on the Student Outreach Services website.

Noah Harper THE WESTERN FRONT

The night of the fire, Ariel de Anda and his roommates, Brock Diehl and Maxwell Leidig, were at home relaxing and doing homework like any other night. The power had been going in and out earlier that day, so their other two housemates, Mickey Brooks and Trev Govero, were gone for the night. De Anda, who had fallen asleep reading a textbook, woke up to the smell of smoke outside his door.

"You know I really do believe I would've just been a burnt corpse on that bed if it were another five, 10 minutes," said de Anda. "I am just eternally thankful that everybody got out unscathed."

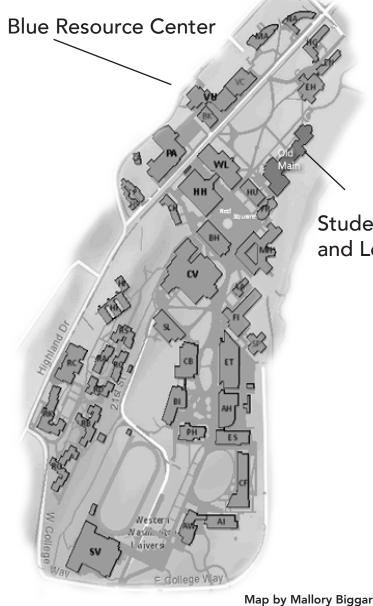
At 5:45 a.m., the Bellingham Fire Department received a call of a house fire in the Columbia neighborhood on Utter Street. The fire department sent three fire engines, a paramedic unit and two supervisor trucks to the scene, Captain Dave Pethick said. By 6:40 a.m., all occupants of the house were cleared, and the fire was extinguished.

"I really do think it was the smell of smoke that woke me up because the fire alarms didn't go off," de Anda explained. "[Brock and] I both kinda did this thing where we woke up for like half a second thought we may have smelled smoke then we just went right back to sleep and all of a sudden we both shot up out of bed, opened up our room doors and smoke just flooded into our rooms.

The entire house was damaged in some way by water, fire or smoke. But when de Anda was allowed to go back inside, he was horrified to find what was left in his fire-scarred bedroom. Most of what de Anda

once owned was reduced to smoldering, crumbling piles of ash. All the collected vinyl were melted, warped beyond





students participating in exchange programs on campus do not have the same protections. International Student and Scholar Services works with the Student Exchange and Visitor Information System, which is allowed to respond to ICE requests for "directory information or SEVIS data regarding WWU international students in F or J visa status," according to the policy.

Prior to the policy, an

\$3,000 raised for students displaced by fire

A GoFundMe account was posted for the five Western students, whose house burned

use. All the art collected over the last decade erasedclothes, books, pictures, posters: all gone.

"The biggest loss for me is that I have been collecting art since I was a child," de Anda said," I had well over 200 pieces of art all over the house, and I had hundreds more waiting to be put up that were just in a bag in my room.

Mickey Brooks, who was away for the night, was optimistic about his room's condition because it was downstairs and furthest from the fire. What he found, however, was the fire had started directly above his room, carving a hole in the ceiling allowing ash, insulation and water to pour

in "It was permanently stained and buried under rubble," Brooks said, "You could see through the house. through my room through the hole in my ceiling, through the hole in the roof to the sky."

After Brooks ensured that all his friends were safe. his first thought was about the watch his dad gave him after graduating high school. Brooks had left the watch in his room that night, and while covered in dust and debris, it was salvageable. "I was like, 'Oh God. I want

to find that, cause it probably made it," Brooks said. After sifting through the

bits of ceiling and rubble, Brooks found his watch intact.

Since the fire, more than \$3,000 dollars have been raised by different communities across Washington State. The raised through monev gofundme.com, as well as donations from neighbors, friends and family, have helped get the boys some solid ground. The boys were filled with hope when they saw how the community banded together to support them, de Anda said.

Lily Gondry, a fellow Western student and Brooks'



Housemates (left to right) Maxwell Leidig, Mickey Brooks, Ariel de Anda, Trey Govero and Brock Diehl on Sunday, Oct. 13. // Photo by Alina Simone

girlfriend, started the GoFundMe the day of the fire

"I got the idea because an old friend of mine actually created one when they lost their house," Gondry said, "I know that I personally don't have a lot of money to donate, and I know that a lot of other college kids are in the same boat, but if everybody could just pull their money together, it might be a good idea

Once the GoFundMe was all set up, Gondry took to social media to spread the word to anyone she could over Instagram, Facebook and Snapchat. While they hoped something would come of it, Gondry and the boys did not expect the outpouring of support they received online.

"I originally thought we'd maybe get 500 bucks, and then I was like, 'Hey, that way they'll have like a hundred bucks to split, you know, that's not bad," Gondry said. "Then we went to a thousand and then we got to like 2,000 and then it was 3,000, and it

was crazy." unfortunate The circumstances of the situation brought the whole Columbia neighborhood community together with neighbors, friends and family all chipping in a little.

"The most incredible thing to come out of this is that we have gotten an insane amount of support from our friends and our family and our neighbors, which we hardly even knew," de Anda said. "We got a call from the red cross, and they gave us supplies, like basic stuff, toothbrush, hair, hairbrush, smoke wash to try to get carcinogens and smoke out of our clothes."

Columbia Elementary, the school directly across from the house fire, also got involved with the help effort, giving items that could not be donated through the GoFundMe.

"Our next-door neighbor is a kindergarten teacher at the school that was literally directly in front of our house. Teachers got together and all brought in a bunch of

donations like clothes, pans, cutting boards, new towels. They really did an amazing job, and we just can't believe all of the support. It's honestly been overwhelming," de Anda said.

On Tuesday, Oct. 8, the boys moved into their new place on Garden Street putting the fire behind them and attempting to move forward with their lives. De Anda, who had to drop a few classes after missing almost a full week of class, is using his newfound free time to focus on his music with his two bands.

"The only thing I want is just to go back to focusing my energy on music. I really do think that's going to help me right now," de Anda said. "I'm working on a couple of albums, so there's still stuff to do, and I can keep [being] productive. The biggest thing for all of us is supporting everybody in the house because everybody's going to go through a different grieving process through



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Whatcom County Council hears debate on restrictive 'No Shooting' ordinance

Hunters who rely on bird game to feed their families express their disapproval

Garrett Rahn THE WESTERN FRONT

The Whatcom County introduced an Council ordinance "to establish a no shooting zone in the Drayton Harbor Area of Whatcom County" during the council meeting on Oct. 8.

