

1-18-2018

## Observer

Central Washington University

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Observer covers the Rattlesnake Ridge crack - See pages 6 - 7

## Sports

# Inspiration from the stars

## Khalil Shabazz credits his basketball success to his high school team and NBA friends

By Hanson Lee  
Sports Senior Reporter

Freshman phenom Khalil Shabazz has been lighting up the basketball court for the Wildcats at point guard this season. Shabazz credits his game and rise in reputation to that of Rainier Beach's top-notch basketball program.

"It was the best, best high school in America," Shabazz said. "We won championships, the coaches are passionate about the sport so they just want to get you better, and it's just all about getting better everyday."

### Shabazz's Journey

Growing up, Shabazz participated in football, tennis, gymnastics and swimming. "Basketball was one of [the sports] that I ended up liking the most, so I stuck with it," Shabazz said.

Shabazz reflected on the influence being in Seattle had.

"Seattle, it's like a basketball community, so there [are] gyms everywhere and everybody's willing to hoop," Shabazz said. "It wasn't that hard for me to get into the gym or go to late-night and play basketball with my friends."

While attending Rainier Beach, Shabazz won state championships his freshman and junior years. Shabazz recorded the second-highest scoring game in Rainier Beach history with 47 points. The only person who scored more was Dejounte Murray, who now plays for the San Antonio Spurs.

During his junior year, Shabazz was the starting point guard for Rainier Beach. After losing to Garfield the previous year, Rainier Beach was finally the underdog going into the semi-final

matchup against Garfield.

"They got up early on us and it was tough - everybody thought we were gonna lose. And then something sparked and we just took over," Shabazz said. "We got to the hotel later on that day [after winning] and were like, there's no way we're losing state. We're going to win this game and we're going to be state champions."

Rainier Beach ended up blowing out O'Dea in the title game by 21 points - what Shabazz calls his biggest Rainier Beach win.

### Rainier Beach Impact

Over the years, Rainier Beach High School in Seattle, Washington has built a steady reputation for producing NBA talents such as Dejounte Murray, Nate Robinson, and Jamal Crawford. Rainier Beach's rich history in developing NBA talent has inspired young players like Shabazz to follow in their footsteps.

**Dejounte Murray, San Antonio Spurs** - "He's honestly like a big brother, I'm closest to him," Shabazz said. "We grew up together, he played basketball with my older brother and they're the same age, so I was always around and he always just made sure that he looked out for me." Shabazz and Murray were teammates at Rainier Beach when Shabazz was a freshman and sophomore and Murray was a junior and senior.

Shabazz reflected back on a big moment during his sophomore year at Rainier Beach. Murray was a senior on the team when they were playing Garfield for the district title at Seattle Pacific University.

- See "Behind the Ball" page 10 - 11



Jack Lambert/The Observer

Khalil Shabazz is only a freshman but he is already excelling in his position as point guard for CWU.

## News

# Admin study will determine how to better serve the Latinx community at CWU

By Eric Rosane  
News Editor

The CWU administration launched a new committee this month that will review how the university is currently serving Latinx students and to examine the possibility of properly serving a student body that is over 25 percent Hispanic.

The committee, lead by Associate Provost Gail Mackin and four other faculty from different departments across CWU, will gather data relevant to how the university is serving Latinx and Hispanic communities. The new committee had

their first meeting on Jan. 10 with 20 community members, students and faculty present. The committee will file a finished report by the end of spring quarter.

A Hispanic Serving Institute (HSI) is any institution whose student body is comprised of 25 percent or more Latinx students. CWU is currently designated as an "emerging" HSI, serving just over a 15 percent student body that is Latinx or Hispanic.

Anthropology Professor Rodrigo F. Renteria-Valencia is one of five CWU faculty leading the HSI committee. Renteria-Valencia sees this opportunity as a chance to better serve not only the Lat-

inx communities here on campus, but to serve the communities throughout the Central Washington region.

Renteria-Valencia said that this idea of implementing a more inclusive environment to the increasingly diverse community is a conversation that has been developing for many years now.

"Many people have been reflecting in terms of who we are as an institution. It's not that we don't have an identity [or] that we don't have a mission," Renteria-Valencia said. "Any university changes through time, so it's natural that faculty, staff and administration are constantly asking this question

of who we are, who we serve, why we serve them and how we are going to do that."

In October, Renteria-Valencia, Mackin and the three other leaders on the HSI committee attended the Hispanic Association of Colleges and Universities (HACU) in San Diego.

During the two-day conference, the committee learned different ways that other HSI's and emerging HSI's were serving their Latinx communities. 2,200 representatives from universities across the nation attended this conference.

- See "Latinx" page 4

## NEWS

EDITOR: ERIC ROSANE | news@cwuobserver.com

## EVERGREEN SCENE



Jack Lambert / The Observer

As of Jan. 1, California has legalized the recreational sale of marijuana. They are the second state this year to legalize.

## The Sunshine State goes green on rec pot

By Observer Staff

California became the eighth state to legalize recreational marijuana as of Jan. 1. This is a milestone for advocates who have been fighting for recreational legislation, since California was the first state to legalize medical marijuana.

According to the National Conference of State Legislatures (NCSL), in 1996 California passed Proposition 215. This made California the first state in the union to allow for the use of medicinal marijuana. This was just the start of the laws and regulations that would be placed on the state.

Senate Bill 420 in 2003 created a way to monitor medicinal marijuana usage. In 2015, the state rebuilt its framework of the industry with the Medical Cannabis Regulation and Safety Act (MCRSA) to clarify the laws for marijuana-based businesses.

Now, in 2018, California has made huge improvements within the industry, but this is only the beginning for them. There

are sales licensing procedures not currently in place in most major cities, such as Los Angeles and San Francisco, according to CNN. These are the two largest cities in the state, which might put marijuana-based businesses at a disadvantage.

Once these licenses are approved, this could mean more

**This is a milestone for advocates who have been fighting for recreational legislation.**

exposure to those who potentially were skeptical to the use of it.

In 2012, Washington State and Colorado became the first states to legalize marijuana for recreational use. Since then, Oregon, Nevada, Alaska, Maine, Massachusetts, and California have legalized recreational use and thirty states have legalized medicinal marijuana.

