**News**

**Professor under investigation for sexual misconduct, again**

By Eric Rosane  
News Editor

Political science professor and state Rep. Matt Manweller was barred on Dec. 11 from teaching at CWU or contacting students, pending the results of a new investigation into sexual misconduct allegations.

According to Chief of Staff Linda Schactler, this investigation, the third since 2012, involves new allegations and complaints against the professor. Manweller has also been placed on paid administrative leave, according to a letter sent to Manweller by Tim Englund, dean of the College of the Sciences.

Manweller, 48, has categorically denied the claims. “No, of course not. I have never made a sexual advance to a student,” Manweller said. “I think that this is a witch hunt… I plan on standing up to the mob.”

He also said that he didn’t know anything about the new investigation because CWU wouldn’t tell him. Manweller began working at CWU in 2003.

Schactler said that not much could be said about the investigation because a contract for the investigation was just signed in late December.

“We’re investigating cases of inappropriate conduct. There’s no additional information, except the investigation will be thorough, objective and fair,” Schactler said.

In both investigations from 2012 and 2013, which looked at allegations from 2006 to 2009, investigators found evidence suggesting Manweller violated CWU’s sexual harassment policies, although they didn’t conclude the allegations were substantiated.

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**THE EVERGREEN SCENE**

**Sessions up in Smoke**

By Eric Rosane  
News Editor

The ASCWU Elections Commission and Officers will host an information session on Wednesday, Jan. 24, in the Bistro for students looking to run for office in spring. This cafe-style chat is the first of its kind, according to ASCWU Director of Public Relations Thao Lau, and has been organized by Jeff Rosenberry, the executive director of student involvement.

This information session serves as a way for the elections commission and Student Involvement to spread the word about the student-run ASCWU elections that happen every spring.

During these informal sessions, students will get the chance to sit down and talk with current officers and election commissioners about what they can expect when running for office or upholding one.

Lau said she’s really excited to introduce the idea of running in such an exciting way and that the more candidates there are, the better.

“We’re just trying to get more students involved and have that idea that elections are coming up soon, think about getting involved in student government,” Lau said.

The ASCWU Elections Commission is also in the process of electing two more commissioners to manage the elections, according to Lau. The commission is currently in the process of revising the guidelines and rules for this year’s election.

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**Espresso your thoughts with ASCWU**

By Eric Rosane  
News Editor

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**Info Packets Available**

When: Feb. 1  
Contact: Jeff Rosenberry
H a p p y New Year! Wildcats!

As the saying goes, “new year, new me” and I hope that you all take that to heart this quarter.

Try out that club you are interested in, go to a concert that isn’t your “jam,” or maybe even check out a restaurant that you have never been to.

New Year’s resolutions don’t have to be big. They can be small, easy changes that will help you become a better person.

Here at the Observer, we work hard to bring our readers what they want, but we need your help to do that.

This quarter we are working to improve our readership and follower interactions by writing the stories that you want to see. If there is a story you want us to cover (it doesn’t have to be news), let us know. Reach out to us on Facebook or send an email to cwuobserver@gmail.com.

We will accept story ideas and we will even run letters to the editor if they are print-worthy. If you do send in a letter to the editor, please make sure that your subject line is “Letter to the Editor” and in the text box tell me what your letter is regarding.

Also, please attach the letter via word document and not in the text of the email.

We have a great staff again this quarter and we have some great story ideas for future issues, though we are looking for more sports or other recreational activities to include since there aren’t many varsity sports during the winter. Within this first issue, we have some good stories to kick off this quarter.

First up, in the news section we have our coverage of the Matt Manweller investigation as well as the hot-button marijuana issues in our Evergreen Scene. Our scene section includes the Sarah Spurgeon Gallery exhibition “The Woods,” and a preview on the upcoming Martin Luther King Jr. events. Finally, our sports section provides a look at what you missed during winter quarter and coverage of the latest rugby matches.

Thanks for picking up this issue and I hope you continue to pick up more issues in the coming months. Winter quarter can be difficult, especially when the cold turns our campuses into an ice rink.

Make sure you’re watching where you step and please leave your cars at home if you live close to or on campus. Parking in the winter is always tight and with the black ice on the roads it is better just to walk if you can. You will save time and be a little bit safer!

If you are looking to lend a hand to people in need, why not check out the local cold weather shelter? Volunteers who have food handlers permits can make sandwiches for those in need. Volunteering is a great way to help the community during the harsh winter months.

Even though the holidays are over and the weather is bleak, spring will be here quicker than you know. So stay warm out there! If you need it, the library has bright light therapy for those who want a little sunshine.

Have a great winter quarter everyone, and remember that we don’t have school on Monday!