The ordinance, AB2019-472, would amend Whatcom County Code 9.32, Unlawful Discharge of Firearms. Drayton Harbor, which lies just outside of the city of Blaine, was subject to rapid urbanization within the last decade, and the citizens living there now are concerned that waterfowl hunting in the area is a threat to public safety.

A petition, signed by approximately 60 residents of the area, is what started the ordinance, according to Blaine City Manager Michael Jones. Supporters of the change, such as Blaine Mayor Bonnie Onyon, voiced their concerns around the frequency of police calls to gunshots and trespassing in the area, noise complaints from early hours of the morning to late at night and fears of injury to citizens or property.

"It's a very difficult thing to police," Onyon said. However, a slew of hunters, a Washington Department of Fish & Wildlife officer and members of local Coast Salish tribes came to plead that the

ordinance be rejected or to point out inaccuracies in Swinomish tribe spoke about the historical and ceremonial significance of the black duck hunting in the area.

An overwhelming tone in message from the hunters was the lack of understanding and acceptance they felt from people who had moved into came to speak on the matter, council member Todd Donovan moved to push the issue to the committee of the whole to be voted on instead in four weeks. The motion passed unanimously. After that, the council breezed through the rest of

"The citizen petition that began this effort is flawed and based on ignorance and anti-hunting sentiment rather than fact."

Matt Berry

Treasurer for the Whatcom Chapter of the Washington Waterfowl Association.

their areas of expertise.

Hunters told stories of how they rely on the birds they shoot as their primary source of food for their families. Members of the Washington Waterfowl Association spoke possible repercussions of not grooming the duck population. A member of the

the area recently. "The citizen petition that began this effort is flawed and based on ignorance and antihunting sentiment rather than fact," said Matt Berry, treasurer for the Whatcom Chapter of the Washington

Waterfowl Association. After hearing from all who the meeting. The remaining public hearing items and all of the consent agenda items passed, the most significant of which being a request for authorization "for the county executive to enter into an interlocal agreement between Whatcom County and Washington State Health

Care Authority for substance use prevention services in high-need communities, in the amount of \$577,550.'

The agreement would fund programs around the county for intervening in the misuse of drugs and alcohol, suicide prevention and mental health awareness until 2021.

This motion passed six to one, with council member Tyler Byrd voting nay. Byrd took issue with the wording of the proposal, specifically the definition of "health equity." This specific request was for the most money, with the second closest at \$174,881, giving it a higher expectation for scrutiny.

In the Open Public Hearing, a HomesNOW! volunteer went to the podium to inform the community that, despite the recent budgetary scandal, the Unity Village project went off without a hitch and was thriving. A number of people used this time to voice opinions on the recent ordinance involving an enforced 300 meter nowake zone surrounding the shore of Lake Samish.

The council meets again Oct. 22 at the Whatcom County Courthouse at 7 p.m..

Noah Harper THE WESTERN FRONT

Over 25 people voiced their concerns on the fate of the HomesNOW! Unity Village project in Fairhaven, during the Bellingham City Council meeting Tuesday, Oct. 7.

Marcus Dee, program director for HomesNOW!, came to the meeting in hopes of rebuilding relationships with the city after recent shake-ups following the accusations that former board President Jim Peterson misspent \$8,000 of funds.

"We are here tonight, I am here tonight to try to normalize relationships with the city," Dee said. "One thing I think we should all prepare ourselves for is we are going to try to petition the city to extend our stay [in] Fairhaven."

Unity Village residents echoed the goal of extending the lease of Unity Village for another year.

"I've heard a lot of fear, given light of what's happened with some of the staff recently. I just want to remind you or urge you that this isn't a time for fear this is a time to be bold,"

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Community voices come together

October's first City Council meeting draws attention to Unity Village project, Arne Hanna/YMCA

said Criss Clemens, a Unity Village resident.

"It was really bold for Doug to confront the president and vice president of HomesNOW!, it was bold for us to keep running our little tiny home village, and it's insanely bold for us to ask you to extend our contract. Let us stay at this current site for another year. Let us get over this blow that we recently suffered. Give us a chance to get settled enough and find where we are going to go next."

HomesNOW! Unity Village permit allows them to stay on 210 Mackenzie Ave. in Fairhaven for another year with the possibility of extension. Unity Village has been open for one month, as they cut the ribbon on Sept. 14. They do not normally ask for an extension so early in the life cycle, said council member Michael Lilliquist.

"The most difficult part is the fact that in discussion with the community and the neighborhood our intention would be to not renew [the permits]. In order to extend their permitted use of the property, in my mind, we really want to go back and talk to the community,'

Lilliquist said.

Legally speaking, the city council does have the authority to extend the lease of land for Unity Village, but Lilliquist believes it's not entirely up to the council to decide this. Unity Village should also have its opinion heard, Lilliquist said.

The council did not vote on any extensions during the course of the meeting.

Another topic discussed at the meeting was the possible collaboration between the YMCA and public pool Arne Hanna

The collaboration involves the Bellingham YMCA attempting to move their pool operations out from their current facility and into the Arne Hanna property. The YMCA would have to lease out the space from the city and offer to oversee the management of Arne Hanna, Lilliquist said. The longterm plan is for the YMCA to expand the pool potential Bellingham, adding of more spaces for swimming activities.

Concerns were raised about the YMCA's ability to keep the competitive swimming community alive if they took over operations

"It was really bold for Doug to confront the president and vice president of HomesNOW! ... it was bold for us to keep running our little tiny home village, and its insanely bold for us to ask you to extend our contract.."

Criss Clemens Unity Village resident

of Arne Hanna.

"Arne Hanna is a vital part in the competitive swimming community," said community member Cassandra Reid. "If the YMCA took over the pool there would not be competitive swimming because the pool would be too hot.".

Community concerns are also from the YMCA's short-term plan. The plan involves the YMCA closing their own pool and adding four recreational warmwater lanes in an already overcrowded facility, said master swimmer Brad Jones. Arne Hanna currently hosts swim practice for all the high school teams, Bellingham Bay Swim Team and the Masters Swim Club.

