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**News**

**Ellensburg to vote on housing**

**Pros and Cons of Proposition 1**

**Pros**
- 0.1% Tax could raise $500,000 annually through leveraged grants
- Ten cents for every $100 spent in retail goes back into community
- Focused towards the elderly, veterans and those in need

**Cons**
- Is not a "one-stop" fix all piece of legislation
- Impact from proposition won't be felt immediately
- Alone, Proposition 1 will not bring in much for community members over longterm goals

By Samuel Beaumonte

**News Senior Reporter**

In a town with a population of less than 25,000 people, and a student body making up nearly half that number, the need for affordable housing is crucial.

Alejandro Reyez-Gonzalez, senior at CWU, said it's hard for him to afford living on his own because of the price, which is why he has to have a roommate. He said the cost of rent and internet along with electricity all add up to a price that causes many people to barely scrape by.

"At one-point last year it was either pay electricity or buy food," Reyez-Gonzalez said. He had to pay the bill and wait till he had his next paycheck to buy groceries.

Because of students like Reyez-Gonzalez and other low-income community members, voters this Tuesday will decide whether to add a 0.1 percent retail sales tax to be spent on affordable housing.

This means that for every $100 spent in a retail store, such as the Wildcat Shop, an extra 10 cents in tax will be added.

The sales tax would go toward the development of housing and related issues, primarily aimed at supporting low-income families below the 60 percent area median income - which must be less than $40,320 annually.

The movement to put Proposition 1 on the ballot was spurred by the crisis on the grounds, it became clear that the residents would have a difficult time finding an affordable place to move.

"Seeing the families and those who were affected,[made it] easier to have conversations with people and think about the way we perceive affordable house," Angela San Filippo, long range planner for Ellensburg's Community Development.

Many have speculated the tax could raise $500,000 annually, but some residents believe that it may not be enough to make a difference.

"They’re not going to get enough revenue to do any good; it’s a step in the doorway to raise taxes on the people. They’d need to charge us another full one percent to make a real difference," said Ron Larson, a retired member of the Ellensburg community who is voting against Proposition.

Although he’s retired, Larson oversees a housing complex in the community and his tenants are primarily low-income families that the sales tax is aimed at supporting.

-CWU remembers loved ones

**Dia de los Muertos celebrates the lives of friends and family members**

By Adam Robertson

**Staff Reporter**

The event will start as it does every year, with a traditional Aztec ritual: the blowing of the conch and the asking of permission from the four winds and Mother Earth to begin the celebration.

A procession of colorfully painted skeletons then visit altars to remember and honor the dead, carrying pictures, candles and burning incense. At each of the altars is a group of dancers that move in unison to the beat of a single drum to celebrate the dead honored there.

Dia de los Muertos, the Day of the Dead, is an annual festival that originated in central and southern Mexico, the land that used to be the Aztec Empire. According to Aztec culture, the spirits of lost loved ones return for a time, and those who remain honor and celebrate their memories.

"We all have those days where we miss that person so much," said La Shawonna Mason, a senior biology major organizing this year’s festivities through the Center for Diversity and Social Justice (CDSJ). "I always feel like [the Day of the Dead] is like, ‘They’re coming to see me!’"

This year’s Day of the Dead Festival at CWU falls on Nov. 3 and will start with a procession from the Barge Hall courtyard to the SURC. In the SURC there will be a final Aztec dance followed by family-friendly events in the Pit and Ballroom.

The sights and sounds of the Day of the Dead celebrations are living embodiments of the history of Mexico and its people.

The celebrations are cultural rituals that have been kept alive for generations—predating and enduring Spanish arrival, colonization and Catholicization.

It was the Catholic's attempt to convert the indigenous population that resulted in tying the celebrations to All Saints’ Day. This proximity on the calendar to Halloween—a holiday not celebrated in Mexico—has led to a mistaken linking of the two in the minds of some.

-CWU shooting guard Jawan Stepney

**Jawan Stepney, No. 5, shooting guard for CWU**

By Observer Staff

**Staff Reporter**

CWU shooting guard Jawan Stepney transferred from Cochise College in Arizona in 2015 and has been a starter for CWU ever since. Last season, he played in all 26 games, with 25 starts and an average of 12.9 points per game.

An average day for Stepney usually starts around 7 a.m. He makes some eggs and toast before heading to class.

"I have three classes back-to-back-to-back with about a 10-minute gap between each, so I either bring a salad or something pretty healthy to munch on and then a few snacks as well," Stepney said.

Once class is over, Stepney has basketball practice from 2 to 4 p.m. every day. This gives him just 20 minutes to get from class to the locker room and ready for practice, making it hard for him to find time to eat and relax.

"Balancing different classes alone is hard in itself. Add on the time-consuming sport and trying to fit it in our busy schedules with school. It's tough," Stepney said.

After practice, the basketball team also has weight training from 4 to 5:30 p.m. At this point Stepney has had a day of over eight hours.

