

THE WESTERN FRONT

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NASA awards Western \$302,000

Western, partnered with Seattle-based engineering firm, builds toward Mars research

ANA SOLTERO
THE WESTERN FRONT

In early October, NASA revealed it has a contract with Western.

NASA awarded Western and First Mode, a Seattle-based engineering firm, \$302,000 to help build a 3D goniometer that will aid in Mars research.

"A goniometer, in its most general sense, is just any tool that lets you measure precise angles or position things precisely at different angles to each other," said Kathleen Hoza, a systems engineer at First Mode. The simplest example would be a protractor that you use to measure an angle."

Hoza graduated from Western with a masters in geology in summer 2019.

The goniometer will aid in the investigation of what the spectra, the way that light reflects off of surfaces, of rocks is like when viewed at



From left, Kristiana Lapo and Melissa Rice share a conversation near the goniometer at Western on Tuesday, Oct. 29. // Photo by Claire Ott

different angles.

"When you look at rocks that have different textures or different coatings on them, when you look

at them at different times of day, whether the rover is looking straight down, at a rock or looking at a rock out toward the horizon,

the way the light is reflected off of the rock changes," said Melissa Rice, an associate professor in the geology department.

Rice said nobody has done the detailed lab work to figure out how much rock surfaces are

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County Council passes housing fund ordinance

Melody Kazel
THE WESTERN FRONT

A new ordinance from the Whatcom County Council could add more than half a million dollars of funding for supportive and affordable housing every year for the next 20 years.

Supportive and affordable housing is a combination of services, such as rental assistance and affordable housing developments, that are designed to help people who are homeless or at a very low income level attain stable housing.

"This is a great opportunity that the legislature gave us to retain some local sales tax money for affordable housing. I'm looking forward to seeing what we do with it," County Council Member Todd Donovan said.

The fund will bring in about \$650,000 to \$700,000 per year that will last for 20 years, according to Ann Beck, human services supervisor with the Whatcom County Health Department. The county should be able to begin collecting the funds in January, said Beck.

Samya Lutz, housing and services program manager with the City of Bellingham, said what makes this funding different is that it doesn't require the definition of chronic homelessness. When someone struggling with a disabling condition has been homeless for a year or more, or repeatedly, they fall under the definition of chronically homeless,

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Proposed major acceptance policy considers more rigorous admittance qualifications

EVA BRYNER
THE WESTERN FRONT

Want to be a biology major? You might have better luck next year.

A new major acceptance policy is being proposed to come into effect next fall, according to Merrill Peterson, professor and chair of the biology department.

"We're basically at the point where we don't have the space to be able to accommodate the number of students who are trying to take our courses," Peterson said.

In the past decade, the number of biology majors nearly doubled from 381 in spring 2009, to 614 in spring 2019,

according to the rationale accompanying the proposed admissions policy change.

The increasing popularity in biology has created a space problem in classrooms and buildings that reaches far beyond just biology majors and is affecting graduation times of students in kinesiology, pre-health and environmental science, Peterson said.

"Any classes other than the intro 200-level courses are almost impossible to get into until you're a senior," fourth-year biology minor Natalie Calsbeek said. "It kinda sucks for anyone who's trying to get into

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Athletic department attempts to raise attendance, students carry the cost

CONOR WILSON
THE WESTERN FRONT

What is \$5 to a student who is \$10,000 to \$20,000 in debt?

It costs \$5 for a ticket to a single sports game for a student. According to Western's athletic department website, that's only \$3 less than the cost for general admission.

Of the 11 full-time members of the Great Northwest Athletic Conference, only Western charges its students for home games, according to each school's respective athletic department pages.

"Different departments have different business models and a lot of times, universities where it comes off the students don't pay for games, those



Claire Elliott operates the ticket sales booth for a women's soccer match against Simon Fraser University at Harrington Field on Saturday, Oct. 19. // Photo by Alex Moreno

fees are built into their student fees and here those aren't," said Nicole Ebersole, director of marketing and events for Western's athletic department.

According to the Western's student business office website, none of the eight listed

fees associated with student tuition cover game expenses.

Ebersole said she is working on other ways of enticing students to attend games, which she said can be difficult

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Pizza Wizard playing their set at the Halloween Show at the Make.Shift on Saturday, Oct. 26. // Photo by Claire Ott



Illustration by Chloe Halbert

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Corrections:

The wrong pronouns were used for Rudy Yuly in the "Klip-sun magazine celebrates 50 years" story on page 10 of the Oct. 23 issue.

The Karate Church is 130-years-old. It was stated as being 180-years-old in the "Alternative Library asked to vacate Karate Church" story on page 7 of the Oct. 23 issue.

Run, hide, fight: safety in active shooter situations

Jordan Van Beek
THE WESTERN FRONT

With the number of active shooter situations on the rise, it's never a bad idea to know how to respond to an unimaginable circumstance.

Western University Police Chief Darin Rasmussen said there hasn't been an active shooter validated since he began in 2012. However, it's always good to be prepared in any emergency situation, Rasmussen said.

"We do train, and we do plan for these things like any emergency," Rasmussen said. "An act of violence, an active shooter, is going to require a quick response, a thoughtful response and probably coordination with our partners, the Bellingham Police, the sheriff's office employees [and] the Washington State Patrol."

If a situation arises where an active shooter is on campus, Rasmussen recommends people should know the 'run, hide, fight' model.

"If you can run and get away safely, do it," Rasmussen said. "That's probably the best course of action for you and for everybody else. If you can't run and get away safely, then look around and try and hide in quiet. Pull shades down, turn the lights off, sit quiet, silence your phone, things like that. If you're left with no other option, you need to fight."

The university's Emergency Communications website is a tool for students to understand recommendations in emergency situations. The

website includes a Western emergency preparedness video, which gives a broad view of all emergencies including active shooters instances. There is also a video specifically for active shooter preparedness as well as emergency contact information.

As of now, there is no active shooter drill, according to Rasmussen. Due to security purposes, University Police can't go into specific details on the situation.

Bellingham Police Department's Public Information Officer, Lieutenant Claudia Murphy, said the city's involvement can differ.

"Our involvement can be from advisor to actually taking an entire investigation over if that is what the administrations agree upon," Murphy said. "We would help WWU PD in whatever manner they need us to. It can be from helping them with a track by the use of one of our K-9 teams, to having one of our crime scene investigators assist on an investigation, to supplementing their department during an active shooter and assisting in the investigation afterward."

Paul Cocks, Western's director of communications and marketing, said he encourages people to say something when there is concern for safety.

"There have been young people and adults in our area where they posted very concerning things on social media and it was seen by other young people, who then were concerned enough, that [they] brought it to the attention of authorities who could head off



Western University Police car parked in front of the University Police building on Wednesday, Oct. 16. // Photo by Jordan Van Beek

something before it even could happen," Cocks said.

Any suspicious behavior observed on campus should be reported to University Police or other authorities. University Police offers an option to remain anonymous when informing authorities about activity that should be reported, such as unusual items or odd behavior from someone. University Police dispatch is a recorded line, but to report an anonymous tip and not be recorded, call the SAFE campus phone number (360) 650-SAFE or 650-7233.

The rise in active shooter stories across the country has encouraged the campus community to educate themselves, take individual responsibility and understand

how to run, hide and fight, Rasmussen said.

The Western Alert system was tested Thursday, Oct. 17. It notifies students of campus emergencies through desktop notifications, voice messages over campus fire alarm systems, text messages, emails, posts on the emergency communication webpage and on Western's Twitter feed.

The test alert said 97% of Western students have provided their cell phone numbers to Web4U to receive emergency text messages.

"Years ago, we were relying on mass email, which is not fast, people don't look at it," Cocks said. "Now we have a system called RAVE. We can send out 15 to 20,000 text messages in under a minute once we have the

information, and bang, there it goes."

Along with text messages, Western will always send an email as well to further explain the details of an alert event.

"I think the important thing that I would like the students to know is that Western is a community and we take care of each other in this community," Rasmussen said. "University Police are part of that community too. So a lot of times when people have their worst day ever, they're afraid to call the police."

"I want them to feel comfortable being able to reach out, even if it's through the anonymous phone to somebody," Rasmussen continued. "Because honestly, we actually are able to help a lot better when we have the information."

HOUSING

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according to the National Alliance to End Homelessness. The fund will be there to assist community members at or below 60% of the area median income. Area median income calculates a middle family income for the county and uses that to determine eligibility for affordable housing.

The ordinance passed unanimously at the County Council meeting on Tuesday, Oct. 22. There will be no new tax on residents. It will allow the county to keep a percentage of local sales and use taxes that are normally paid to the state, according to Beck.

