A New Welcome?
Reactions to Homecoming Changes

Sydney Roach
News Writer

It’s no secret that Homecoming has some major modifications in store for this year. Some of the most notable adjustments include the removal of the parade and a different selection process for Homecoming Court. Many students found out through emails from Homecoming organizers that there would be upcoming changes, but not many knew what exactly the changes entailed.

Many students got their first hint of Homecoming changes from the Student Government Association. One email stated that SGA “will be taking a larger role in Homecoming, including being responsible for the Homecoming Court.” It went on to say that all sophomores would be nominating other sophomores for the Homecoming Court. This is a major difference from the previous system that focused more on Greek life.

The second major announcement came from Associate Dean of Students Gina Vance and Senior Director of Alumni Engagement Kara Montgomery, when they sent a campus-wide email last semester detailing the upcoming changes to the Homecoming parade. They said that it would be replaced with a host of events that take place in the center of campus, such as games and areas for affinity groups to gather. These events would be hosted by student organizations and the Alumni Association Office, according to the email. While it was not explicitly stated in any official announcement, rumors say that the parade was removed due to a decline in interest and participation from student organizations.

Reactions from students and alumni range from confused, to upset and optimistic for the future.

"It will be weird without the parade. It was a tradition that I really looked forward to every year. Adjustments could have been made to improve the parade, for sure, but instead the school just got rid of it, which I don’t think was the right decision," senior Emily Donovan said. She continues by saying, "I do like the idea of more tents featuring student organizations, though. I think it will give students and alumni an opportunity to connect that they didn’t have before."

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Marching Bands performing, food trucks and more.

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“Dance on broken glass, build castles with shattered dreams and wear your tears like precious pearls. Proud. Strong. Unshakable.”

- Anita Krizzan


The Great "What After...?"

Michaela Schradin

In plenty of books and films, there is a confessional, heart-to-heart scene. Sometimes, one of the characters has a hard time expressing himself or herself, and the other character seems passive as he or she takes for granted the person for the first time to speak. The individual shares just enough at first or even less, with the perfect audience. In real life, this happens far less often. We smile and nod, and we rarely, if ever, listen! In our heads, we're already picturing where we have to be next. Women are often the victims, and men have the luxury of being listened but not really there, the distant ears. Even when they do listen, they might not be able to endure the distance you sort out your thought. I could talk for days about how much I love to write how the written word has made me into better writer by existing, and makes us feel things we didn't even realize we could. However, I think we can learn to be more listening to others. I write, I would start a battle and fight something that lacks substance. The problem is that when it comes to the great "what after...?" question, isn't it a clear solution? Isn't it enough that we made it this far? I mean, statistically, we've over 50% of Bachelor's degree, we've increased our chances of employment by 14%. So, yay us, right? It's almost like life after graduation is a giant void. How do we fill it? Good school? Some entry level job? What's the right answer? Is there a right answer? Why can't there be a one-size fits all solution when it comes to the one question that everyone normally faces? Should I do what I love? Everyone says try to be happy, but they also say that sometimes you have to do things you don't like to pay the bills. Everyone says to follow your heart, but then they also say not to try to make your life easier on an emotional. How do we begin to try and balance these two opposing ideas? The worst part is I don't know the answer. We're alone. Maybe there isn't an answer. That's the worst (and best, I suppose) part of life. No one knows if there's a 'right' way to balance the lives we lose the things we need. So, if you're starting to wonder... the great "UMMMMMM" moment has happened to you, breathe it. Breathe it. Focus on your College. College allows us to be selfish. Take advantage of that. Use these four years, or however much time you have left, to think about what you want the rest of your life to look like. Right now we're surrounded by road signs pointing in any and every direction. Don't be overwhelmed. All those signs mean you can take them anywhere. Maybe, no one knows where we will be in 20 years, but maybe that's OK. The journey is greater than the destination, right? So, make your journey count.
It's Plague Season, Folks!