Signed, Sarah J. Hoot
Editor in Chief

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**Quote of the Week**

*We have yet to play our perfect game. Once that happens, we’re going to be dangerous.*

-Dominic Lindstrom, CWU Rugby

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**Editors’ Note:** The Observer is a public forum for student expression, in which students are not subject to school policy and course requirements. The opinions of the Observer are not necessarily those of Central Washington University. The Observer is distributed to Central Washington University as a newspaper and to provide training for students 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 to analyze and communicate information that is vital to the decision making of the community at large, and to be the best free debate of issues, ideas and problems facing the community at large, and to be the best free debate of issues, ideas and problems facing the community at large, and to be the best free debate of issues, ideas and problems facing the community at large, and to be the best free debate of issues, ideas and problems facing the community at large, and to be the best free debate of issues, ideas and problems facing the community at large.

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 email us at cwuobserver@gmail.com.
By Miles King
Staff Reporter

When Attorney General Jeff Sessions was appointed by the Trump administration, he made it clear he would fight against the legalization of marijuana on state levels.

The morning of Jan. 4, Sessions delivered a memo to all U.S. attorneys effectively changing federal enforcement policy.

What does the Sessions memo say and what does it mean?

The memo begins with a paragraph regarding crimes and dangers associated with marijuana. Sessions then quickly moves into the procedures of the prosecutors and how they should decide which cases to pursue, considering federal law and priorities set by the attorney general. The last, and the most impactful, paragraph of the memo states “previous nationwide guidance specific to marijuana enforcement is unnecessary and is rescinded, effective immediately.”

In the last paragraph, Sessions calls for any previous marijuana enforcement law to be removed. This includes the Cole Memo, an Obama-era policy that essentially turns a blind-eye to state level marijuana laws.

The Cole Memo allows for states that legalize marijuana to be free from federal prosecution even though federal law remains opposed to marijuana. The Cole Memo permits states to legal"
Student Success hires interim dean, begins permanent search

By Xander Fu
Staff Reporter

William Schafer was appointed Dec. 19 as interim Dean of Student Success. He will serve in this position for six months, from January to June of 2018. A search committee for the position will begin early this winter quarter, according to Provost Katherine Frank. The committee will be made up of 12 faculty, six being from Student Success.

Regarding goals for his time here, Schafer expressed interest in “seeing how we can help the university continue to be even more successful with retention and graduation rates. That’s really the core.” He also mentioned interest in non-academic programs and activities for students.

This is the first time Schafer has worked on the West Coast, despite having worked at many different schools. Through his 35 years in higher-education, Schafer’s worked at West Virginia University, most recently, and at Illinois Institute of Technology, his first dean position.

“Every school is different and every culture is different at these institutions. So you’re really trying to blend your experiences to offer recommendations to the institutions that you’re coming to,” Schafer said.

New to the area, receiving packages to furnish his university provided apartment, and adjusting to a three-hour difference in time zones have been some of the busy work Schafer has been doing for the last week.

Schafer has enjoyed his arrival in the area. He reflected that it was pretty and reminded him of where he grew up in Colorado.

He arrived in the area on Sunday, Jan. 7 and had his first day at CWU the following day. “Since it’s my first day on the job and I’m losing my voice already, talking a lot today, it’s really gathering information.”

“I believe this is a very special university. There’s a lot of very good things happening at this institution for students. Our goal is [to ask ourselves]: ‘how can we make it even better?’” Schafer said.

Anderson Hall to transition into residence hall

By Eric Rosane
News Editor

Anderson Hall will no longer be accepting apartment contracts beginning July 30 as CWU housing will transition Anderson into a residence hall for Fall 2018, according to an email sent out to current residents.

This move is influenced by an increase in first year students, which saw an additional 250 this fall. Opening Anderson Hall to residence hall contracts will ensure that every bed in the building is filled.

Housing will offer three options for current residents of Anderson Hall, according to the same email sent by Director of Housing Operations and Marketing, William Rabel.

Residents will be able to either remain in Anderson under a residence hall contract, which are rented per bed rather than room; move to other CWU housing complexes, which would provide Anderson residents priority placement amongst Student Village, Wahle, Getz-Short, or Brooklane; or find any alternative housing.

Priority applications for residents looking to stay in Anderson under the new contracts were made available Jan. 3.

Dormitory transitions like this are not uncommon for CWU, according to Rabel. Almost 12 years ago, Anderson Hall made the transition into an apartment complex from a residence hall. Now it’s making the transition back. Rabel said it’s all about repurposing buildings as the population changes.

“It’s all about repurposing buildings,” Rabel said. “There are not enough buildings that have been residence halls or apartment buildings, depending on the time period.”