As the industry continues to expand, the one thing that sim-

ply cannot be ignored is that marijuana is still illegal under federal law. Attorney General Jeff Sessions has openly opposed the legalization of marijuana because it could create strain on federal resources.

Earlier this month, Attorney General Jeff Sessions released a one page public memo which detailed plans to rescind Obama-era marijuana enforcement, effective immediately.

In past years, marijuana enforcement was taken up primarily by the states and the laws that they pass. But with the new Sessions memo, green states are unsure to what extent Federal authority plans to enforce these new restrictions.

“Previous nationwide guidance specific to marijuana enforcement is unnecessary and is rescinded, effective immediately,” the memo stated.

In the memo, Sessions also called for the removal of the Cole Memo, a piece of policy from the Obama-era that turns a blind-eye to state level marijuana laws.



## Observation Deck

Since we are coming back from a three-day weekend, I figured this Observation Deck should be a little lighthearted to keep up the good vibes. So today I am writing about the shows I just finished watching this weekend on Netflix. This will probably be a recurring theme because, I, like many of you I am sure, watch a lot of Netflix.

My taste in shows depends on my mood and my list reflects that. On my list are shows like “Criminal Minds” (one of my all time favorites) and “My Little Pony: Friendship is Magic” (don’t hate, it’s a good show). One of my goals is to try and finish watching all of the shows that I have on my Netflix list, or at least the ones I have previously started and stopped watching.

This three-day weekend has given me plenty of time to binge-watch two different shows. Both were very good, so check them out if you get bored.

“How to Get Away With Murder” is based around a law firm on a college campus where the professor hires her best students to help her on cases. However, the students soon find themselves caught up in a series of scandals and conspiracies. As the cases roll on, the students are forced to work together to figure out how everything is connected and try to keep themselves out of prison. I really enjoyed this show. It can be hard to follow if you aren’t careful because there are lots of things that tie into each other. There are many twists and turns that make the show exciting and keep you on your toes. The only thing I didn’t like was that some of the backgrounds of the students are kept very vague. I think that the show would be better with more information about them. Although, they might be working this in later seasons so who knows.

The other show that I finished was the Netflix original “Troll-

hunters.” I heard about this show from a friend on Facebook who watched it and thought it was good. This is an animated show but don’t let that deter you. It’s a show that college kids (and even adults) can get into.

“Trollhunters” is the story of a boy named James Lake Junior as he discovers a mystical amulet that turns him into the legendary Troll Hunter. With that comes the responsibility of defending the city of trolls who live underneath the city of Arcadia, and fighting the monsters who threaten the people and trolls of the city. Along the way, his friends get involved and together they are charged with stopping the forces of changelings, who are trying to bring back the dark lord of the trolls from the Darklands where he is trapped. Not only that, but James has to make sure he keeps up the appearance of a normal teenager (complete with midterms).

This show was really good. There are both humorous and serious moments that make it worth watching. For people who like fantasy-based things, this could be a good show for you. Right now there are only two parts (basically seasons) but there hopefully will be more coming.

Those are my recommendations for the week. I hope you give these two shows a chance, but if they don’t strike your fancy then maybe another show will. Until then, take a look through the paper to read all the good stories we have. There are two pieces about Brewfest downtown, a profile on Khalil Shabazz from men’s basketball and a doubletruck featuring the Rattlesnake Ridge crack.

Have fun Netflix and chillin’!

Signed, Sarah J. Hoot  
Editor in Chief

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**Corrections for the Jan. 11 Issue:** On page 1; the ASCWU Coffee Talks will be in the SURC Pit, not the Bistro, on Jan. 24 at 6 p.m.



### Quote of the Week

We still have work that we need to do. We’ve definitely come a long way, especially from [MLK’s] time when he was marching and fighting...

-Champagne Ryder, Freshman ITAM major, Page 4.

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# NEWS

EDITOR: ERIC ROSANE | news@cwuobserver.com

## CWU Orchestra to play at JFK Center in Washington D.C.

By Isabelle Hautefeuille  
Staff Reporter

For the first time, the CWU Symphony Orchestra will perform farther than Portland, Oregon. They have been invited to play at the John F. Kennedy Center in Washington D.C. for the Capital Orchestra Festival on Feb. 19.

With 70 musicians, the CWU Symphony Orchestra will be the only university orchestra at this event.

Nikolas Caoile, Acting Chair of the Department of Music at CWU and the Director of the Orchestra, said that this trip couldn't have been possible without the aid of the school. The trip was presented to the Services and Activities Fee Committee, who approved a \$93,000 budget, ensuring that no student will have to pay out of pocket. The Music Department originally asked for \$100,000.

"This is once in a life time experience," Caoile said.

According to Caoile, this trip will be beneficial in building the

"esprit de corps" of the orchestra, which is a French phrase that expresses building a bond between your cohorts. They will also have the opportunity to visit well-known historic memorials and monuments while in the capital.



The CWU orchestra had to undergo a rigorous application process to be considered for this annual event at the capital. The orchestra's application was reviewed and processed by one of the largest international orchestral tour organizers, Music Celebrations.

To Nolan Welch, first cello and member of the orchestra's council, this will be an important step in building the music department's credibility on the national scale. "It's huge for our school. Even our football team doesn't really go as far as Washington D.C.," Welch said. To easily describe this event to people who are unknowledgeable in the music world, he likes to use sports metaphors.

"It's kind of like we are going



Courtesy of CWU College of Arts and Humanities  
(Top) Dr. Caoile describes the process of conducting. (Bottom) The Symphony Orchestra is made up of 70 musicians.

to play a big national championship," Welch said.

As the director of the orchestra, Caoile has high expectations for this event.

"We plan to represent the university with the highest level of professionalism," Caoile said.

Welch reflected on how fortunate he is for this opportunity. "I can't say that my needs are any less important than someone in the math department or any others," Welch said. "My family has paid and all the music students have paid for years of private lessons on their instruments so they could get to the point where they can apply for a music school."