"Every single group that currently uses Arne Hanna is currently maxed out," said Jones. "The Masters group there is often five to six people in a lane in the mornings ... One [high school] team has to go use the YMCA or practice at 8:15 at night."

Swimmers are often injured as to the overcrowded lanes.

"Overcrowded lanes have caused multiple concussions and broken arms just from kids hitting each other," Jones said. "Closing down the pool at the YMCA will be bringing all of their members over and it's going to make it more crowded."

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Grand opening celebrates hard work

After decades of fighting for space, new Multicultural Center makes room for student resources



Juanita Jefferson (left) and Michelle Vendiola (right) share a hug on Thursday, Oct. 10. // Photo by Eva Bryner

Eva Bryner THE WESTERN FRONT

The Multicultural Center held its grand opening Thursday, Oct. 10, to celebrate the new space and acknowledge the work done by students and faculty to have it.

The MCC will home of many the new student resources, like the Ethnic Student Center, Students and Associated Advocacy Identity and Centers which Resource include Disability Outreach Center and Blue Group, a resource for undocumented students.

"As students, our vision for the demand of this new space was for the ESC to be anywhere but the basement," said Abigail Ramos, Western alumna and former AS vice president for diversity.

Construction of the center began in February 2018, but the fight for a space for the ESC has spanned decades.

"They [students] vocalized year after year, that if it wasn't for the ESC, they wouldn't have graduated and if it wasn't for the ESC they would have left Western after their first quarter," said Michelle Vendiola, Western alumna and former Native American Student Union member.

Students, including Ramos, voted in 2016 for the construction of the building and on how to pay for associated costs, according to Western Today.

Construction of the building cost \$20 million. Sixty-seven percent of that



AS VP Yesugen Battsengel and Dean for Student Engagement Eric Alexander giving their introductory speeches at the Multicultural Center opening ceremony on Thursday, Oct. 10. // Photo by Claire Ott

ESC students displayed forced the planning committee to do better. They did not just move up one floor, but spearheaded to create their own floor," said Nate Panelo, former ESC coordinator.

But Vendiola said the space the MCC now stands upon has always been occupied.

"The college of ethnic studies was right where you are standing ... so even though we have a new space, you're standing on the ground that was already there, that people had before and struggled to get," Vendiola said. Established in 1969, the

College of Ethnic Studies was created alongside Huxley College of the Environment

College of Ethnic Studies at Western Washington University: A Case Study," by Maurice L. Brian Jr.

Current students are organizing to re-invigorate the CES at Western through the Students for Ethnic Studies Coalition.

"Ethnic studies is not just one person, it's the interconnection of all ... it's everyone," said Martha Jeanice, co-chair of the Students for Ethnic Studies Coalition.

The SESC names one of their goals as creating and maintaining a support system for students and faculty of color, according to their first meeting on Oct. 2.

Out of the 16,121 students

"We barely had any people of color on campus, it really felt like that," Vendiola said, "So whenever we saw any other brown or black people, we were like, 'Hey, I see you! Where are you going? Let's go over there to Old Main, I think they have a multicultural center."

The list of goals for Western was created after pressure from students during a sit-in at the president's office in the fall of 2018.

"We must be relentlessly personal in the consequences that words and deeds have on people's lives. This is a shared work for which we all must take responsibility," Western President Sabah Randhawa said.

Among the timeline of projects to advance diversity, equity and inclusion is the expansion of ethnic studies curriculum and hiring a director of Multicultural Student Services, according to the Diversity, Equity & Inclusion website. Both goals were set to be accomplished by winter or spring of 2019, but have yet to be

implemented. "If the university does not engage in consistent, active conversations about what comes after this expansion ... the multicultural center will just be a space, and history will repeat itself," Ramos said

The space the ESC holds in the MCC is approximately four times larger than their previous location on the fourth floor of the Viking Union, according to Western Today.

"I want your place and identity in the spaces you occupy, not just in the MCC but all over. Recognize how you can use your privileges to advocate for those who are marginalized," said Yesugen Battsengel, AS vice president for diversity.

As students, faculty and community members flooded the stairs and filled the space of the MCC, Vindiola tearfully gave her final words of advice. "For those of you who go

up against the system and get knocked down, don't give up," Vindiola said. "In the long run, we don't do what's necessary for ourselves, we do it for those who come after 11S.

Nine justices spend time on campus deliberating, questioning, connecting

Nolan Baker THE WESTERN FRONT

Library The Wilson reading room, known colloquially as "the Harry Potter room," is normally a dead silent place for students to work diligently under the beautiful natural light coming in through stained glass windows. Throughout the day, the cacophonous hall only makes a few peeps from creaky chairs and the slight clacking of keyboards.

On Wednesday, Oct. 9 and Thursday, Oct. 10, the reading room lookedand sounded-completely different. The heavy oak desks were nowhere to be found. The creaky chairs were sectioned off into neat rows. It transformed into the highest court in the state of Washington.

The Washington Supreme Court convened at Western on Thursday morning to hear oral arguments from attorneys on three separate cases.

The first case was State of Washington v. Keith Adair Davis and was held at 9 a.m. The audience summarized the case with questions such as, "Can a physically present defendant be found 'absent'? What must courts consider before removing disruptive defendants?"

The second case in the 10 a.m. slot involved a man who was refused a position at a church in Seattle because of his identity as a gay man, Matt Woods v. Seattle's Union Gospel Mission.

The final case, presented at 1:30 p.m., was Jessica v. State of Wrigley Washington; Department of Social & Health Services; et al.. Documents available at the argument described as, "Did DSHS have a duty to investigate a mother's 'report' of future child abuse by her child's father?"

Each case was argued by attorneys representing both



State supreme court visits campus

state



Steven Gonzalez (left), Mary Yu (center) and Debra Stephens (right) at the Supreme Court Justice panel on Wednesday, Oct. 9. //Photo by Claire Ott

parties, who were constantly and rigorously questioned by the seasoned justices.

Three times a year, the Court goes to different locations around Washington to connect with citizens, answer questions and hear cases in front of a public audience.

The Court has three separate four-month sessions every year, and in each session they hear an average of 45 cases, according to brochures available at the events. The "travelling court" appearances are used as a way to connect with the citizenry and lift the curtain on how the most influential court in the state goes about their business.

