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Halloween comes to CWU. See inside for more events
~ pg. 8 - 9

Keep it down over there!

Observer takes a look at five years' worth of noise violations

By Simone Corbett
For the Observer

It's 10:30 p.m. on a Friday night at the start of fall quarter. What better way to welcome in a new school year than with a house party, right?

Wrong.

If you're not careful, you could easily find yourself being fined up to \$2,000.

Nearly 400 noise violations have been given out to CWU students in the last five years. But either students are getting smarter or officers are becoming more lenient, because the number of violations has steadily declined over the past five years. In 2012, police records show that 84 citations were handed out to CWU students, but that dropped about 35 percent to 55 citations in 2016.

Still, at least 50 CWU students are cited with noise violations every year, with 44 percent of all citations in the last five years coming from the same neighborhoods surrounding campus.

Tyler Jones witnessed the cops

shut down Resonate Church's "welcome back" house party in one of these hot spots — three years in a row.

"We're having this event where there's no alcohol, we're just providing something that people are gonna go to and hangout—still sort of a 'party' but without the drinking. And then the cops roll up without even warning us and hand us a fat ticket," recalled Jones, who just graduated. "We weren't even being reckless...It wasn't like a bad event. We're trying to provide a good thing here."

Each time, they were charged \$500.

"I think it's crazy," Jones said about the cost of the fine.



- See "Noise" page 6 - 7

Scene

Welcome to 'Hell'ensburg

By Ben Ramirez
Scene Senior Reporter

Get ready to be transported back to the Old West and travel through a small town that has been taken over by the dead. Haunting Ellensburg, or 'Hell'ensburg, attempts to shock and scare its guests with elaborate props and talented actors.

The spooky experience starts even before entering. Guests wait in line outside, in the dark, and all they see is what seems like an entrance to an old cabin. Sounds of screaming, yelling and gunshots can be heard over the wooden wall that surrounds the land beyond the cabin.

The wait isn't too long and after a few minutes, the door to the cabin opens and a man behind a counter welcomes guests in. The inside of the cabin is decorated to look like an old saloon and the man is fully dressed in clothing from the Wild West. This is where guests learn the story of the town they just entered.

- See "'Hell'ensburg" page 8

News

On to the next song

The reason behind the 'Burg's change in sound

By Eric Rosane & Kejuan Coleman
News Editor & Staff Reporter

The radio stations managers say they have some new things planned out for a very different future for the station.

The 'Burg has been mainstreaming its music—focusing on Top 40 and pop—to make it more educational for the students coming in who are interested in working for radio stations other than The 'Burg.

"A college radio station is radically different from a professional one—both in terms of management and content—and since people were now coming to us for a chance to learn how professional radio works, we simply needed to start acting more like one," Director of The 'Burg 2 Rune Torgersen said.

The 'Burg 2 was originally slated to be launched as an online, stream-only version of The 'Burg that focused primarily on talk radio and sports when it was on the drawing boards in 2015.

Launching sometime this year, 'Burg 2, it's placeholder name, will be the home for a broad range of rock music as well as a small portion of talk.

- See "Burg" page 3

Sports

Sleep under the stars with OPR

By Hanson Lee
Staff Reporter

With the fall season in full swing, Ellensburg's Outdoor Pursuits and Rentals (OPR) is making it their goal to provide members of the community with an opportunity to get out and explore the outdoors.

On Saturday, Oct. 21, OPR will be doing an overnight backpacking trip where they will be venturing out to Manastash Lake, located just outside of Ellensburg. With student ID, the trip costs \$56. The price is \$75 for non-students.

With the trip being open to anyone who wants to join, trip leader Walter Lackey and the rest of the team at OPR have their sights set on Manastash Lake for a variety of reasons.

"It's a really local lake and it's the closest mountain lake, I would say, to Ellensburg. It's also pretty high in elevation, so it's a cool lake up there at the top," Lackey said. "It's also a short hike so it's not too strenuous for beginners."

To some people, especially those who may not be outdoor enthusiasts at heart, backpacking may just seem like a lot of hiking and sightseeing, but OPR

always plans on making these types of trips much more interesting.

"Usually we will get to camp early and so we'll have a lot of time to chat and get to know each other," Lackey said. "We also usually do pretty extravagant meal plans because that can be fun for us to plan out exactly what we're going to cook."

With all of the planning put into the trip to Manastash Lake, Lackey hopes that people going on the trip are able to have a meaningful experience.

"Hopefully people take away that backpacking, hiking and the outdoors doesn't have to be scary," Lackey said. "If you come prepared with the right gear, it can be really fun and not as intimidating as people make it out to be."

In addition, it's also just as important that everyone comes back to Ellensburg having had a great time on the trip.

"Hopefully the weather is good and we all come back with smiling faces," Lackey said.

Manastash Lake is one of many backpacking trips that OPR is going to be putting on for the Ellensburg community moving forward.

"The primary goal is to get people

more active, and teach people how to backpack and how to camp," Lackey said. "A lot of people have never done these activities before and it could be intimidating to get into these things by yourself. And so we kind of provide that opportunity to those who want to get into these activities."

Looking ahead, Lackey believes that this trip, along with the other upcoming trips put on by OPR, presents a great opportunity for CWU students and the Ellensburg community.

"These trips are a great opportunity to meet other people," Lackey said. "As a university with this type of student opportunity, you can have the opportunity to meet new people who do the same stuff as you."

OPR Info

Hours: Mon - Fri 12 - 6 p.m.

Phone: 509.963.3537

Email: outdoorpursuits@cwu.edu

NEWS

EDITOR: ERIC ROSANE | news@cwuobserver.com

EVERGREEN SCENE



Photo illustration by Jack Lambert/The Observer

Nebraska, Florida, Missouri, Michigan and Arizona all have varied legislation on the ballot for the 2018 midterm elections for medical and rec pot.

Pot in the 2018 midterms

By Eric Rosane
News Editor

Five states are looking to put recreational marijuana on the ballot in the 2018 midterm elections.

Nebraska, Florida, Missouri, Michigan and Arizona could have their spot in the limelight and become the next states to legalize marijuana by way of a variety of legislation formed through several different social organizations.

Each state brings their own history of marijuana legalizations to the table in these midterm elections.

Missouri and Nebraska, for example, are going to attempt in 2018 to both legalize recreational and medicinal marijuana within the same month of votes.

Pro legalization groups throughout Florida and Missouri have also been working on making an aggressive push toward legalization in each of their respective states, but pushes such as Missouri's has people skeptical for the midterms.

Legalization for these states could also contribute massive amounts of tax revenue for coun-

ties and especially for the smaller counties and cities. Owner of the Green Shelf Dispensary Brittany Choyce thinks that we could look towards our own city as a guide for future development of dispensaries.

"You would not believe how much money the city of Ellensburg gets in taxes every month from marijuana. Because of sales tax, you know 8 percent or something is the sales tax, but a chunk of it goes to Ellensburg," Brittany Choyce said.

Kittitas county made \$8,970,466 in sales in 2016. These sales were made across three dispensaries throughout Ellensburg, according to the Daily Record.

Of course, not all tax revenue goes to the city. Of the roughly \$9 million that Kittitas made last year, only .85 percent gets put back into the city, accounting for a little over \$76,000 of sales tax that the city gets to keep.

Not only could legalization of marijuana contribute to the economies of these states, but they could also assist the opioid crisis that some of these states have.

"When you said Missouri, I

almost got chills because those people need marijuana. They don't need opioids," Choyce said. "I'm excited for the social and health impact of medical and legalization."

Although opioid prescriptions in the United States peaked in 2010, and decreased subsequently throughout until 2015, the epidemic in certain counties across the country has reached an all time peak, according to a study done by the Center for Disease Control.

Opioid overdoses accounted for over 63 percent of drug overdose-related deaths in 2015.

Legislations going through in Arizona and Nebraska are attempting to loosen the felony on personal growers, or people who grow marijuana plants themselves for their own personal use.

Of the many proposed bills for the state of Arizona, the ability to allow people to cultivate and grow 48 plants with more than 0.3 percent THC level has been one of the hotly debated sections of legislation debated.

Even though Arizona missed legalization of recreational use by two percent in 2016, the future is still unclear for the 2018 ballot.



Observation Deck

Since I have this column to talk about anything that I want, I am going to give myself a mission.

My goal is to find the most unique, strange or interesting story in the news and tell you all about it so that y'all can learn something new about the world we live in.

This story came to me from The New York Times. The article was published Oct. 12 and written by Joanna Klein. The title: "Jeremy the lefty snail is dead. His children are alright."

I chose this article because I happen to love snails and I even kept a few as pets before I moved out here. One of the saddest things about living in Ellensburg is that there aren't as many snails here as there are on the west side.

Anyways, I digress, back to Jeremy. Jeremy the snail was discovered by a retired scientist in a compost heap in South West London and was given to Angus Davison, an evolutionary geneticist who specialized in studying snails (dream job??).