After weight training, Stepney finally has a chance to work on his homework for the night.

He usually attends study hall with the team in the study hall building near Farrell Hall that used to house the chimpanzee habitat.
Just a dash of hash

By Eric Rosane  
News Editor

With the rise in popularity of edibles in the recreational and medicinal marijuana industry, many chefs and business owners are going past the typical soups and sweets of your average-joe dispensary. People are beginning to use cannabiol oils to improve the quality of their cooking and food, while also enjoying the health benefits that can result from the cooked concoctions. Since the early 2000’s, edibles have been on a rise commercially, thanks to the legalization of marijuana.

Although the concept of edibles is nothing new, cooking with the oils and butters has never been more accessible to the public. Cannabis Activist and Professional Food Writer Cheri Sicard has been writing about food long before she began lecturing and writing about cannabis infused foods. Writer of the popular “Mary Jane: The Complete Marijuana Handbook for Women,” Sicard has also been an activist for women within the industry and dispels myths and stereotypes behind marijuana users.

“The Cannabis Gourmet Cookbook” also takes a deep dive into the world of cooking with cannabis oils and butter. Through this book, Sicard is able to educate people on the many misconceptions behind cooking with cannabis and gives an introduction for anyone who is foreign to the world of cannabis cooking.

“She writes this to be accessible to the first time user so you’re not scared out of your wits wondering if you can reproduce the food. It’s the one that I would buy if I was done with ‘mom’s got recipes.’” Mary A. Miller, a verified purchaser, said.

Throughout the book, there’s reference to the different strains available and other useful details. Within private parties, cannabis infused food is also taking a strikingly popular turn. With the availability of cannabis oils throughout recreational states, such as Colorado and Washington, recipes and recommendations are frequently brought up on popular forums, such as the subreddit /r/trees.

“When I make cannabis infused meals like this, I don’t usually eat it all in one sitting. The first pass effect (I think that’s the term) is basically eating something light roughly an hour before an edible to facilitate digestion so you can get the full effects of your treat rather than converting it into energy,” said /u/kassieby1124, in a reddit submitted on Oct. 31. /u/kassieby1124 and others within the marijuana based subreddit have been submitting a variety of recipes and cooking instructions.

Cannabis infused foods are expanding throughout the market thanks to the legalization of recreational marijuana throughout the states.
Environment issues fuel climate talks

By Jason Morales
Staff Reporter

On Nov. 5 in Ellensburg’s Public Library from 2:30 p.m. to 4 p.m., Our Environment has organized a climate change talk for the community of Ellensburg.

This local group is bringing light to the issue of climate change to show that there is a problem in Kittitas County.

She wants people to be aware of the problem before the problem gets out of hand.

“Things are happening here whether you think it’s climate change or not,” said Sylvia Shriner, member and organizer of Our Environment.

The presentation will discuss what the community can do to reduce the climate change problem.

Our Environment has asked Steven Ghan, climate scientist from the Tri-Cities, to lead the discussion.

The topic of the presentation is based on the water, wind and fire issues here in Eastern Washington.

One of the biggest problems Ellensburg will face is the distribution of water.

With climate change, it impacts the water. So, how can we strengthen farming while having enough water for fish?” Shriner asked.

The water is being divided up further with the production of water banks.

“Right now, the county has made water banks, but then private parties have bought out water banks and made their own water banks,” Shriner said.

With the water shrinking, there is no telling how this will affect the future.

Shriner urged locals to attend the event. His hope was that this would help minimize the possibility of the county inadvertently contributing to a problem it may not be fully educated on. “It’s going to take all of us to change things.”

Shriner also presented the issue regarding certain birds around the area.

The birds are moving more north over time. The environment the birds are currently living in is not suitable for them.

Aside from this, Shriner pointed out the wildfire conditions on the east side.

“What the fires that we are having, people are now realizing that something is going on with the air quality,” Shriner said.

She did mention that the use of solar energy has risen, which has helped with some of the climate change complications.

CDSJ adds Barge as sight for non-traditional students

By Miles King
Staff Reporter

The Center for Diversity and Social Justice (CDSJ) is planning an expansion into the fourth floor of Barge Hall this December. Currently, it is located on the second floor of the SURC.

The CDSJ is expanding to accommodate the growing number of non-traditional students on campus, according to Vice President of Inclusivity and Diversity at CWU Kandee Cleary.

Non-traditional students include students who are married, have children, are veterans or are older than 23 years of age.

Although they will be expanding to their second location in Barge Hall in December, the CDSJ will not be hiring any more staff.

The current staff includes four salaried members, as well as office support and student employees.

Student employees in the center help with reception and programming.

The purpose and mission of the center will not be changing due to the expansion. The purpose will be to continue the advocacy of non-traditional students on campus.

“Diversity and inclusivity is a goal of the university” Cleary said, adding that the university and center share similar goals.