Erica McNatt

Fall has arrived! The leaves are changing, the air is getting colder, and Halloween decorations are popping up everywhere. It's the perfect time to stay in, curl up with a cozy book, and enjoy some retail therapy. But before you jump into the holiday spirit, let's talk about the plague.

The main use of the exclamation mark is to end sentences that express:

1. an exclamation: Oooh! That hurts! Hello! How are you?
2. direct speech that represents something shouted or broken very loudly: "Look up there!" she yelled.
3. something that amuses the writer: Hehe! How are you?
4. used in brackets after a statement to show that the writer finds it funny or ironic: She says she's stopped feeling insecure (!) since she met him.

According to Oxford Dictionaries: "The main use of the exclamation mark is to end sentences that express:

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Imagine a world where we used the same amount of emotion when we verbally communicate to one another as the amount of exclamation points we write. Really? Imagine that! Thank you!

Can you imagine that? Read that last line again if you don't believe it.

I was in Poetry Workshop with Dr. Steedlow recently, and he issued a challenge for someone to write about the trend of overusing exclamation points in text messages.

"I have had use of enough," he issued a challenge for someone to write about the trend of overusing exclamation points in text messages.

I haven't heard it…

But sometimes, no matter how hard we try, the plague finds us. When affected, get your rest and drink fluids. Packing yourself too hard will just make it harder to get better. Tired in bed for two whole days doing nothing but napping and catching up on American Horror Story? Tryly, I try to be productive as much as possible during the day, I can't stand being behind on my assignments. But I just couldn't bring myself to do any work that didn't include staring at Dean Peters on the laptop balanced on my chest. I might feel a bit better during that time helped me get back to class and get started on the work. I've had use of enough, and I've probably been over the moon about that since I've learned a point of admiration (and of detestation)."

Erica McNatt

Copyright edited by: Samantha Winter
Hair-Raising History of Westminster College
Charlotte E. Shunk

Long awaited October has finally arrived. Students on Westminster College campus are mourning to find their stolen flannel shirts and hefty boots, making worldly travels plans or course preparing for the upcoming quarter of classes and events. For the first time in the history of Westminster, two events will happen together on campus to celebrate the research and scholarly work of the Westminster College faculty. Dr. Henderson Lecture was founded by the late Dr. Joseph R. Henderson and Elizabeth Henderson to honor the research and work of a scholar at Westminster College.

Dr. Henderson was a professor emeritus of the College. He served as chair of the Department of Education and the Graduate Program. Every year, Westminster faculty members are given the chance to nominate themselves or other faculty members to receive the leadership. Recipients are given a stipend to support their specific research project. A committee of faculty members who vote on the recipients.

Dr. Bersett has been a member of Westminster’s faculty since 2003. He holds an undergraduate degree from Washington University, and a master’s and PhD from the University of Virginia. Prior to coming to Westminster, he taught at Stanford University and the University of California at Santa Cruz. Bersett’s scholarly work has focused on the culture of Spain opening from the present to the 19th century. Bersett has published works that studied the role of satire and parody in Spanish theater. More recently, Bersett has been to study contemporary Spanish authors, including Antonio Muñoz Molina. Muñoz Molina was born in 1954 in Córdoba, Spain, during Franco’s fascist regime. He published his first novel in 1986 and has since published over twenty others. In 1986 and 1992, Muñoz Molina won the Premio Nacional de la Literatura (National Prize for Literature), and in 2013 he won both the Jerusalem Prize and the Premio Príncipe de Asturias (Prince of Asturias Award). Despite having such renown in his home country, none of Muñoz Molina translated works have been on the New York Times bestseller list, and many of Muñoz Molina’s translated works contain themes that reflect his life experiences, and tread the line between fiction and autobiography. Bersett’s lecture will use the works of a contemporary Spanish author to reflect the line between fiction and autobiography. The event will include lectures on the novels written by Muñoz Molina, as well as other works that he has written. The lecture will also be held in the Kinsey Center’s Kinsey Auditorium.