"It's an opportunity, said Becca Kenna-Schenk the executive director of government relations for Western. "Just to see, literally see and hear, what deliberations of the Supreme Court look and feel and sound like.

The last time the state Supreme Court visited Western's campus was Oct. 16, 2003. Since then, the roster has changed considerably, with justices Debra Stephens, Charles Wiggins, Steven Gonzalez, Sheryl Gordon-McCloud and Mary Yu joining the bench.

According to Kenna-Schenk, Western President Sabah Randhawa submitted a formal invitation to the Court last year, and in the spring they received notice that their invitation had been accepted. "We were thrilled and

Rukhsar Sadat, a third year student, asking the Washington State Supreme Court a question at the panel on Wednesday, Oct. 9 // Photo by Claire Ott

"It's wonderful how you can see what the justices are doing. If anything, it shows that the justices are just ordinary people."

Paul Chen Associate professor

honored that the court accepted our invitation," Kenna-Schenk said.

Along with holding three oral arguments on campus Thursday, the justices also visited political science classes taught by professors Kate Destler, Paul Chen, Vicki Hsueh and Todd Donovan. On Wednesday, they attended lunch with a group of 50 students to chat about their own college experiences and what led them to careers in law.

Chen's "Civil Rights and Civil Liberties" and "Intro to Law and Legal Systems" classes had the honor of hosting some of the justices.

"It's wonderful how you can see what the justices are doing," Chen said. "If anything, it shows that the justices are just ordinary people."

Chen also moderated the first panel discussion titled "Judicial Role in Democracy," which featured justices Susan Owens, Debra Stephens, Steven Gonzalez and Mary Yu.

Yu is the newest member of the Supreme Court as of 2014. She is the first LGBTQ+ justice, the first Asian-American justice and the first Latina justice.

"It's not the person who

shouts the loudest that wins in our world," Yu said during the panel. "It's not the person that gets the last tweet out."

In a brief statement to the Court before oral arguments began Thursday morning, President Randhawa said, "We are truly honored to have the opportunity to host the court this year and we hope you enjoy your visit."

President Randhawa understood the impact a visit from the state Supreme Court can have on the student body.

"For our students, faculty and staff to engage directly with you and see the court in action is a wonderful educational experience that I'm sure they will carry with them for years to come," Randhawa said.

Chief Justice Marv Fairhurst said it was her second time coming to Western with travelling court.

"We've been really treated so hospitably, and we have so greatly enjoyed our visit," she said before oral arguments began.

"I regret I won't be returning with travelling court." Chief Justice Fairhurst said. "But with a niece who was a graduate, I assure [you] I'll be back to visit."

Western alumni fight to end sexual, *domestic violence through jewelry business*

MacKenzie Dexter THE WESTERN FRONT

Polished silver and gold jewelry laid throughout All Peoples Shackles Exchanged (APSE) catching the afternoon light and the eyes of bypassers. Hayley Boyd and Jarod Faw, Western alumni, sit inside their downtown shop inspecting and creating while pieces warmly welcoming customers.

October National is Violence Domestic Awareness Month, but the local Bellingham jewelry shop works to end sexual and domestic violence through their business everyday. Every piece of jewelry sold sends 10% of its profits to three Domestic organizations: Violence and Sexual Assault Services (DVSAS), Fight the New Drug and A21.

APSE offers jewelry that gives the feel of classic and quality with a homemade touch. While their jewelry brought attention and new collections since they opened at their downtown location two years ago, Boyd and Faw pride their business on integrating charities that help educate people about sexual and domestic assault as well as working towards ending it.

"We realized that [by] making products and doing wearable things, we could also impact people outside of the art world," Boyd said

About a year after Boyd and Faw graduated from the fine arts program at Western, they got married and left their jobs to pursue their own business and explore their creativity. Boyd said when she was a student at Western she would repurpose and redesign discarded items she bought from thrift stores into wearable items. This led to the inspiration behind APSE, wearable and unique quality jewelry.

"It was kind of cool to have this revelation of what a business can be and that it can be really artistic and also really stand for something and have a lot of integrity and impact," Boyd said.

Boyd and Faw both have a passion for social justice,



Hayley Boyd and Jarod Faw, owners of APSE, pose for a photo in their shop on Sept. 30. // Photo by MacKenzie Dexter

which influenced their decision to integrate charities into their business. While each charity is different. they all want to educate and prevent sexual violence. Ten percent of the profit made from a piece of jewelry is split between the three organizations, Boyd said.

"Whether it's a general fear people have or a trauma or what is perpetuating it, it was just something our hearts really broke for," Boyd said.

DVSAS is a local nonprofit organization located in Bellingham that offers free services to survivors of sexual assault, domestic violence and sexual exploitation, according to Amber Icay-Creelman, 24-hour service manager of DVSAS. Services, such as support, medical help, shelter and support groups, are available to all those who need it, Icay-Creelman said. Volunteer positions for DVSAS are also available along with events that help the DVSAS continue

their work.

"DVSAS is always looking for volunteer advocacy counselors, front office volunteers and event volunteers," said Jessica Heck, development director at DVSAS.

Heck also said a great way to support the DVSAS is by listening to and believing survivors of sexual and domestic violence.

"They have so many volunteers, so people know and are willing to join in on that cause too," Faw said.

"It was kind of cool to have this revelation of what a business can be and that it can be really artistic and also really stand for something and have a lot of integrity and impact,"

Hayley Boyd Co-Owner of APSE

According to Boyd and Faw, APSE and DVSAS have collaborated in the past to create two necklaces. They are engraved with the yucca flower and the yucca moth to symbolize the relationship between the two.

"At first, it was my hope that I could source some ideas and inspiration from their support groups, however, the reality of collaborating on a piece of jewelry presented itself to be a little abstract" Boyd said. "I took to my own inspiration, created these necklaces and the story of security behind them, sent the samples back to the support groups to review, and they loved them."

According to Faw, 50% of proceeds from the engraved yucca flower and yucca moth necklaces go to DVSAS.

how pornography has been scientifically proven to affect our mental of societal health A21 is an international organization that works to bring attention to sex trafficking. According to Faw, A21 not only rescues individuals from unsafe and exploitational situations, but they also prepare and educate people after they have escaped their unsafe situations.