The center currently hosts events revolving around Polyfest, Welcome Week and MLK Day.

They will put on bigger events after the expansion with the use of their increased funding and extra space. Students are encouraged to suggest ideas for new events, according to Cleary.

The expanded CDSJ will allow more space for students to hangout and feel included.

The expansion will allow the center to become more available to not only non-traditional students, but all students.

Cleary also mentioned the long-term goal of the university is to have an independent, locally operated diversity center. At the moment there is not enough space in the SURC for an independent diversity center, Cleary said.

Until the SURC is expanded, the CDSJ will remain in its current location and in Barge Hall come December.
Temporary housing shows population burst at CWU

By Eric Rosane
News Editor

Can you imagine sleeping in plain view of all of your peers, even when you’re guaranteed your own room and board?

For the first three weeks of class freshmen Lj Lovejoy, Jules Mendiola and two other individuals lived on the second-floor lounge of Kamola Hall.

Within the room, four beds sat in each corner with no divider to section off the rooms or shades for privacy from the frequent person who would pass by, according to Mendiola.

All four freshman had applied for housing past the application date, but were all accepted housing despite their late application.

Each of them received notice from housing after they were accepted that guaranteed them their own room, but at a cost.

All four freshman would have to live in a temporary dorm room for anywhere from 2 weeks up to a month, according to Lovejoy.

On Friday, Sept. 15, Mendiola showed up to Button Hall at noon for his first year at CWU.

He had applied for housing less than one month before, but was granted temporary rooms due to the Housing Department over-booking students into halls.

Mendiola was told that he would have a two-day time period to move in, and when he made the trip out from Spanaway for move in day, he wasn’t sure what to expect.

After Mendiola showed up, he was told again that he would be staying in temporary housing for anywhere between two weeks and a month.

The housing assistant then showed Mendiola to his room. He followed the housing assistant over to Kamola and up to the second floor to the recreation room and lounge.

In each corner of the room, four beds were set flush against the four walls. A makeshift closet was in the middle.

When Mendiola got to the room, both of his other roommates were already moved in.

Lovejoy would not be moved into Kamola lounge for a couple weeks.

“We were connected pretty well. We all set our boundaries and stuff in the beginning, so we didn’t really have any problems.”

-Jules Mendiola, Freshmen

With record increases of student enrollment at CWU, more upperclassmen are seeking out housing alternatives off-campus, increasing the demand for affordable housing when the supply can’t keep up.

“The challenge of that is simply capacity, there is simply not enough places to go. At any level Proposition 1 is not the solution but it’s a part of it. My idea is that we use that money to jumpstart projects to create new housing.”

-Tabb said.

The housing assessment lists Kittitas County as the second most cost-burdened county in Washington state, meaning that the family is spending greater than 30 percent of their income.

Roughly 185 families on waitlist for housing in the county and about 65 families in need within Ellensburg.

“By increasing vacancy rates, prices will be more competitive, with more choices to choose from,” Tabb said.

Ballots were distributed to registered voters in the middle of October, and voting results are planned to be posted with the Nov. 7 election.

“Ultimately what we’re hoping to do is amass money to spend on construction. The demand for apartments outstrips the supply.”

-Bruce Tabb, City Council Member

We were connected pretty well. We all set our boundaries and stuff in the beginning, so we didn’t really have any problems.

-Jules Mendiola, Freshmen

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Anywhere you go on campus, you'll find someone who's sick. Go into any classroom and you'll hear a smattering of coughs and sniffling fill the silence in the pauses between the professor's lecture. Walk into the SURC and you'll notice many feverish, droopy-eyed students trudging to their 9 a.m. classes. Look in any trash can in the library and you'll see empty packs of DayQuil Severe and torn up Ricola wrappers.

The world doesn't stop when we get sick, but shouldn't we at least take it easy and let our bodies rest? Shouldn't we stay home instead of taking medicine to cover our symptoms?

Where do we draw the line between when we're absolutely too sick to go out and when we just have a little bit of a cough? I'm not a germaphobe, but I hate America's tendency to ignore the fact that we're sick. It's not anyone's fault; it's our culture. We're a country of workaholics, with our eyes set on the American dream, and we can't afford to take a sick day.

The consequences of missing a day of work are worse than having to go into the office feeling miserable. This is the unfortunate reality of living in a culture where you're expected to go on as normal, even if you don't feel well.

America's habit of ignoring our health is evident in nearly every part of our lives. In elementary school, we're only sent home if we're throwing up or running a fever. In high school, the days we miss are monitored and we face disciplinary action if we miss too much.

At my high school, we were only allowed to miss nine days out of a semester before we got an angry phone call from the principal.

Nine days might seem like a lot, but think of the last time you had a cold. For me, a bad cold can knock me out of commission for a whole week.

Nine days isn't a lot when you're around hundreds of other sneezing kids for an entire day.