To get students further involved in the event, Bersett has encouraged students to send her any ghost stories relating to campus history, as well as any other stories that could be incorporated into the event. "Students who go out and look for spirit stories, or they could do our campus for a fun event and learn a new side of its history," Bersett said. "My goal is to really encourage [our] students (not necessarily just faculty) who are interested in history to get involved." Students interested in attending the Ghost Tours will convene in Berlin Lounge at 9:30 p.m. on October 31. Tour groups consisting of one or two tour guides and a group of students will depart from Berlin Lounge for the tour route beginning at 9:45. Tours will continue to depart at intervals throughout the time the event is scheduled to last. Seasonal refreshments will be available in Berlin Lounge leading up to tour departures. Ticket sales have become involved in the planning of Ghost Tours through student and faculty efforts. The role of Club Room Manager has connected her with Bersett, leading to conversations about career paths after WC. Club Room has also provided the opportunity for parents and students to explore a career in student affairs, so Bersett extended the offer to allow Club Room to handle the planning and execution of Ghost Tours.

One goal of the Ghost Tours is to create a new WC tradition. This will be dependent upon the outcome of this year’s event. Future years of Ghost Tours will feature new tour paths and ghost stories combined with new interpretations of past ghost stories.

If you attended the Professional Networking Symposium on Sept. 28, 2018, you probably heard a lot of pitches, lot of advice, lot of networking. Wonder what to do now that the event is over? Wondering what to do now that the event is over? Kathryn DeMedal, a first-year professional, has some advice for you. DeMedal graduated from the Titan Network, a career networking event that takes place on campus each fall. Students are paired with alumni to answer questions, and, later, WE-Connect, where students and alumni will be connected to answer questions and help with career-related issues.

DeMedal shared that one of the most important things to prioritize is creating a LinkedIn account. Creating a professional network. Continuing to make connections is also important because it builds students’ confidence in their networking skills. Westminster students have the unique advantage of being able to make the most of their professional networking. More than that, many of the majors and programs offered at Westminster vouch for you or otherwise help you secure a position. Westminster has the opportunity to help you secure a job or a job after graduation. The day of networking and self-promoting meant preparation and research. But now that it is a few weeks behind you, you may be at a loss. Wondering what to do now that the event is over? Kathryn DeMedal, a first-year professional, has some advice for you. DeMedal graduated from the Titan Network, a career networking event that takes place on campus each fall. Students are paired with alumni to answer questions, and, later, WE-Connect, where students and alumni will be connected to answer questions and help with career-related issues.

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Sophomores should also send follow up letters and express your interest in various connections, internships or potential job openings. Consider what role you would like to take in the future, and contact your current connections as well. While those students who took the initiative to attend during their first year should take action, experienced students may want to consider making the most out of their professional network as possible.

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Flags Planted to Honor Cox

Kendall Ackerland

To remember the late art professor Peggy Cox, Westminster hosted a memorial service in early September. To honor her memory further, the college arranged for fellow artist Mary Lou Alexander to present a talk in the Poster Art Gallery about the work of Professor Cox. Following the talk, there was to be a Labyrinth Walk at the Westminster Field Station. Unfortunately, this did not take place due to the weather. However, students were encouraged to take the walk themselves.

The Labyrinth at Westminster was built in honor of Sandra May Edmiston, an alumnus of Westminster College, who passed away in 2005. This week, it can be seen that indigo flags are placed all around the area at the Field Station. These flags, made from leftover fabric from one of Professor Cox’s classes, are now being displayed to honor her memory.

The students who dyed the fabric used for the flags were testing the shibori technique, which consists of wrapping, restraining and stitching the fabric before dying it in indigo to create patterns. The students provided fabric to the Labyrinth, which are similar to the flags placed on cars in a funeral procession. These flags were placed in the ground not far from where Peggy Cox gave the indigo used to make the dye, and will be in place for most of the fall semester. Junior fine art minor Allison Tinker was deeply moved when she heard about the flags placed around the Labyrinth, stating:

“I think the flags represent both Professor Cox and her impact on students. The presence of natural dyes on the fabric used to make the flags reflects [Cox’s] deep reverence and respect for the world around her. The outpouring of people who gathered to help make these flags is a wonderful way to honor her legacy.”