## Tweets From The Streets

### Thoughts from our Wildcats

**CWU Hype** @CWUHype · Jan 8  
Wildcats, it's your event so we want YOU to pick the artist for spring quarter's Student Appreciation Day! VOTE HERE and RETWEET with your fav choice! #CWU 🎵 @CWUCampus

38% Mark E. Bassy  
42% TroyBoi  
6% DJ Earworm  
14% Mike Stud

1,112 votes · Final results

8 82 40

**LUNA** @luna\_jess24 · Jan 10  
I'm what's called a 'productive procrastinator':

I procrastinate on HW by doing other mindless tasks (like laundry), so later I don't feel guilty for not doing anything

20 99

**Mad** @MadSwagMartin · Jan 7  
like where r all these best friends im supposed to make in college???

2 17 20

**CWU BSU** @bsu\_cwu · 7h  
Happy 89th Birthday to Reverend Dr. Martin Luther King Jr. 🙏 Long Live the Legend!

4

**CWU Pulse Magazine** @CWUPulse · 3m  
With Valentine's Day right around the corner we want to know your WORST date stories! Comment or DM us your WORST story and you might be featured in one of our PULSEVideos! #PULSEMagazine

1 1

“It's kind of like we are going to play a big national championship.”

-Nolan Welch, First Cello

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## NEWS

EDITOR: ERIC ROSANE | news@cwuobserver.com

# Community unites for ninth annual MLK March

By Nicholas Tucker  
Staff Reporter

Unfavorable weather and fresh snow didn't stop protesters from gathering in the SURC Pit on Jan. 11 to attend the ninth annual MLK Peace March. At 3:30 p.m., roughly 30 students and community members collected around Director of Student Involvement Andre Dickerson.

"We won't let the weather deter us," Dickerson said.

The protesters left the SURC Pit fairly quickly and began moving south on Chestnut Mall. At the front was Dickerson with a megaphone leading chants.

"Rights for all," shouted marchers as they stormed through slush on the concrete.

At Dickerson's side was Champagne Ryder, a freshman ITAM major. This sort of activism runs in Ryder's family - his father was an ex-black panther, according to Ryder. He still believes that there is progress to be made with civil equity.

"We still have work that we need to do. We've definitely come a long way, especially from [MLK's] time when he was marching and fighting, but

we still need to continue his legacy in a non-hateful and nonviolent way," Ryder said.

Ryder continued to make his voice heard. Dickerson handed him the megaphone and let him lead the marchers.

"The people united will never be divided," they chanted in unison.

The crowd was diverse in not only race, but also in age. Chris Bailee, a 66-year-old member of the Ellensburg First Methodist Church, held a sign that read "Fighting for the dream."

"I believe in all of my heart in equality and that all people - all humanity - is one family, and to see the injustice, the inequality that continues, is so painful," Bailee said. "We look at the criminal system and how people of color are villainized. We need to stand up and speak for the rights of everyone."

The march crossed the Barge courtyard, reached University Way and stopped in front of Barge Hall. It was here that Dickerson addressed his crowd, which now stood in a circle, calling for a moment of silence in the name of those who fought against oppression and those who are still oppressed today.



The camera shutters stopped and the noise of footsteps came to a halt. The only noise was that of cars honking in the distance and the wind.

Dickerson broke the silence so the march could continue. The faces inside the passing cars smiled and the crowd cheered in response. Moving north, the marchers entered the SURC cafeteria and continued to chant. Most students smiled, but some scowled at the noise.

The march reached the SURC second floor and



Jack Lambert / The Observer

(Top) Myrinda Wolitarsky, left, and a fellow marcher hold their signs up high while walking up Walnut Mall. (Left) Ruby Nambo, left, participates in the peace march. (Right) Rosemary Harrell holds a sign in each hand during the march.

Dickerson shook each marcher's hand, thanking them for their voice and welcoming

them to the awaiting food and MLK Day celebration in the theater.

## Administration starts study to better serve Latinx students

"Latinx" from page 1

The conference primarily focused on how universities could reorganize to better serve Latinx populations and increase the number of Hispanic individuals in leadership positions.

Once the CWU committee left the conference, they began drafting a resolution to begin implementing strategies to better serve Latinx communities.

"While CWU is not an HSI, many of the initiatives and knowledge presented at HACU can directly benefit our daily practice at Central. More importantly, HACU represents a national conversation that Central should be apart of," the resolution stated.

This change in "daily practices" comes at a very pivotal moment for CWU. Currently, more than one third of CWU students are persons of color. Mackin said that the focus to serving the Latinx community benefits everyone involved.

"Focusing on HSI status is a means to reflect on CWU's inclusivity and ability to serve all students. It's also a way to be known as a welcoming and inclusive institution," Mackin said.

Mackin said that after she walked away from the HACU conference, she knew that this was the better way to as-

“Focusing on HSI status is a means to reflect on CWU's inclusivity and ability to serve all students...”

—Gail Mackin, Associate Provost

assist Latinx students on every level, and assist Hispanic administrators and faculty. She also said that it's important for students to see other people like them in positions of authority. It's about building an all-inclusive environment that anybody would want to come and be apart of.

"We came away with the understanding that there's so much energy and excitement in the Latinx community," Mackin said while reflecting on HACU.

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# OPINION

EDITOR: Sarah Hoot | editor@cwuobserver.com

# Fu looks “Pretty in Pink”

## Observer Review



By **Xander Fu**  
Lead Photographer

Enter the world of Andie Walsh (Molly Ringwald), a red-headed, fun and outgoing highschool teenager. In this world, which revolves mostly around high school, there are two types of folks: the “richies” who are as their namesake would suggest, rich, and those who are not.

The “richies” drive Porsches and BMWs and always dress as if to board a Brooks Brothers owned yacht. Everyone else fabricates crazy and unique outfits from a variety of pieces, be it homemade or purchased second-hand.

And under no circumstances whatsoever should the two spheres coincide.

Andie, who does not come from money, lives a fairly mundane life as an outsider. She gets good grades, works at a hip record store and despises the weird and wonderful society of a 1980s movie high school.

That is, until rich-boy Blane (Andrew McCarthy) sparks her interest. He’s different from

the other “richies.” He’s kind and caring; he appears to be in search of more than a superficial hook-up.

1986’s “Pretty in Pink” explores the circumstances that this places Andie in.

She wishes to go to her prom, but who with? Will it be Blane, who is slick and smooth but from the wrong social clique? Or will it be Duckie (Jon Cryer), a far cry from sexy but a childhood friend? Will either of them ask her? And, finally, what will she wear?!