In college, professors who enforce mandatory attendance policies worsen the issue of working when unhealthy. It's common for professors to say things like “Class is only two hours long, if you're sick, you can suck it up enough to make it through two hours.”

Some professors will even knock letter grades off your class grade if you miss a day without a doctor's note.

As a student, it's easier to go to class sick than it is to go to the trouble of getting a doctor's note. Yet, this isn't always in everyone's best interest. Going to class sick inevitably spreads whatever you have.

In the professional sector, paid sick leave isn't as widespread as it should be. The United States doesn't have laws mandating paid sick leave on the federal level.

In most states, it is up to the employer to determine if they want to offer paid sick leave.

The habit of employers having a low tolerance for missing work because of illnesses is set upon us from a young age, and the lack of paid sick leave laws supports the problem as we grow older.

When one of my peers shows up to class sick as a dog and tells me that they can't afford to miss school that day, it breaks my heart. The fact that we live in a culture that encourages us to go about our lives without listening to our bodies is disconcerting.

We should be able to take a day off of school or work without feeling guilty. Going to class sick inevitably spreads whatever you have.

We should stop carrying cough medicine around campus and instead encourage a culture where it's okay to take a sick day.
"We never want to plateau in the sense that we always want to be getting better at something."

- QB Reilly Hennessey

1,935 yards
22 touchdowns
CWU FOOTBALL HAS OUTSCORED OPPONENTS

349-TO-149

75% conversion rate on field goals
Library offers family study space to help students

By Ben Ramirez
Senior Reporter

Many students are responsible for children, yet it can be difficult to stay on top of school work while taking care of a child. The librarians at the Brooks Library have seen parents holding a child in one hand and working on a computer with the other. This scenario does not discourage bringing children to the library. The librarians have created a Family Literacy Night with the goal of encouraging children to read, as well as giving experience to students who plan on working with children in the future. Over the past nine years, Family Literacy Night has also helped to distribute over 1,200 books to children in Kittitas County.

Family Literacy Night is set up to be a relaxing environment. According to Dr. Sharryn Walker, an associate professor in the Department of Language, Literacy and Special Education, the student readers prepare a lesson to read aloud and prepare a story to tell. The children are free to choose any reader to read to them. Snacks are provided with a snack, as well as a free book to take home. Walker describes a back hatch atmosphere that is designed to help the students readers become comfortable working with children and their parents. “At this course level, they are just beginning their courses, so they haven’t had many teaching experiences,” Walker said. “All they have to do is read aloud a lesson and tell a story in an hour’s time so that just kind of get their feet wet in teaching.”

According to Walker, what students usually enjoy most about Family Literacy Night is the opportunity to converse with3 parents in an informal setting because they find out that talking with parents isn’t as scary as they thought. Students up to age 11 have attended Family Literacy Night in the past, so Walker is sure to provide books with a wide range of difficulty levels. This way, every kid who wants a book is able to receive one. Walker enjoys seeing the children who frequently attend because they sometimes ask her for a specific book and she can make sure that the next time they can get exactly what they want to read.

In addition to Family Literacy Night, the CAFL has recently opened the Family Study Space to promote children’s education and offer a helping hand to CWU students. The Family Study Space has been open since August, but celebrated the official grand opening last Tuesday.

“We’re very excited to have [Family Literacy Night] brought to the library.” Maureen Raut, the Student Engagement and Community Outreach Librarian, said. “We love supporting literacy projects, so having one more literacy project here makes us very happy because it is not only supporting education students but also the families that bring kids in to us.”

Ginny Blackson, the interim associate dean, described a need for a place in the library where students who are responsible for children could take them so that they could do school work without having to worry about keeping an eye on their children. According to Blackson, a quarter of all undergraduate students are responsible for someone under the age of 18, whether it be children, siblings or any other situation. Until now the library did not have a place where children could go to stay safe and occupied while their caregiver did school work.

“Our goal is making sure that no one feels like having a family should be a barrier to education,” Blackson said.

Inside the Family Study Space, children have access to books, educational games and virtually stimulating toys. The room is brightly lit and has open space for kids to play.

“My favorite thing about the Brooks Library is that, of all the libraries, we’ve worked at, we don’t just talk inclusivity, we do it.” Blackson said.

Find name-brand clothing at the Pop-Up Shop

By Tai Jackson
Staff Reporter

Racks of brightly colored garments and neatly placed shoes fill the room. People walk around admiring the low-priced, name-brand men’s and women’s clothing, accessories and shoes. People walk around admiring the low-priced, name-brand men’s and women’s clothing, accessories and shoes.

A free book to take home. Walker describes a back hatch atmosphere that is designed to help the students readers become comfortable working with children and their parents. “At this course level, they are just beginning their courses, so they haven’t had many teaching experiences,” Walker said. “All they have to do is read aloud a lesson and tell a story in an hour’s time so that just kind of get their feet wet in teaching.”