APSE also did

collaboration with Fight

the New Drug, a national

organization that educates

people on the science behind

how pornography impacts

"In many of their

campaigns, they use the

ASL sign for 'I love you'

as a statement that love

conquers all, and I thought

it was the perfect piece to

introduce," Boyd said. "And

again, 50% of the proceeds

goes directly to educating

the next generations about

mental and social health.

According to Boyd, the financial support helps nonprofits work to educate and rehabilitate individuals directly involved in the cycle of abuse.

and Faw also Boyd how the discussed Bellingham community encourages them to continue their vision and creativity. Since the lease on their

current location is almost up, Boyd and Faw considered leaving Bellingham, however, they learned that community members appreciate their business and are loyal to them

In a recent survey they sent out, Boyd said one of the top three reasons people purchase from their brand was because of the percentage of profits that go towards ending sexual violence.

"It is the final clicker for a lot of people," Boyd said. Boyd said business is about serving people and doing what is in the customer's best interest

"I think there are a lot of creatives in Bellingham seeking out other creatives, so we felt like Bellingham is worth investing in," Faw said. "We never run out of people we can meet and that we can be in community with.'

Even while Boyd and Faw considered leaving Bellingham for a bigger city, they realized that creativity is in their control here. "No matter where we are,

we can travel, we can go get inspired, we can leave, but there's something really special about being in a town that needs this kind of thing, Boyd said.

After their lease is up at their downtown location, they plan on moving into a new Bellingham location and expanding their team. According to Boyd and Faw, the main focus of the shop will be their jewelry, with the occasional pop-ups from other local artists.

"It's our hope that the pieces our customers walk away with build them in the truth of who they are, what they deserve and prevent them from ever doubting it." Boyd said.

Hear from the students

What do you think of Western recognizing Indigenous People's Day in place of Columbus Day?



Liam Hanson Geography

"I'm definitely in support of it, seeing as Western and Bellingham are built on Indigenous lands that aren't ours and never have been and never will be. I think we should totally recognize it and push for it and see if we can change recognition of who was here and why we're here."

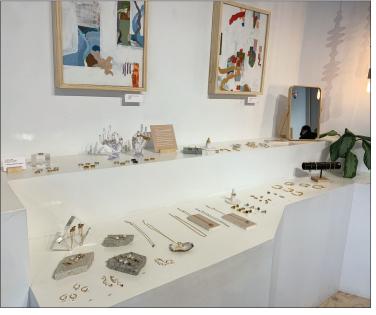
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Jewelry on display at APSE, located downtown, on Sept. 30. // Photo by MacKenzie Dexter

"To be completely honest, I don't think Western is doing that much for it. They've posted about it, but l haven't seen much about any events or speakers coming up to talk about it. I think they can definitely do more about promoting it and making people aware of what conditions Indigenous people have gone through. I definitely think they need to do more.'







Leo Spencer Geology/Design

"I think it's good. They should be doing as much as they can to get more involvement, like maybe putting up posters and promoting events. I haven't heard much buzz about it at all."

"Ithink it's important to recognize the colonization of the Americas by Europe was not peaceful and not really something to celebrate, and it's important to recognize that there were a lot of really heinous crimes committed then. But I think also having a day to recognize Indigenous peoples on a day that's so painful for so many of them may be difficult for some people as well."

Ana Stoumbos Human Services





Ellen Golden Spanish/Linguistics

"I think it's really important, especially considering we are on Native land, to recognize the people that were taken advantage of and exploited in times that others benefited from it. I don't think that benefactors should be the only people recognized in history."

Compiled by Cambrie Williams

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PORT OF BELLINGHAM COMMISSIONER, DISTRICT 3 Briscoe



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12 | OPINION

Who's a woman that inspires you?



Casey Auberle Undeclared

"My mom. There are so many powerful women but on a personal level, my mom.



Maria Avila Financial Economics

"Michelle Obama. She's an intelligent woman and really successful in her career and family."



Stella Ferrulli Secondary Education

"Joan Jett, the first female punk rocker. She's a badass and the first person in the music industry to go hard, which applies to everything in



Alison Poppe Journalism

"Ruth Bader Ginsburg. It seems like she's fighting a different disease all the time, but [she] still persists and fights for what she believes in and what she thinks this country is about."



Alea Von Hagel Behavioral Neuroscience

"Alice Paul, a leader of the second wave of feminism. She was committed to the psych ward where she declared a hunger strike and was force fed egg whites through a tube. A reporter got a hold of this and the movement took off."

Female bodies are not a free-for-all Grabbing strangers is never okay

2019 is coming to an end and it is time for men to stop touching female bodies without consent. Most of movie, television and

literature history have presented women as helpless without a man or just overall in desperate need of guidance. But it's not 1940 anymore and Scarlett O'Hara has long since been gone. Women do not need to be groped and coddled.

They never have.

In the aftermath of the #metoo and #timesup movements, the conversations surrounding consent in the bedroom are still relevant and necessary, but what about conversations regarding "harmless" hip grabbing, shoulder touching and lower back guiding from strangers in public spaces?

You know those really unfortunate situations in bars. clubs, concerts or any other busy spaces of a similar vein, where certain men feel the need to touch the body of the woman he is walking past? Most women have been there, most don't say anything about it, but most probably want it to end.

It's an uncomfortable thing, making a seemingly "big deal" out of

GUEST EDITORIAL

old teammate once remarked to me,

bemoaning the rigorous Olympic

weightlifting regimen that has thickened

the glutes, quads and hamstrings of ski

At the time, I wrote off her

internalized misogyny as some flaw that

I had managed to overcome. I relished

the power trip of locking eyes with a

bug-eyed, 30-something male at the

gym before racking up his body weight

and squatting it for my warm-up. I

swore that my athletic victories soothed

desire pushed on women to be toned,

yet supple enough for molestation by

the male gaze. I sang the praises of

feminist ideals in athletics, and I was a

After post-workout showers, I stood

in the bathroom mirror and looked at

myself until I was satisfied with my self-

loathing. Measuring in at 5 feet, 3 inches

and 140 pounds of muscle, agility and

athletic success never looked the way it

did in fitness magazines. Those women

were toned. Their muscles were quiet

and slipped demurely into running

I went jean shopping before the

jeggings craze, and the pit of my self-

loathing only deepened. My thighs

were the widest part of my body and

I routinely sized up, settling for a fist-

width of loose fabric in the waist just to

get them on. Anything with sleeves was

out of the question. With my biceps,

shorts as easily as evening gowns.

racers for generations.

hypocrite.