Washington state just released the rules that will govern these funds and will require an annual report about what the funds were used for. The money can only be used for supportive and affordable housing services, according to Beck. Specifically, the funds can be put towards things like new affordable housing units and rental assistance. Beck said the Housing Advisory Committee will be looking into the best way to use the funds within the affordable housing systems in Whatcom County.

According to Lutz, most



The County Council votes to approve an ordinance to fund supportive and affordable housing on Tuesday, Oct. 22. // Photo by Melody Kazel

county affordable housing funds require the chronic homelessness definition, which needs documentation to prove.

"As you can imagine for someone living on the streets, that can be very difficult to prove," Lutz said.

This fund would be able to reach those people without the proper documentation who need supportive housing but do not have the definition of chronically homeless, according to Lutz.

The programs Lighthouse Mission Ministries direct people to don't typically require the chronic homelessness definition but

more funding always helps, according to Nick Evans, recovery services manager for Lighthouse. "This could be a critical revenue source to maintain support for folks who really need it," Lutz said.

One of the revenue sources that goes toward affordable housing is document recording fees. These fees are managed by the Whatcom County Health Department who will be in charge of managing the new fund as well, according to Lutz.

"When the interest rates went down, a lot of people refinanced their homes, so document recording fees' revenue went up," Lutz

said. "Now that the interest rates have slightly gone up or stabilized, there's not as many folks recording documents and so, of course, they get less revenue from that."

The new housing fund could make up for that lost revenue and add more funding to help the county continue providing the same level of housing assistance they are now.

Mike Parker, director of the Whatcom homeless service center at the opportunity Council, said this fund is a huge win for the council and their partners.

"It's going to give all of our partners, and all those case managers, and all those families they work with more possibility," Parker said. "We can serve more people."

He said the funds the opportunity council may receive could go toward rental assistance or be bonded by the County Council, allowing them to borrow against future revenues to get a bigger amount today. Regardless of what the County Council decides this new revenue should go toward, Parker said it will have a positive impact.

"They're all going to make more affordable housing for folks that are homeless," Parker said.

This ordinance came

about as a result of efforts from the Washington state's associations of Counties, Cities and Low Income Housing Alliance, according to Beck. They were trying to figure out how to access more funding for housing. Beck said it was a team effort between these associations and the state that led to the legislation allowing cities and counties to keep a percentage of local sales and use taxes for affordable housing.

This fund isn't going to be the magic solution that fixes everything, Beck said.

There are other things impacting the homeless community along with the need for affordable housing, according to Evans. He works with people from the homeless community who are trying to deal with substance use disorders.

"We just need more treatment beds or we need more capacity to treat people. We need more and better outreach into the homeless communities to let them know of the available options," Evans said.

The new housing fund may not be able to address Evans concerns. However, Beck said the fund will help build more capacity for affordable housing and is a great addition to the funding Whatcom County currently has.

BIO

continued from page 1

until you're a senior," fourth-year biology minor Natalie Calsbeek said. "It kinda sucks for anyone who's trying to get into these classes and needs to take it for the major."

Calsbeek has seen many of her peers struggle to get into biology courses.

"Because I'm a minor, I only have to take three or four classes, so it's not that big of a deal if I miss some classes," Calsbeek said. "I know people who have had to switch majors because they didn't get in."

The problem of overcrowding has also delayed the graduation times of many students who remain in biology, according to Peterson.

"It's harder to get into our courses, and so there is delayed time for graduation," Peterson said. "Sometimes students have to wait a year to get into a particular course necessary for graduating."

This pressure is reflected in the ratio of students to full-time faculty, with an increase from 17.7 students to one faculty member in 2009 to 26.9 students to one faculty member in 2019.

Plans for a science building addition were approved, but likely won't be completed until spring 2021, according to the 2019-2021 Capital Project Proposal.

"It has been designed to try to accommodate as many courses from various programs in STEM as possible, with a primary focus on biology, chemistry and environmental science," Peterson said.

The new building plans to have active learning classrooms,

unlike the classic stadium-style on most of the campus, and will provide more lab spaces, according to Peterson.

Creating more space is necessary, but doesn't get to the root of the overcrowding issue, and a long-term solution is still needed.

"If we want to be able to hire people to teach at additional sections, we are going to then have to subsequently repurpose some of the space in biology that's being used for teaching labs right now," Peterson said. "So that reduces, to some degree, the overall gains in lab spaces that we would get by having new labs over there. But it's the only way we can really increase our teaching capacity."

The current major acceptance is based on GPA and requires applying students to have completed six prerequisite courses before declaring a biology major.

"We can't actually control the number of majors with our current system," Peterson said. "So we're introducing this fall a proposal ... that will re-do our admission policy to allow us to actually control the numbers."

While overall enrollment at Western has also increased, the number of students in majors that require a biology course has more than doubled from 510 in fall 2001 to 1,249 in fall 2017.

The result is the proposed change, which will still consider the GPA of an applicant but will also include an entrance exam and an application form with prompts, aiming to create a comprehensive understanding of the student applying, Peterson said.

"We spent a lot of time over the summer ... thinking of how we could do this in a way that wouldn't compromise our equity



The outside of the biology building on Tuesday, Oct. 29. // Photo by Zachary Jimenez

and inclusion goals," Peterson said. "Anytime you restrict access, there's a very distinct threat that underserved populations will be disproportionately affected by that."

This isn't the first time that the biology department and Huxley College of the Environment have tried to change or receive more support from the university.

Peterson and Spencer Anthony-Cahill, professor and chair of the chemistry department, provided data on the need for more staff and space to the University Planning and Resources Committee (UPRC) in March 2018.

This report shows how enrollment in core classes of the biology major increased dramatically, showcased in Biology 204, the first of the introductory courses in the major, in which enrollment increased 87.6% from 2003 to 2016.

With this dramatic increase in enrollment, the number of waitlisted students is staggeringly high, with 44 students waitlisted for Biology 204, 55 students for Biology 321 and 109 students for Chemistry 121, an introductory course in the chemistry major.

"One of these did include additional non-tenure track faculty and some additional elements that Huxley wanted, and another was mainly additional support staff that were viewed as necessary with the growth [Huxley] experienced," UPRC Chair Nicholas Wonder said, concerning previous proposals.

Biology is not the only major with overcrowding problems. Huxley and the chemistry department are also feeling the heat from increased enrollment, with more undergraduate and graduate degrees given out from environmental science last year

than any other STEM program at Western, according to the UPRC meeting on April 4, 2018.

According to the same report, environmental science also has the least amount of space with 14,861 square feet of total space, while biology has 41,939 square feet of space.

This lack of space in Huxley is concerning but becomes a much bigger problem as many students who leave or are not accepted to the biology major switch into environmental science or environmental studies.

Proposed changes to the biology major admittance process would come into effect in fall 2020 at the earliest, according to Peterson.

"This does have to be a long-term solution because the existing system we had proved to be broken and didn't protect the department and its students," Peterson said.



From left: Mike Kraft, Kristiana Lapo and Melissa Rice pose next to the goniometer on Tuesday, Oct. 29. // Photo by Claire Ott

changing and why. She said this is what sparked the idea of creating a 3D goniometer three years ago.

The 3D version will allow for measurements and observations to be taken from all angles, like creating a bubble around the rock where any point in that bubble would be measurable with this tool.

The team for building the goniometer will consist of graduate students and faculty. As of now, the faculty portion of the team consists of Melissa Rice, Mike Kraft, a research associate and scanning electron microscope technician, and Sean Mulcahy, an assistant professor in the geology department.

Both geologists, Rice and Kraft, have done Mars-related research.

"My [expertise] is in characterizing material. I run the electron microscope labs," Kraft said. "And as a geologist, I studied weathered rocks that have changed in response to just being exposed to the environment."

When characterizing rocks, they are trying to find out what chemicals are on, added or removed from the surface, Kraft said.

"The end goal is to be able to improve our understanding of surface conditions on Mars ... and to understand more about how weathering impacts chemistry and the microstructure of rocks," Hoza said.

Western houses a 2D goniometer on the bottom floor

of the environmental science building. The goniometer is able to measure angles like a protractor — from side to side. This 2D version is the prototype for the one that is being built with the money granted by NASA.

Hoza got involved in building this prototype over two years ago through her masters' thesis. Her thesis was to build the 2D goniometer and to do some preliminary studies of weathered rocks that were similar to those found on

Mars.

"For a 2D version of this, you could imagine a flat protractor with a light source and a detector moving around, but only on that flat protractor," Hoza said.