McKnelly Icenhower, senior economics major

It’s not certain yet whether Anderson will see an increase in room-and-board, according to Rabel, but prices are expected to increase. With the new residence hall contracts, students will be required to purchase a quarterly meal plan.

Reception by Anderson Hall residents has been mixed. "Junior elementary education major Sanora Booth really enjoys the location that Anderson Hall offers and has never lived in a residence hall before. She said that if it weren’t for the new contracts, she would stay in Anderson.

"[There’s] too many people in a small space and I just want to be able to cook food and stuff," Booth said. Besides parking, she said, Anderson accommodates her needs.

Booth and her roommate are thinking about moving to Wahl once their contracts are up.

Brennan Massaglia, a first year art student who lives on the second floor, just arrived from Illinois two weeks ago. He said that finding housing in Anderson Hall was an easy last resort.

Massaglia said that he’s indifferent towards the transition. He knows that the university has to do their job, especially with an increase in students.

“This seems like a little much, especially for people coming half way across the country,” Massaglia said. “Although three people to a room couldn’t be bad.”

Senior economics major Malley Icenhower just got back last year from studying abroad. For her, finding housing at this complex was an easy last minute decision. This will be her second year living in Anderson and she’s planning on continuing her studies at CWU next year.

“I just feel like there’s less and less places to go... and I think there needs to be more affordable housing,” Icenhower said.

Icenhower lived in Kamo- la Hall her freshman year and said she’s undecided with where she’ll go. She said that she definitely wants to live off campus.

This week in History...

25 years ago
Jane Goodall, English primatologist, was reported to make a visit to CWU’s new animal research facility that was set to open.

50 years ago
CWU students got more details on the development of the Student Village apartment complexes, that were scheduled for a Fall 1968 opening.

75 years ago
Dr. E. E. Samuelson, then director of placement at Central Washington College, details the high demand of teachers during wartime - a stark contrast to just five years ago in 1918, when teachers were in low demand.

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FCC vote threatens freedom

By Alexa Murdock
Copy Desk Chief

On Dec. 14, the Federal Communications Commission (FCC) repealed net neutrality. The vote passed with a three-to-two majority.

Although the original net neutrality rules went into effect in 2015, they aimed to preserve the freedom of the internet as we have always known it. The rules gave the FCC loose power over internet service providers (ISPs) and had three main goals: prohibition of ISPs blocking content, ISPs throttling or slowing the access of certain data and ISPs creating paid prioritization for those who can pay a premium and slowing those who don’t.

The FCC Chairman Ajit Pai, who pushed for the repeal, argued that repealing the rules would benefit consumers because ISPs could offer a wider variety of service options.

But here’s the thing: we already have a free internet. If you pay for the internet, you get access to everything on it. There’s no need for ISPs to offer us different services because we already get every service available.

Without rules protecting net neutrality, we could see ISPs charging money for access to specific content. How we purchase access to the internet might begin to look like how we buy cable, with providers offering content in bundles. We could soon need to buy a social media bundle to access Facebook, a news bundle to access local news websites and an entertainment bundle to access YouTube.

Internet bundles are already happening across the world. According to The New York Times, many parts of Europe are experiencing ISPs changing for certain internet content. In Portugal, the mobile carrier Meo offers monthly subscription plans broken into categories for access to social media, messaging, and email applications.

Imagine having to pay a flat rate for data on your phone, an extra $5 to access Facebook and another $5 to access your Gmail account. This is a very real possibility, and it wouldn’t just be for mobile devices.

Net neutrality protects the internet as America knows it. In the past few years, the internet has become an integral part of our democracy. Anyone who has access to the internet has access to an outstandingly large and ever-expanding database of knowledge that can be retrieved almost instantaneously.

To me, the internet is the 21st century library. Gone are the ways of the print encyclopedia as more people embrace digital databases like Wikipedia. Categorical message boards are rarely used, as people prefer to post their classifieds from the comfort of their homes onto websites like Craigslist. Social media like Snapchat and Twitter allow messages to be created and published to a worldwide audience in a matter of seconds. The internet allows us to connect in ways that were unprecedented 20 years ago.

Lifting the rules on net neutrality could worsen the digital divide in America. The digital divide is the gap between those who have access to the internet and those who do not. Roughly 12 percent of citizens don’t have access to the internet and the people most at risk of not being able to pay extra for internet access are those in lower income brackets.

Freedom should not be restricted by how much money you make.

Perhaps the most notable example of how the internet is integral to the communication of a society is the Arab Spring. From 2010 to 2012, Tunisia, Libya, Egypt, and a handful of other countries saw major uprisings. Twitter and Facebook quickly became a platform for citizens to organize and communicate, leading to the toppling of these regimes because governments were unable to control these websites.