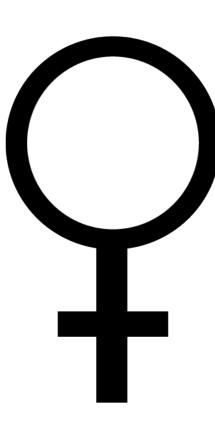


Illustration by Emily Erskine

situations like that, but why should it be? Nobody has the right to touch another person without permission. A study conducted by Oxford University and Finland's Aalto

The Western Front Editorial Board is composed of Emily Erskine, Audra Anderson and Ian Haupt

What it means to be fit and feminist

was and continues to masquerade as

utilitarian fashion-- busted at the seams

It's the word fitness, and its

disassociation from functional fitness,

that haunted me as a teen female athlete-and still does. I would furiously

comb through pictures of female

professional ski racers, looking for this

warped idea of an aesthetic reward to

look forward to. Disappointment came

"To be fit is to have the

you love to your own personal

satisfaction, not to squeeze

yourself into an arbitrary mold

of someone else's design."

"I don't want to be too bulky," an even the women's flannel-- which

every time.

University in 2015 found that the majority of women said the only part of their body they were comfortable with male strangers touching is their hands.

Inappropriate public physical touch needs to be talked about more.

In a world of independent women in the workplace and more overall autonomy for females and their bodies in general, more conversations should be had about boundaries.

Yes, not only women experience this sort of harassment, men, transgender and non-binary folks do too, and everyone feels they should "let it go." But it's almost 2020, and we should leave touching strangers behind and please, don't let it go.

Want to submit a letter to the editor or a guest editorial? Email us at:

> westernfront. opinion@ gmail.com

Tyreke Wilbanks THE WESTERN FRONT

Western's baseball team held tryouts over the weekend of Oct. 12 and 13, leaving players and coaches hopeful for the spring season.

"Looking at the new talent and the old talent, I'm excited to see how everyone comes together," junior head coach Jack Hudd said.

The team realize some of the obstacles they faced last season. Hudd said the team had a few losses that affected the attitude of the team, which impacted their playing. This season they will be focusing on ways they can combat those negative thoughts that creep in after a loss by trying to stay positive, have fun and work together as a team.

"It will be best for us to play one game at a time," senior left fielder Cam Ferreira said. "It's important for us to have quality wins and quality losses and to learn from each game to take into the next game." While talking with players

and coaches, they each had their own personal idea of what success looks like for the team and individually. At the end of the day, they all agree on what success is going to



- * Pet Friendly!
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swiftly. In place of sharpened abs, they had a barrel of muscle and no dainty curvature in sight. It should have been enough for me that our muscles allowed us to push against the strictest laws of physics, to do what so many have claimed to be impossible, but it wasn't.

Maybe if it was just the silly comments from adolescent peers-- I once heard a boy at a competition claim he'd never date a girl who squatted more than him-- or the pseudo-fitness pedaled by lifestyle magazines, we might have had an easier time brushing it off. No matter how well you prove yourself against the metric of athletic

success, be it the Olympics, the World Cup or Wimbledon, there will be droves of mediocre men waiting to critique your body composition online.

If we fail to change the unreasonable expectations placed on female athletes at the highest levels of competition, what hope do we have for the little girl on the playground whose thighs are already "too big," who is already inspiring the scorn of boys who put her down because they can't beat her, and who is already tempted to trade her strength for unattainable standards of the sting of being "bulky." I denied the physical means to do the things beauty?

I'm beginning to push back against the façade of ideas surrounding fitness, and not just for the sake of letting female athletes be athletes. The barbs of aesthetic fitness hurt everyone. I've been in circles of athletes belittling fat people who are equally undeserving of armchair critiques of body composition. Nobody can ever "look" fit, because true, equitable fitness is born from functionality, not appearance.

I'm advocating for a utilitarian rebrand of fitness, one that serves our passions and not our patriarchal, Eurocentric ideals of what the human form should be. To be fit is to have the physical means to do the things you love to your own personal satisfaction, not to squeeze yourself into an arbitrary mold of someone else's design.

- Hannah Bodily, Design and Creative Writing student

SPORTS | 13 Western baseball gears up for spring Vikings set new goals for the upcoming season as fall workouts begin

look like: working together as a unit and having fun with the game.

"Success looks like everyone doing their job and having fun," Ferreira said

Success looks different for each player. They want to win, but mostly they want to enjoy the game. To be successful, players want to take it game by game, avoid looking too far into the future and stay in the present.

"Try to get better each day and improve as a player, both physically and mentally," junior third baseman Keoni Terrana said. "Try to get loose, play happy and have fun with the game.

"It will be best for us to play one game at a time. **Cam Ferreira** Senior

Baseball is a mental game that can have an impact on a player, and it's important to stay loose and have fun with the game. Hudd wants players to do their best but also wants the players to enjoy themselves.

Hudd wants the team to be more involved as a club in the college community. This bonding is what they hope will help them in games and allow

them to really figure out each of their strengths and weaknesses.

"Doing more outside of practice will help the team come together and let us get

to know each other," Ferreira said. "It is also important to learn how everyone plays and that everyone is moving with the same goal."



Keoni Terrana said he wants to improve his physical and mental game for the upcoming season. // Photo courtesy of Debbie Jones.

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Kayleigh Harper blocking out the pressure

Breaking the school record in blocks is only the beginning of promising season for Kayleigh

Conor Wilson THE WESTERN FRONT

During a weekend contest in Portland, Oregon, senior middle Kayleigh Harper said her 10 blocks and 13 kills were not something she thought about as independent of her team's 3-1 victory over Concordia University.