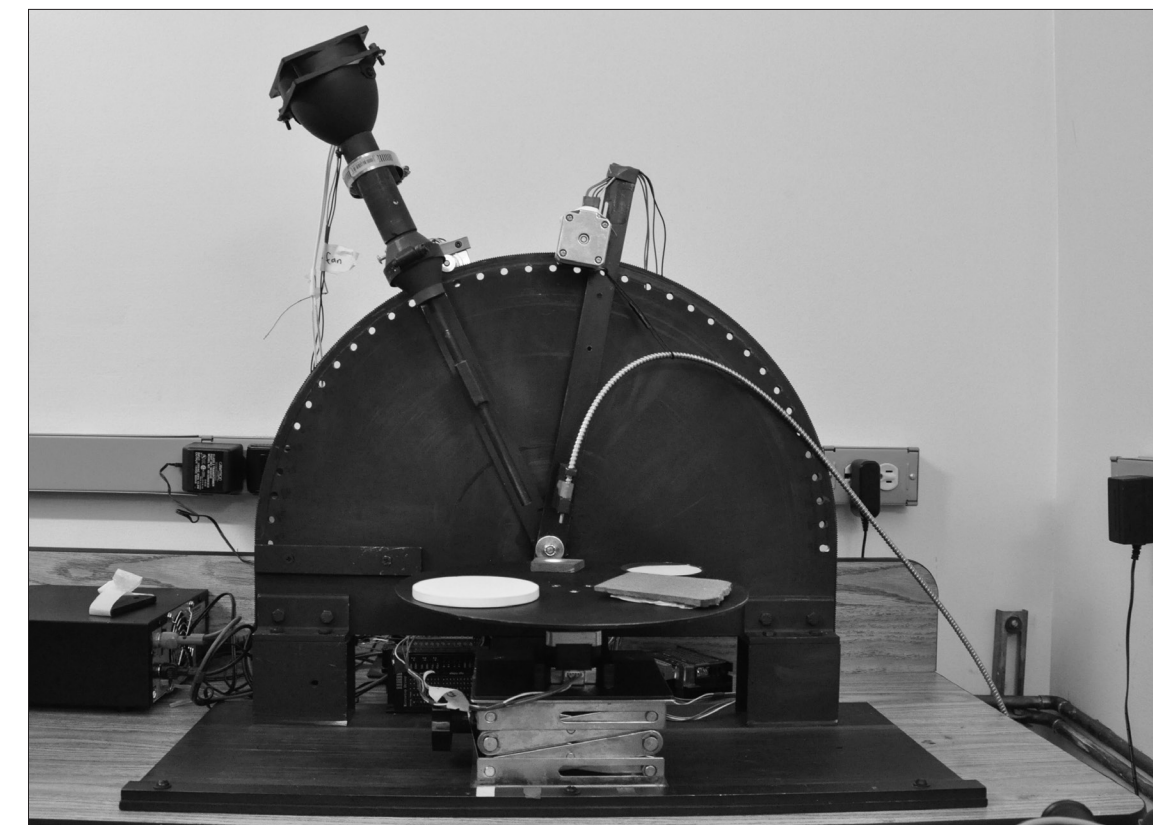
Towards the end of Hoza's degree, Rice began to reach out to First Mode to build the 3D goniometer.

"My masters' research was basically used as a pilot study for this new project that is going to be the next level of detail and the next level of rigor

in being able to investigate how the reflectance spectra of these rocks do change with the viewing geometry," Hoza said.

Since graduating, Hoza has started work at First Mode and is assisting in the design and fabrication of the 3D goniometer.

"I always knew I wanted to do things related to space exploration," Hoza said. "To me, the universe is just an incredibly beautiful place. It is amazing, and I want to learn as much about it as possible."



Western's goniometer on Tuesday, Oct. 29. // Photo by Claire Ott

What would it take for you to live on Mars?



Lillian Cusick
Mathematics and Education

"I would wanna bring my snake."



Katie Kirchofer
Environmental Education

"Absolutely not. No, no, no. This is my home planet."



LaRae Ellison
Sociology / undecided

"Evidence that there's life up there and that I'll actually be able to live."



Ty Hardan
Psychology

"Know that I'll have a good life up there ... go outside and do different activities, not just stay inside. Hang out with your friends. Maybe there's some good coffee on mars, go get some coffee or something."

*Compiled by
Bethany Maciejewski*

Bellingham swimmers adamant that city keeps its pool

Garrett Rahn
THE WESTERN FRONT

The Bellingham City Council meeting on Oct. 21 saw about 10 citizens speaking in opposition of the proposition by the YMCA to relocate to the Civic Athletic Complex and Arne Hanna Aquatic Center.

Neither the proposal nor anything pertaining to it were on the docket for the council meeting, but many citizens vocalized their concerns during the public comment period. Public comment opened after a 2020 revenue projection proposed a 1% property tax levy, an emergency inter-zoning ordinance addressing temporary weather shelters' exemption from regular review processes, and a resolution urging voters to

vote "no" on I-976 in the upcoming general election.

Many of the citizens who spoke were members of the Master Swimmers Club, who swim at the Arne Hanna pool. The issues brought forward included overcrowding, maintenance and safety, accessibility for students and the handicapped and a price increase. Over time, these issues may edge out lower income families.

The main point of contention was the issue of space. The aquatic center has eight swimming lanes and the YMCA currently has four. According to the representatives of the swimming community, this is not enough.

"You have to actually go to the pool and see it rather than just hear people talking," said Job Abshire, a Mas-

ter Swimmer and coach.

Abshire and the other Master Swimmers urged the council to look into constructing more lanes rather than follow through with a plan that would condense the two existing facilities into one.

The Arne Hanna Aquatic Center brings in around \$500,000 in revenue each year, but relies on over \$1 million in tax subsidies, according to an FAQ sheet from Vanessa Blackburn, communications director for the City of Bellingham.

"I recognize it's not a money maker, but I think that we all recognize that community parks and roads are not money makers, but they're an essential part of having a community," said Corey Chaplin, Master Swim-

mer and 30-year Bellingham resident.

If the city agrees to enact the proposal, the YMCA will wholly take over operations of the aquatic center's facility, which concerns these citizens. Control of the public pool by a private organization could lead to decreased maintenance, safety and access by all.

Council member Lilloquist said he had met with representatives from the Master Swimmers Club, the school district, city staff members, the YMCA and special-needs swimmers to hear their concerns. He plans to have a follow-up meeting next week.

According to the FAQ, "One or more public hearings will be held prior to final approval of any agreed upon plan."

No action has been taken yet, but more about the proposal from both the public and the government is expected.

The council approved an ordinance establishing an Immigration Advisory Board, among other items during the council's committee of the whole minutes.

The board would "review and evaluate policies regarding compliance with Engrossed Second Substitute Senate Bill 5497," as well as work closely with the city and Immigrations and Customs Enforcement providing data and making recommendations for policy related to immigration, according to agenda bill 22430.

The next scheduled meeting is on Nov. 4.

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Meet the 2019-20 AS Student Senate candidates

Candidate statements compiled and provided by the Associated Students and Western Involvement Network website

Elias Bashir CSE Senator

My name is Elias Sarwar Bashir. I am a Math major in my third year at Western, and I am running to be your next Student Senator for the College of Science and Engineering! I am a tutor with the Student Outreach Services, and the Co-President of Western Community Outreach. I am also involved with South Asian Student Association, Happy Club, and Community Engagement Fellows. I will represent the students of the CSE by working closely with the Student and Faculty Ambassadors in advocating for improvements that will benefit student experiences. Another objective I have is to aid students facing food and housing insecurity. Additionally, I will make myself available for students to be able to amplify their voices to administrators. Find me in the Math Center!

Michael Prostka CBE Senator

Howdy! I'm a fourth-year student in Political Science and Business Administration. While studying at WWU I've been involved with student government, various clubs, committee work and local politics. However, in this position, my primary focus will be on advancing a Self-Operated Dining System (a dining system currently in place at WSU, UW, and Central). It's an extraordinary fact that, by simply being a student at WWU, your money directly contributes to the prison-industrial complex. During these next few years, we must lay the groundwork to ensure a Self-Operated Dining System becomes a reality at WWU!

Check out our website to learn more about WWU Self-Operated Dining!

Kristopher Aguayo CSE Senator

There is an overarching motif of superiority complexes in science. This traditional mindset has historically served to gatekeep science and keep these communities neutral from social and political matters. It's difficult to be optimistic about one's education when these institutions of the traditional model were not made to support everyone. Especially those that don't fit the mold of the preceding generation of scientists, or when economic strain inhibits individuals from pursuing career development opportunities. The reality is that science at Western is not ready to meet its mission statement of "adapting to the changing needs of a changing state population." Having made the issue central to my education through involvement with our STEM clubs, working closely with faculty and administration, and in the process learning how our university functions; I believe I have both the connections, willingness to listen and skills to serve as your next CSE senator.