The Arab Spring is an extreme example of how the internet can connect a community for the greater good. If the internet were censored and not many had access to social media in this part of the world, the Arab Spring may never have happened.

Now, I’m not calling for Americans to overthrow the government over the repeal of net neutrality, but free and equal access to the internet is something I believe Americans should have. We’re allowed to go to the library and check out any book we please. We should be able to access any website we like.

It’s too early to say what the effects of the FCC’s vote on repealing net neutrality will be. However, the moment we stop talking about this is when we lose the fight for our right to have a free and fair internet. There’s still time to contact your government officials to help overturn the FCC’s decision. Go to SaveTheInternet.com for more information on what you can do to preserve internet freedom.
Third sexual harassment investigation begins on professor "Manweller" from page 01

Manweller did not face punishment by CWU after the 2006 investigation. After the 2003 investigation, he was forced to undergo sexual harassment training and denied his application for full professorship.

After he contested that decision, Manweller was promoted to full professor, received back pay and attorney’s fees. The faculty 횟에서 ecs 761.8x1152.0

Manweller claims that there were inconsistencies in the investigator’s second report that questions its authenticity and objectivity. He said that the investigator’s ‘hearsay’ statements of speech others and testimony were disallowed.

The new investigation was announced three days after the Seattle Times published information from the 2012 and 2013 investigations, which detailed allegations by at least three students that Manweller made unwanted advances on a female student that violated CWU’s 2006 Sexual Harassment Policy.

The Seattle Times’ reports and these reports suggest that Manweller had violated sexual harassment policies.

The Observer originally reported on the 2012 investigation after the Daily Record and Yakima Herald-Republic made requests to make the investigation public. Manweller, a Republican, said to stop the release of the report, claiming CWU wanted to wreck his first run for Legislative Local Superior Court Judge Scott R. Sparks originally agreed with Manweller’s request to bar the release, but later ruled that the public had a right to know about the harassment before the election, which Manweller won.

The claims were not originally investigated because no students were willing to file a written sexual harassment claim against Manweller, according to Executive Director of HR, Staci Stigl-Layman.

Allegations from the Reports

According to the 2012 report in July 2006, Manweller allegedly made unwanted advances on a female political science major during summer quarter.

The course was an independent study and re-quired students to write a paper on internet censorship in China. Throughout the quarter, students would schedule weekly meetings with Manweller to discuss progress on the class and paper.

During this meeting in July, Manweller allegedly closed the door of his office, pulled his chair close to the student and said that he was attracted to her and that there was “sexual energy between them that was undeniable,” according to the investigation report.

The report also said that the student said he then propositioned they get a hotel room, so that they could discuss.

The student then stated that the professor moved his chair closer to her again, put her hand on her knee and leaned to kiss her on the lips.

The student said she never wrote a claim of fear of retaliation, she never turned in her final paper and told the investigator she refused to register for any other classes taught by Manweller.

According to the second investigation, that same summer of 2006, Manweller allegedly invited a female student out for drinks at the Starlight Lounge. The student, who was already uncomfortable because she said Manweller had been asking her to go out for drinks since July, said yes and brought a friend with her. She claimed that while at the bar, he pro-

posed a threesome. She said they declined.

Also allegedly asked if she had a boyfriend, if she used birth control and how often she had sex. The students said that these comments made them uncomfortable.

Although the women were encouraged to file a written complaint by CWU’s personnel, neither of them did.

“In my judgement, based on the documents reviewed, interviews and conversations, evidence exist to suggest [Manweller] engaged in conduct with or towards [a student] that violated CWU’s 2006 Sexual Harassment Policy,” the investigator concluded.

Changes in CWU’s Investigation Policy

Stigl-Layman has worked for human resources for over 32 years and has investigated internal discrimination complaints for 25 years. She said that the culture surrounding sexual harassment allegations has changed immensely since 2006, especially in the wake of the Harvey Weinstein allegations and the #MeToo movement.

“The response to an anonymous complaint, the legal expectations at that time were different than what it is today,” Stigl-Layman said.

Shige-Layman and other faculty were made aware of multiple allegations of sexual misconduct against Manweller in 2006 and 2009. She encouraged all students to file formal complaints.

“While I don’t think it [the Manweller complaint] was the major driver of change, I do think it was probably part of that whole movement that was happening at the same time,” Shige-Layman said.

Manweller is removed from the 2012 and 2013 investigations as they open a third independent investigation at the same time,” Stigl-Layman said.

One student said she didn’t file a claim because she and her boyfriend were banking on Manweller’s letter of recommendation for law school.