The students, faculty and friends are encouraged to make their way down to the Field Station and walk the Labyrinth. The flags make it more beautiful than ever before. This is a simple way to cherish the memory of someone who impacted the college during her time. Pictures of the flags’ installation can be found on the #flagsplantedonhonorcox Instagram page.


Apple Castle to Host Festival

Kendall Ackerland

We all know the familiar look of the white, stockaded boxes that get brought in on 35AG days and the ever so melodic phrases by hand-baught professors. Even if this is your first ever year here at Westminster, chances are you have been to Apple Castle. The ones that are full of love and originality - tasting like nothing you have ever had before. These beautiful creations come right out of Apple Castle, located here in New Wilmington.

Apple Castle has been growing apples and sharing them with the public for over 150 years. The Johnston family tradition proves to have a timeless aura, always encompassing their focus on food and the time value of money. As temporary or even permanent residents of New Wilmington, we know that there are many activities honor instant gratification versus future. If you are interested in attending any of the activities, look for the TITAN Talk being held on Monday, October 15. The third installment of the TITAN Talks will be on November 27. The next installment will include speaker sessions on planting seeds and growing your creativity. More information will be posted on the alumni event page.
FAFSA Goes Mobile
Alina Clough

If you’ve gotten a head start on filing for next year’s financial aid, you may have already noticed that FAFSA, the Free Application for Federal Student Aid, has undergone a few changes.

Everyone’s favorite [read: only] choice for applying for financial aid is notorious for being a complex annual ritual. Whether you have generous parents who will login from home with their FSA ID, or the onus falls on you to frantically call your dad to ask for his tax return information from the previous year, the FAFSA filing process has evolved into a categorically frustrating bonding exercise for many American families.

The United States Department of Education has gradually made changes to the process since federal aid became required by the Higher Education Act of 1965, which was intended to increase access to higher education through greater availability of low-interest student loans.

Federal loans have undergone a host of changes since 1965, with one of the more recent revisions allowing students to begin filing in October to give high school seniors and their parents extra time to complete their application.

This time around, FAFSA is getting a full facelift. The flagship update of the application process is myStudentAid, an app which allows students to complete their FAFSA application from their smartphone. This app was unveiled by Education Secretary Betsy DeVos earlier this year, and is intended to put student aid back in students’ hands.

“Students should be able to complete their FAFSA early, on their phones and in one sitting,” said DeVos of the new app, “It’s called student aid, after all.”

The importance of mobile access, however, extends beyond giving parents a paperwork break. For families without other forms of computers, or those without a reliable Internet connection or printer at home, the ease of a mobile app can help ease the process of applying for much needed financial assistance. In many cases, the people for whom myStudentAid is likely to make the greatest impact are those who need financial aid the most.

Another change the Department announced involves a change to the way student loan overflow is handled. Since it is often necessary for students to take out loans that exceed the costs their college charges, many students are given refunds for the difference in payment. Instead of issuing a refund check, the way Westminster College has, a program is being tested through which students would receive a form of debit card that would hold the discrepant debit amount. This debit card plan has been the subject of scrutiny in Washington, and has been part of the reason for a delay in the myStudentAid app beta release.

Notwithstanding these reforms, which would ostensibly widen the reach of FAFSA, the Department of Education says they are not expecting the annual number of FAFSA applicants to increase.

The application still includes over 100 questions, multiple steps, and other less-than-intuitive processes that continue to make the ordeal difficult, especially for students and parents completing the process for the first time. Further streamlining and increased access will undoubtedly need to originate on Capitol Hill.