Sofian Mahmoud*

During my educational journey at WWU, I've witnessed our student body fight time and time again with the administration in order to be heard and have our essential and basic needs met. I've spent much of my time with University Governance Structures and understand how these systems work alongside the AS. My governmental experience surrounds the Ethnic Student Center (ESC). I co-founded the Arab Student Association two years ago, and am currently a Co-President for the association. As a result, I have participated in the Leadership and Advocacy Force and worked to create a space where marginalized students felt comfortable. Most recently, I worked in the ESC as the Marketing and Outreach Coordinator and was a Co-Chair of the ESC Budget and Planning Committee. I would like to be elected to continue holding the administration accountable and to continue growing and changing the College of Humanities and Social Sciences.

Rukhsar Sadat Fairhaven Senator

My name is Rukhsar Sadat (she/her/hers) and I am a junior double-majoring in Political Science and Law, Diversity & Justice with the intention of minoring in Sociology.

As an immigrant and refugee, I grew up in communities that were neglected and underrepresented which gave me a window into seeing how our current system favors certain groups over systemically non-dominant individuals. I am running as an AS-WWU Student Senator for the kind of politics that ensures equity, justice and a sense of belonging in educational institutions. Navigating through this broken system made me realize that having safe spaces in educational settings cultivate high rates of success, which is why I will ensure that serious measures are taken to accommodate accessibility options. The history of the U.S. including laws, institutions and government sectors were designed to minimize the voices of communities of color. I will make sure that does not happen, and instead, I will uplift the voices of marginalized students. Leadership is not a dictatorship, rather it is a partnership. As your Senator, I will strengthen the bridge between the administration and the general student population. With your help, I can assure you I will do everything in my power to make sure every student's needs will be met.

Kaitlyn Davidson At-Large Senator

Hello, I am Kaitlyn Davidson and I am running for Student Senate because I want to make a positive change at WWU. It is imperative that our voices are heard on the administrative level and I am dedicated to making sure all ideas are represented. I am running on a platform of activism, with the intention to expand programs for food-insecure students, decrease graduation time and to increase visibility in student government. My goal is to see Western become a hub for diversity and progress, and I am prepared to work for it. This school has provided me with so many amazing opportunities to be engaged, from serving as President of Young Democrats to registering voters, and I want to continue turning student voices into policy at the Senate level. Let's create a campus where everyone feels like they can bring their ideas to the table! I would love to offer all of you a seat.

Sirad Mohamoud*

During my three years at Western I have found solace within the Muslim Student Association and the ESC. However, I have noticed a lack of compensation toward my peers, given the work they do for the university. The lack of reinforcement toward emotional longevity has a negative day-to-day effect on students, especially the marginalized folks.

I hope to create an environment that will foster the importance of the students' emotional state in order to secure their space at Western. The competitive bottleneck majors are difficult enough to deal with. I hope to alleviate tension on our campus in order to boost the student input within this community.

This institution has consistently shown a lack of interest toward supporting their marginalized students. My goal is to refine the environment in which our space is within. I hope to echo rather than censor the voices of those students.

Abdul Malik Ford CBE Senator

My name is Abdul Malik Ford, and [I am] running for the senator's position to represent the College of Business and Economics. My goals include providing Black representation for the college of CBE, holding my peers accountable, reforming the AS structures that harm us students and paving the way for those who come after me. Us Black and Brown students have been silenced and wronged for too long. We are not represented in our various colleges and that needs to change. #AMF4AS.

Jada Rogers*

I want to be a part of the Student Senate because I want to apply myself to a position where I'm able to partake in actual institutional change. I am an active member in the African Caribbean Club, the Black Student Union and work as a student employee. Additionally, I am the team organizer for the Siblings+ program, a 1:1 mentorship program focused around Black students' transition to campus. My involvement in these programs makes me a good candidate for the position because it provides me with a well-rounded perspective on how WWU supports its marginalized students. I hope to use this position to positively give a voice to black students and students of color. As a Black woman, I struggled to find my voice within the university, and it has inspired me to want to use my position to provide a way for students to speak out.

Connor Farrand At-Large Senator

Hey Western! My name is Connor Farrand, and I want to work for you as one of your student senators this year. I've been really interested in political and social issues since high school, and I'm planning to declare a Political Science major by the end of this year. I'm also on the AS Voter Registration Staff for this fall, and I'm currently enrolled in Western's Honors College. As a senator, I want to engage with and learn from anyone who has an idea about improving Western, and use my platform to support the people already working on the most important issues facing our community. I also want to focus on improving access to on-campus mental health resources, reducing the number of students who take 5-6 years to graduate because of "bottlenecked" classes and allocating more time, energy, and resources to helping first-generation students and students from lower-income households.

Nicole Ballard CHSS Senator

I was honored to serve as an At-Large Senator last year and I want to continue to advocate for student voices this year in CHSS. I want to take my leadership skills and my passion for social justice to advocate for student interests. I am not afraid to stand up to the administration to make real long-lasting change. I have a progressive mindset and believe every student should feel safe and welcomed here at Western. Outside of being a student, I work in the REP office where I promote civic engagement. I am passionate about politics, a huge fan of dogs and probably spend too much time watching The Office. You will never see me stop short of achieving anything I set my mind to. I am resilient, honest, hard-working and will dedicate my year to serve you.

Sophie Sceats CHSS Senator

My name is Sophie Sceats and I am running to represent the College of Humanities and Social Sciences. I am a junior in the Political Science major. Participating in Model EU twice has helped me gain diplomacy and public speaking skills. My plan is to go to law school and work to impact positive change in our political system.

My focus as a student senator would be to ensure that the best interests of my constituents are being represented, provide increased opportunities for student input on college issues and prioritize mental health and environmental initiatives.

This is my first quarter at Western, and I love how friendly and welcoming everyone is here. WWU is a great place for me and I want to ensure that it is a great place for everyone else too!

Patrick Czichas Graduate School Senator

As a former undergraduate and current graduate student at WWU, I am running for the Graduate School Senate to advocate for Graduate School's growth in future students. To do that, I will spend my time recruiting for every college's graduate programs. My firm belief is that a wealth of graduate students across all colleges is a resource that will benefit everyone at WWU.

By having more graduate students at our disposal, professors will have more help running their undergraduate courses via Teaching Assistantships, and undergraduates will have extra help available for their courses besides their professor. Furthermore, more graduate students in each department means that each cohort of graduates will have more peers to engage for review and support throughout their time here at WWU. Having more graduate students will benefit everyone at each level of education and that is what I plan to accomplish as your Graduate School Senator.

Maya Noesen Huxley Senator

Hi everyone, my name is Maya Noesen. I am a senior in Environmental Sciences and am excited to be running for the AS Senate. I held this position last year, so I have a lot of experience! I plan to continue working on getting issues of diversity, equity and inclusion taught in the Huxley curriculum. Additionally, I will work to better disseminate the process of filing a Discrimination Complaint at Western so all students better understand their options for reporting the discrimination they face. Thanks for reading this, and I hope you have a wonderful fall!

Yeshia Van Leeuwen Fairhaven Senator

My name is Yeshia van Leeuwen, and I'm running to represent Fairhaven College in the student senate. I hope to continue the valuable work of those who came before me, and to include student voices in all decision making at every level. We must demand better from this institution. I want to work in collaboration with Fairhaven students, and main campus students enrolled in Fairhaven classes, from a variety of perspectives and backgrounds, to improve the learning experience and to build a just and inclusive environment where we can enjoy and challenge ourselves. There is work to be done.

Ranulfo Molina CHSS Senator

Hello student body, My name is Ranulfo Molina. I am a recent graduate from Skagit Valley College, major declared in English with an emphasis in Creative Writing and a minor in Education and Social Justice. I am the first openly gay man in my family; because of this aspect, I am driven to support and uplift the LGBTQ+ community. As well as the first to attend college, I want to strive for the amplification of marginalized groups who identify as first-generation scholars and to expose these students to the resources on campus. As a gay latinx scholar, I know the importance of highlighting everyone's intersectionality.

Furthermore, coming from a migrant family, I have seen firsthand the adversities our undocumented community go through on a day to day basis. With this position, I plan to keep the best interest of our undocumented scholars at heart. With AS Student Senate, this leadership position would be a privilege I've never had the opportunity to pursue before. I am more than confident that I am the ideal candidate to serve in AS Student Senate, given my life experiences. I've built interpersonal communication skills that have allowed me to connect with people from different strands of life. With the opening of the new Multicultural and Ethnic Center, it's time for Western to acknowledge and invite scholars of color. Allow me to be an agent of change through AS Student Senate so together we can reform a more equitable institution.

This statement was revised by the candidate.