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Ancient traditions will come back to life

By Adam Robertson
Staff Reporter

Day of the Dead
When: Nov. 3, 5 p.m.-9 p.m.
Where: SURC Pit and Ballroom
Free Event

“As long as anyone’s living in the photo make sure you cover [their faces],” Mason said. “You don’t wanna jinx them!”

There will be a large altar with a life-sized La Catrina, the skeleton woman who has become an iconic symbol for the Day of the Dead, as well as sand tapestry.

The altar will be dedicated to those lost in the September earthquake that hit central Mexico and cost 375 lives. It will be accompanied by La Catrina, a symbol which was created by Jose Posada more than a century ago.

Posada was a political artist during the Mexican Revolution and created La Catrina with the satirical intention of abandoning their traditions in favor of the European aristocracy. It has since been embraced and become synonymous with the Day of the Dead celebrations.

Fulgencio Luco, a Seattle-based artist who was born in the southern Mexican state of Oaxaca, will be creating the sand tapestries. He has a distinct style which draws from his cultural background. He is especially passionate about creating pieces celebrating the Day of the Dead.

In addition to these decorations, there will be activities open to the community. Tables will be set up in the ballroom for making sugar skulls, God’s eyes, marigolds and Day of the Dead bags; for face painting, as well as a photo booth.

The festivities will be set in motion by one final performance by the Aztec dancers, taught by Roberto Chavez Garcia and Angelica Ramirez Arce. They come here to pass on their knowledge and appreciation of Mexican culture and tradition to the next generation, a dance group which includes Gabriela Michel, a新鲜man pre-nursing major.

“We dance to connect with our ancestors,” Michel said.

Though they practice on linoleum floor under fluorescent light and a chopped ceiling, they spell out the history of Mexican culture with their feet. Directed in unison by the insistently beat of a single drum, the dancers spin, pace and kick. They form an expanding and contracting circle, steps changing with the drumbeat. As they move, their modern street clothes become traditional Aztec garb, transformed by the dance and the music, bringing ancient traditions vibrantly back to life.

Create, share and perform music with the flute choir

By Alexi Prante
Staff Reporter

When people think of a band or symphony, the flute probably isn’t the first instrument they would think of. The CWU flute choir is trying to change that.

In 1984, Dr. Hal Ott began directing the CWU Flute Choir and has been directing ever since. He teaches flute classes and lessons to students that are ready to improve their skills. When Ott first started as a professor there were only four flute majors, and through the years, that number has grown to 21.

The choir is a small chamber that has sixteen performers. Most of the students have only one part to play in the piece. A small choir helps students gain better knowledge of the pieces, and since the students solo throughout the pieces, they don’t have anyone to rely on if anything goes wrong.

“The flute choir has provided students with a lot of growth. They come together through the common language of music and share music that the students have created,” Ott said.

The flute choir has most of their performances on campus, but they take trips to perform. Two years ago they performed at the Capitol Rotunda. About 200 people attended.

“It was a fantastic experience to perform at the Capitol Rotunda in Olympia. It was a beautiful building and the quality of the acoustics made the flute choir sound even more beautiful. We played for a renowned musician and composer, Maria Newman,” said music performance major Amanda Felipe.

Jack Pritchard, a junior flute performance major, started with flute choir his freshman year and has participated every quarter since. Because the class relates to his degree, he continues to take it even though he doesn’t need the credits.

His favorite piece is A Gaelic Offering by Catherine McMichael.

“The best part of being in the flute choir is that it allows me to grow as a musician in a smaller group setting. In the larger ensembles, such as any of our wind bands, it’s harder to learn how to play the flute better because there are so many musicians playing that it’s difficult to pick out the impact of just my sound,” Pritchard said.

Willow Larson is double majoring in Music Education and Flute Performance. This is Larson’s fifth quarter in flute choir. The flute choir holds class every fall and winter quarter and perform concerts at the end of both quarters.

“We have the opportunity to perform using all of the flutes. The instrument that most people think of as a flute is a C Flute, we perform with piccolo, alto, bass, and contrabass flutes. It’s fun to have the opportunity to play all of the different flutes,” said Larson.

Some of the pieces that the choir will be performing are “Black Is the Color of My True Love’s Hair” and “Choralie and Celebration.”

“I feel privileged to make music everyday and teach something that I love. Music is an agent that brings people together and that’s something spectacular,” Ott said.

The empty auditorium will soon be packed with people for the Flute Choir Concert

Maureen Woon-Bowen
M.S.E., L.M.H.C.

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Children • Teens • Adults • Individuals • Couples • Families
By Anna Eyears
Staff Reporter

Like many young athletes, CWU volleyball player Malik Montoya sparked an interest in basketball during his formative years. The junior guard began learning the ropes at just two years old. He recalls watching basketball at home on his family TV as a child.

“My dad is a really good basketball player and my whole family is big on basketball, so it was only right for me to play,” Montoya said. “I would watch the NBA stars and think ‘hey, that’s something I could pursue.’”