Various subplots are also explored: Andie has to stay strong with the knowledge that her mother abandoned her because Dad will not, Duckie must find a way to profess his love for Andie before it is too late, and Blane must also come to terms with

“I just want to let him know he didn’t break me.”

-Andie Walsh played by Molly Ringwald

his parents’ expectations.

In my mind however, these

# Fu’s Review

## pretty in pink



were too shallow for me to have a personal investment.

Subplots, if used correctly, can do wonders for character development.

How each character reacts to different circumstances complements the role that they play in the main storyline.

Characters and their motivations should be fluid.

Even Superman must deal with troubling thoughts to firmly entice the

viewer. The subplots in this film are

only touched on, and barely scraped the surface, throughout the film. Consequently, they are easily forgotten and the characters remain static.

That said, the film is delivered with such fun 1980s-esque style, featuring big hair, over-acting, and a rocking soundtrack.

My favorite scene is when Duckie performs a choreographed dance number to the classic tune of “Try a Little Tenderness” by Otis Redding.

At the end of the day, “Pretty in Pink” is a Brat Pack film and is neither a strong nor weak example of the genre.

Two years before this movie debuted, writer John Hugh and

actress Molly Ringwald worked together on “Sixteen Candles” and the resemblance between the two is undeniable.

In my view, the movie and its ending is, when contextualized with the era it is a product of, far more derivative than definitive. Although I enjoyed the movie, I don’t see myself wanting to see it again.

### Go See It

**When:** Jan. 22, 7 & 9:30 p.m.

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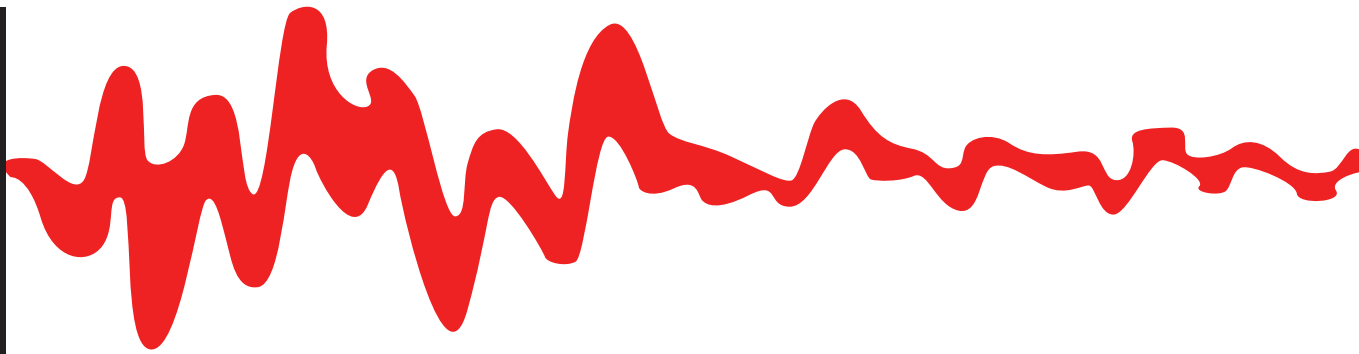
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# Rattlesnake Ridge crack threatens Union Gap residents



## Miles King

Staff Reporter

Large cracks have developed in the Rattlesnake Hills near Union Gap also known as Rattlesnake Ridge, just south of Yakima, Washington, not to be confused with Rattlesnake Ledge or Ridge in North Bend, Washington. New cracks that were first noticed in October have increased in width and depth over the last few months.

A level three evacuation has been issued as of Dec. 29 for those living south of the cracks, according to the Washington State Department of Natural Resources (WSDNR) information page. Most evacuees have been provided temporary living situations and access to emergency services.

The land mass, estimated to be approximately four million cubic yards and covering 20 acres, according to the WSDNR information page, was expected to slide in late January or early February. But according to new data collected on site by Stephen Slaughter from the WSDNR, the slide is now expected closer to March due to the stop-and-go nature of the crack's movement.

According to Slaughter, it is still unknown what caused the cracks to develop. WSDNR did not arrive at the site until October, at which point the focus of the department was to provide the best information to make the best decision, Slaughter said.

"The rates of movement in the last couple months have been alarming," said Nick Zentner, a CWU geology professor. Zentner has been teaching at CWU for more than 20 years.

The land mass has been estimated to be moving at a rate of 1.6 feet per week, according to Slaughter, but the movement has been inconsistent, increasing then slowing down again for periods of time. The movement has increased in the last two weeks.

"It's a complicated landslide, for sure," Slaughter added.

The WSDNR is closely monitoring the slope with several instruments in place. The department has installed 65 GPS monuments and 22 reflectors and has been checking them every other day, according to Slaughter. WSDNR workers must walk out to these monuments and reflectors to measure movement, which can be dangerous considering the uncertainty of the slide.

"The key thing for us is safety," Slaughter said.

The WSDNR is also utilizing other measuring instruments known as Total Stations, which can receive new data every 30 minutes using lasers. The stations are placed about 5,000 feet away and are much safer.

er. They do not require workers to walk out onto the slope, which is a priority of WSDNR.

Perhaps the most high-tech instrument the WSDNR has used is Lidar. Only used on the western surface of the slope, Lidar is able to receive measurements of movement within inches. Using lasers, the Lidar compares data sets and recognizes the changes between scans. The WSDNR has already completed two Lidar scans and will receive another soon, according to Slaughter.

Another agency monitoring the slide, the Washington State Department of Transportation (WSDOT), has detour routes in place in the event that rocks fall onto I-82. The WSDOT has placed large Conex containers along interstate-82, which are meant to catch falling rocks before they reach the highway. The WSDOT has also placed its own measuring instruments and is monitoring, according to Meagan Lott, a spokesperson for the WSDOT.