What made Jeremy different from most snails was the fact that his shell twisted to the left side of his body instead of the right.

Jeremy also had the unfortunate issue of having his reproductive organs spiral counter-clockwise, which made it impossible for him to mate with right twisting "normal" snails.

These defects intrigued Dr. Davison and made him wonder how Jeremy came by his "left-ness," whether it was through genetics or just a developmental defect.

This led to an international search for love for this snail who was destined to be alone. After much searching, two other "lefty" snails were found for Jeremy to try and pass on his genes.

Lefty from Ipswich, England and Tomeu from Majorca, Spain were found last November and brought to the lab where Jeremy lived.

The snails were put together to let the magic happen, but in an unfortunate turn of events, Lefty

and Tomeu were more interested in mating with each other than Jeremy. Since snails are hermaphrodites either snail can lay eggs. Between Lefty and Tomeu, the two produced more than 300 bouncing babies.

Jeremy seemed to be fated to pass on to the great garden in the sky without ever finding love. However, according to Dr. Davison, Jeremy did eventually become a father. A few days before Jeremy died, Tomeu produced about four dozen babies and it is believed that Jeremy fathered many of them.

Even though the parents of the newly hatched babies were "lefties," all of the babies that were produced were "righties." This gave scientists more questions as to when those genes would pass on. Scientists speculate it could take about a year before the gene resurfaces.

Luckily for Jeremy, he was able to meet his children before passing away. His shell now sits in a museum as a teaching tool. The most surprising thing about this little snail is the amount of love he got from fans.

With the hashtags #snaillove and #leftysnail, Jeremy was known around the world. His plight even inspired Lydia Hiller to write a tragic love ballad about him, called "The Tragical Ballad of Jeremy the Left Twisting Snail."

Well there you have it folks, your news for the week. Let's all try and learn something from our dear friend Jeremy. In a world full of right twisting snails, find your left twist. Find the thing that makes you different from everyone else. Find the thing that makes you special and gives you happiness. Now, that may not be accepted by everyone but you just keep on being your snail self.

RIP little dude, may you find many tasty snacks in the afterlife.

Signed, Sarah J. Hoot
Editor in Chief

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Quote of the Week

"I've always kind of had a chip on my shoulder. That's what I think of everytime I go out there."

-Jackson Huerta on his road to CWU, Page 6

Editorial policy: The Observer is a public forum for student expression, in which student editors make policy and content decisions. The mission of the Observer is two-fold: to serve Central Washington University as a newspaper and to provide training for students who are seeking a career in journalism. The Observer seeks to provide complete, accurate, dependable information to the campus and community; to provide a public forum for the free debate of issues, ideas and problems facing the community at large, and to be the best source for information, education and entertainment news. As a training program, the Observer is the practical application of the theories and principles of journalism. It teaches students to analyze and communicate information that is vital to the decision making of the community at large. It provides a forum for students to learn the ethics, values, and skills needed to succeed in their chosen career. If you have questions call (509) 963-1073 or e-mail us at cwuobserver@gmail.com

NEWS

EDITOR: ERIC ROSANE | news@cwuobserver.com

Brewing program continues to expand

Miles King
Staff Reporter

Posted on the wall of the Craft Brewing lab at CWU is the brewing process. To most students, the process can be somewhat confusing, but according to student Robert Renneberg, “if you can make Kraft mac and cheese, you can make beer.”

When the Craft Brewing certificate became available at CWU in 2009, there were 16 to 22 students enrolled. Fast forward to the present, and the program now has 40 students pursuing a Bachelors of Science in Craft Brewing or a one-year certificate study, according to Dr. Steve Wagner, director of the craft brewing program.

The full four year degree option has only been available since 2015. A few students have graduated from the program in just two years, although they had earned another degree prior, Wagner said.

The program was developed with the help of Wagner, who is well educated throughout many fields. He has degrees in biology and chemistry from

CWU, as well as a PhD in genetics from Oregon State University.

This, along with a sabbatical to the technical university of Munich, one of the oldest brewing schools in the world, gave him all the background he needed to develop the curriculum for the program.

Wagner said he also researched other brewing programs across the country for reference.

This includes University of California-Davis’ fermentation science degree, as well as Oregon State University’s food science program. Lastly he consulted surveys of the industry, to nail down what employers want.

Robert Renneberg, a 27-year-old certificate student in the program, has just started his year-long study this quarter. Before attending CWU, he attended community college in Spokane.

He currently lives in the Seattle area and carpools with another student to class. Renneberg was drawn to the program at CWU because he wants to own and operate his own brewery in the future.

Renneberg has already started brewing at home using an extraction system in a single six-gallon pot. He has

“I think this program will be very important for Central in the future.”

-Mike McCarthy, Senior Craft Brewing



James Stuck/The Observer

Connor Anderson tests the temperature of the mash. Mashing is the combination of multiple grains and water with heat.

also worked with brewer in Renton who used 100+ gallon tanks.

“It’s a lot of hurry up and wait,” Renneberg said, referring to the brewing process.

He also expressed that the program has been “so far, so good,” and his fellow classmates have been very welcoming.

Mike McCarthy, a 23 year-old craft brewing student pursuing the four year bachelor’s degree, started the program in the spring of 2016.

Before attending CWU, McCarthy went to the University of Washington but eventually

dropped out.

He developed an interest in craft brewing, working with hops for the last four years. McCarthy was drawn to the program because it is one of the only craft brewing programs in the country.

Looking towards graduation in the spring, McCarthy said he has not disliked anything about the program. He added that the business management courses as well as the chemistry courses have been extremely useful.

“I think this program will be very important for Central in

the future,” McCarthy said.

“It allows us to maintain a brewing atmosphere,” Renneberg added.

In the future, Renneberg hopes the funding for the program increases as the program continues to grow. Currently, the funding is enough for a smaller class.

Wagner hopes to see professional courses added at the new CWU Sammamish campus, as well as an additional postgraduate or master’s program for craft brewing. Wagner also expressed the desire for a lab set-up working with the industry.

MEC expands resources for students

Samuel Beaumonte
Staff Reporter

Last Thursday, Oct. 12, the Multimodel Education Center (MEC) held an open house in Black Hall where they showcased some of the new equipment they received for the year, including new virtual reality and augmented reality kits.

Last year the MEC received its first virtual reality (VR) set and began checking it out to students. Now they’ve extended their collection to two sets of Vive equipment and two sets of the Oculus Rift. The sets are available for checkout after completing a “safety and use” course that is held at the MEC on Fridays.

“I know that due to my informal tracking, we’ve doubled the numbers [of people] that have come in from the previous year, and we’ve doubled that from the year before so each year it seems like we’re doubling the amount of people using the resources that we have here,” Chad Schone, the director of the MEC said.

With such an increase in student interest, the new equipment is meant to bolster availability as checkouts and reservations are expected to rise. “I think the new [VR] sets will bring in a lot more students,”

senior physics major Jani Jesenovec said, who is an employee at the MEC and helps teach the instructional courses.

Aside from the VR sets, the MEC also ordered a Hololens, a headpiece designed for augmented reality (AR) by allowing the user to overlay animated graphics, photos, or games in their immediate surroundings.

“When we first did our workshop last week, we had people come in at 2 and they stayed until 8 just exploring virtual reality and how it works and what they can do with it,” Schone said.

Earlier in the year, the MEC also started ordering new material for their 3-D printers. Included were new materials that make prints look like a wooden product, as well as a rubber based model that can bend without breaking.

“Our 3-D printing prices have massively gone down. [Prices are] dependant on the amount of material we use now and it’s about a fifth of the price it was before,” Jesenovec said.

The equipment that the MEC purchases is dependent on student interest and is evaluated based on check-out records.

“Whatever we get, it’s based on what we have checked out.

If we’re out of laptops at the end of the quarter, then we get more laptops,” Jesenovec said. “It’s much more unique and it makes the space a lot more educational. It’s such a unique way to learn that students learn the content a lot more.”

Checkouts for VR sets and the Hololens are available after a student completes the safety training and then checks out a set through their Student Outlook.

Aside from the new VR/AR sets, the MEC plans on ordering new 3-D printers and has ordered four more DSLR cameras and 20 more laptops, as the current equipment is consistently checked out and on reservation.

“We’re hoping to get two more 3-D printers, and one flow 3-D printer that prints in a different way,” Jesenovec said.

Rental and print orders are handled at the MEC’s front desk, which is open Monday through Friday from 8 a.m. to 8 p.m. and 1 to 4 p.m. on Sundays.

“I think students need to know how accessible the technology is, and if they can’t make the training sessions they can just come in and ask the staff to train them if they need it,” Jesenovec said. “These things are really expensive, but you can use them for free.”

Prepping for plastic tax

Jason Morales
Staff Reporter

Starting Jan. 1, stores will start charging five cents for every plastic and paper bag that you are going to use.

The whole purpose of the charge is to have people realize that they can use reusable bags, in an effort to minimize plastic bag consumption.