Manweller said that he will seek re-election next fall, despite calls for his resignation from legislators and citizens. He was stripped of his voting member position on the House Labor and Workplace Committee and resigned as assistant to the speaker, according to published reports. He said that if this recent investigation comes out around that time, he will not file an injunction in court.

“Go to ratemyprofessor.com and see what the students say of me,” Manweller said, “Let them make the judgement.”

Timeline of Investigation Claims

July 2006: An unknown political science student took an independent study class with Manweller. The student met with Manweller in his office one week, where he allegedly asked her to get a hotel room and proceeded to kiss her on the lips.

September 2008: Former political science professor Stephanie Wickstrom, Staci Shige-Layman, of the Office of Equal Opportunity, and then-Political Science Chair Todd Schaefer were made aware of allegations that a student said she obtained a letter of recommendation from Manweller’s class and she “really didn’t have to do anything if I gave him a blow job.”

November 2012: The first independent investigation of sexual assault claims against Manweller becomes public. This happened just before Manweller won his seat as Republican legislator for the 13th District.

January 2013: The second investigation is finished. Evidence suggested that Manweller violated the school’s sexual harassment policies. CWU orders Manweller to undergo sexual harassment training.


Dec. 11, 2017: CWU announced that it was placing professor Manweller on administrative leave as they open a third independent investigation into sexual harassment allegations.

Dec. 14, 2017: Manweller is removed from his role as a top Republican leader on the Labor & Workplace committee and resigns from his leadership position in the House. House Majority Leader Pat Sullivan called on Manweller to resign, but he refused, according to The Times.
Manweller investigation excerpts

On December 18, 2012, Ms. Dengele called  to schedule an appointment with me to discuss her allegations of sexual harassment against Dr. Manweller. Per Ms. Dengele,  agreed to speak with me, but did not want, at that moment, to commit to a specific date or time. According to Ms. Dengele,  advised that she had her issues and dealt with it over two years ago, and had told Dr. Manweller that she was "not going to take it."  also told Ms. Dengele that CWU "really dropped the ball" in investigating her allegations, but since Dr. Manweller is now on his way to being a State Legislator he will have far less young women to prey on. A copy of Ms. Dengele's Memorandum from her call with  attached as Exhibit A.

According to , she sat next to her friend at a table near the bar. A few minutes later, Dr. Manweller, who was sitting at a nearby table, signaled them to join him at his table.  stated that, as soon as they joined Dr. Manweller, he began ordering drinks for them.  had only one drink.  stated that a short while later, Dr. Manweller began asking her personal questions, particularly about sex. The questions were directed at her, and not .

According to , Dr. Manweller asked her the following questions:

According to Ms. Sleigh-Layman, in 2006 CWU had a unwritten policy not to investigate sexual harassment claims unless the claimant was willing to file a formal written complaint. Currently, CWU has a policy to investigate all sexual harassment claims.

On September 17, 2012, CWU retained our office and requested our assistance in conducting a follow-up investigation concerning the allegations of sexual harassment against

II. EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

A.  Creditable witness testimony exists that Dr. Manweller violated CWU’s Sexual Harassment Policy; but this incident occurred in 2006 and did not submit a complaint with CWU at that time.

B.  It appears has no interest in pursuing a complaint against Dr. Manweller. Via Dr. Manweller’s attorney, I have been provided a Declaration purportedly signed by denying Dr. Manweller acted inappropriately toward her. Int. Declaration appears inconsistent with her prior statements.
MLK: celebration continues this week

By Daisy Perez
Scene Editor

In previous years, volunteers have tried to teach Mount Stuart Elementary second through fifth graders a chant while they exited the SURC Ballroom after being taught about civil rights leader Martin Luther King Jr. Some students continued to talk to their friends, others didn’t hold up their protest signs. But many students, like a girl with a penguin on her shirt, proudly held their signs above their heads and chanted, “I have a dream! MLK!”

The Center for Leadership and Community Engagement (CLCE) and Center for Diversity and Social Justice (CDSJ) have partnered for the 9th Annual Remembrance Celebration Week. The week kicked off with second and third graders participating in the Make a Difference Program.

Fourth and fifth graders will also participate in the event with activities like writing about leadership, making signs for a peace walk and role playing various civil rights situations.

Jason Eng, a fifth-grade teacher who has taught at Mount Stuart Elementary School for 15 years, said a practicum student that helped him in his class worked for CLCE and wanted to develop a program that would involve elementary students.

“She took the opportunity to use Martin Luther King Jr. as a way to help kids understand what MLK stood for and the civil rights era,” Eng said. “We get asked every year to attend [the event] and it’s a unanimous yes.”

Miraclejoy Curtis, student Public Relations Coordinator at CDSJ also said that they want to make the Make a Difference Program fun so that the kids will actively engage in the activities and learn.