**"The rates of movement in the last couple months have been alarming"**

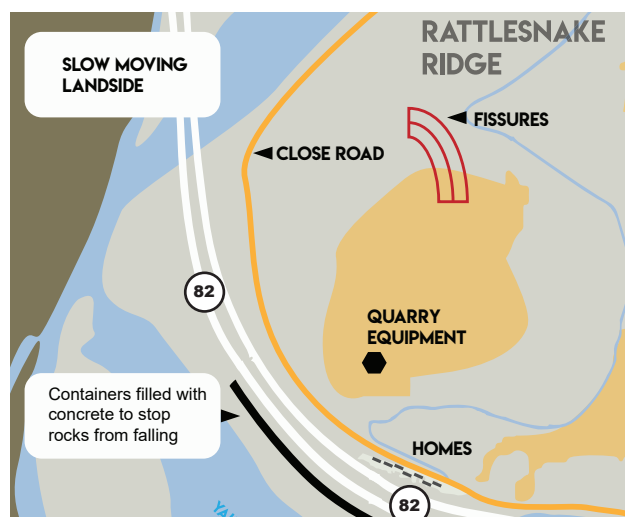
-Nick Zentner, CWU Geology Professor

In comparison to the Oso landslide, another recent slide in Washington, Lott said the Rattlesnake Hills slide is much slower moving. The Oso landslide, occurring in March of 2014, covered about 40 homes and part of state route 530 in landslide debris and claimed 43 lives near Oso, Washington, according to the U.S. Geological Survey.

"It's nothing compared to what [we saw] in the Oso landslide," Lott said, referencing the speed at which the Oso slide collapsed.

According to Slaughter, the most likely outcome is the slide falling in a southern direction into a rock quarry. The company mining in the quarry, Columbia Asphalt, has terminated work and left the area as advised by the WSDNR.

Recreation and hiking in the area will remain undeterred. According to the Washington Trails Association, "it's not impacting a trail system we have on our books." However, there may be some unregistered trails around the quarry and in the hill surrounding it.





Aerial images of Rattlesnake Ridge south of Union Gap, Wash., Wednesday, Jan. 10, 2018. (SHAWN GUST/Yakima Herald-Republic)



Photo by Jack Lambert



Aerial images of Rattlesnake Ridge south of Union Gap, Wash., Wednesday, Jan. 10, 2018. (SHAWN GUST/Yakima Herald-Republic)



## Scene

Editor: Daisy Perez | scene@cwuobserver.com



Photoillustration by Jack Lambert

Students can make connections, celebrate diversity and learn about other cultures at the week-long event hosted by the CDSJ.

### By Staff Reporter

CWU is home to people from Japan to the Middle East and everywhere inbetween. To celebrate this diversity, the Center for Diversity and Social Justice (CDSJ) is hosting a festival of cultures.

La'Shawnda Mason, Student Coordinator for the CDSJ, said the week-long festival impacts students by offering a means to know more about their peers on campus.

The events also act as a way for students to discover cultures that they may not know about. Mason said that many CWU freshmen have only been exposed to the culture of their hometowns and that the festival helps students learn about cultures from outside of their experiences.

The festival also serves as a place for international students to share their own cultures with CWU.

The event starts with International Department Appreciation Day on Monday, Jan. 22 and ends on Friday Jan. 26 with a Global Dance Party. Taylor Tahkeal, student programmer of CDSJ, said Thursday's Parade of Nations will be the highlight of the festival.

According to Mason, they are expecting 500 people to attend the parade.

This is the first time that a week-long culture festival has happened. The parade has gone on for 12 years but CDSJ has expanded the event to last a full week.

"That's why a lot of people refer to [the festival] as Parade Of Nations, but we had to rebrand it to International Festival to limit that confusion,"

Justin Francisco, CDSJ lead programmer, said.

According to Tahkeal, one of the challenges in creating the festival was attempting to collaborate with the different organizations and departments on campus. She said there were substantial amounts of emailing and pushing to get the event ready.

Francisco believes that winter break also presented a challenge because October was when they began planning the event.

He said what happened was people pushed it aside because it wasn't happening until January. Planning started out slow, but now everything is moving quickly.

According to Tahkeal, culture is not as distant as some people may think.

"Culture is the person sitting next to you in class and the person that you pass by in the SURC. That needs to be showcased at [CWU]. Not as, 'oh, look at the culture in this foreign country.' People have brought their culture here to campus and this is a way for students to express that here in a positive and fun way," Tahkeal said.

If students are looking to find out more about the culture that exists on campus, Tahkeal believes that students should begin at the CDSJ because they are a place of resources. "If we don't have what you're looking for [or] you want more information based on what you found at the CDSJ, we [have] tons and tons of connections to refer students out to somewhere else," Tahkeal said.



Photoillustration by Jack Lambert

Students are able to choose their gaming console and play with up to eight people.

## Choose: Player one or player two?

### Game out and geek out

**When:** Thursday, Jan. 18

**Time:** 8 - 11 p.m.

**Where:** SURC pit

**Free event**

### By Cassandra Hays Staff Reporter

Students will be able to play the night away with various video games, consoles and board games while hanging out and enjoying free food at Geek Out Game Out, an event being put on by campus activities.

"We have many types of games people can enjoy," Campus Activities Event Coordinator Omimah Alsalman said. "People can also come and get snacks and just hang out."

There will be several different gaming console options students can choose from including: an original XBOX, XBOX 360, Wii, Wii U, GameCube, and Nintendo Switch, with various board games and card games as well.

Students are encouraged to bring their own GameCube controllers because they are compatible with many different consoles.

The event will be set up in such a way that many games can be played simultaneously.

"Last time we set up four TV's and a projector in the pit," Campus Activities Event Coordinator Rachel Ford said. "We had different games

on each TV and on the projector in the middle we had Just Dance. Towards the end of the night we had a Mario Kart tournament going on."

Those who have attended the event in the past can expect many of the same games and consoles along with many new additions.

Elegardo Serrano is responsible for many of the consoles and games that will be available at the event. Around 70 percent of the consoles belong to Serrano.

"We're going to have a lot of Nintendo stuff, because everyone loves Nintendo," Serrano said.

"We literally have every Just Dance at our disposal," Serrano added.

Eight-player Halo 2 will also be running on two televisions simultaneously thanks to a system link cable which can connect two XBOX consoles together.

Students attending this event should expect an evening of playing games and meeting new people.

"It's really fun and different. It's for everybody," Alsalman said.

A wide range of gaming options present means endless possibilities for entertainment.

"There's going to be something for everyone to be excited for," Serrano said.

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## Scene

Editor: Daisy Perez | scene@cwuobserver.com

# Winterhop Brewfest tickets sell out

By Henry Crumblish  
Staff Reporter

Once a year, thousands of Washingtonians descend upon downtown Ellensburg to sample craft beer, hear live music and experience the largest event in the city.