Montoya said his competitive start in basketball shaped him into the player he is today.

“The team I joined didn’t have my age group, so I had to play up two ages,” Montoya said. “It made me tougher and it made me want to play harder. I definitely think it made me better as a person and he better for my basketball career as well.”

Head coach Greg Sparling said Montoya is a valuable addition to the team here at CWU.

“Malik transferred out of Seattle University and we got wind of it,” Sparling said. “He came over, played well, and that’s how we got him on the team. I think he’s going to do really well.”

Sparling said it was important that Montoya was given the freedom to experiment and come out of his shell on the court. His confidence was really shaken at Seattle University. Just watching the minimal clips we have on him, it seems like he wasn’t really doing what he normally does,” Sparling said. “A guy like that probably didn’t get as much playing time as he wanted over there, but now coming in here I think he’s really going to start shining.”

Upon watching clips of Montoya’s game, Sparling said it was clear his number one strength was defense.

“He’s a really great on-ball defender, he’s getting better with his jump shots and he’s doing a really good job for us on penetration. It’s going to be fun watching the growth of this team over the next few days, weeks and months,” Sparling said. “We’re getting better daily and I would encourage people to come out and support us.”

For many players, living under the same roof and being on the same team together can prove too much, but for Montoya’s close friend and teammate, Jawan Stepney, the proximity has only brought them closer. The two men in the third grade and have been playing on teams for and against each other ever since.

“We definitely have a chemistry on and off the court,” Stepney said. “Knowing each other for so long has definitely given us more to talk about when we’re home. We’re always discussing the team and what we need to do.”

Stepney told of his friend’s goofy personality and go-getter spirit.

“He’s always looking to have fun...but he’s also pretty serious about getting business done,” Stepney said. “When he wants to get things done, he puts his mind to it and gets through it. We have a lot of guys that talk, but he’s one of the guys that say what they’re going to do and then go out and do it.”

Montoya’s game, Sparling said, “He’s one of the guys that say what they’re going to do and then go out and do it.”

Stepney told of his friend’s competitiveness and how the team is having to adjust to the team’s level of skill.

“His confidence was really shaken at Seattle University. Just watching the minimal clips we have on him, it seems like he wasn’t really doing what he normally does,” Sparling said. “A guy like that probably didn’t get as much playing time as he wanted over there, but now coming in here I think he’s really going to start shining.”

Wildcats to debut Malik Montoya

By Hanson Lee
Staff Reporter

CWU’s water polo club looks forward to hosting their upcoming fall tournament on Nov. 18. The tournament is scheduled as a one day event, but could potentially stretch to two days if more than seven teams register.

Team members like club Vice President Curtis Condotta have their eyes set on one main purpose for this tournament: raising money for the club.

“It’s not super competitive, obviously I’m a competitive person, but nothing really happens if you win,” Condotta said.

Condotta and the team hope that the money raised from the tournament can be put towards the club in a variety of ways, including helping to pay for new team equipment.

Although the main priority surrounding this tournament is to raise money, Club President Mollie Ridge still has expectations and hopes for her team heading into this tournament.

“I think just getting some of the players on this team a lot more comfortable about their game is something we’ve actually had so far because our team carries a lot of different skill levels,” Ridge said.

With the purpose behind this tournament being not to necessarily win, practices have become more focused on teaching newer players the game.

“With that being said, the relevance of this growth has been evident on this year’s team. “We’ve had a lot of people join the team this year,” Condotta said. “Last year we probably had six to seven people per practice, and this year we’ve been averaging around 10 to 15 people per practice.”

Moving forward, players like Ridge hope to have a positive impact on their team.

“I just hope to get the newcomers on this team more experience so that they can see what the game truly is,” Ridge said. “I have two players on this team that have never played in their entire lives, who have just joined in college, whereas the rest of the team has played for two or three plus years.”

Along with the various preparations and expectations that go into these types of tournaments, it’s also important to remember that being able to develop the right mindset can sometimes be all that matters.

“We’re just trying to have fun,” said club member Kathlean. “Since we’re a club, we’re not terribly serious about winning. We just want to mainly have fun and go out there and play the game of polo.”

Water polo set for fall tournament

By Anna Eyears
Staff Reporter

The Water Polo Club is hosting a one day event, but could potentially stretch to two days if more than seven teams register.

Team members like club Vice President Curtis Condotta have their eyes set on one main purpose for this tournament: raising money for the club.

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If you go

When: Nov. 18
Where: Aquatics Center
Cost: Free for students
Stadium Updates

By Simo Rul
Senior Sports Reporter

Built in 1959, Tomlinson stadium is the oldest stadium in the GNAC. But this old building is starting to show its age as the track, which hasn’t been resurfaced since 1992, is beginning to show some cracks.

On Nov. 2 the board of trustees will meet and decide whether or not to renovate Tomlinson stadium and build a new track.

The total cost of all the renovations is about $8 million and will include both building a new track and Tomlinson’s renovations.