The celebration will also have a thirty-minute peace march through campus to practice MLK’s peaceful protest for social equality. The Remembrance Program will be held shortly after and there will be performances by students and the Black Gospel Choir.

“There are many groups on campus that are involved and support the event like Brother to Brother, S.I.S.T.E.R.S. and M.E.Ch.A…” Kim Jellison, program manager at CLCE, said. “Last year, we had the largest turnout, about 200 to 300 students attended so we hope we have a big turnout this year, too.”

The audience gets ready to watch an 80s film. Remember to be early to get a seat.

Monday Movie
Madness kicks off

Catch-a-flick
Show times: 7 & 9 p.m.
Where: SURC Theatre
Free for CWU students with student ID
General admission: $3

“Pretty in Pink”
Jan. 22
High school cliques, unrequited love and a girl with a sense of style will give viewers 80s vibes.

“Sixteen Candles”
Jan. 29
Dances, make out sessions and a party that becomes a free-for-all.

“Can’t Buy Me Love”
Feb. 12
What’s the fee for the head cheerleader pretending to date a nerd? A thousand dollars.

“Top Gun”
March 5
The Navy establishes an elite school for aviators called the Fighters Weapons School. The pilots know it as Top Gun.
Get lost in the darkness of the woods

By Daisy Perez
Scene Editor

The headlights of a maroon pickup truck light up Sasquatch. A taxidermy bear, walk-in cooler and paintings on the wall of silhouettes of the woods place viewers in a supernatural environment.

PUNCH Projects members and CWU alumni Renee Adams, Howard Barlow, Justin Beckman and Justin Gibbens are a group of artists who strive to create a visual dialogue between urban and rural art communities; they will host The Woods exhibition.

The exhibition is not like other traditional art galleries where paintings are hung on the walls or sculptures are placed on pedestals, but instead is a mixed-media installation.

The exhibition is “immersive, so when you walk into the space, the artwork and experience of the artwork completely surrounds you,” PUNCH Projects Director Justin Beckman said.

The woods concept for the exhibition stood out to all members because they share a love of camping and hiking, and for them the woods represent tranquility and reflection. However, PUNCH members wanted viewers to experience a darker and paranormal space.

The woods “are the basis for a lot of rich stories like ‘Stranger Things,’ ‘Deliverance,’ ‘X-Files’ and sasquatch,” Beckman said. “So we were interested in bridging those stories from camping and recreation to the ideas of mystery and other-worldliness.”

The pieces are environmental installations. They want to create a scene that is mysterious and focuses on the fears that the woods might generate.

“The gallery is a large open space where you can control light and sound and it doesn’t have any windows,” Barlow said. “The Woods piece is the one we built the show around and gave us a starting point to work on.”

Other artwork included in the exhibition is by past PUNCH Projects members Bill Finger, Carolyn Hopkins, Dylan Neuwirth and Eugene Parnell.

Neuwirth works with light, space and interactive technology. The purpose of his work is to establish the cycles of searching, belief and transcendence. “I like to create bodies of work that questions who I am, who are we, what’s this all about?” Neuwirth said. “So when they asked me about the exhibition I was like ‘Oh, I have the perfect piece!’”

The art piece that he has provided is made up of clear glass tubes that illuminate light from each of the noble gases: helium, neon, argon, krypton and xenon. It’s suspended from five custom-made aluminum tripods that might resemble an experiment made by a secret government agency abandoned in the shadows of the woods.

“We commonly see neon work either on a wall or a sign,” Neuwirth said. “I wanted to place [the art piece] in the woods and have someone find it and wonder what it is, maybe aliens or an experiment.”

Art exhibition

Opening: Thursday, Jan. 11
Artist Talk: 4 p.m. - 5 p.m.
Reception: 5 p.m. - 7 p.m.
Location: Sarah Spurgeon Gallery
Free event

The exhibition will remain open until Feb. 4
Winter sports take over CWU Athletics

By Natalie Hyland
Sports Editor

As many students left for the holidays, the winter athletes of CWU hunkered down and focused on their craft with the help of coaches, trainers and a new smoothie stand to fuel their bodies.

Volleyball

Before the break began, CWU volleyball wrapped up its season after falling three sets to two to Northwest Nazarene University (NNU) in the NCAA DII Western Regional match on Nov. 30. The Wildcats and the Crusaders traded matches during the regular season, going 1-1 in their meetings.

Throughout the season, Sabrina Wheelhouse led not only the Wildcats, but the entire NCAA DII in blocks averaging 1.5 blocks per set. The senior middleblocker is one of two seniors graduating this year who will not return to CWU next year. The other is middleblocker Sarah Jiff.