City Council Member Nancy Lillquist said “too many of [the plastic bags] find their way in the land, sea, get broken down and mixed with the environment and get eaten.”

While the plastic tax won’t be in effect till Jan. 1, there are many citizens who have no idea that there is even a tax to begin with.

The city ordinance has placed the stores in charge of letting the customers aware of the extra five cents on plastic bags, yet there has been little marketing for the plastic tax.

“We have been talking about this for two years now,” Lillquist said.

Lillquist did mention how there will still be people who are not going to be aware of this. It has been on the radio, newspaper and television, but there will be people who have other things on their minds to pay attention to.

A customer at Safeway, re-

cently moved to Ellensburg in July, claimed that she was unaware of the plastic tax.

“I have [reusable bags], I just forgot to bring them, but I think it’s a good idea,” they said.

“I’ve been slacking in buying reusable bags, even though they just cost 99 cents,” a Grocery Outlet employee said.

Lillquist did say that this initiative will not be fully effective in slowing the use of plastic bags, nor will this new policy stop the sales of plastic bags all together. People will forget to bring their reusable bags, they won’t mind paying five cents or they will take the plastic bags to keep for themselves.

When asked about why only five cents as the charge, Lillquist said, “the research I saw said that five cents was enough. Most places in Washington have banned plastic and put five cent fee for paper”

The city of Ellensburg does not care how you get your groceries from the store to the car, Lillquist said.

She also mentioned that with the research, “...psychologically, it’s enough just to trigger a reaction of ‘I don’t want to pay that’, and don’t want to feel pain.”

“If it doesn’t work, then we will reconsider,” Lillquist said.

NEWS

EDITOR: ERIC ROSANE | news@cwuobserver.com

A change of sound and a new station

"The 'Burg" from page 01

This comes just months after 88.1 The 'Burg permanently hired current General Manager Jeff MacMillan earlier this summer. Throughout those following months, MacMillan and his current staff had much to revise within both the operations and the radio station itself, opting for a more individualistic and professional approach to college radio.

This revision, according to MacMillan, aims at accomplishing two primary things. To provide student employees the opportunity to work in a more professional and cohesive environment, akin to that of a real radio station, and to allow the station to better serve the community with music that people from Thorp to Moses Lake will want to hear.

CHR and HotAC are the terms used in the radio industry for Top-40 radio and adult contemporary music. The 'Burg's move to host primarily those niches of songs is based around a market, according to MacMillan. Within the market that The 'Burg is already competing in, there is already a country station, a classic rock station and an urban-contemporary station operating throughout Ellensburg and Yakima.

This move is an attempt to grasp onto a market that MacMillan believes is less saturated, as



Mikaela Nickolds/The Observer

An 88.1 The 'Burg DJ mixes in the studio in between songs. The station has recently changed their sound towards Top-40

far as the number of stations in the industry, and is highly sought after by listeners and the public.

"Keith Champagne, Travis Box and former Dean of Student Success Sarah Swager had an idea to make a second station because The 'Burg was bursting at the seams," MacMillan said. "They had 125 plus volunteers at the time."

MacMillan also said that a portion of the reason for the large change to a predominantly CHR and HotAC station was because of too much variance

in shows. Within an hour, people would hear such a variety of music and content, that people would not be aware of what show they were listening to.

"When we were looking at that, we knew right away that the active rock format and the classic rock format wasn't going to work, and it hadn't been working," MacMillan said. "[The] 'Burg's numbers were down, people didn't know what they were going to hear. There's been points in the last two years where you [could] turn on over a three hour period and hear

metal to hip-hop to 1980's pop music."

"That meant streamlining our music format and imaging towards something a bit more Top-40 centered," Torgersen said.

"It's also a very bright future to look ahead to, The 'Burg 2," Torgersen said. "The 'Burg 2 is our way of preserving some of the more freedom-related aspects of college radio that The 'Burg 1 is unable to provide in its new context." There are going to be many different features from The 'Burg 1 radio, Torgersen

also said.

"It'll be an online stream available on our app and on our website, and the music itself will revolve around rock as opposed to Top 40s," Torgersen said. "It's still in the very beginning stages of development."

Tanner Chambers, on-air personality for the "Fitz Show" and chief writer of the "Hit List," attended CWU from 2014 to 2016 and was the music director at The 'Burg during a portion of his time at CWU.

When Chambers heard of the changes that were underway at The 'Burg, he was understanding and saw the strategy in the move made by MacMillan, despite having a personal connection and love for the format clock and content that he put together. Chambers also sees the opportunity of re-branding as very smart for all parties involved, despite the limitations this might pose to on-air DJs.

"I didn't come to CWU to be in the radio business. Because I was allowed to play and try things that would never be heard on commercial radio, I fell in love with it and it changed my life forever. I hope the students will be able to play and balance being in a professional environment. Playing is where the magic comes out and careers begin," Chambers said.

The 'Burg plans on refining and streamlining a new version of their yearly listener survey that will be available sometime before this spring.

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OPINION

EDITOR: Sarah Hoot | editor@cwuobserver.com

My roommate from Hell



By Alexi Prante
Staff Reporter

When you get into college, you have to learn to live with a roommate.

Living with roommates can be a different experience compared to living with brothers and sisters, especially since you can't count on your parents to yell at your roommate like you could with siblings. The problem is that sometimes we have to deal with crappy roommates and sometimes it is not even the roommates who cause the problems.

If you live in one of the apartments in Ellensburg, you have probably dealt with people who aren't the best to have your room next to. I am one of those people lucky enough to have a great roommate but the people who live above us are the worst and they have already confirmed for me that I will never live in a duplex or apartment again.

I live in an upper-lower level duplex and I live on the bottom

floor. I didn't have much of a problem with the people living upstairs until about a week into living in this new place. Now, I am writing this piece on the floor of my closet with my headphones in and my podcast volume turned all the way up because this is the only way to not listen to their music.

We all have that story about having the neighbor or the roommate who loves having their music turned up way too loud, and my upstairs neighbor is one of these people.

I didn't have a problem with this until they were playing music all night long and loud enough that I could sing along to what song they were playing.

This seems to be more of an off-campus problem with students who like to party or just like their music to hide the sound of anything else that is moving at that time.

Another one of the problems I've noticed while living here is that our neighbors are horrible at getting their trash to the garbage. They like to put their garbage right next to their front door but they don't like to walk a few more feet to put it in the actual garbage can until garbage day arrives.

I've heard and I've seen some



Photo Illustration by Jack Lambert/The Observer

of the students in the dorms who might not have it at the top of their mind to take out their garbage when it's full or something stinks in there and needs to be dumped.

Something else that's a bother is when your roommate leaves their clothes all over the place instead of putting them in the dirty clothes bin. I understand this problem and do my best to not be a mom, so I remind my roommate gently that they have their crap everywhere and they really need to wash the shirt

that's been sitting on the floor for two weeks.

The last problem I have with roommates has to do with dishes. Dishes are the worst and I understand that. I truly hate doing the dishes and would rather clean the entire house before I do them. The problem with this is that someone has to do them, and they have to be done within a few days. A roommate I had last year was not the best at cleaning the dishes. They would leave used dishes stacked around their room. At some

point we ran out of spoons because all of the spoons were in my roommate's room and I finally had to go and collect the spoons to clean them.

Roommates can be the best and a friend forever, but they can also be the bane of your existence and make you wish you could live in a silent bubble. The moral of this small rant is that you should be kind and respectful of your neighbors because karma is quite the person to take vengeance on you if you don't.

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TURN DOWN FOR WHAT...?

NOISE VIOLATIONS

“Noise” from page 01

Many Central students share the same frustration. Perhaps that’s due to the hefty fee imposed on those violating the city’s noise ordinance, which operates on a three-tiered system. A resident’s first noise violation is \$500, their second violation in the same calendar year jumps to \$1,000 and a third violation in the same year doubles again to a \$2,000 fine. Given the high fees, the number one complaint expressed by violators is that they didn’t receive a warning before being cited—a choice that is the officer’s.

“The price, I don’t think is justifiable...compared to other schools,” said Tanis Stock, a former student who had his own run-ins with the Ellensburg police during his four years on campus. Stock explained that his house hasn’t always received warnings before being given a noise violation ticket.

“They’d never say that they can hear us but they’d see people coming in and out of our house,” Stock said. “But every time they’ve given us a warning, there’s been like 10 people in our house and most of the time it’s the people that live there and their significant others or close friends. It’s never when we have a [huge] group of people.”

NOISE VIOLATIONS EXPLAINED

The City of Ellensburg’s noise ordinance said that noise should not be heard from more than 50 feet away between the hours of 10 p.m. to 7 a.m.

This basically means that a person standing out on the sidewalk should not be able to hear noise coming from inside your house after 10 p.m. However, between the hours of 7 a.m. and 10 p.m., the restriction on noise increases to 100 feet.

