Black Life at Whitman: Past, Present, Future

The work you’re doing is not work in vain...It’s about planting a seed.”

Phil Boss ’71, played an instrumental role in founding the BSU. He created a place for the community to gather and have a voice when they needed a space for the community to gather and have a voice when they needed a space to do so. In 1970, he represented Whitman College on the first Black Student Union (BSU) at a conference in San Francisco.

In the fall of 2020, Boss spoke with Aliyah Fard ’22, current vice president of Whitman’s BSU, about activism at Whitman from 50 years ago through today. The BSU had a mission to bring awareness to Black struggles and promote awareness of Black history. Today, the BSU continues to be a space for students to come together, support each other, and be a voice for the Black community.

Look At 50 Years Of Whitman Activism.” He also offered encouragement to current student leaders, who are navigating their roles as activists in the community, telling them, “The work you’re doing is not work in vain...It’s about planting a seed.”

Submissions are welcome! If you have a professional or personal accomplishment to celebrate, please submit a brief, 125-word description by noon the day prior to publication to Whitman Today. Articles are produced by the Office of Communications and are emailed Monday through Friday.

Q: What metrics does Washington state consider in evaluating which phase a region is in on the Roadmap to Recovery plan?

A: The four key metrics are:

- The 7-day average number of COVID cases per 100,000 residents.
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- The 7-day percent positive rate of COVID-19 tests.
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In the fall of 2020, the Washington State COVID dashboard website was launched, providing a summary of COVID-19 testing and case data and other metrics about health data and economic impact on the state.

You can view this information for the South Central Region, which Walla Walla is part of. It also includes other data about health and economic impact on the state.

Filion Garners Northwest Conference Student-Athlete Award

For his efforts on Saturday against Pacific Lutheran, Tanner Filion ’23 has been named the Northwest Conference’s Men’s Swimming Student-Athlete of the Week. Filion was stellar in Whitman’s season finale win over the Lutes, most notably breaking his own school record with his victory in the 100 backstroke (49.57). Filion also took top honors in three other events to help the men’s team to its solid victory. He won the 50 backstroke (23.16), 50 freestyle (21.18) and took top honors in three other events.

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What Would You Put in a Time Capsule?

Invites students, faculty and staff to share what items they would place in a time capsule to commemorate this tumultuous time. Perhaps it’s a hand-sewn mask or a bottle of DIY hand sanitizer you mixed yourself because it was sold out everywhere. Or maybe it’s a sourdough starter you nurtured in quarantine, or a capsule to commemorate this tumultuous time. Perhaps it’s a hand-sewn mask or a bottle of DIY hand sanitizer you mixed yourself because it was sold out everywhere.

As we all reflect on the past year of pandemic life, the Whitman Magazine staff invites students, faculty and staff to share what items they would place in a time capsule to commemorate this tumultuous time. Perhaps it’s a hand-sewn mask or a bottle of DIY hand sanitizer you mixed yourself because it was sold out everywhere. Or maybe it’s a sourdough starter you nurtured in quarantine, or a capsule to commemorate this tumultuous time. Perhaps it’s a hand-sewn mask or a bottle of DIY hand sanitizer you mixed yourself because it was sold out everywhere.

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