Nathaniel Gaines** Woodring Senator

Koby Okezie** At-Large Senator

Sargun Handa At-Large Senator

Since my TEDx talk, my goal has been to serve others through representative leadership and solidarity. My name is Sargun Handa and I am a queer, disabled, female of color. I am a sexual assault survivor and first generation college student. I am a best-selling author and public speaker. My diversity is a curse and a blessing; I am no stranger to struggle. However, this struggle has allowed me to see other perspectives while representing people of all backgrounds. As Senator At-Large, my goal is to advocate for undergraduate students of any gender, sexual orientation, ethnicity, religion, disability, and more. Western strives to be a welcoming community, but more needs to be done. It is up to us students to fill in the gaps. Please give me the opportunity to be a representative leader and to work with you, in solidarity, toward making our school a welcoming community for all!

Ruth Ewald CFPA Senator

In my previous term as Student Senator for CFPA, I worked to get to know the issues that are important to CFPA students and work to solutions for these problems. As a college and university, WWU students face challenges getting to classes. We struggle to live and study in an environment which is healthy and nurturing to us. We desire to take classes that are in other departments in our college, but out of our reach. These are some of the issues, and I'm working toward solutions. Vote for Ruth Ewald Oct. 28!

*Unclear which position candidate is running for
**Candidate did not submit a statement

These statements were edited for spelling and punctuation.

Voting is open until Nov. 1, 2019, through the Western Involvement Network.

Students may vote for the at-large positions and their college's positions.

THU **OCT 24** 7:30PM
FRI **OCT 25** 7:30PM
SAT **OCT 26** 2:00PM
SAT **OCT 26** 7:30PM
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HOWL-O-WEEN PARADE BRINGS COSTUMED-CANINES DOWNTOWN

Naileah Abarca and Garrett Rahn
THE WESTERN FRONT

A festive crowd with costumed canines gathered laughing and barking on a sunny Railroad Avenue Sunday afternoon, Oct. 27, for the first annual Howl-o-ween costume parade.

Shake and Shine Canine Wash and Deli hosted the parade as a fundraiser for the Whatcom Humane Society from 1-3.

The parade concluded with a costume contest. Upon signing up for the parade, dogs and their owners were given a number so they could be identified by the judges. About 40 groups signed up for the costume contest, according to Casey Niven, a volunteer for Shake and Shine.

Of the three winners, two were Wizard of Oz themed to commemorate the 80th anniversary of the release of the movie.

The parade also celebrated Shake and Shine's fifth anniversary. Monika Lange opened the shop in 2014 and was excited to see how the event would unfold.

"The parade is a fun event for everybody and very family-oriented," Lange said. "This is the first time we've put on an event like this and it's all very exciting."

Shake and Shine specializes in dog self-service washes, groomings and nail clippings.

Dog owner Dee Dee Oblefias was pleased to see how much collaboration and community effort went into the event.

"Everyone in the community just helped out and donated. There was a band here that is from the Bellingham Music [store], and the closure signs were donated by someone," she said. "I think it's just amazing how people in the community are coming together and helping out for a fun day full of dogs."

Lange said she would not have been able to pull off the parade if it weren't for the sponsors that helped put the event together.

The parade had a greater turn out than expected, said Shake and Shine employee Morgan Merillat.

Participants and observers found out about the event in a variety of different ways, including from the Shake and Shine website, flyers put up around town, social media posts or simply through word-of-mouth in the community.



Clifford wears a pirate costume at the parade on Sunday, Oct. 27. // Photo by Naileah Abarca

"We didn't know how many people were going to show up," she said. "Events with a lot of dogs in one area can get very overwhelming sometimes but considering how many clusters of dogs there were, it went really smoothly."

The event itself was free, but generated about \$500 in donations for the Whatcom Humane Society, Merillat said. Humane Society Director Laura Clark was very appreciative of the donations.

"We are always grateful when local businesses and residents support our nonprofit organization," she said.

"We're really thankful that they're taking the time to put the event on and all the proceeds that they choose to donate to us will go to help the animals at our domestic animal shelter or wildlife center and our farm facility, so they will be put to good use."

Oblefias and her dog Clifford enjoyed their time at the parade and are excited to participate again.

"I'm glad that there was a good turnout, so I can't wait till next year," she said.



Attendees walk their dogs at the First Annual Howl-o-ween Dog Parade on Sunday, Oct. 27 // Photo by Garrett Rahn

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HALLOWEEN FINDS HOME AT UNITY VILLAGE

The tiny house community will hold its first holiday open house event this Halloween



Unity Village resident Tina Hayes poses for a picture in front of her tiny home on Monday, Oct. 28. Hayes decorated her home for Halloween. // Photo by Ella Banken

Ella Banken
THE WESTERN FRONT

With Halloween only a day away, Unity Village residents are preparing to open their gates to neighborhood trick-or-treaters.

The tiny house community on 210 McKenzie Ave. is planning its first holiday open house event, HomesNOW! board member Doug Gustafson said. Unity Village will be open for trick-or-treaters from 6-8 on Halloween night.

Amid an ongoing investigation of former

HomesNOW! board members, the event is important for community resilience, said Tina Hayes, Unity Village resident.

"After what we've been through, it pulls us together as a community," Hayes said. As much as the event is for the neighborhood, it's a celebration for the residents of Unity Village as well.

Hayes has taken the lead on decorating the camp. Cobwebs and skeletons hang from the ceiling of the welcome desk, and her own purple and teal house is covered in festive decor from

her personal collection.

"I have four kids. I've been decorating for years," Hayes laughed.

Every year for Halloween, Hayes' family coordinates a group costume. Last year, it was superheroes. Hayes puts together all the costumes for her children and grandchildren. Some items she even makes by hand, including a Batgirl mask for her granddaughter she made out of a pop can.

Hayes said all 10 of her grandchildren will be coming to the Halloween event on Thursday, Oct. 31.

"[The residents] want people to see Unity Village, and see that they're okay," Gustafson said.

Hayes said it's important for people to understand that just because the residents are unhoused, doesn't mean they are any different.

Kids who have visited previously are enchanted by the colorful tiny homes. They've been called Skittle houses, Crayon houses and even Willy Wonka's lollipop shop, Hayes said.

"Everyone gets excited when kids visit," Hayes said. "We have a big box of games. We can play all day."

Unity Village, located across the street from Fairhaven Station, is just down the hill from the historic Fairhaven neighborhood, where kids from all over Bellingham come to trick-or-treat at businesses every year.

It is estimated that 2,000 kids will walk the streets of Fairhaven in search of candy this year, according to Mariah Austin, employee at Fairhaven Toy Garden. The toy store is one of many Fairhaven businesses who will be handing out treats on Thursday.

"It'll be hectic, but a fun time," Austin said.

According to Hayes, Unity Village is on the direct pathway that families take from downtown Fairhaven up to the surrounding neighborhoods, so she expects a lot of people will stop by.

Unity Village is accepting donations of candy or decorations to prepare for Thursday's event. Not everyone at the camp has the means to distribute candy, but Hayes is determined.

"If I have to spend my last \$10 in food stamps on candy, I will," Hayes said jokingly.

"I wouldn't trade my time here for the world," Hayes said. "These houses allow us to be with our families, near our kids."

Gustafson said the event will be the second open house at Unity Village. The first was the ribbon-cutting ceremony for the opening of the camp in September.

Unity Village is open to the public all the time, Gustafson said. People are always welcome to come visit.

Other than handling logistics, Gustafson is leaving the event planning to the residents.

Local adventure awaits at Outdoor Center

Bethany Maciejewski
THE WESTERN FRONT

For a campus nestled between the North Cascades and the Puget Sound, Western loves to celebrate the surrounding beauty by putting a plethora of valuable resources into giving students a means to explore it.

A combined effort of campus coordination and the Outdoor Center creates opportunities for students to appreciate the activities Western's surrounding environment provides. In the past, the Outdoor Center held night hikes for the new moon and full moon, bike tours and their highly popular weekly yoga classes. These events help create a sense of community amid the outdoors lovers on campus.

The Outdoor Center is planning to implement a rolling events calendar to better organize the information for those

interested, which should feature new events like surfing at Hobuck Beach, according to Allijah Motika, the information coordinator.

The new moon night hike on Oct. 28 was an opportunity for students to participate in a guided trek through the Chuckanut Mountains. Hosted in the past, the event has drawn enough attention to be held again.

Stephen Magnuson, the program coordinator for the Outdoor Center, said that the student staff have "freedom to design and implement trips that they would like to lead, or that other students have suggested or like to see."

"The night hike, both new moon and full moon, have been offered in the past and are always a fun different thing for folks to get out and do some night hiking," Magnuson said.

Choosing event ideas becomes a student-led process which adds an

element of community involvement to the Outdoor Center. These decisions often come through Wendy Johnson, the event services manager at Western. Johnson said her role is to assist event coordinators with planning, securing resources and creating diagrams. She also supplies limited equipment inside and outside of the building, and schedules and supports her student staff, event staff, and sound and light technicians.