“Mowing the lawn—that’s a reasonable thing during the day and you’re gonna hear that lawnmower from a great distance. After 10 o’clock, it’s not reasonable to mow your lawn,” said Ellensburg Police Captain Dan Hansberry. “It’s not just music and voices, it’s really any kind of noise.”

However, loud music and voices past 10 p.m. are where over 50 percent of noise violations in the last five years have come from, the records show.

“Most noise violations are related to parties,” Hansberry said.

The city used to start fines for first offenses at \$250, like most other Washington towns, but Hansberry said they saw too many repeat offenders.

Another spur to increase it was “Senior Golf.” The annual graduation bash—which started in the morning and involved students travelling to different house parties north of campus—got way out of hand in 2001.

“It was completely out of control—burning furniture in the street—almost like a mob mentality,” Hansberry recalled.

So the city doubled the fines, and now also requires that landlords are notified of the violation.

Nancy Lillquist, who’s been on the Ellensburg City Council for 16 years, defends the increase. “If you don’t learn your lesson on what that acceptable range of noise is, [consequences] can escalate,” Lillquist said.

Once a student receives a violation, they can plead their case in court

and possibly get their fine cut in half. Another route is to avoid the potential of receiving a violation altogether by requesting a noise waiver from the city council to have noise exceeding the limits or the 10 p.m. quiet hours—something partygoers and party-throwers don’t often take advantage of.

“Once a year students will come in asking about permits for neighborhood parties,” Lillquist said.

But Hansberry noted that just because you turn in the application for a noise waiver, doesn’t mean you’ll receive it. He said the noise waiver requests that tend to get declined are usually for parties with an end time of 2 a.m. in residential areas.

Hansberry believes the steady decline is due to a couple of factors.

“We’ve been pretty fortunate in the last couple of years to have a good wave of students come through. There just hasn’t been “a lot of

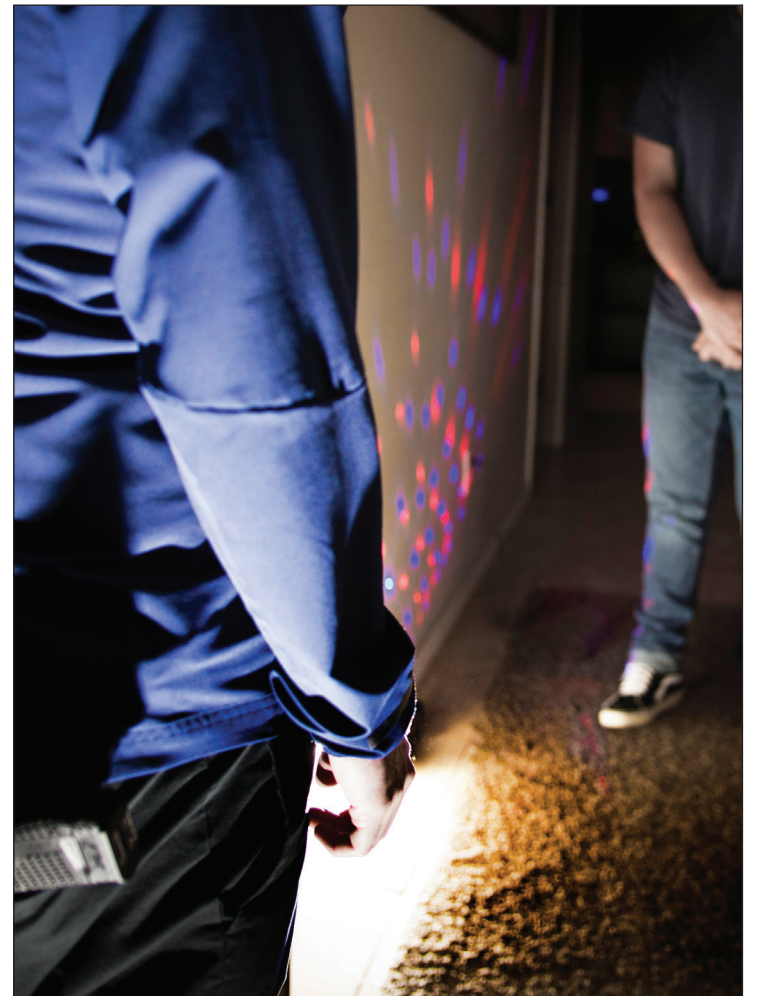


Illustration by Jack Lambert

knucklehead classes,” he said.

Hansberry also credited the decline with Ellensburg’s police officers improving their communication with students.

STUDENTS DISLIKE POLICIES

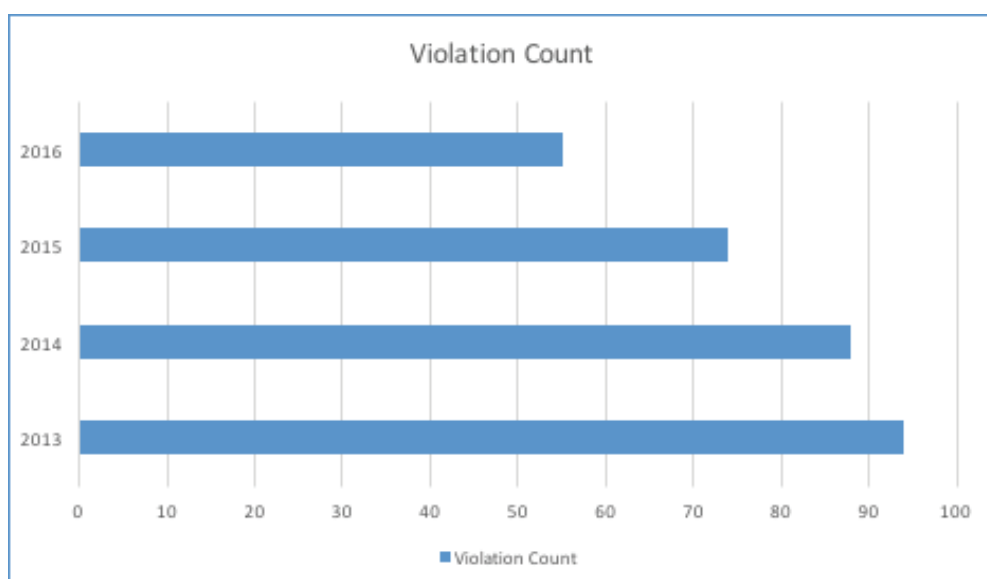
Many students don’t like the 10 p.m. start time and the fact that warnings aren’t mandatory.

“I feel like Ellensburg doesn’t really embrace the fact that it is a college town,” said Jones, who thinks they should kick in later, especially on weekends. “Coming from [the University of Idaho] and they have a Greek row, it was 4 p.m. and music could be heard from probably a mile away. Everyone’s outside partying. I feel like Central is overbearing. Students are gonna do that [party] regardless.”

Another recent grad, Sharlyn Lyman, said she understands the 10 p.m. restriction, but wishes officers were first required to give warnings.

“I feel like we should always get a warning first, before getting a noise vio,” Lyman said. Lyman and her roommates weren’t familiar with the city’s policies until she received a violation due to a house party she had last fall.

“There were two cops, they were both really nice. They both just



told me that people in the garage were yelling really loud and the music was really loud, and they could hear [from] 700 feet or a really long ways down the road from our house,” Lyman recalled. “They offered to help get everyone out of our house and stayed outside until probably half the people left.”

She recalled feeling emotional and scared, but she got the fine reduced to \$250 instead of \$500 by a Kittitas County judge, and their landlord never got involved.

CWU senior Alex Horning was a fellow partygoer in a similar situation.

“I was hanging out with some friends, it was supposed to just be a kickback—two guys, two girls playing some beer pong,” Horning said. He explained that his group of friends were planning on leaving to go to a party until they heard it got shut down.

So his friends decided to let the party come to his friend’s place instead. “Within the next 45 minutes, that house went from four people to about 60. The entire house was packed—people spilling out into the backyard, people going into the front yard. [Within] two hours, cops showed up. At the end of the night the guys ended up with a ticket and were really upset.”

Like many students in town, Stock’s greatest frustration about noise violations seemed to come from Ellensburg’s price compared to the college towns of Cheney, Pullman and Bellingham.

“I can understand where they’re coming from because there are families and people who actually wanna sleep who live around us,” he said. “But I don’t think for the [parties] we’ve gotten noise vious for were necessary.”

Ellensburg Police want to assure students they aren’t actively patrolling for noise violations.

“Officers do not enjoy going to these house parties because we deal



10 p.m. is the time when quiet hours start, excessive noise after that could result in a fine. Illustration by Jack Lambert

with a lot of highly intoxicated people,” Hansberry explained. “They [officers] would rather be out doing other police work.”