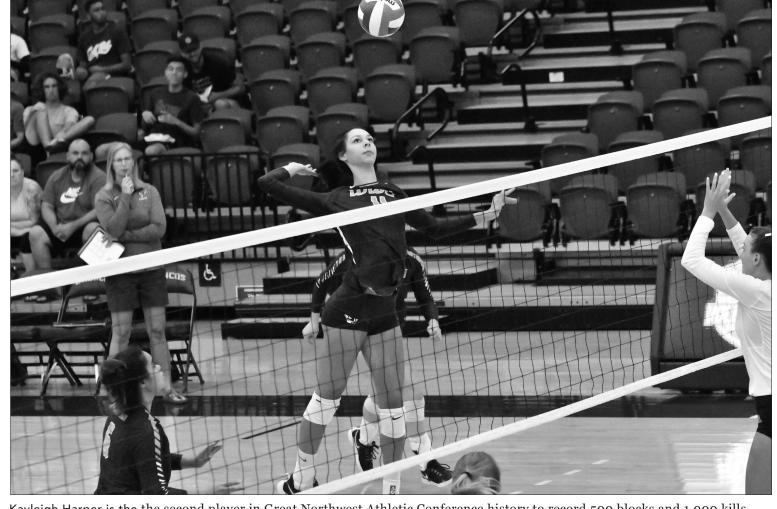
The victory kept the Viking's undefeated season alive and secured their No. 2 national ranking. It also resulted in Harper's schoolrecord breaking 507th career block. Harper also became the second player in Great Northwest Athletic Conference history to record 500 blocks and 1,000 kills during her career.

"It was really fun, and everyone was so congratulatory, but a lot of things lead up to that. It's not just me," Harper said of her record. "In order for me to get kills, I have to have good passes and good sets. So many other players helped me do that."

As one of the teams three seniors, Harper will look to help lead the undefeated but young Vikings team, with nine freshmen on an 18-person roster. A team who, just last season, finished as the runner-up at the NCAA Division II tournament.

Getting back to that stage at this point in the season, however, is not something Harper said she is concerning herself with.

"It's not like hey we're 14o, now we have arrived, because there's a lot more learning to do this year," Harper said. "I would obviously like to [win a championship] and I am going to try as hard as I possibly can, but our motto is win the day. Eventually, if you win everyday, you're going to find yourself there.'



Kayleigh Harper is the the second player in Great Northwest Athletic Conference history to record 500 blocks and 1,000 kills during her career. // Photo courtesy of Western Athletics

Harper has been trying to win the day since her time at Oak Harbor High School where her then-coach Kerri Molito said she could immediately tell that Harper had a competitive attitude and great natural instincts for the

Molito, who is an alumna and former volleyball player at Western, said she often brings her teams to Western's volleyball team camp. This is where Diane Flick-Williams, Western's head volleyball coach, said she met a 14-year-old Harper for the first time.

"I got to see her progress throughout the years and each year she got better," Flick-Williams said. "She had a really good eye work and she had a really great skill set. With each year that we saw her each year we got more and more excited of what she could do here."

For Flick-Williams, Harper's natural tendencies are what stood out the most.

"She just had a nose for the ball," Flick-Williams said. "The one thing that really impressed me was she seemed to always be in a good position to block. She didn't necessarily have a lot of techniques in blocking, but she was always in a good spot and that's really hard to teach.

According to her Western athletics profile, after utilizing a redshirt season in 2014, Harper went on to start all 33 games for the Vikings in 2015, appearing in all 118 sets that season. A year that resulted in the team's second NCAA tournament final four appearance in program history.

"We played in the Elite Eight [that year] against Rockhurst and they had the national player of the year, who was a middle, who was basically going one on one with Kayleigh," Flick-Williams said. "That's not something she shies away from, instead of saying 'oh no the player of the year is over there,' she said, 'oh yes can't wait to show her up.'

According to Western's athletic record books, since Harper's freshman season in 2015, the Western volleyball team has qualified for the NCAA tournament in all

three of her previous seasons, including a runner-up finish in last year's tournament.

Flick-Williams said Harper's ability to play both sides of the ball as well as her calmness under pressure is what contributes to her success.

"I don't think she gets nervous under pressure," Flick-Williams said. "For Kayleigh it's one of those things where she kind of developed a way of if she's struggling on one end, she'd be really good on the other.

With all her success, Harper said everything she has done is because of teammate and friend Brette Boesel.

Boesel and Harper were part of the same recruiting class in 2014. Boesel was the team's setter, playing alongside Harper in her first three seasons, before transitioning to an assistant coaching role this year.

"It has been so cool to watch her actually play and not be right there next to her," Boesel said. "It opens my eyes to everything she actually does in between plays and all her little interactions."

In terms of playing with Harper, Boesel said some of her most entertaining memories are when Harper's competitiveness decides to take over a game.

"She decides like 'hey, we're not losing, give me the ball," Boesel said. "She loves that type of energy, she's always grinding."

According to Boesel, Harper's funny and sarcastic demeanor is one thing that makes her teammates gravitate toward her. Which Boesel notes is important as Harper continues to work

every day to become a better leader for this young team.

"Kayleigh is admired in a lot of different ways and respected in a lot of ways. It's been really cool to have that outside view of her becoming a leader and a good role model," Boesel said. "Our players can learn a lot from what she does.

In terms of a leadership style, Flick-Williams said Harper's straightforward approach is what makes her easy to follow

"Our younger players just love her," Flick-Williams said. "She's realistic. She's very honest. And when you combine those things people know what they're going to get, so it lends itself to consistency. She never really wavers from who she is."

For Flick-Williams, it was no surprise that Harper became as good as she has. But what she is most proud of Harper for, although hard to measure, is how she has grown as a person.

"She has grown into her own. She's become a good teammate. She's become a good leader," Flick-Williams said. "That's different than what you saw when she was initially playing. It was more centered around her, and now she knows how to give to

others.' According to Flick-Williams, what she will remember about Harper is the differences she has seen in her over recent years.

"In the last two years I've seen her smile more on the court and enjoy what she's doing," Flick-Williams said. "That's what I'm remembering about her, how much she's enjoying what she's doing."

Jordan Shepherd THE WESTERN FRONT

The Western men's and women's cross country teams hosted the 46th annual WWU Classic at Sudden Valley Golf Course on Saturday, Oct. 12.

The two teams finished in second place in Saturday's races, trailing behind the No. 1 regionally-ranked and No. 4 nationally-ranked Chico State in both races.

The Vikings women's top five runners finished the day with a score of 88 points and finished just ahead of University of Alaska Anchorage, who finished the day with 93 points.

Junior women's co-captain Jane Barr finished in ninth place and led the women's team with a time of 22:17.5 during the 6-kilometer race.