In her wheelhouse, Johnson commonly interacts with the events being held by the Outdoor Center. The support of Western administration in the operation of the Outdoor Center aids the student staff in putting on substantial and successful events. Without the cooperation of both entities, events like the upcoming night hike would not be possible.

Future Events

Backcountry Cooking

Date: Nov. 5
Time: 4 p.m.
Cost: \$5.00

Learn to spice up your backcountry food from top-rated michelin star chefs.

Full Moon Night Hike

Date: Nov. 12
Time: 6 p.m.
Cost: \$15.00

Participate in a night hike under the first full moon of the fall quarter.

Womxn Mountain Bike

Date: Nov. 24
Time: All-day
Cost: \$9.00

Learn and practice mountain biking in a safe, inclusive and empowering place.

Compiled from the AS WWU Outdoor Center Website

Fully electric truck made from aluminum honeycomb

Western's Vehicle Research Institute plans to have the vehicle finished by end of spring quarter



The Vehicle Research Institute team gather around their current project Lyn Okse on Monday, Oct. 28. // Photo by Elizabeth Hall

Elizabeth Hall
THE WESTERN FRONT

Western's Vehicle Research Institute is in the process of designing a vehicle made from aluminum honeycomb panels.

The institute's project, Lyn Okse, is supported by the sustainable action fund, which was created by students to support sustainable projects across campus, VRI Director Eric Leonhardt said.

Leonhardt said the goal of the project is to demonstrate how to create an electric truck to open up possibilities for the future of better-powered campus vehicles.

The vehicle is the first battery-electric design, with all previous projects being hybrids of different electricity generating methods, VRI student Taylor Paulson said.

"The fact that it's a truck is different than a lot of stuff the VRI has built in the past," VRI student Jacob Thurber said.

Thurber said a lot of past cars are sleek and fast, so there's a clear difference in the design paradigm.

Kenny Otani, a VRI student who is working on sealing the gaps between panels and prepping for the next stage of assembly, also said the electric drivetrain is unusual for a truck because it is an uncommon feature in large vehicles, especially with what Lyn Okse is built for.

The interesting part

of this project is that the entire vehicle is made from aluminum honeycomb panels, Otani said.

"Aluminum honeycomb panels are very light and stiff compared to other materials, but the whole vehicle has to be riveted together from tons of tiny little panels, which is very time-consuming," Otani said.

Other funds for the program's projects come from university grants, Washington state grants or government grants, Paulson said. Some come from donations as well, but the current project is mainly supported by the sustainable action fund.

"Most universities don't offer the vehicle design degrees, so that was something that drew me to this university," said Otani. "This program is small, and we don't have many resources, so funding could be used to help make our program meet the requirements to become an accredited degree."

Thurber said the car is still technically in the prototype stage and takes multiple people to turn on. It is under current testing for the ignition and steering.

One component in need of testing is regenerative braking. The plan is to have the motor generate braking power when pressure is let off the gas, recharging it at the same time. The testing will determine how much regenerative braking

"Aluminum honeycomb panels are very light and stiff compared to other materials, but the whole vehicle has to be riveted together from tons of tiny little panels, which is very time-consuming."

Kenny Otani
VRI Student

is needed, Thurber said. The goal is to have it moving on its own power and be able to steer, drive and brake by the end of fall quarter. The car is scheduled for completion by the end of spring quarter, Paulson said.

Test driving these vehicles occurs in parking lots or back roads, since most of the cars are registered. The smaller, formula cars are taken to an empty lot at Bellingham International Airport to be driven through courses, Thurber said.

An important aspect of Lyn Okse, which Thurber said translates to "lightening Ochs," is loanability, which means anyone can drive the car without needing to be told any problems or quirks to it.

Paulson said it was challenging building Lyn Okse since the students building it were not a part of the design process. This can lead to issues regarding the design that need solutions only known by the

design team.

Last year's vehicle, Viking 45, is also in the VRI lab and was restored by alumni, Leonhardt said. It competed in the global Progressives X Prize competition.

While most previous vehicles have raced in competition, Lyn Okse is supposed to be a vehicle for the facilities department, Paulson said.

Thurber said the vehicle will top out at 35 miles per hour for safety reasons, since it is designed for campus use. However, it is built to do more, including off-roading with its large tires. Paulson said the electric motor in the vehicle generates 100 horsepower.

The car is also designed to hold 900 pounds of cargo for the grounds crew, including a lawn mower, tools, and buckets full of supplies, Leonhardt said.

"The cool part for me is learning about the electric drivetrain," Thurber said.

"Because that's difficult to get outside of an electrical engineering degree. That's kind of the advantage of the vehicle design program: it's a little broader than most."

Regarding the moratorium state of the program, Paulson said the department is not as large and supported as it was in the past. The school wants to revamp the program and wants to take the time to do it properly.

Part of this derives from when the engineering department transitioned from engineering technology to just engineering, Paulson said. The program used to graduate 20-30 students, but it is down to seven seniors this year.

"I think moratorium actually is probably a good thing right now," Paulson said, since Leonhardt is the only professor in the entire department.

Paulson, who grew up around cars his entire life, said the VRI is one of the most hands-on programs at Western.

"If you're not building something, or working on a project outside of class, you're not keeping up essentially with your coursework."

Otani said one of the pillar structures that will support the roof is attached by only three rivets because the team didn't want the vehicle to look bare for alumni weekend. This has yet to be fixed.

The relevancy of "Scream" and "Twin Peaks"

A look at two of America's most iconic spooky flicks

Small town Americana: where everything is perfect on the surface, but the more you learn, the more you realize that the opposite is true.

We all know the story plot of a town where nothing is as it seems. You know, the whole "there has been a teen murder and everyone is on edge," thing. However, the town members continue on with their lives, each individual supporting the other. During times of grievances, everyone seems to come together.

Despite the continued neighborly attitude, everyone is giving each other side glances. Betrayal is in the air. Everyone is on edge, even the viewer. Who could the killer be?

Lately, I have been binge-watching the '90s show "Twin Peaks." It follows the investigation of a teenage girl who was murdered in the town of Twin Peaks, Washington.

I'll admit, I was not a fan of "Twin Peaks" at the beginning. I found it too weird for myself and I have never been into shows or films that do not make

logical sense. How is it that an FBI agent thinks he can solve a murder case with the aid of a dream?

The reason that this show has held up so well as the years have gone by is because of its ability to suck you in. This is not the type of show that you can have on in the background while you do your chores. No, this is the type of show that you have to watch in full in order to understand what is happening because of its oddity. And like a good book, you find yourself attached to the characters and hoping that it all turns out okay for them.

There are moments in "Twin Peaks" that do not make much sense, but maybe that is the purpose. The entire show is not going to give you resolutions for every moment that occurs, and it might not explain how everything works out. Typically, this is something that would frustrate me, but I have learned to take it as fact.

The other night, I watched the film "Scream." When my roommate and I first put this movie on TV, I thought

it was the spoof movie "Scary Movie." There were moments in the first few scenes that made me cringe and laugh; they were so predictable. It had to be a spoof, right?

"Scream" is considered a cult classic by many. The reason "Scream" has held up is because it is also one of the first of its kind. This is one of the first movies that was chock-full of young adult actors that would later become well known. For me, that was the oddest thing. Seeing the acting of Drew Barrymore while she was so young and recognizing Skeet Ulrich when the only thing I have seen him in is a few episodes of "Riverdale" and from the comments section of Cole Sprouse's Instagram.

Although it might not seem like it, both of these pieces are still relevant today. To this day, people are still making references of each. And how could they not? Both are so iconic that even spoof movies and shows were created modeling them.

-Written by Ana Soltero

"Halloween," the movie

The most recent "Halloween" movie, "Halloween 40th Anniversary Edition," has become my favorite horror movie in recent times. Picking up 40 years after the original 1978 movie, Laurie finds herself face to face again with Michael. Only this time, she has more at stake to protect and has developed primal skills to do so.

Whether you laugh, scream or simply reminisce of horror films of the 70s and 80s, "Halloween" gives everyone something throughout the continuing story of Laurie Strode and Michael Myers.

-Written by Jennifer Cyphers

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

westernfront.
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What are your plans for Halloween, and if you don't have any yet, what is your favorite Halloween memory?



Laura Mucci

"My favorite thing about Halloween is dressing up and seeing my friends costumes, and making costumes; I'm gonna be Cruella de Vil this year."



Raina Shaw

"I was going to stay in and watch movies and avoid trick-or-treaters at all costs,"



Emma Geary

"I'll probably go and see if I can find any haunted buildings out in Bellingham, and check them out to see what the deal is if I'm not too scared, but that's pretty much it."

