For Immediate Release: Nov. 8, 2021 – Nov. 11, 2021
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Photos: I have been in contact with the photographer for the WWU Hockey team and she is going to send me photos once they have been edited and ready for publication.

WWU Men’s Hockey Dominate WSU in Home Opener

BELLINGHAM, Wash. — WWU Men’s Hockey hosted their first double-header home opener Friday night, since 2019, against WSU. For some of the players, this was their first time ever playing in front of a crowd — and despite feeling the pressure, WWU came out on top with three players scoring late in the third period.

Over the last two years, the world has been put on hold due to Covid-19. For Western, that meant stopping all sports programs. In September, sports clubs were given permission to be active for the upcoming school year. Hockey being one of the most popular sports clubs, started training for their upcoming season. However, given the restrictions, there were still some setbacks.

Teddy Prior, forward for WWU Men’s Hockey said, “It was pretty rough because of all of the restrictions, so we couldn’t really practice the first few weeks of the season.” That didn’t stop the team from doing everything they needed to be successful.

Going into the first period, the tension was high. With four minutes left in the first period, WSU scored bringing the score to 1-0 going into the break. The second period started with intensity; the Vikings were fighting back to make up that lost point from the first period. With six minutes left in the second period, Andrew Gammel had scored a goal, tying the game 1-1. Late in the third period, with the score still tied, the Vikings scored three more goals by; Steven Rosenquist, Teddy Prior, and John Henderson, clinching the victory over WSU.

On Saturday, the Vikings used the momentum from the win the night before to start out strong. Early in the first period, Adam Gammel scored, bringing the lead to 1-0. The players adapted to changes in play from WSU staying one step ahead. The Vikings ended the night with a 5-1 score, Adam Gammel responsible for two of those goals. Their goalie — Edvin Sanders — only allowing two scores on the entire weekend.
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Given the outstanding performance from the Vikings, the coaches are excited for the remainder of the season. Assistant Coach Chris Zuck said, “We are finding our identity as a team and after a late start this season, getting the back-to-back wins this weekend for the home opener was exactly the boost the boys needed.”

The home opener was one for the books, the Vikings came out strong setting the tone for the rest of the season. Catch the Vikings in action this Friday against the University of Idaho at 10 p.m. Hope to see you all there, go Viks!

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