Women’s Rugby

Also closing out their season was Wildcat women’s rugby, which finished its 15s season on Nov. 18 after falling to longtime rivals out for a number of weeks. The senior point guard Marc Rodgacher out for the season and junior forward Drake Radormacher out in the wake of injuries that leave like freshman Khalil Shabazz performing better than hoped for everyone.

When classes resumed, the men began their 15s season falling with a 7-6 record and 2-4 conference record against Alaska Fairbanks which CWU won 81-72. Once school resumed, the Wildcats held a 7-7 record including a 3-3 conference record, after topping Western Oregon University 72-70 on Dec. 19 and Saint Martin’s University 49-46 on Jan. 4 in addition to the win against Alaska Fairbanks.

The women’s roster boasts five seniors, including guard Jasmin Edwards, who holds the CWU record for most steals, and Southern Utah transfer Taylor Baird, who also made a huge impact on the team in her first season last year.

Men’s Basketball

Like women’s basketball, the CWU men’s team opened its season before the break with a 4-4 record after beating the likes of Montana State University Billings on Dec. 19 and NNU on Dec. 19.

Assistant coach Drew Harris also reported younger players like freshman Khalil Shabazz performing better than hoped for everyone.

Injury ends Rodgers’ career

By Natalie Hyland
Sports Editor

Senior point guard Marc Rodgers announced the end of his basketball career on Twitter Tuesday night, citing injuries that have plagued him throughout high school and college.

During the Jan. 4 game against Simon Fraser, Rodgers left the game with partial tears in his labrum and major damage to the abductor muscles in his hip.

“It’s something I can’t really come back from. I knew when I hurt my knee in high and the first time in college, I was going to be able to come back,” Rodgers said. “Now I’m doing rehab just to be functional again [and] walk without a limp.”

Rodgers spent the 2015-16 season in recovery after tearing his meniscus, spraining his MCL and patellar tendon and fracturing his tibia.

Rodgers played in 75 games over the course of five years at CWU, starting in 54.

 “[Rodgers] is our most experienced guy,” assistant coach Drew Harris said Wednesday.

Rodgers and Harris reported that he will still be a part of the team and attend games and meetings as any player would.

“It’s been a journey,” Rodgers said. “Thank you to the community [and] all of Central for everything.”
**Winter ski season ‘subpar’ at best**

**By Hanson Lee**
Senior Sports Reporter

While students and drivers are rejoicing with the lack of snow this winter, winter sports enthusiasts are less than thrilled with a slushy turnout on the mountains.

“Snow definitely hasn't been a main concern yet [as] last year,” said OPR frontman Andrew Kollar. “The lack of snow this season has been a disappointment.”

Kollar added that at this time last year, the weather was a lot more suitable, especially for winter sports.

“Definitely make sure, even if it doesn’t snow, if you’re going over the pass that you have some kind of appropriate tires or chains, even if they aren’t required at the moment, because the weather can change like a flash,” Poprawski said. “Be prepared to make sure that you have supplies in your car like a candy, or an extra sleeping bag that it’s important to always stay cautious and prepared when driving through the pass. Definitely make sure, even if it doesn’t snow, if you’re going over the pass that you have some kind of appropriate tires or chains, even if they aren’t required at the moment, because the weather can change like a flash.”

- Andrew Kollar, Ski Patrol

**Wildcat men’s rugby off to strong start**

**By Hanson Lee**
Senior Sports Reporter

College Club team

Dominic Lindstrom currently around 40-50 inches of snowfall on the main runs of Stevens Pass and only about 80 total inches of snowfall last year,

“The team has just sort of come together really nicely as a group this year,” head coach Zion Thornley said.

Thornley spoke highly of the upperclassmen on the team and talked about the impact they have had on the team’s success this season including junior center Cole Zarcone and senior wing Dominic Lindstrom.

“Our seniors want to leave the [program] in a better place than when they came in, and they really realize doing the same thing that they’ve always done is not necessarily going to get the same result,” Thornley said. “They’ve taken a greater sense of pride in what they’re doing, and they really want to change things here.”

Thornley detailed how the team has shown a greater sense of pride on the pitch this season.

“I think it’s all just kind of slowly coming together,” he said. “There’s a lot that we can work on, but I think that we’re moving in the right directions.”

10 games into this season, but after losing back-to-back games in 15s, Thornley made it clear that there are still things that the Wildcats need to maintain and improve upon if they want to continue their success down the road.

“I just want to continue to have that desire to learn and get better, and I think that everyone in the program can always get better,” Thornley said. “As long as we have that growth mindset and we want to look at ourselves individually and, collectively, every single performance and learn from something whether we win or lose, then that’s all I can hope for.”