The myStudentAid app is one way FAFSA is becoming more accessible to students. Credit: www.insidehighered.com

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lighter loans.
Ed Sheeran Hosts Concert in Pittsburgh

Sheeran showed off a number of the ballads and upbeat pop songs that made him famous, including “Thinking,” “Perfect,” “Photograph” and “Shape of You,” according to The Times. During his performances of “Thinking Out Loud” and the thousands of voices singing along during Sheeran out, and fans thronged the aisles lights above their heads during slow songs like “Divide.”

A man at the concert chose to propose to his girlfriend while Sheeran sang “Thinking Out Loud.” The couple erupted with cheers as she said “yes,” and the two embraced. The Times reported.

Sheeran has released three studio albums, hit the top-10 hit lists in the United States and won numerous awards in his singing career thus far, according to Trib Live.

Copy edited by: Zoey Povlick

Social Media Pushes Users to Vote

Millena Da Mora

This year, National Voter Registration Day was on Sept. 25, and apps celebrated this day by updating and adding a voting feature to help users register to vote.

Advertisements encouraging people to vote were all over social media, including apps like Twitter, Facebook, Snapchat, Instagram, and even Left. On the national holiday, Left sent out an email containing a link to register online, and promoted the customers offer a free or 50 percent discount to the polls on Tuesday, November 6, Election Day. According to their Twitter page, Left wanted to “make sure everyone’s voice is heard at the polls.”

The graph on the main Google search was also updated to take users to links to their local registrator if they clicked on the picture. Users that have their location turned on were sent to the search term, “How to register to vote.” Pennsylvania, for example, offers online registration to those that have a Pennsylvania ID. States like Texas and Maine do not offer online voter registration, those that register to register must do so in person or by mail. The last day to register was on Tuesday, October 9.

Those who are unable to vote at the polls on Election Day must register for an absentee ballot, which is a letter that has to be completed or mailed in before Election Day because they can’t attend a polling station. According to the National Conference of State Legislatures (NCSL), in 20 states, an excuse is required if voters choose to vote by absentee ballot. In the District of Columbia and 27 states, any voter is allowed to vote without allowing any given an excuse. In Pennsylvania, votes need an excuse and are allowed to vote absentee ballot in the Tab.

“I registered to vote because I want to influence my political system for the future and help change the country for the better,” said sophomore Paige Copee. She added that she had not done anything else to get involved in the process of registration. “Our club thinks that everyone should participate in the election, no matter who you are.”

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THE HOLCAD - WESTMINSTER COLLEGE, NEW WILMINGTON, PA

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1C Physics Student Breaks New Ground in Research at Wooster

In terms of career or graduate school placement, one of the most beneficial things that undergraduate research is so heavily encouraged is that it helps students to come up with their own ideas about how to model, simulate, and analyze, and characteristics two different types of avalanches. Notably, she was the first person from Westminster to ever attend the physics REU at Wooster, and she was also the only first year student accepted to the REU that was a Physics Wooster student.

Using piles of metal beads shaped like small magnets, magnetic fields to model the slopes (or “mediums”) of the snow, and a means of detecting the behavior of the flow of particles to represent a fluid, she attempted to derive a quantity, or mathematical way to determine between and characterize two different types of avalanches. The research project has been ongoing at Wooster for 28 years, with various updates and improvements over the years.

This past summer, Ferita spent 10 weeks at Wooster. Her research consisted of developing a means of detecting, simulating, and analyzing, and characteristic two different types of avalanches. Notably, she was the first person from Westminster to ever attend the physics REU at Wooster, and she was also the only first year student accepted to the REU that was a Physics Wooster student.

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NEW WILMINGTON, Pa — Everyone knows about the classic musical and is familiar with lyrics from the Tin Man as he yearns to feel human emotion when he sings to Dorothy, “…If I only had a heart.” The song is a part of a charming story filled with lovable characters and a wicked witch. 50 years ago, Westminster College staged the Wizard musical. This is the story of the man who played the Tin Man in that production. And when he won the costume and sang on the stage in Beeghly Theater, he had no idea that he would relive the Tin Man’s quest in real life.