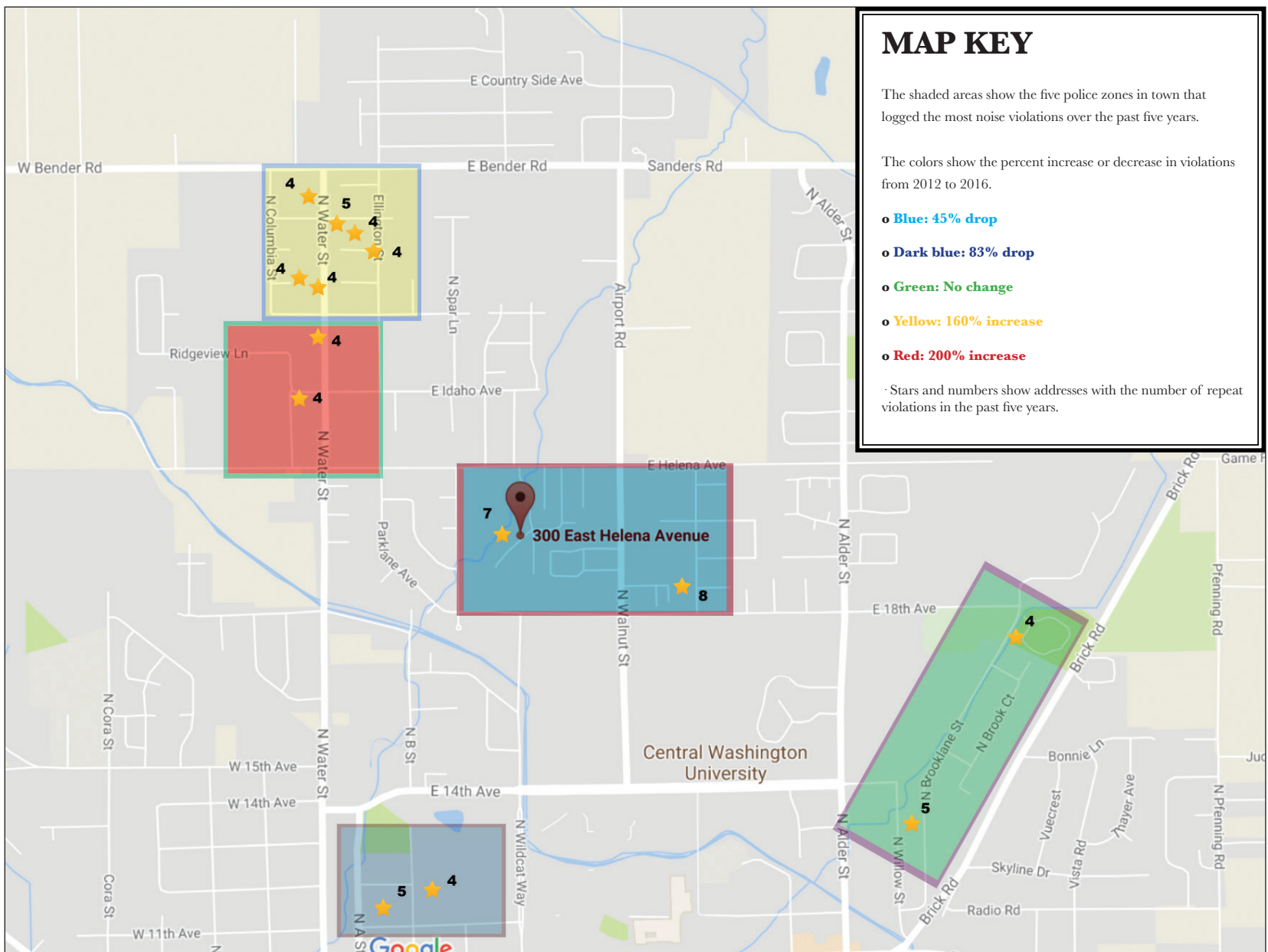
Lillquist said students should understand that noise violations are given out on a complaint basis.

“If you don’t bother your neighbors, it’s okay,” she says. Lillquist explains if you happen to live in a neighborhood where the standard and the tolerance for noise is higher, you may be less likely to get a violation.

Although students often complain about the high fines, and even occasionally come before the city council with petitions, there has still not been a strong enough push from the overall community to lessen the fees, Lillquist said.

“It is kind of a perpetual conflict between young people and their neighbors in neighborhoods where there’s families and older people,” she said. “In the past there were citizens coming before the council saying there’s noise that’s not being dealt with, there needs to be a change, and that’s when we did the progressive fees...”

“If they’re [Ellensburg community] not pushing us to change things, we’re not gonna touch it.”



Graphic design by Leo Andraca

Scene

Editor: Daisy Perez | scene@cwuobserver.com

Devil's blood scares guests at Haunting Ellensburg

'Hell'ensburg is unlike the typical haunted houses that pop up around the state during October. Instead of guests walking through a dimly lit warehouse while fake looking props jump out from the ceiling and walls, 'Hell'ensburg aims to immerse their guests into a storyline and make them feel as if they are in real danger.

"I have never been to a haunted house before so I had no idea what to expect," said Aaron Moriarity, who was visiting from Gig Harbor. "I did not realize that we would run through a town, I figured it was just going to be a house or something that we walked through."

This year's haunt is a continuation of a story that began last year, but people do not need to have attended last year to have a good time.

The guests are told that last year, the town discovered a mineral called "Devil's Blood" and that this year it has been causing the dead to come back to life. The town is being terrorized by the undead so it is not safe to be out and about at night.

Guests are escorted outside and run from cabin to cabin, each more scary than the last. A man with a revolver escorts guests through the cabins and warns every one of the horrors that could be around each corner.

After making it through each



Jacob Gerken/The Observer

The townsfolk hunch over boxes with a variety of weapons as they hide from zombies that have been exposed to "Devil's blood"

cabin, the guide reminds guests to stay low and hurry along the path as the group makes its way to the next building. Along the way, the townspeople can be heard screaming and seen running in terror from the undead.

There are some moments when someone who has arisen from the dead spots the group of guests and chases them all. The only thing the guests can do is run to the next cabin and hope there isn't something worse inside.

Each cabin holds a different scene so the guests never know what

they are walking into. Some have gruesome scenes of violence and torture while others are dark and quiet until a zombie steps out from the shadows and begins to make its way towards the startled guests.

The one thing that is constant throughout the entire experience is the actors. Each actor is fully dressed in period clothes and plays a different character.

None of them break character and will even comment on things that the guests say or do. The whole haunt is clearly well thought out to make the guests truly terrified.

"My first impressions were that this is really well done. They obviously rehearsed it," said Steven Jordan, a sophomore computer science major. "I enjoy haunted houses and it seemed like they put a lot of effort into [this one]."

Groups of no more than five people are let in at a time and this makes everything seem much more personal.

With less people in a group, the actors can look everyone in the eyes when they are chasing them and there are less people to hide

'Hell'ensburg

When: Every Friday and Saturday until Halloween
Kiddie Hour: 6 p.m. - 7 p.m.
Mature audience: 7 p.m.
 (only ages 13 and up)

behind when things get intense.

"We were standing in an old house and fog was coming out of the floorboards. A woman who looked possessed was crawling at me," said Morgan Krueger, a junior from UW. "I forgot for a second that she is just an actor. When they are only a few feet from you, it can be hard to not get scared."

The full experience lasts about ten minutes but it seems longer because there is always something happening and something to look at.

Props are scattered throughout the entire place, even outside the cabins, which helps set the scene.

"Near the end, there is a room with two ways out and a zombie that you have to run past. There are lots of gunshots and explosions," Jordan said. "The whole thing is hectic and chaotic and it got my heart racing."

Hordes of undead will make students scream

By Adam Robertson
Staff Reporter

It's a frosty, fall Saturday night and the SURC is dark. Instead of a brightly lit dining area with a cluster of students watching the day's sports highlights, the glass façade is mostly black except for an almost ghostly glow.

The building's sharp lines seem more dangerous than usual and a faint scream finds its way outside. Is that the wind, or the groaning of a hungry horde of undead?

Inside, all becomes clear; CWU's Halloween weekend student spookfest, Haunting at Central, is back and bigger than ever.

Haunting at Central is taking over the entire SURC with Campus Activities coordinating most of the event's substations.

This year's activities include a haunted house, Halloween costume dress-up photo booth, nine holes of mini golf and movies in the Pit.

"In the past, the entire thing was run by students," said Ted Philpot, a senior event planning major who is helping coordinate the event with Campus Activities. "This year we've upgraded it. We hired an external company and they're gonna come in with all the supplies for the haunted house, but we need to supply actors for it."

Student spookfest

When: Oct. 28
Where: SURC 9p.m. - midnight
How: Free with student ID

Campus Activities hired Simplified Entertainment—a national company based in New York—to bring in the materials for the haunted house as well as the costume photo booth and mini golf.

This year's version of the Haunting is also incorporating the seventh annual Zombie Zone, previously a standalone event run by the Residence Hall Association (RHA).

Students attending the event will get to choose from this smorgasbord of scary options thanks to a bevy of sponsors, including Campus Activities, RHA, Dining Services, Recreation, Wildcat Shop, Wellness Center, AS-CWU and the Student Union.