This year will mark the 14th annual Winterhop Brewfest. Ellensburg will host 36 breweries and incorporate 17 local venues, each of which will host one to four breweries and one musician.

Tickets for the event sell out every year approximately a month in advance and 2018 was no different.

The 1,675 tickets available sold out on Dec. 8., according to Event Coordinator for the Kittitas Chamber of Commerce Jared Fudacz.

The event has added more venues and musicians in an attempt to keep pace with its popularity.

"The Winterhop Brewfest works and is so extremely popular because of its uniqueness in being held in multiple locations, different than most beer tasting events in Washington," Fudacz said.

About 70 percent of the attendees of Brewfest come from outside Kittitas County with the majority of that percentage being residents from Seattle, Tacoma and King County.

## Beer-n-more

**When:** Saturday,

**Jan. 20**

**Time:** 12 - 5 p.m.

Whenever there is a large gathering of people and alcohol, safety is always a concern. However, Dan Hansberry, Captain of the Ellensburg Police Department, said the event is tame for the number of people involved.

Brewfest is less rowdy than the average weekend here in Ellensburg, according to Hansberry, who attributes that to a different demographic than college students.

"It's a different crowd [and] different mindset. People don't come to party," Hansberry said. "They are [here] to appreciate the Brewmasters and the craft."

On average there is typically one call made to the Ellensburg Police Department (EPD) for disorderly conduct, a number Hansberry is willing to live with.

The major concern for EPD is the risk of drunk driving for those in attendance after the event is over.

Hansberry normally has one or two officers arrive down-



Courtesy of Winterhop Brewfest

At this sold-out event people will drink craft beer and listen to live music as they roam around local breweries and venues.

town before the Winterhop Brewfest starts to patrol on foot as a deterrent to DUI.

The event also has a security team of volunteers with either military or police experience.

Winterhop Brewfest serves as a significant factor in the local economy. The event is strategically held during January, because the first month of the year is a notoriously slow sales month. The large amount of foot traffic generated by the event helps lo-

cal businesses create revenue.

Carol Cox, owner of Old Skool's Retro Center, has participated as a venue for Brewfest for 10 years, and looks forward to the event every year.

"I look forward to it, [but] I also look forward to when it's done," Cox said.

While the event does help the vintage clothing and record store during a slow period for business, Cox said it can be difficult to handle and watch over

the large amount of people entering her business at one time.

In the past, Old Skool's has been so packed that the store reached its capacity and couldn't allow more people in due to fire safety.

Cox's favorite Brewfest memory is from 2013 when Seattle native Macklemore released the song "Thrift Shop."

"People were coming in, trying on faux furs, and singing the song," Cox said.

# Sit back and laugh at the comedy kickoff

By Tai Jackson  
Staff Reporter

Crowds of people scatter to find their seats. With drinks in hand, they wait for the first comedian to perform. Lights shine bright and the first act steps out on stage; the show begins. Laughter fills the room and smiling faces are seen throughout as they all sit back and enjoy the Ellensburg Winterhop Brewfest Comedy Kickoff Show.

For over 10 years, the Kittitas County Chamber of Commerce has invited over a thousand beer lovers to Ellensburg to sample various beers from over 30 breweries in the Pacific Northwest.

"Our business has increased since we started participating in the show about three years ago," Manager of Hop Nation Brewing Company Ben Grossman said. "We usually roll out out seasonal drinks so our customers can see our wide spectrum in drinks and not just our regular items."

The Ellensburg Downtown Association (EDA) will host its first Brewfest Comedy Kickoff the night before Winterhop Brewfest.

"We planned this event in an effort to bring people into town the night before Winterhop Brewfest," Molly Jones, EDA Assistant Director said. "We want to encourage attendees of Brewfest to enjoy downtown both Friday and Saturday."

Alex Haley, Director of LAPH Productions, has helped the EDA organize the Winterhop Brewfest Comedy Kickoff this year.

Haley has been organizing shows

## Brewfest Comedy Night

**When:** Friday Jan. 19

**Where:** Ellensburg

**Events Hall**

**Time:** 8 - 10 p.m.

**This is a 21 and over event  
ID is required**

since 2012 and has been a part of organizing the Washington Comedy Festival in Wenatchee and recently the Cold Winter Nights Comedy Series at Numerica Performing Arts Center.

"I started performing stand-up comedy when I was going to college at WWU, and then when I moved back to Wenatchee there were very limited opportunities to perform so I decided to start organizing shows as a way to perform myself," Haley said.

This will be the first show Haley has helped coordinate in Ellensburg.

"The most difficult thing is getting the word out about the show and hoping people will want to come," Haley said. "In this case, we've sold out way in advance so now we just have to worry about putting on a great show."

Various comedians will perform and the show will last 90 to 120 minutes.

The headliner for the comedy show will be Kortney Shane Williams and



Courtesy of wilfredpadua.com

Comedian William Padua will feature at the show.

the feature will be Wilfred Padua.

Kortney Shane Williams started his comedy career while attending the University of South Florida in Tampa, Florida, according to the website kortneyshaneWilliams.com.

He has been a part of the Bridgetown Comedy Festival, Boston Comedy Festival, Laughing Skull Comedy Festival and Bumbershoot Arts festival.

Williams has opened for Hannibal Buress, Mike Wilmot, Darryl Lenox, David Alan Grier and Dave Chapelle. His work has been seen on CBS, Comedy Time at the Icehouse, Laughs TV on Fox and the 206 on NBC as well as shown or talked about



Courtesy of brownpapertickets.com

Kortney Shane Williams is the headliner for show.

on Yahoo and FoxSport.com.

Wilfred Padua is a local comedian from Seattle, according to the website wilfredpadua.com. He has performed at Bumbershoot, Bridgetown Comedy Festival, the Boring Time Comedy Festival and Summer Meltdown Music Festival.

"It sounds cheesy but I truly love it when people leave happy! I also love working with so many talented performers," Haley said. "They're often so good at what they do."

# BEHIND THE BALL

During a timeout, Murray noticed the young player becoming a bit overwhelmed and came to his aid. Taking Shabazz's head in his hands, Murray told Shabazz something that has stuck with him to this day.