In 1969, Jamie Alcroft was a sophomore at Westminster College and active in Theatre Westminster. He even had a starring role in the musical, The Wizard of Oz. He portrayed the Tin Man, the beloved character looking for a heart. And in an ironic twist, nearly five-decades after that performance, Alcroft would also embark on his own search for a heart.

“I played the Tin Man,” Alcroft declared in a telephone interview as he reflected on his days working with the Westminster production.

These days you’ll find him living in California. He has made a successful career in Hollywood. He is both a comedian and an actor. However, in an ironic twist of fate, Jamie found himself with some medical trouble. He was on a plane and had a heart attack, and he couldn’t get to a hospital for 90 minutes.

“And when you have a heart attack, there’s a thing called the golden hour, and I missed the golden hour, so my heart was severely damaged, and I lived on about 20 percent of my heart for 12 years, and then it started fading badly. I was doing okay on the 20 percent.”

Alcroft was taken to Cedars Sinai Hospital where he waited two months for a new heart.

“Because my heart was now functioning at seven percent or less and they told me I needed a new heart.”

He found a unique way of passing the time waiting in the hospital by reflecting on his early days of acting, and the time he performed in The Wizard of Oz. Alcroft journaled about his Theatre Westminster experience on social media. He called his posts “The Tin Man Diaries.”

“I started writing online soon after two friends of mine sent me a little package. It was a little stuff Tin Man. So, I propped up that little doll on my bed, and I became the Tin Man again. I started writing the very next day.”

Luckily, Jamie found a donor for his new heart in time and has made a solid recovery from the transplant.

“I feel privileged to have experienced this, this transformation. It’s a functioning organ, and I’m grateful to have it. And I thanked my donor Bryan with a y, and I thank him every day.”

Alcroft uses his new experience to promote awareness about organ donation.

“There is life after death because people want to accomplish something in their life. And some of us achieve it in some of the stale completely, and we want to leave a legacy. We want to make a difference by being here. And if you lose your life, you can give life to hundreds of people and improve the lives of many, many people.

Alcroft plans his experience and his connection to the role of the Tin Man. He’s now advocating for organ donations and the need to find hearts for people who need them.
A Balancing Act

Emily Kleinos

A typical day in a college student’s life is a lazy morning routine, class, class, more class, and then some stress bakes before studying. What we could accomplish in a day with motivation and eight hours of sleep is endless, but those days are few and far between. Something that has been demonstrated in college is the greater impact that minor has on productivity and mental health. Productivity is dependent on a student’s mood, willpower, and ability to prioritize. This is especially true for Westminster student athletes. Their typical weekday is strictly scheduled and leaves little time for distractions. Sophomore swimmer Nina Hoes explained, “Lots of being successful in college [as an athlete] is making the hard decisions like finding your homework instead of hanging out with your friends or playing Fortnite. You will be happier if you stick to your routine and enjoy your free time more if you make the right decisions.” Nina also cited, “I would encourage incoming students to explore the possibility of being a student athlete.” Because it gives you a built-in support system and can provide access to additional resources that can help you become the best version of yourself during your time here.

Typically, a Titan athlete spends two to three hours a day at practice (not including training and games). This is an example of extra-curriculars, academics, and part-time jobs. The athletes on campus are heavily involved in the community. This type of jam-packed schedule allows for every student to express themselves in different ways, and our programs cater to that. The swimmers before me have built up over the years and it allows for an escape from when everything isn’t going as planned. The Westminster community provides leads athletes and non-athletes to success every day. “The coaches, academic advisors, professors, specifically those of STEM, start out the semester gathering information from the athletes about game schedules and any interference with class or lab. They then allow for the athletes to have make-ups and even attend the games to support their students. The positive atmosphere that the Westminster community provides leads athletes and non-athletes to success every day. If anything, I think it keeps me on track by forcing me to manage and use my free time wisely.”