Eamonn Clarke, a senior chemistry major and RHA vice president, is running this year's Zombie Zone.

"We're cutting all the power to the Rec Center and filling it up with zombies," Clarke said. "The backstory is [that] there was a refugee center set up in the SURC and then an infected student got in, and now it's totally deserted except

for the dead."

Teams of five will get Nerf guns—"good, old-fashioned six-shooters"—and a guide, a veteran of the Zone. They will then go on one of three missions through the zombie infested Recreation Center.

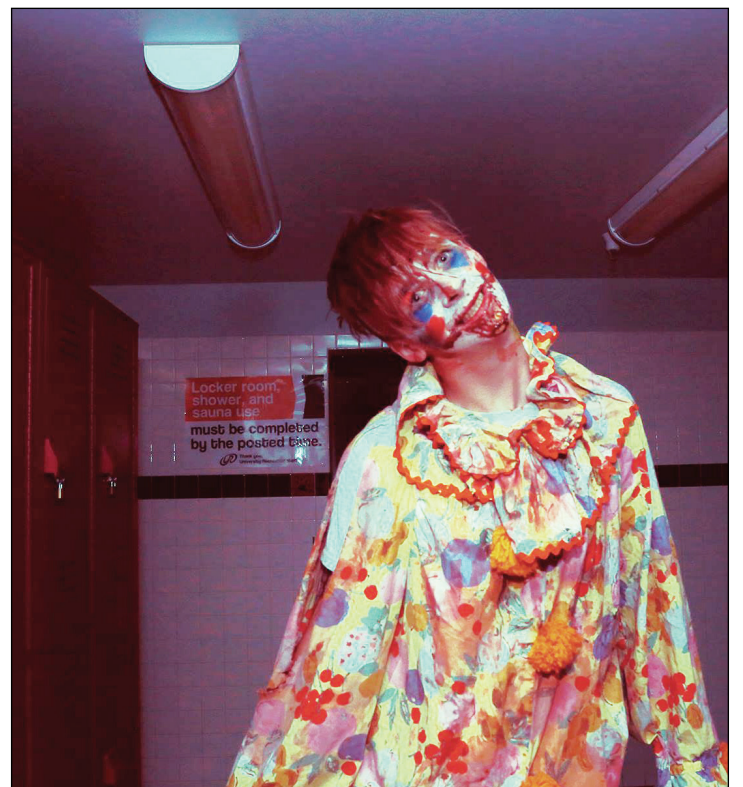
"Without giving away all the gory details; one is a supply run into a refugee camp that was set up when the zombies first arrived on the scene, one is a mission to restart the generator that powers the SURC's automated defense system and one is a mission to find the cure that some grad students were working on before they got bitten," Clarke said.

There is a kernel of truth to Clarke's zombie premise: the zombies are students. Student volunteers will be in makeup and costumes and spend the night scaring and entertaining their classmates.

Volunteers make the entire night possible, not just as zombies and other monsters, but also as guides, makeup artists, armorers, coordinators and behind the scenes technicians who make the magic happen.

Students interested in volunteering for the Zombie Zone should contact the RHA, but have no fear: it's not an entirely selfless act.

"In one aspect the event is there for people to come and go through and have the crap



Jacob Gerken/The Observer

A creepy clown in the dark locker room smiles as he waits for students to find him.

scared out of them, but you're there for like ten, fifteen minutes," Clarke said. "Or you can come, you can be there the whole night...and you get to scare the crap out of people. I think that's the best part of it."

Martin Mattes, a junior double majoring in Physics and Mathematics, has been a guide for the Zombie Zone twice. He loves getting to be a part of scaring people,

though there are laughs to go along with the scares.

Mattes recounted one mission when the group he was with was beset by zombies in the locker rooms. One zombie accidentally turned on the showers and caused all their undead compatriots to slip and fall. The students ran through and completed their mission with no problems and more than a little laughter.

Scene

Editor: Daisy Perez | scene@cwuobserver.com

Halloween: Don't let the shadows scare you

By Tai Jackson
Staff Reporter

OBSERVER REVIEW

I walk down the dimly lit sidewalks towards my single bedroom apartment as I head home from a long day of classes.

I can hear the leaves rustle behind me and a car speed by as parents hurry home to start dinner for their families.

It's finally October and fall has officially arrived. To be honest, I'm normally not the scary movie type--they terrify me--but today is Friday the 13th, so it seems only too perfect to indulge in some Netflix horror movies.

"The Clown"

I look outside my window. The once brightly colored sky is now dark and gloomy. The smell of buttered popcorn fills the apartment.

I sit in my room, curled in my blankets with goodies galore, ready to pick the first movie to watch, "Clown."

The movie starts off at a child's birthday party. After a clown is unable to make it there, the father decides to put on a clown suit he finds in the attic and surprises his son.

The party soon ends and the father, now extremely tired, ends up falling asleep in the suit.

The next morning he tries to take the clown suit off, but it has become attached to his skin.

As the movie continues you can see the clown suit (which is supposed to be demonically possessed) slowly taking over the father's body, mind and soul.

The only way to end the curse is to behead the person wearing the suit.

Sitting alone, in the dark, I start to notice strange shadows appear on my wall. I scream!

It takes me a minute before realizing it was just the tree outside my window and the light from the street lamp that made them appear.

I feel silly at first, and then glad no one saw how rattled I really was.

The movie finally ends and I decide this is a good time to head to the restroom. I never noticed how loud the floor creaked when I walked.

How strange, I think to myself, but force myself to brush it off, since I know I live in an old apartment building.

It's starting to get late. I watch two other movies: "Curse of Chucky," which I must say had changed my perspective on dolls, and the "Babadook."

"Curse of Chucky"

I bit my nails in anticipation as I watched Chucky find out he was being secretly recorded by a character named Ian. After Chucky realizes he was being recorded, he is beyond angry.

Ian, who just watched the recording himself, is terrified. He tries to fight back as Chucky came toward him to attack.

Ian runs, fighting for his life, but at the end is caught and killed, with blood splattering the walls as he is dismembered by a hatchet.

"Babadook"

The "Babadook" also left me with a very disturbing scene. One of the main characters is a young boy who

can see the Babadook.

However, once people see the Babadook, there is no way of getting rid of him. The boy laid in bed one night staring at his closet, as the door slowly creaks open.

Terrified, the boy hides under his covers just as he thinks the Babadook is about to jump out.

At that very moment, I jump out of bed and close my own closet door.

Of course, by now, I give up on trying to conserve money on my light bill and turn on every light in my apartment.

Hungry, I decide to order some pizza and watch the "The Rite" and "The Awakening" before calling it a night.

I think a greasy, extra cheese and pepperoni pizza would be perfect at this moment.

"The Rite"

I turn the lights off again and start "The Rite." This movie freaks me out the most.

It is about a man going to school to become a minister. The man begins to lose faith while in school and wants to drop out.

One of the other priests tells the man that if he goes to this class on exorcism he won't have to pay all the money back that he owes for his education. The man accepts.

While attending the class, he meets a lady newspaper reporter. He also meets another higher priest. Soon the higher priest ends up becoming possessed and it's up to the minister, whose faith is very little, to save him.

Deep into the movie, I suddenly jump as the heater turns on with a loud noise. Seconds later a loud knock is at my door.

My legs like jello, I screamed from my bedroom, "Who is it?"

The person hollard back, "Pizza!"

Feeling a little better, but still skeptical, I pause the movie and open my door, making sure to say a slight prayer as I walk up.

After looking through the peephole and realizing it isn't a killing child's doll or demonic clown, I open the door.

He gives me my pizza and laughs. "You sounded scared," he said.

I give a slight embarrassed chuckle and close the door.

I look at the door to my bedroom and the distance from where I am already standing. I debate how fast I can run back into my room with my hands full of pizza once I turn the light switch off.

I have never ran so fast in my life... I made it!

"The Awakening"

I got back into bed and continue watching the movie. When it finally ends, I am not sure if I wanted to watch the last one, but momma didn't raise no quitter!

So I buckle down and begin the last movie of the night: "The Awakening."

I make it through the whole movie. A couple times I freak myself out when I start hearing extra noises. Soon after, I realize it is just me chewing.