Compiled by Bethany Maciejewski

So you're staying in on Halloween night? Check out these cult classics...

An American Werewolf in London (John Landis, 1981)

As two young men are backpacking through London, they wander off the road. Awakening the next morning, their fates are sealed. One in death and one where death would be a better alternative. Here he learns what he's becoming, with the help of his dead friend, and no way of stopping the terror he brings to the town.

Psycho (Alfred Hitchcock, 1960)

On the run after stealing a sizable amount of money from her employer and trying to avoid the police, Marion finds herself at the rundown Bates Motel for the night. There she encounters Norman Bates, a high strung yet polite young man with an interest in taxidermy and an abnormal relationship with his mother.

A Nightmare on Elm Street (Wes Craven, 1984)

As the teens living on Elm Street begin having nightmares and coming face to face with horror, we learn that Freddy Krueger IS the stuff of nightmares. Finding the truth behind the terror may be just as awful as the terror itself. Being pulled into Freddy's dream world, can anyone wake up alive?

Rosemary's Baby (Roman Polanski, 1968)

A soon to be pregnant Rosemary and her struggling actor husband Guy move into a New York apartment. As the pregnancy progresses, her "odd" neighbors become overly doting and increasingly isolate Rosemary from the world. She soon comes to think that the baby is not from this world, and the unholy truth will only come out after she has given birth.

The Shining (Stanley Kubrick, 1980)

As Danny and his family move into the Stanley hotel where his dad will be the winter keeper, we find that Danny has an ability to see things that others cannot. With isolation getting to his dad, his mind becomes altered and he turns into a living version of the horrors Danny sees.

Young Frankenstein (Mel Brooks, 1974)

A comedic take on a classic tale of a scientist and his monster. Dr. Frankenstein (insistent by him that it is pronounced Fronkensteen) grows increasingly irritable at the mention of his grandfather Victor Frankenstein. He quickly inherits his family's estate in Transylvania, and from there we enter into the funny, horror-esque world of the characters.

GUEST EDITORIAL

IT'S SPOOKY NOT TO VOTE

If you had a superpower that could change the world, would you refuse to use it?

That is what thousands of Western students do every election; they neglect to vote.

Meanwhile, fossil fuel companies are out in force again trying to buy our local election in order to defeat climate leadership. Satpal Sidhu stood up to pressure from Big Oil lobbyists as a Whatcom County Councilmember. In return, oil companies have spent \$75,000 on misleading attack ads to oppose his campaign for County Executive.

They know that Western voters can

turn the tide, and their most effective tool is making you think that our votes do not count.

Washington state Senator Doug Erikson won re-election by 45 votes last year. If 50 students from Western had voted differently, his anti-environmental agenda would have ended.

Sure, fossil fuel companies have all the money, but on election night, none of that matters. You're the one with the vote. You're the one with the power-the superpower.

Use it. Vote.

Western Votes has registered over 3,000 students who have received ballots

in the mail. Make sure to submit your ballot at a campus drop-box ASAP.

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-Written by Jacob Pederson

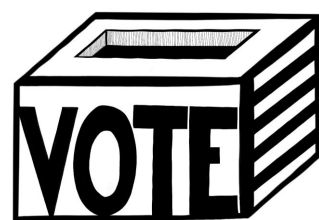


Illustration by Cole Sandhofer

Vikings bounce back against Concordia

After their first loss of the season, volleyball wins convincingly in straight sets

Nolan Baker
THE WESTERN FRONT

Coming off their first loss of the season last week against University of Alaska Anchorage, the Viking volleyball team was looking to bounce back in a big way Thursday night in Sam Carver Gymnasium. After the loss, the Vikings dropped from second to sixth place in the NCAA Division II national polls, and were just barely holding on to a half-game lead for first place in the GNAC standings.

Judging by Thursday's performance, the Vikings were never worried about releasing their stranglehold on the GNAC. Although Concordia University put up a fight, the Vikings won 25-16, 25-19, 25-23, it was their 10th win in straight sets on the season, and their fourth sweep in the last five games.

According to All-American middle Kayleigh Harper, they were never worried about how one loss could affect their season.

"It's early in the season," Harper said, "we have so much to learn and do so - of course you hate to lose - but it wasn't devastating because it wasn't

like anything is over."

Still, this was a bounce-back game for the No. 6 ranked Vikings, and their defense kept them afloat against an opponent that was constantly down but never truly out of the match. With a team total of 15 blocks and no blocking errors, the Vikings suffocated a Concordia team that struggled to ever find their offensive footing.

Sophomore middle Chloe Roetcisoender led the team with ten blocks, while Harper and redshirt freshman setter Malia Aleaga each contributed five blocks.

"[O]ur defense was really, really good," said head coach Diane Flick-Williams, "I'm really excited to see that continue to grow because that was our focus this week."

This win helped the Vikings improve to an 18-1 overall record with a 10-1 conference record. According to the Western Athletics website, this was the Vikings' 37th straight win at Carver Gym.

The Vikings are only a half-game ahead of University of Alaska Anchorage in the GNAC standings, and a loss on Thursday would've relinquished sole possession of first place.

- when student admission was free.

Jessie Phillips, ticket manager for the Western athletic department, said that team performance and scheduling are also factors that influence game day attendance.

"There's a direct correlation with attendance and winning or not winning," Phillips said. "Big games stir students, excitement. Big games like the Central game, the [Seattle Pacific University] game students will rally and go to those."

Phillips said the GNAC's scheduling often conflicts with Western's academic scheduling.

"Our biggest [basketball] game of the season, historically, is going to be Thursday, Jan. 2, and classes don't start until the seventh," Phillips

The Vikings played like they had something to prove, and took control of the game from the very beginning, breezing through the first set 25-16.

Floating around .500 in the GNAC, Concordia was hungry for an upset victory. They improved their play and upped their intensity every set, forcing a total of 19 tie scores and 11 lead changes.

"I thought we maintained our composure and played some really good volleyball," said Concordia head coach Melanie Hamblton.

"Western Washington served the ball really tough and we had a hard time handling that serve of theirs," Hamblton said, "They have a great team and we were outgunned."

Western's service was the backbone of their offense on Thursday, recording six service aces to only one from Concordia. One of the most electrifying moments of the night occurred when junior pin hitter Alison Davenport came off the bench late in the second set and nailed back-to-back aces on the unsuspecting Cavaliers defense.

While the Cavaliers never won a set on Thursday, they were no easy wins for the Vi-

sions. They looked especially dangerous in the third set when they stunned Western by jumping out to an early 7-3 lead. Western responded with a 6-1 run themselves and regained the lead on Concordia 9-8 before the visitors called timeout to collect themselves.

Nine of the total 19 tie scores and six of the total 11 lead changes came in the third set. The Cavaliers looked poised to

steal the third set when they recorded two clutch blocks in a row and took a late 23-22 lead.

The Vikings looked unfazed, however, and went on a quick three-point run to stomp any remaining hope for the visiting Concordia Cavaliers. Game, set, match, sweep.

"Volleyball is such a game of momentum," Flick-Williams said, "you got to create it yourself."



Malia Aleaga, Viking volleyball setter, bumps a ball to her team on Thursday, Oct. 24. Vikings won the game against Concordia University three sets to zero. // Photo by Alex Moreno

king's soccer is pretty straight across the board from year to year," Phillips said. "Volleyball coming off the heels of last year's second place finish in NCAA division II, it's [ticket sales] are probably a little bit higher than last year, but not a ton."

To address these issues, Ebersole said her and her colleagues have started a campus engagement and collaborations committee. One of its main goals is to get students more engaged in campus events.

"One thing we started last year was we invited AS clubs to sign up and table at a game and promote an event that they have upcoming," Ebersole said. "Almost every game after that we had clubs coming in and promoting events that

they had, telling people about themselves and creating a platform where we have a stable audience."

Ebersole said several clubs have reached out, including LGBTQ+ and domestic violence awareness groups. Allowing different clubs to promote themselves is one way Ebersole said she hopes to unite the student body, and all the community has to offer.

"We're not only focusing on games, but how we're tying in campus events and initiatives," Ebersole said. "It's about being a community and supporting Western, having a place where you can fight for your team and really feel part of the student body and part of a campus community."

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Vikings clinch spot in GNAC Championships

Women's soccer scores 3 over Seattle Pacific during home game Thursday night

Wilson Turk
THE WESTERN FRONT

The Western women's soccer team clinched a spot in the Great Northwest Athletic Conference championships in Seattle with a 3-0 win over rival Seattle Pacific University on Thursday, Oct. 24, at Robert S. Harrington Field.

After the victory, Western is ranked first in the GNAC with a record of 12-2-0 and 8-0-0 against GNAC teams, followed by SPU with a record of 8-6-0 and 6-2-0 against GNAC teams.