Big upgrades would also be coming to Tomlinson stadium. The updates would include the new track in the northwest corner behind the stadium at the intersection of Wildcat Way and 11th Ave.

“We would actually remove the existing track and then put in artificial turf that would be large enough to accommodate rugby, soccer and football,” said CWU Athletic Director Dr. Dennis Francois.

According to Francois, CWU Athletics is planning to build a regulation NCAA 400-meter track with areas for jumps and throws. The plan is to also add more lights to Tomlinson stadium.

“Having lights on the track as well as the turf in field of that track allows our students to go out and work as athletically as well as have track meets that go beyond sunsets” Francois said.

Adding lights to Tomlinson stadium would be beneficial to many. Night games tend to bring out more people and have a better atmosphere than day games.

The prospect of playing night games gives the team a chance to have more people come watch, while also making the atmosphere around campus special, head coach Ian Shoemaker said.

The addition of artificial turf will benefit the players on the field, but will also keep the game cleaner than if it was played on a real grass field. Turf helps players have better grip than they would on regular grass.

“When it’s raining, people aren’t slipping around or sliding around [on turf],” we won’t have to worry about the mud,” said sophomore running back Hassan Chishti.

Shoemaker agreed with Chishti, saying many were recruited knowing there was the potential for the expansion in the near future.

“It’s always a positive, everything in recruiting at some point becomes an arms race,” Shoemaker said. “Scholarships are similar, then they’re gonna look at things like location, facilities and things like that. We have a great faculty, tuition dol-

Larry Nickel

Elect

Ellensburg City Council

Position #3

Education - Experience - Accomplishments
4th generation resident, City of Ellensburg

BA Social Science, CWU
BA Education, CWU
MA History (Local, Emphasis, City of Ellensburg CWU)

• Certificate, Historic Administration, National Trust for Historic Preservation, American Museum Association, American Association for State and Local History, Colonial Williamsburg.
• Certificate, Arts Administration, Harvard University.
• Main Street training, National Trust for Historic Preservation.
• Washington State Advisor, Emeritus, National Trust for Historic Preservation.
• Founding Director, Kittitas County Museum (16 years of service).
• Founding Officer, Washington Trust for Historic Preservation.
• Founding board member, Washington Museum Association.
• Member, Washington State Senate Committee, Historic Preservation.
• Associate Sundeer, Local History Collection, Ellensbur Public Library.
• Originated and signed the nomination for the Ellensburg Historic District, resulting in Ellensburg’s placement on the State and National Registers of Historic Places.
• Secured freeway signage for the Ellensburg Historic District.
• Advocated for Historic Preservation policies and codes, City of Ellensburg.
• Historic building ownership/ownership/management.
• Initiation and discovery of historic cast iron street lamps that were purchased by the City replacing those that had been long removed.
• Former Ellensburg City Council member, two terms, Mayor, one term.
• Former Ellensburg Planning Commissioner, served as Chairman.
• Former Chairman, Ellensburg Urban Growth Area Committee.
• Advisory/Consultant Kittitas County Fairgrounds Renovation group that also established the Kittitas County Heritage Center.
• Proponent of Kittitas County Fairgrounds Historic District.
• Proponent of First Railroad Historic District.
• Proponent of and led City Council in blocking the demolition of the Northern Pacific Railroad Station.
• Initiated and led City Council in establishing the collection of non revenue Hotel/Motel sales tax now generating hundreds of thousands of dollars annually for existing tourism attractions and tourist promotion.
• Initiated and led City Council in successful arbitration resulting in reduced fees for City residents from the Kittitas County Health District.
• Initiated and led City Council in successfully, legally, challenging Central Washington University’s administration and then governing board in securing their State mandated support in paying for fire protection services, then provided by the City.
• Initiated the motion, passed by the City Council, to secure land now known as Irene Rinehart Riverfront Park.
• Represented the City Council as we were awarded the designation as Tree City USA, the first City in Washington State to meet the criteria.
• Successfully supported the City’s maneuvering to avoid the alleged public debt owed due to the WPPSS I case that was the result of previous City Council’s actions.
• Helped reject City Council action to bring a State Prison to Ellensburg.
• Personally circulated advisory petition resulting in City Council action insuring, on a regular basis, police foot patrols in downtown during late night due to heavy, destructive, illegal bar related issues.
• Personally circulated advisory petition resulting in the City Manager insuring Parking Code enforcement during Saturday’s that was not helping affected downtown businesses.
• Participates with the Ellensburg Senior Advisory Commission and is a member of the Adult Activity Center.
• Originated and organized the downtown, uptown Public walking tours of our historic buildings.
• Participated in the design and construction of our Memorial Pool and the Hall Holmes Center next to the Ellensburg Public Library.

We wonder what his opponent attests to?