The movie is over and the pizza is gone,

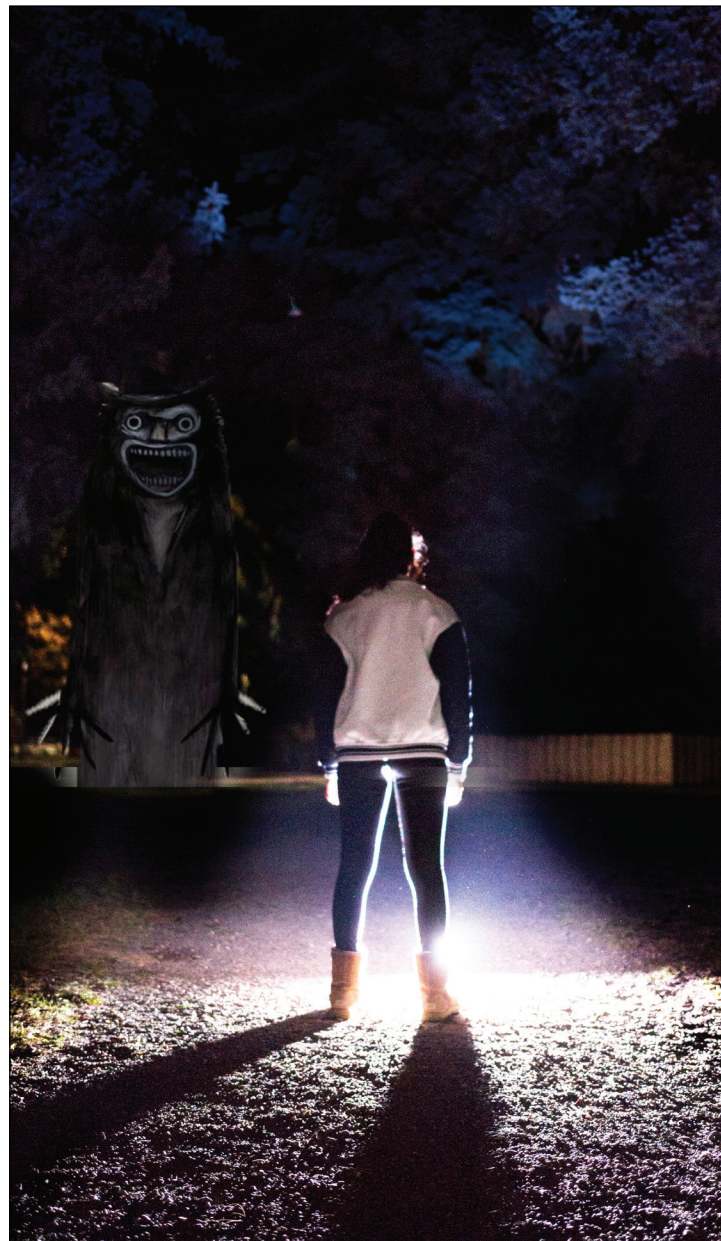


Photo Illustration by Jack Lambert

I decide it's time for bed.

I close my laptop, and make sure to do one last check under the bed and inside my closet. You can never be too safe.

Tired and scared, I jump into bed and curl up, hidden in my blankets. Although I know, realistically, if someone came in and wanted to kill me, all they had to do was take the covers off of me. But for the time being, these covers were my only defense.

I sleep for a couple hours before waking up. "Oh no," I thought, "I have to pee!"

I debate if getting up is worth leaving my safe hideout under my blankets.

In the end, I decide it isn't and force myself to fall back asleep.

Dreams of flowing water finally wake me up. Since it is light now, I decide it is safe to head to the restroom.

Still a little on edge, I start to get ready for the day. Brushing my teeth and washing my face, I look at myself in the mirror and say, "Tai you did it!" And that was my Friday the 13th movie night experience.



Photo Illustration by Jack Lambert

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SPORTS

EDITOR: NATALIE HYLAND | sports@cwuobserver.com

Wildcats face Northern Alabama

By Jack Belcher
Staff Reporter

CWU football is still undefeated with a record of 7-0 after defeating Western Oregon University 42-0. They are leading the GNAC, and are ranked ninth in the nation. On Oct. 21 at 1 p.m., the team will face off in a home game against the University of Northern Alabama (UNA).

UNA currently has a record of 2-3 and is ranked sixth in the Gulf South Conference (GSC). This won't be the first out of conference team that CWU has played this season. They have played against Dixie State University and Texas A&M Kingsville, but this will be the first time they will play a team in the GSC this season.

It will also be the first time that CWU has played any team from the GSC since Ian Shoemaker became head coach in January of 2014.

The team just wants to take it one game at a time. They haven't looked at any film of UNA in the week leading up to the game, but as soon as soon as they finish a game, they start preparing for the next one.

"We try to be 1-0 each week, and that starts with breaking down film and breaking down the new opponent," Shoemaker said.

The sole focus of the team



Jack Lambert/ The Observer

Junior Dillon Sugg runs ahead of teammates and opponents during a home game on Oct. 7 vs. Humboldt State University.

each week is to play the game on Saturday, and not worry about the next game until it comes.

This time last year, the Wildcats had a record of 4-2 and lost the first game of the season.

"It's a little bit better this year as far as our start. We won our first game

which was key... it's a totally different team," Shoemaker said. "I am excited about this group.

I think we got some great leadership and another season under all of our coaches is a positive thing for us, efficiency wise."

CWU's defense has held op-

posing teams to an average of 19.3 points per game, and a total of 116 points for the season, with 64 rushing yards per game. This is in contrast to CWU's average of 42.7 points per game and 259 rushing yards.

"We are playing great defense against the run and I think we are committed to running the ball on the offensive side," Shoemaker said. The key to playing the game is "being able to control the ball and forcing teams into a one dimensional passing game."

Kicker Gavin Todd is a fresh-

"We are playing like a real brotherhood."

-Gavin Todd, Kicker

Huerta hopes for a championship

By Simo Rul
Senior Sports Reporter

The road to CWU was never easy; Jackson Huerta was overlooked by many universities and had no offers coming out of high school. He was a walk-on at CWU.

On top of all of that, the Wildcats were going through a coaching change when Huerta first arrived. He came in the same year head coach Ian Shoemaker was hired.

"I went through two tryouts with the first head coach to prove that I could be on the team and once coach Shoemaker came in, I had to tryout again and basically show that I could play," Huerta said. "I've always kind of had a chip on my shoulder. I was looked over by a lot of these schools. Going out and proving that I can play at a high level is what I try and do every day for myself and my team."

Huerta picked up football when he was six, but didn't play tackle football until he was in the fourth grade.

Huerta attended Kentwood high school, where he played football and basketball. He grew up watching sports at Kentwood. He went to state for basketball one year and twice for football. When he graduated, Huerta held two receiving records and two defensive records.

Huerta and his siblings have all gone to Kentwood. He has been around the school for a long

About

Hometown: Covington, WA

High School: Kentwood

Tackles in 2017: 45

time and enjoys going back to watch games at his former high school.

His older sister Kylie won a state championship in basketball in 2009. Huerta's younger brother, Koby, captured a state championship in basketball in 2016. He saw his siblings win state titles in high school and now he's hoping to do the same at CWU.

"I always get crap from these other guys that I'm the only one who didn't win a state championship," Huerta said. "My mindset was to get one here, even if it's just a GNAC, and I just want to be apart of a championship team. Hopefully we can do that this year.

This being Huerta's senior year doesn't hold any added importance, instead he looks at overall success of the season from a team perspective.

"We have the same motivation every year, we just want to win. We came here knowing Central was a top program in the country," Huerta said. "We're kind of in that spot to put them back on the map, and get them going again. We want to leave that as our senior legacy."

Huerta is second on the team



Courtesy of CWU Athletics

Senior Jackson Huerta is in his final season with the Wildcats. So far this season, he has recorded 45 tackles in games.

in tackles and has played an important role for the Wildcats.

"He's a big part of [what the Wildcats are trying to do this season], he's kind of always in the fray. He moves around from spot to spot. We're always putting him where the action is," defensive coach Nate Johnson said.

The coaching staff believes in Huerta and he is thankful to be put into situations where he can make plays. The big thing for him is to go out there and execute, and make plays when those situations occur.

Although Huerta did play as

quarterback before, he is now making an impact on the defensive side of the ball for the nationally ranked Wildcats, and has enjoyed his four years at CWU.

"It's been a great experience. I've loved being at Central these last four years and this quarter," Huerta said. "I wouldn't trade it for anything, football has been all I've done since I've been here. I've enjoyed it. [It's] kept me busy."

Senior linebacker Kevin Haynes and Huerta came to CWU four years ago. Haynes enjoys Huerta's presence because he loves football, enjoys

being around his teammates and knows how to make jokes in stressful times.

"He's just been a good friend," Haynes said. "I can always go to and talk to [him] when I need to."

Huerta and Haynes squared off in high school during the playoffs. They knew of each other a little bit. Once they got to CWU, their friendship grew. They became great friends, were roommates and have built a friendship that will last a lifetime. Haynes wouldn't have it any other way.

CWU v. UNA

When: Oct. 21, 1 p.m.

Where: Tomlinson Stadium

Cost: Free for CWU students

man on the team this year and has currently scored 52 points for CWU. When he first arrived at CWU he was a little intimidated, but now he has learned to rely on his teammates and they play well together.

"We are playing like a real brotherhood," Todd said. "It was a little intimidating when I first got here because I didn't know anybody, but after fall camp and we played games, it's really great to just learn everyone's name and really started to feel accepted as part of the group," Todd said.

Like any other coach, Shoemaker always believes that the team can get better. Even with a 7-0 record, the team still has things that they need to work on.