The athletes on campus collect so much time, why make the commitment? A primary reason for athletic dedication at Westminster is the incredible coaching staff. Hoes stated, “I chose to continue in swim because I absolutely love the water and my teammates. We have a saying that our practice is really just good music with your best friends.” Also, “Our coach is extremely friendly, and he has made it clear from the beginning that academics come first. He always goes the extra mile with academic commitment such as group projects or tests, but he would work with [the schedule] to ensure [her] are successful in the classroom.”

A common misconception is that being an athlete it so much harder than anyone could imagine. It is apparent that a culmination of hard work and leadership has helped this team attain impressive victories this season.

When asked if there was a difference in practice style this season and the previous one, sophomore Jordan McGloth was asked, “Definitely different practicing with so many people at once. We brought in a lot of new players this year, so it was a little hectic trying to figure that out at first. As far as practice structure, we kind of split off into groups for all of our drills. I like this because it us by more productive because we aren’t just trying to run with all of us together. We would often split off into groups and focus on individual drills when we are all using unlimited training sessions. I think this really helps everyone be ready to play at any time.”

The Titans are only six games away from the PAC championship. This spring, many random variables are optimistic about the team’s chances of securing a championship title. Basic outlines our goal for the rest of the season, saying, “I truly believe that we are going to stay on top of the competition and when it comes to PAC Finals we will be there playing for the trophy and headed to the NCAA tournament. Of course, if this isn’t the case, we should still be able to go pretty far in the ECAC.” The Titans next game is at home against Thiel on Tuesday, October 9th at 7 PM. Also, the Westminster Woman’s Senior Day, so make sure to come out and support the team and their seniors as they continue their incredible season.
Fantasy football has become extremely popular over the years and this year is no different. At the end of last season, an estimated 50 million people were actively participating in fantasy football with the average player spending around $100 dollars. For those involved, this can be a very lucrative investment and people take it very seriously. For those of you who don’t know, in fantasy football “you decide what type of league you want to participate in, acquire a roster of players (either through a draft or through autopick assignment), then set your lineup each week during the season and watch as touchdowns, field goals, yards gained, sacks, interceptions and much more generate fantasy points for or against your team. Whether you win or lose and climb or fall on the leaderboard all depends on how well you maximize the talent on your roster each week,” according to nfl.com.

There are many reasons why someone would want to participate in fantasy football. Some of the reasons include; love of football, money or gambling, or just to participate in a different type of competition. I talked to a junior at Westminster College, Alec Lander, about why he participates in the highly popular fantasy football. Alec says, “The reason I joined is because where I work, for the last three years has done a football league with a $50 buy in. [Truthfully], I never fully watched [NFL game], even though I grew up in Pittsburgh as a Steelers fan. The competition of beating my peers in something I knew nothing about was very appealing to me. Since I started participating in fantasy football, I started analyzing everything from statistics to injury reports just so I can win the league.”

However, when talking more about fantasy football with Alec he had a different outlook on why people have made this so popular. He said, “The main reason I think it is popular is because you have the football players that participate but then you get people that can’t play the sport, it seems like they live vicariously through fantasy football and want to be able to participate in some capacity whether that just be through friendly competition of forming your own fantasy team.” It seems like over the last couple of years, fantasy football has become almost as popular as the NFL. The people who play have obviously made fantasy football popular but so have the players themselves in a sense. In the news or social media, there are times where you can see the athletes talking to fantasy players themselves about drafting or points for fantasy. This includes talking about who they should draft and the NFL players promising to perform well if they are picked first in drafts. With all of the new teams and leagues being started across the country, it will be interesting to see how fantasy football will grow even larger over the next few years.