"Yo, Khalil man, you got this bro, just keep hoopin," Shabazz recalled. "Don't worry about the crowd, don't worry about what anybody is saying, just keep playing your game."

**Jamal Crawford, Minnesota Timberwolves:** "He's like one of the older guys, the OGs, so me and him have a great connection," Shabazz said.

Shabazz first met Crawford in seventh grade. He'd gone to the high school to shoot hoops with his big brother Shadeed, and in walked Jamal Crawford.

During their state runs at Rainier Beach, Crawford texted Shabazz with advice about what he and his teammates needed to do bet-

ter during their state runs at Rainier Beach.

"I'm starstruck. I'm like, 'Oh my god,' this is Jamal Crawford. This is crazy - he's in here acting like a regular guy and he's an NBA superstar,"

Shabazz recalled. "I'm scared, I'm shaking, I walk up to him and I'm like, 'Hey Jamal. How you doin?' and he's just having a full-fledged conversation with me like he knows me."

**Nate Robinson, Guaros de Lara, Venezuela:** "He's like an older brother as well. He's way older than me, but he

still comes back to the gym," Shabazz said. "I have him on speed dial, me and him can talk whenever about anything, me and him just have that connection."

Shabazz first met Nate Robinson on the court during his sophomore year. He was at the high school gym with his brother and Robinson walked into the gym, along with Jamal Crawford and other notable NBA players.

Once again, Shabazz was starstruck, even more so that his older brother was one a first-name basis with NBA players and asked

Shadeed to introduce him.

"Same thing as Jamal - he talked to me like he knew me my whole life, just showed a lot of love," Shabazz recalled. Robinson "talked to me about basketball, showed me pointers, and gave me life-lessons and it was just crazy."

"Once you go through Beach it's like a family and you're stuck with that family for the rest of your life," Shabazz said. "It's just all about giving back and that's what they've done."

## Brotherhood

Aside from his NBA role models, Shabazz also has his older brother, Shadeed Shabazz, to look up to. Shadeed Shabazz graduated from Rainier Beach in 2015 and now plays basketball for Iowa Western Community College.

The younger Shabazz often reflects on growing up playing basketball in their backyard and learning from each other.

"That's my guy, that's really my brother," Shabazz said. "It's a blessing that we're both able to continue on the next level and play college basketball."

Together the Shabazz brothers hold the record of the most state titles in state history with five between the two of them.

"It's just legendary, me and my brother's name will live at Rainier Beach for the rest of our lives," Shabazz said. "It's a huge accomplishment, and we're both extremely happy that we chose to end up going to Rainier Beach."

Khalil Shabazz recalled winning state as a freshman while his brother was a senior. Rainier Beach was up by a mere two points with 10 seconds on the clock against Eastside Catholic when the older Shabazz stole an inbound ball and won the game -and with it the state title.

"After the buzzer went off... He [was] on one side of the court and I [was] at the other side, and we just ran into each other," Shabazz said. "We have this legendary picture -he's holding my head and we're both crying and it's crazy, it's so emotional."

## Life at Central

CWU didn't begin recruiting Shabazz until his senior season.

Shabazz said that recruiters, including CWU showed up at the game where he scored 47 points, but that it wasn't until the summer after his senior year when he started being

“Don't worry about the crowd... just keep playing your game.”

-Dejounte Murray, San Antonio Spurs



heavily recruited by CWU.

Coming to CWU “was probably the best decision that I’ve ever made in my life,” Shabazz said.

Shabazz said he was drawn to the history of CWU and the basketball program. He also said when it comes to playing styles, CWU and Rainier Beach are similar.

“It’s a family environment and when you come here and you play everybody shows love,” Shabazz said.

The impact Shabazz has had on the basketball court for CWU this season can’t be overstated and hasn’t gone unnoticed by his coaches. In his first 15 games for the Wildcats, Shabazz has recorded 217 points, including a 28-point game against Cal State Bernadino in his CWU debut.

“He’s averaging about 14 points, a few steals, a few rebounds per game, so that’s very impressive for a freshman,” assistant coach Drew Harris said. “To be doing that your first year while you’re still learning so much, I think the sky’s the limit for him.”

Aside from his performance in-game, Harris noted the positive impact Shabazz has had on the team in practice as well.

“He has a great personality and high energy,” Harris said. “Every single day he comes into practice he’s the most vocal player, which

you rarely see as a freshman.”

Statistically, Shabazz is leading the Wildcats this season with 13.7 points per game and 2.5 steals per game, and is currently second on the team, averaging 4.7 rebounds and 3.2 assists per game.

Getting the opportunity to learn from older teammates including fellow Rainier Beach alumni Naim Ladd, Fuquan Niles. Point guard Marc Rodgers has also been an important aspect of

Shabazz’s growth over the course of the season.

“I came in and had to fill big shoes, so it’s been a learning process,” Shabazz said. Rodgers is “teaching me all the little pointers to become better and to work on yourself everyday to come in and lead the team.”

Shabazz said Rodgers has been an important mentor, both on and off the court. The senior point guard took Shabazz under his wing from the moment he arrived.

“Since he signed here we always talk. I always pull him to the side when he’s doing good and when he’s doing bad,” Rodgers said. “I’ve definitely tried to pass as much as I know to him as often as I can.”

Rodgers ended his basketball career earlier this month after suffering a hip injury that left him unable to finish his senior year. Despite his injuries, Rod-

gers remains at practices with the team and has

stepped into more of a coaching role, which has given him the opportunity to observe Shabazz’s play.

“As far as energy goes, he never gets tired, he’s always in a good mood, he’s always ready to play,” Rodgers said. “He just brings a spark

and kind of brings some youth to this program, and gives us some hope currently and for the future.”

Rodgers said he’s working with Shabazz on ball management and shot taking.

“He’s incredible and he blows my mind everyday when I watch him,” Rodgers said.

Now that he has a real shot at being the starting point guard, Shabazz specified what he’s working on.

“[I’m] working on getting up shots, picking Marc Rodgers brain, picking Naim Ladd’s brain, and just trying to make sure my part of the deal is taken care of before I try and lead these guys,” Shabazz said. “I can’t lead if I’m not ready myself.”

“He just brings a spark [and] gives us some hope currently and for the future.”

