



Joint Proclamation

WHEREAS, the Western Washington University Women's Soccer team, led by Head Coach Travis Connell, achieved athletic greatness by winning the 2016 NCAA Division II National Championship, marking the 10th team national championship in the university's distinguished history; and

WHEREAS, along the way to a national title, Western's Women's Soccer team accomplished an undefeated record of 24-0-1, including a 24-game winning streak and setting a record for the most wins in a season ever by a collegiate soccer team from the State of Washington; and

WHEREAS, in the national championship game, Western's Women's Soccer team defeated three-time defending champion Grand Valley State by a score of 3-2 in a game that included two goals from Senior Caitlyn Jobanek and a game winning goal in the 76th minute by Bellingham native Emily Webster; and

WHEREAS, in addition to the national title, Western's Women's Soccer team won the GNAC regular season title for the fifth consecutive season and earned the first national No. 1 ranking in program history; and

WHEREAS, earning a national championship in team sports truly requires a cohesive team effort and as an indication of such, 19 players on Western's Women's Soccer team scored at least one goal over the course of the season and the team set a program record and tied the GNAC record with 17 shutouts; and

WHEREAS, Viking standout Sierra Shugarts was recognized as the NSCAA National Division II Player of the Year, becoming the second defender to win the award and was also named the GNAC Player of the Year; and

WHEREAS, the Western Women's Soccer team exemplified the term student-athlete by achieving both academic and athletic success, as highlighted by Elise Aylward being named NSCAA Scholar All American, third team Academic All-American and a GNAC Academic All-Star for the third time in her career and by five players being named to the GNAC All-Academic Team; and

WHEREAS, the accomplishments and sportsmanship of Western's Women's Soccer team on the national stage generates pride and positively impacts the university and communities throughout the City of Bellingham, Whatcom County and the State of Washington.

NOW, THEREFORE, DO WE, Kelli Linville, Mayor of the City of Bellingham, and Jack Louws, Whatcom County Executive, do hereby proclaim January 23, 2017 to be:

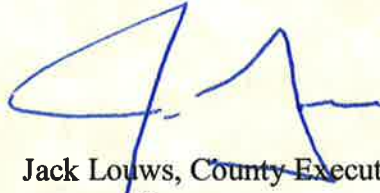
WESTERN WASHINGTON UNIVERSITY WOMEN'S SOCCER DAY

In the City of Bellingham and Whatcom County.

Signed this 17th day of January 2017.



Kelli Linville, Mayor
City of Bellingham



Jack Louws, County Executive
County of Whatcom