Zarcone has been a key player for the Wildcats this season including being named Most Valuable Player for the West Coast 7s tournament.

“I think with 7s, my teammates and I put in a position to do well and then a lot of it was up to me to win one-on-one against a guy,” Zarcone said. “I think my ability to make people miss and my speed on the field has allowed me to be successful in 7s and also when we’re playing 15s.”

Zarcone had positive words about the team’s success so far.

“I think it’s absolutely amazing to see how much the older guys are pulling us along,” Zarcone said. “I think we’re becoming self-regulated.”

Zarcone also talked about what it’s been like for him on the pitch being able to positively impact his team’s success.

“I just try to lead by example and be a leader wherever I can and help the guys out,” Zarcone said. “We try to keep the intensity as high as possible just to help out on the field. We just try to focus on one game at a time and hope that it leads into winning as many games as we can this 15 season, so I’m excited to hopefully make a full run in the playoffs.”

Lindstrom expressed his feelings about the team’s quick 10-0 start to 7s this season and what’s been working for the team.

“We [have] four or five seniors and a good core group getting the younger guys a little more to speed,” Lindstrom said. “That’s kind of led us so far.”

Lindstrom expressed his role as a player and the impact that he’s been able to have on the team this season.

Being a senior on the team this season, Lindstrom talked more about his role on the team as a leader and how he has been able to use his past years of experience as a way of positively impacting the team’s success, especially for the younger guys.

“We don’t have that many older guys, so it’s important that you know that kind of responsibility because there’s a limited number of us that are upperclassmen right now,” Lindstrom said. “Just teaching [the younger guys] the ins and outs and helping them down the game down for themselves because when you first come in, the games seem pretty quick.”

**Friends Needed!**

If you are a widow or grandmother who has been raising your grandchild for nine and a half years, I moved to Kitsap County just over two years ago. I was extremely nervous when my mentor was a year and a half ago. My grandson has difficulties with abandonment and social issues. The mentor was a great help with these issues. We went hiking, swimming, rock climbing, and enjoyed many other activities each week for a couple hours. After almost a year, my grandson relocated to another state to pursue a different career. Fortunately, not long after that, my grandson was matched with another mentor and I am very lucky to have a good male role model in my life today. Meeting every week for about an hour – they snow sled, walk at the dog park, eat ice cream and enjoy rec center activities together. The warmer months are coming and I can’t wait to see what they will do in the sunshine. I am very thankful for the mentors and the program.”

— A Thankful Grandmother
Men's rugby to face Seattle Saracens

By Hanson Lee
Senior Sports Reporter

The Wildcats will face the Seattle Saracens in men’s rugby action this weekend. The Saracens are a Premier Northwest Rugby team which makes Saturday’s match a non-conference match, but that doesn’t mean the Wildcats will take the game lightly.

“We’ve never beaten them before and we’ve certainly got the athletes in place now where we can compete with the club side,” head coach Todd Thornley said. “We want to knock them over. Absolutely we want to win.”

Through seven games this season, the Seattle Saracens are currently sitting at sixth in their Premier League standings with a 2-5 record.

The Saracens roster a decent amount of CWU alumni including Ryan Snider, who graduated in 2012, as well as Ahadden Schirmer and Maverick Schirmer, who both graduated in 2016.

Thornley explained the mindset and attitude that he wants the team to have heading into this matchup.

“The team needs to have a lot of confidence and a strong understanding of the game plan, outlined Thornley. “If we have total clarity and understanding of why and how and when we do things, then we should be very confident in playing a team like them.”

Junior center Cole Zarcone outlined his expectations for the team as they prepare for the Saracens.

“I think with a few matches under our belt, we’ll be able to do well against them and it will be an exciting match,” Zarcone said.

“[For me] just playing well and helping the team get the win,” Zarcone said. “Whatever I have to do to help the team get the win is all that matters.”

Senior wing Dominic Lindstrom also has high expectations for the team heading into the weekend.

“We want to “keep the younger guys calm and be [leaders] on the field,” Lindstrom said.

Lindstrom talked about the improvements that need to be made down the road in order for this team to get even better as the season advances.

“A few of our wins weren’t even our best games. We have yet to play our perfect game. Once that happens, we’re going to be dangerous,” Lindstrom said.

*First 25 STUDENTs attending game
See wildcatshop.com for rules

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JAN 27TH 7:00 pm

WILDCATS VS SAINTS
FEB 3rd 5:15 pm

WILDCATS VS SF CLAN
FEB 3rd, 7:30 pm

WILDCATS VS WOLVES
FEB 17TH, 7:00 pm

FINALS BATTLE IT OUT:
WILDCATS VS WOLVES
FEB 17th, 7:00 pm