Sophomore Tovah Swartz-Ireland finished in 21st, while seniors Tracy Melville and Sophia Galvez finished 25th and 26th in the race for the Vikings. The Vikings women's team

entered the Classic ranked fifth regionally and 18th nationally, while finishing ahead of both Seattle Pacific University, No. 2 regionally, No. 7 nationally,



Aundrea Koger runs the WWU Cross Country Classic at the Sudden Valley Golf Course on Saturday, Oct. 12. Aundrea finished the 6 km with a time of 23:04. The women's Western team placed second out of 11 teams. // Photo by Alex Moreno

OCT 24	7:30f
OCT 25	7:30f
OCT 26	2:00
OCT 26	
OCT 30	7:30f
OCT 31	7:30f
NOV 1	7:30f
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Kayleigh Harper // Photo courtesy of Western Athletics

Western XC runs away with top two finshes

Junior Jane Barr finishes in 9th place for the women, while Junior Eric Hamel led the men finishing



The Western men's cross country team starts off the 10 km WWU Cross Country Classic at the Sudden Valley Golf Course on Saturday, Oct. 12. The Western Men's cross country team placed second out of 13 teams. // Photo by Alex Moreno

and UAA, No. 4 regionally, No. 14 nationally. "Honestly, a lot of our girls

didn't feel great today," Barr said. "A lot were kind of sick

and just knowing that we didn't feel 100% and we still got second is pretty great. I felt great today, I didn't realize and kind of kept going and picking girls

off, and I got pretty close to my PR of 22:10 and that's good to know that I'm close to that time this early in the season."

The men finished with a team score of 97 points, while having three runners finish in the top 20 and all five of the scoring runners finishing in the top 26.

Junior Eric Hamel helped lead the Vikings with a 15th place finish and a time of 32:38.1 in the 10-kilometer race.

"It's a beautiful spectator course," Hamel said. "There's fans going everywhere and cheering you on and [it] really gives you that motivation to push and get that next guy in front of you.

Senior Liam Cossette finished in 26th place, senior James Jasperson finished in 27th, junior Edward Kiolbasa finished in 32nd and sophomore Macauley Franks finished in 42nd.

"I thought both teams raced exceptionally well today, working together with a pack mentality and that led to two great second-place finishes," said Western's head coach Pee Wee

"A lot were kind of sick and just knowing that we didn't feel 100% and we still got second is pretty great." **Jane Barr** Co-Captain of the women's team

Halsell. "It was another great WWU Classic that we really enjoyed hosting. Great weather, great competition and great hosts out here at Sudden Valley. Couldn't have asked for a better fall day."

Now that the regular season has crossed the finish line, both teams will focus on the Great Northwest Athletic Conference championships in two weeks at Amend Park in Billings, Montana on Oct. 26.





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Sports Roundup: volleyball dominates SPU

Conor Wilson THE WESTERN FRONT

Women's Golf

The women's golf team continued its impressive start during the Concordia Invitational at the Riverside Golf and Country Club on Oct. 8 in Portland, Oregon. The Vikings took home their second runner-up finish of the season, after a second-place performance to open the year at the True North Classic. Senior Lacy Overstreet led the Vikings, finishing in fourth place, with a score of six-over-par. Junior Megan Billeter followed closely behind in sixth with a score of eightover-par. Western will head to Carlsbad, California on Oct. 21 to continue their season at the West **Region Preview.**

Men's Golf

The No. 23 ranked men's golf team also played at the Concordia Invitational, tying a season best third place team finish. Senior Ethan Casto's one-over-par performance for the two day tournament led to a team best eighth place finish. Redshirt sophomore Aidan Thain and freshman Drew Halili also finished in the top 20, shooting three-over-par and four-over-par respectively. The Vikings' next tournament will take place in Seaside, California, where they will compete in the Otter Invitational.

Women's Soccer

The No. 15 ranked women's soccer team remained undefeat-

ed in Great Northwest Athletic Conference play this week showcasing the team's powerhouse offense. On the road for their first match this week, the Vikings beat the Saint Martin University Saints scoring six goals from six different players. The Vikings opened the score sheet in the 21st minute with senior midfielder Jordyn Bartelson's first goal of the season. Western cemented their victory with three more goals in the next nine minutes. Two more goals followed in the 53rd and 54th minutes to top off the team's 6-0 victory.

The Vikings produced another high-scoring affair defeating rival Western Oregon University 5-0 in Monmouth, Oregon on Saturday, Oct. 12. Apart from an own goal from Western Oregon, the Vikings continued to spread the scoring with all four of their goals coming from different players. Western took the lead in the first minute of the match with a goal by Jenna Killman - her fourth of the season. The Vikings kept up the pressure, putting away three more goals in the first half, before topping off their performance with Karli White's goal in the 85th minute. With the two victories, the Vikings have outscored opponents 24-0 across five games in GNAC play.

Men's Soccer

The men's soccer team remained undefeated after beating Concordia University 2-0 at home Saturday night. The game was their first clean sheet of conference play and improved on their record to 2-O-1. The Vikings took the lead in the 56th minute thanks to a missed trap, owngoal by Concordia's goalkeeper. Senior Ryan Schaefer sealed the match with his team-leading fifth goal of the season in the 67th minute, after dribbling past Concordia's keeper in a one-on-one situation. Western will play SMU on the road Thursday, Oct. 17, at 3 p.m..

Volleyball No. 2 ranked Western vol-

leyball swept Seattle Pacific University Saturday night at Carver Gym, 25-14, 25-8, 25-7. With the victory, the Vikings improve to 16-0 on the season and continue a 36 game home winning streak. Western is currently one of only five undefeated teams in Division II. Sophomore pin-hitter Gabby Gunterman lead the Vikings with an 11 kill, 11 dig evening. Redshirt freshman setter Malia Aleaga provided the passing with 27 assists, as well as leading the team in blocks. The Vikings will face their biggest challenge of conference play thus far, taking on second place University of Alaska Anchorage on the road Thursday, Oct. 17, at Alaska Airline Court.

Softball

The Vikings softball team played four games this weekend to close out their fall preseason, including two against the University of Washington. The last stop for the Vikings is an intersquad game this Saturday before they open regular season play at the Socal Tournament in Irvine, California on January 31.



Tess Biscup sets up a teammate for an offensive maneuver against Saint Martin's University in the Carver Gym on Thursday, Oct. 10. Vikings won the game three sets to zero. // Photo by Alex Moreno



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