Credit: ESPN.com

Brett Steinmiller

**Sports Writer**

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**Final Scores**

**Women's**

- Soccer: Won against Geneva 1-0, Won against Thiel 5-0
- Golf: Placed 8th out of 10 at Wooster, Placed 2nd out of 5 at PAC Championship
- Soccer: Won against Chatham 2-1
- Tennis: Won against Theil 8-1
- Volleyball: Won against Chatham 3-0, Won against Bethany 3-1

**Men's**

- Cross Country: Placed 2nd out of 2
- Football: Lost against Grove City 33-36
- Soccer: Lost against Geneva 1-2

**Watch This Week**

**Women's**

- Cross Country: Oberlin (OH) Invitational Friday October 13
- Soccer: Saint Vincent October 13th, Bethany October 17th
- Tennis: Saint Vincent October 13th
- Volleyball: Washington and Jefferson October 13th, Grove City October 16th, Bethany October 18th, Hilbert October 19th

**Men's**

- Cross Country: Oberlin (OH) Invitational Friday October 13
- Football: Thiel (Homecoming) October 13th, Saint Vincent October 13th, Bethany October 17th
ARIES
You’re self-sufficient but that doesn’t mean you can’t rely on others. You’ll be stronger for building a network. It will be lucky for you to ask for more help than you’ve been getting. No man is an island. And even if he were, islands are connected to the other landmasses if you go down deep.

GEMINI
A bit of turbulence may enter your relationship arena this week, and you’re better for it. This is just the excitement you needed to keep things interesting, and ultimately to bring you closer together with the people who matter most to you, a group that will grow in numbers in the weeks to come.

LEO
Most people don’t see themselves how they are, but some get closer than others. You’ll observe your own attitude with clarity—a feat that takes maturity, honesty and emotional intelligence. You’ll ask yourself periodical-ly, “Will this attitude move me closer to what I want or further away?”

LIBRA
When friends make mistakes, you might be implicated, even though you have nothing to do with it. What do your friendships say about your? Certainly, some are a better influence than others. You can be loyal and still open to new and beneficial relationships.

SAGITTARIUS
This week, nothing will compare to the sweetness of family connections. You’re absolutely happiest when you’re giving to your next of kin. As far as friends go, the occasional bump in the road is to be expected. Presume the other person is innocent and new insights will develop from there.

ARIES
You might be implicated, even though you have nothing to do with it. What do your friendships say about your? Certainly, some are a better influence than others. You can be loyal and still open to new and beneficial relationships.

TAURUS
The group can be controlled through rules, procedures and bureaucracy, but those only take the group so far. Deeper commitment and creative problem-solving are possible with an approach that involves posing interesting questions and inviting everyone to participate in answering them.

CANCER
There’s a reason for the term “deadly boring.” Because when you’re bored, you’re not fully living life. There’s an upside to boredom, too, if you use it right. Boredom is a signal that you either need to or go deeper in search of what’s interesting or move on to more engaging activities.

VIRGO
Your need for fun is real. It’s how you shake off stress. Note that what’s fun for you may not match up with what’s fun for others. Do it your way, otherwise it defeats the purpose. Also, having a good time will be highly unlikely if you’re thinking too much. Go for completely engaging activities.

SCORPIO
There will be more a lot of group work this week, and you’ll often be the leader. Any combativeness you encounter is best seen as a form of self-protection. Conflict can be avoided by helping people feel comfortable. This will involve listening to their needs and giving assurances.

CAPRICORN
When friends make mistakes, you might be implicated, even though you have nothing to do with it. What do your friendships say about you? Clearly, some are a better influence than others. You can be loyal and still open to new and beneficial relationships.

AQUARIUS
You’ll dabble in high-stakes games and relationships this week. It’s natural to have any of a wide range of feel-ings. There are more and less effective ways of processing them. You can be authentic to your experience and still remain in control of your reactions, one of your many talents.

PISCES
Before you ask for advice, make sure it is what you really want. Some ask for advice when they want approval or attention. When you really do need guidance, you’ll get the best there is. You’ll be ready and able to follow suggestions and you’ll get a lot of support, too, with benefits ongoing.