Paid for by Larry Nickel • 509.929.6425 • ljinickel5@icloud.com

History of Tomlinson

1958: Tomlinson Stadium first opens
1992: The last time the track was resurfaced
1998: CWU football leaves NAIA, joins NCAA
2002: CWU wins GNAC (3-0)
2004-5: CWU wins GNAC (5-1-0)
2008-10: CWU wins GNAC (8-0; 6-0; 7-1)
2012: CWU wins GNAC (7-3)
2017: CWU 9 in GNAC

jobs of meeting and exceeding expectations of our general ma-
ners, location, now we need to add great facilities to add that last piece to our arms race in the recruiting process.

Shoemaker is also excited about the idea of being able to use the fields during the winter with the addition of artificial turf, a foreign concept to CWU Athletics until now.

With the grass field being used often by the football team and the track starting to crack, this has been a long time coming for CWU. The opportunity is here and they want to capitalize on it.

If CWU gets the green light from the board of trustees, they would work on making schematic designs in the next few months.

In February or March they would go and look to bid for a contractor that would allow them to begin the construction in early spring.

“Our university has done an exceptional job of meeting and exceeding expectations of our general ma-

The budget on each proj-
ec-t is $4 million. This is all where they meet up with a design consultant, then they will have a better idea of how much the budget would be.

Rec services will fund the expansion as the members have already met and agreed to fund it. The Tomlinson stadium up-
grades would come from private fundraising.

11
CWU Rugby shuts out BYU

By Jack Belcher
Staff Reporter

Women’s rugby shut out the Brigham Young University Cougars at home on Oct. 28 in their final home match of the fall season. It was also the day the team recognized the nine seniors on the pitch.

Before the game started, there was an announcement made asking for the families of the seniors on the team to come to the center of the field for the honoring ceremony.

Once everyone was gathered, a man with a microphone started calling the names of the seniors one by one. When each player heard her name, she ran to midfield to be with her family.

“We try to create a positive experience,” interim head coach Trevor Richards said.

Once the match started, CWU quickly took the lead, scoring their first try within the first five minutes by senior Ashley Roloma. After that, CWU just kept scoring until the end of the match, with a final score of 55-0.

Ten of the 55 points were earned by senior Samantha Pinson, who had a season high two tries in the game. Senior Emma Leonard also had a standout performance with a total of five completed conversions for another ten points.

The victory was the largest victory margin the team has had all year and also puts the team’s record at 4-3 for the season.

Pinson has been with the team for four years and says she isn’t looking forward to leaving at the end of the season.

“I was really nervous to come in with a bunch of new girls, but every single person here made the team feel like a family,” Pinson said. “Coming back season after season, and seeing the same girls and growing the team, it has just been kind of a really good experience.”

Roloma has a similar story, she has also been on the rugby team since she came to CWU as a freshman four years ago.

Like Pinson, Roloma believes that the team has been improving after every game. The team is taking what they learn in each game and focusing on it during practice, which helps the team grow.

“I’ve made a lot of good friends here,” Roloma said. “We have been through a lot as a team, and it has been a really good four years… the experience has been one of a kind.”

Men’s Rugby sues up for CWU

Each player is required to have at least four hours of study hall time each week. This is only a day in the life of one athlete, but this is the sacrifice the majority of college athletes have to make in order to continue playing. Being a skilled athlete is a large feat, but to balance athletics, school and a personal life is a whole different challenge.

Stepney’s day usually does not end after study hall. He likes to continue to work on his game in a different way during the offseason.

“I usually try to play some pickup games in the SRC to try and build my stamina and see how I react in certain situations,” Stepney said. “I also try to lift [weights] outside of team practices, watching sports with, including basketball and being a good student to see how I react in certain situations.”

The team has suggested meal plans for each player to help the players progress faster, as they are working their bodies a lot throughout the year. It is up to the players to follow their meal plan to maintain a healthy body.

“My go-to meal is definitely chicken, rice and broccoli. It is pretty cheap and easy to make,” Stepney said. “I’ve seen how much work it is to put a team together, and it has been a really good four years… the experience has been one of a kind.”

Athletics Review

Football v. Azusa

CWU slipped past GNAC rival Azusa at home Saturday. The win moves CWU to No. 1 in NCAA Region IV and No. 7 in the AFCA national poll.

Volleyball @ Alaska

3-2 (11-3)

CWU traveled to Alaska to face U of A Anchorage and U of A Fairbanks coming away 1-0 on the trip after falling to Anchorage and topping Fairbanks.

Soccer v. MSUB

2-0 (1-9-2)

CWU shutout Montana State University Billings at home 2-0 to end their season short of a postseason berth.

W. Rugby v. BYU

55-0 (4-3)

Women’s rugby held off the BYU Cougars in front of the families of the senior team members in Ellensburg.

M. Rugby @ W. Coast 7’s Champions (6-0)

Men’s Rugby opened their winter season by sweeping the West Coast in California Oct. 21 and 22. The next match will be in San Jose Nov. 4 and 5.