"We always have things that we want to improve on," Shoemaker said. "We have had a couple of turnovers that cost us points, special teams so we are not giving up big plays. There are a lot of things."

Shoemaker said the team is looking for "that perfect game" or as close to that as they can get.

SPORTS

EDITOR: NATALIE HYLAND | sports@cwuobserver.com

CWU XC ready for GNACs

By Simo Rul
Senior Sports Reporter

The CWU men's and women's cross country teams are heading to Bellingham, WA to compete at the GNAC Championships on Oct. 21. The Wildcats have already run the course once this season when they competed at the Western Washington University (WWU) Invitational on Oct. 7.

Junior Alexa Shindruk had a top ten finish in the 6,000-meters and also set a personal record at the Sundodger Invitational in Seattle, WA with a time of 21:52.5.

"We've been doing well as a team, getting our pack closer to the front," Shindruk said. "It will be exciting to see how far we can get...to some of the other teams like Western."

Shindruk's mindset going into a big race like the GNAC Championship is to have confidence because they have put in the work to get to this point, and this is when it all pays off, Shindruk said.

Senior Ron Leaf will be running in his last GNAC Championships this year.

"I feel really good, we just finished a really good workout where everyone was on pace, and we're ready to roll," Leaf said.

We just want to go out there and compete, take it a mile and a step at a time, stay on pace and finish strong in the end, Leaf said.

The Wildcats want to try

and improve on last year's results. Shindruk was injured last year and did not participate, so it's a plus for the Wildcats to have her back this year.

"Individually, we'd love to see Alexa in the top ten. She was 11th as a freshmen, didn't get to run last year," head coach Kevin Adkisson said. "I think she's really poised to do well. She could probably be top five, if everything goes well."

Adkisson is hoping to have a male runner finish in the top 20, which hasn't happened in a few years.

The Wildcats are seeing improvements from their last race at WWU, they have competed against more teams than they did at the beginning of the season. They want to take it light this week and then go into conference and take a step forward. Seeing both teams finish in the top seven helps gain more confidence going into GNAC's, Adkisson said.

At the GNAC Championships, each team gets to run ten people, then for regionals the varsity team goes, which is the top seven runners. Athletes then have a chance to qualify from regionals to go to nationals.

"They take three teams automatically from the region to go to nationals. Then there is a process by which there is a committee that will evaluate who the top eight teams are that



James Stuck/The Observer

Men's cross country rounds the track led by Corbin Carlton and Ron Leaf.

don't qualify automatically kind of across the nation," Adkisson said. "They'll issue invitations for those eight, similarly like the top two women individuals that aren't on one of those automatic teams will get to go."

There is also a new rule that is a decider in who gets to go to nationals, which might help

send more athletes from our region to the national stage.

"It's new this year, they'll issue a few individual invitations based on people's finishes after they sort out who those extra bonus teams are, it's going to be really interesting with that in its first year of seeing how that affects it," Adkisson said.

Athletics
ReviewFootball v. WOU
42-0 (7-0)

Wildcat football traveled to Monmouth, Ore. to claim a victory over the wolves and better their record to 7-0 (5-0 GNAC).

X. C. @ Lewiston, Idaho

CWU was represented well by freshman Katie Ackley who finished 67th with a time of 19:26. Freshman Rajesh Gill broke his 27-minute goal finishing 98th with a 26:58.2

Volleyball v. NNU; MSU
3-2; 3-0 (8-2)

Wildcat volleyball upset No. 10 NNU ending their 17 game streak. CWU then swept MSU Billings 3-0 on Oct. 12. The wins earned CWU GNAC Team of the Week honors.

Soccer @ SFU
4-1 (0-6-2)

CWU fell to Simon Fraser on Oct. 14 in British Columbia 4-1. Mackenzie Noltes scored CWU's lone goal to become the Wildcats all-time points leader.

W. Rugby @ Army
Oct. 20th (West Point, NY)

Women's Rugby travel to NY Oct. 21 against Army. The last time the two teams faced off, CWU won 17-12.

Morgan shines defensively for CWU

By Anna Eyears
Staff Reporter

For Kyla Morgan, every moment on the court is an opportunity to make a difference while playing the sport she loves.

The sophomore libero began playing volleyball in the fourth grade. She credits her coach for sparking her interest in the sport.

During her high school career, Morgan knew she wanted to pursue volleyball in college. The recruitment process saw her in the mix with a number of other potential recruits in the hopes of securing a place on the team.

"You start by sending film into coaches, like [Andaya], and if they like your film they will contact you. It's very competitive, but once you get your name out there it does get a lot easier," Morgan said.

Two weeks ago, Morgan was named the GNAC Defensive Player of the Week. The volleyball star said she was extremely humbled by the recognition.

"That was very exciting for me," Morgan said. "My team has been working hard and my coach has just pushed me a lot so I think it has really paid off."

This is the first time the Graham, Washington native has received the GNAC weekly honor.

"I have been working hard and the team is definitely flowing well together, so I expect us to win a lot of games," Morgan said.



Courtesy of CWU Athletics
Sophomore Kyla Morgan.

The physical education and student health (PESH) major is passionate about promoting a healthy lifestyle and improving the wellbeing of others. She said her volleyball career influenced her choice of major.

"It's very important in all sports to be healthy," Morgan said. "I just really want to make a difference in people's lives and encourage them to be healthy."

Post-graduation Morgan wishes to continue her involvement in volleyball in some capacity.

"I see myself coaching high school volleyball and teaching PE," Morgan said. "I really want to be able to introduce students to different sports so they have more opportunities to find the sport they love."



Kyla Morgan (red jersey) celebrates with her teammates during a home game.

While every college athlete must balance the commitment of their sport with the demands of their academic life, Morgan emphasized the importance of prioritizing her studies while on the road.

"It's definitely really important to talk to your teachers and get work early, but when we're travelling we always have study hall," Morgan said.

Morgan said one of the best things about playing on a team sport was the community she gained from it.

"I love how competitive it can

be," Morgan said. "I love being able to play with a group of girls that are my best friends."

CWU setter Niki Cook, spoke highly of her teammate and friend.

"She's really happy and funny," Cook said. "She's always telling jokes and making all of us laugh. Defensively, she's flying around on the court, always giving her all and picking up balls that not a lot of people can get."

Cook said being on the team together had strengthened their friendship. As is expected, the girls have developed a special bond over

their mutual love of volleyball.

"On the volleyball court you have to have a certain level of trust with someone and I trust Kyla with everything, both on and off the court," Cook said.

Cook said the time spent together on the road held some of her best memories.

"We spend a lot of time with each other so you get to know each other really well," Cook said. "We also share the same love for the game. It's cool to have someone who loves it just as much as you do."

SPORTS

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Baseball heads inside for winter

By Clayton Huber
Staff Reporter

The CWU baseball season doesn't start until February, but that doesn't mean that the team has not been practicing hard before the harsh Ellensburg winter hits.

Anyone who lives east of the mountains knows that the winter can be very cold and snowy, which isn't exactly baseball weather.

In a perfect world for a baseball player, it would be sunny and 75 degrees outside.

CWU is just wrapping up a successful fall season, which leaves a small window of preparation time before heading

into winter. Fall season is where the team is able to first see their competition of the year.

"The fall season has been going pretty well. We have a bunch of new guys and they are starting to look more comfortable out there. The thing we are looking for is just to improve each and everyday," Graduate Assistant and former second baseman Dylan Freyre said.

Now that winter is coming, baseball teams all around the

country have to struggle with being confined into a basketball gym to practice.

This is a chance for the team to see live competition before their practices become limited. The way the NCAA works is after Oct. 29 the team can only practice three days a week. Which will result in less team practices and more individual work.

"We're trying to get as much done as a team before we shut down," head coach Desi Storey said.

Baseball is primarily an outdoor sport, so being forced indoors for the winter months is not ideal.

The team is limited to what they can practice while inside; inside the gym are batting cages where they are able to hit, pitch and work on defensive fundamentals.

"Nobody wants to be inside for an extended period of time, but the guys do a good job of preparing during the time that we are," Storey said.

CWU baseball, and the rest of the residents of Ellensburg, hope that this year's winter isn't as bad as last year's, as the city experienced snow all the way



Jack Lambert/The Observer

CWU baseball will retreat inside during the winter months as they prepare for their spring season starting in early February.

through April.

"It all depends on how the winter is this year, because last year we could not get outside until our first game of the year because the snow was so bad," Freyre said.

Pitchers require a lot of throwing to maintain their arm strength. That includes long-toss,

which is throwing the ball over 300 feet back and forth with a partner, so during the winter months the pitchers still need to throw outside every once in awhile to maintain their abilities.

"Right when we get outside after winter is over we try to take as many live reps outside as possible. We do ground balls, pop

ups for the outfielders and play inter-squad games to see live pitching," senior shortstop Chris Dalto said.

The season starts Feb. 10 for CWU, and as October sees the weather getting colder and colder every day, it is a long way from baseball season and the team is in for a cold winter.

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