The match started with Western's women on the attack, and for the first 37 minutes, SPU's defense was able to hold them off. The Vikings finally broke through when freshman Estera Levinte, from Bothell, Washington, received a throw-in and passed the ball to junior Jenna Killman, from Olympia, Washington, inside of the penalty box. Killman took one touch, and shot the ball into the upper right corner of the goal to put Western on the board.

The Vikings weren't done in the first half. Four minutes after their first goal, the Vikings controlled the ball and it was passed to Levinte, who beat two defenders to cross the ball back into the box. Junior Darby Doyle, from Spokane, Washington, with one-touch, placed the ball into the lower left corner

past the goalkeeper to put the Vikings up 2-0 before the half.

Going into the game, Vikings coach Travis Connell wanted the team to pressure in the attacking third of the field to force SPU to turn over the ball.

"At times we did that really successfully, and other times, they were able to break through our pressure," Connell said.

At the start of the second half, SPU attacked and applied pressure on the Viking defense. In the 56th minute, the Vikings worked the ball up the left side and again Levinte beat her mark. Levinte took a shot that SPU's goalkeeper got a leg to but couldn't keep out of the net, and the Vikings had their third goal.

Levinte finished the game with two assists and a goal.

"Estera was fantastic, but it doesn't happen without the work of [junior Karli White, from North Bend, Washington] puts in for the first 25 minutes of the game," Connell said. "The players really buy into the team attitude where there are multiple players that play in each half and together, they are going to break the [opposing] team down. It worked out really well today because Estera was lights out."

Levinte said the reason the Vikings won was due to the performance of all of the players working together.



Forward Dayana Diaz beats Seattle Pacific University defenders for a shot on goal on Thursday, Oct. 24. //Photo by Grady Haskell

"I think we worked really hard," Levinte said. "The only way we finished was because we all worked together. I was just a part of it, but everyone else was doing their part so that's how we came out with the win."

The Vikings' junior goalkeeper Natalie Dierickx, from Kirkland Washington, ended the game with three saves and no goals allowed. This shutout is her fourth of the season and 12th of her career. After Thurs-

day's game, Dierickx is one shutout away from becoming tied for ninth for the most shutouts by a goalkeeper in Western women's soccer history.

Dierickx, with only four goals allowed and 29 saves this season, credits the number of shutouts to her defenders for not letting shots be taken on her.

In the last minutes of the game, SPU controlled the game and attacked the goal. Dierickx

described those minutes as "nerve-racking."

"I have a lot of confidence of my players in front of me, and things can get frazzling sometimes, but our team is built on dealing with that pressure, so I wasn't really worried," Dierickx said.

The victory against SPU marked the 250th win for the Viking women under coach Connell.

Volleyball sweeps Western Oregon

Vikings maintain first place in the GNAC and move to 19-1 overall

Jordan Shepherd
THE WESTERN FRONT

The 11-1 Viking's volleyball team swept the Western Oregon University Wolves Saturday, Oct. 26, in Sam Carver Gymnasium to stay No. 6 nationally and hold onto the first-place spot in the Great Northwest Athletic Conference.

"I was really happy with how balanced we were tonight and how we did well on the things we worked on in practice all week," head coach Diane Flick-Williams said.

This win, which included a clean sweep of 25-20, 25-12, 25-16, helps to bring the Vikings to a 19-1 overall record. The Wolves now drop to a 1-11 record in conference play and 3-16 in season.

Western has now won 38 consecutive matches at Carver Gym which starts all the way back in the 2014 season.

The Vikings had a well-balanced offensive match that included five players having six or more kills and nine service aces. Sophomore pin hitter Gabby Gunterman led the team with nine kills and 15 digs, while holding a .292 hitting percentage average in the match.

"I think over this past week we have been training really hard on working on our offensive and making sure that our first ball contacts are solid, and I think it really translated," said Gunterman. "We were just saying in our circle that everything we have



Chloe Roetcisoender, Viking volleyball middle, jumps to spike a ball onto the Western Oregon team on Saturday, Oct. 26. Vikings won the game against Western Oregon three sets to zero. // Photo by Alex Moreno

done this past week has shown up in this game, and I think it feels really fulfilling to put in so much work into that and have it show itself in this competition."

Sophomore middle Chloe Roetcisoender had six kills and a match-high five blocks, with senior middle Joslyn Bopray recording six kills on a .308 hit-

ting percentage and three blocks. Sophomore pin hitter Tess Biscup added six kills and three blocks. Redshirt freshman outside hitter Calley Heilborn had six kills, 13 digs and two aces.

Freshman defensive specialist Tupu Lologo had three aces and led the Vikings while Senior setter Malia Aleaga had 26 assists.

Senior libero Mae Thungc had two aces and 15 digs to tie for the team high.

"I just think we are not easily satisfied, and we are always ready to come into the gym, always ready to continue working, and it's all about perfection and getting better," said Thungc. "We have our great teammates along

with us as we continue getting better."

Western will play Simon Fraser University Thursday, Oct. 29, on the road in Burnaby, BC. The Vikings will then have some home action as they play Montana State Billings at home in Carver Gym on Saturday, Nov. 3, at 7 p.m.



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XC brings home pair of GNAC titles

Men add 5th trophy to collection while women win first title in team history

Jordan Shepherd
THE WESTERN FRONT

Western's men's and women's cross country teams ran away with a pair of first place trophies at the Great Northwest Athletic Conference championships in Billings, Montana, on Saturday, Oct. 26.

"Just an amazing day to be a Viking," said Western head coach of 33 years Pee Wee Halsell. "The team ran as a unit, just like they have done all year, but today was even more impressive. They overcame some tough elements to start fast and finish strong. To claim both team titles is something really special and we are going to celebrate this."

The men's team added its fifth first place trophy to the Western collection and first since the 2009 season. The women's team added its first GNAC title in the program's history and first in the 19 year history of cross country championships.

In the 19 year history of the event, Western joins University of Alaska Anchorage as the only two teams to win both the women's and men's first place titles in the same year. UAA won top honors the previous seven times.

The women's Vikings pulled in a team score of 53, to beat the four-time defending champions UAA by seven points, and claim the title from a team that won the last nine out of 10 titles coming into the 2019 season.

The women's team had all five of their scoring runners finish in the top 15, only separated by a total of 26 seconds. Junior Jane Barr (8th), sophomore Rebecca Lehman (9th), senior Tracy Melville (10th), senior Sophia Galvez (11th), sophomore Tovah Swartz-ireland (15th) were all scoring runners for the Vikings.

Additionally, junior co-captain Talia Dreicer earned a top 20 finish, while senior Aundrea Koger finished 21st.

Barr, Lehman and Melville earned All-GNAC honors for placing in the top 10.

"It was a huge shock and excitement for the girls team, as it was the first time the women's cross country team have won GNAC at Western," said Barr. "Overall, I think having both the girls and guys taking home conference titles just made the day even better as it truly felt like the team was united as a whole by accomplishing something together."

The men's Vikings earned

their fifth team first place title, and first since 2009. The team dominated with a low score of just 38, half of what the second place team Simon Fraser University (76) scored.

Senior James Jaspersen (4th), junior Ed Kiolbasa (5th), freshman Deyago Peraza (6th) and senior Liam Cossette (7th) all finished in the top 10 to earn All-GNAC honors. Additionally, senior Eric Hammel finished 16th, while junior Colton Hoggarth finished 18th.

Peraza, a freshman from Edmonds-Woodway High School, was a possible red-shirt freshman earlier in the year. After finishing 10th at the WWU Classic two weeks ago, Peraza was added to the team's travel roster and after finishing 6th in the GNAC championship, he was awarded the GNAC Freshman Of The Year award.

"For both men and women to get the win today is phenomenal, women for the first time ever, and men for the first time in 10 years. We were ready and really wanted it," Jaspersen said. "We ran as a pack. That's our strength, keeping a pack tight and having a close spread of guys. We run high mileage at Western. Our strong suit is post-sea-



The Western cross country team brings home a men's and women's GNAC championship // Photo courtesy of Jenna

son racing when we finally cut down mileage and start feeling good. We're ready for regionals."

The Western men's track and field and cross country programs have now won the last three team titles, with the Vikings winning the 2019 Indoor Track and Field and Outdoor Track and Field Championships earlier in 2019.

The Vikings will head to the NCAA Division II West Regionals on Nov. 9 at Ash

Creek Preserve in Monmouth, Oregon. After that, the NCAA Division II Championships will be held Nov. 23 at Haggin Oaks Golf Complex in Sacramento, California.

"I believe there is a lot still left in this team heading into regionals and hopefully nationals. They are a driven, determined team that today can call themselves all GNAC Champions," said Halsell.

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