-Marc Rodgers, CWU Basketball



### Khalil at CWU

**Games Played:** 15 (14 starts)

**Points per game:** 14.5 (10th in GNAC)

**Assists per game:** 3.5 (8th in GNAC)

**Field goal %:** 45 percent

### Photos:

Headshot: Jack Lambert/The Observer  
Bottom left to right: Jack Lambert, CWU Athletics, Jack Lambert, CWU Athletics



## SPORTS

EDITOR: NATALIE HYLAND | sports@cwuobserver.com

Athletics  
Review

## Women's Basketball

Wildcat women's basketball fell to MSUB in Montana 86-84 Jan. 13. The loss marked the eighth of the season for CWU and the fourth in conference play. The women now have an 8-8 record and are 4-4 in GNAC play earning them the sixth spot in the GNAC ranking. The Wildcats looks to bounce back Jan. 20 at home against WWU.

## Men's Basketball

The Wildcats fell 86-83 to University of Alaska Fairbanks at home on Jan. 13. The men are now 8-7 overall with a 3-5 GNAC record. Freshman Khalil Shabazz led the way in scoring with 25 points in the game while junior transfer Malik Montoya added 18 points of his own. The next game for CWU is Thursday, Jan. 18 against WOU.

## Men's Rugby

CWU Rugby blew past the Seattle Saracens 45-24 in Seattle on Jan. 13. The Wildcats were led by sophomore Deven Marshall who found the try zone twice for CWU. By the end of the match, seven different Wildcats scored. The Wildcats are back in action Jan. 27 at home against Lindenwood.

## Wildcats take on the Wolves

By Clayton Huber  
Staff Reporter

The Wildcats will face Western Washington University (WWU) at home on Jan. 20. With both teams on the fringe of play-off contention, this game could move WWU past CWU in the standings with a win. CWU has a 4-4 conference record, WWU is 3-5 in conference play.

CWU is coming off a 79-73 victory against Northwest Nazarene University (NNU), ending the Crusaders' four-game win streak. Senior guard Jasmine Edwards led scoring with 19 points. This was a big win for CWU giving NNU just their third loss of the season.

"There is a lot of basketball to be played and the GNAC is such a tough conference that you just have to take it game by game the whole season," senior forward Taylor Baird said.

The Wildcats are currently ranked sixth in the GNAC and with a month and a half left in the regular season, they will have a fair shot at a playoff spot.

CWU is led by seniors Baird and Edwards and junior Sadie Mensing who average over 25 minutes per game each. Baird leads the Wildcats in rebounds with 7.1 per game and is ranked seventh in the GNAC.

Edwards has had double digit scoring in her last eight games



Xander Fu/The Observer

Jonnae Richardson guards Sadie Mensing in a drill during practice.

and is leading the team in scoring with 13.9 points per game.

"The season has been going pretty well so far. We have been learning a lot along the way and it's all starting to come together," Baird said.

WWU swept the Wildcats last season with three wins, including the win that ended CWU's season in the second round of the playoffs. Saturday's game will be the first matchup for the two teams this season the the Wildcats having the home

court advantage.

Head coach Randi Richardson is in her first season as head coach for the Wildcats, but her fourth with the team.

"My first season has been going great and I am really excited to be working with these girls and trying to win some games," Richardson said.

Richardson has former experience against WWU as an assistant so it will be exciting to see how the game goes.

WWU is currently on a four

## CWU v. WWU

When: Jan. 20; 7:00 p.m.

Where: Nicholson Pavilion

Cost: Free to Students

game losing streak in league play and has two more games to play before they meet CWU. The Wolves have a 1-4 away record, giving CWU the home court advantage. CWU is 4-2 at home this season. Last season, WWU went 18-2 in conference action while CWU went 15-15.

"[We] definitely love playing at home, especially for a rivalry game like this one," Richardson said. "The fans come out and the gym is usually pretty loud and exciting."

Junior guard Sadie Mensing is having yet another breakout season adding to her successful career at CWU. She currently averages 13 points per game, compared to last season where she averaged 9.3 points.

"The team is starting to play really well together and I try to do anything I can to help us get a win," Mensing said. "I am glad my hard work is paying off."

Playoffs are still a long way from now and with 13 games left, anything could happen. If the season ended today, CWU would make the playoff for the third straight year, but with all those games left, focus is key.

## Richardson-Thornley takes over WBB

By Simo Rul  
Staff Reporter

Following Jeff Harada's departure from the women's basketball program, assistant coach Randi Richardson-Thornley was named head coach in April 2017. Last year's team even voiced their own positive opinions when it came time for Richardson-Thornley to take over.

Richardson-Thornley said one of the biggest changes that occurred after making the jump to head coach was the added responsibility.

"Your role changes," Richardson-Thornley said. "Some of your relationships with kids change because now you're the one getting on them."

Senior point guard Jasmin Edwards is one of three players that has spent the most time under coach Harada and now Richardson-Thornley.

"I think the competitiveness of our entire team," Edwards said. "The style when Jeff was here was really similar. But with Randi [there's] a little of an emphasis on getting after teams."

When it came time to pick an assistant coach, Richardson-Thornley selected former University of Wyoming teammate Hillary Carlson. The two played together from 2007-11.

Richardson-Thornley said that when it came to selecting Carl-

son, she wanted someone who was trustworthy and knew how to teach the game. She also knew that Carlson had a lot of knowledge about the post position, which was something that she wanted to bring into the team.

Carlson was also named to the All-Mountain West Conference team three times including a first team selection her senior year. In that year she averaged 17.3 points and 7.2 rebounds per game. She also set a conference record for blocks in a single game her junior year with 10.

Carlson was an assistant coach at Central High School in her hometown of Cheyenne, Wyoming. She said being a high school assistant coach and college assistant coach are different because of the amount of work.

"There is a lot more scouting and preparing for your opponent at the college level than at the high school level," Carlson said. "We can watch film and games at that level but we don't really have the time or resources to really dig into scouting report like we do here. Learning what to look for and developing a game plan based on film and previous experiences."

Richardson-Thornley added that the team has done a good job at handling the changes, however that doesn't mean breaks in holding players accountable.

"The biggest thing that we



Xander Fu/The Observer

Head coach Randy Richardson-Thornley gives instruction for team drills during practice at Nicholson Pavilion.

changed was [our] pace," Richardson-Thornley said. "We're playing a lot faster... as well we're running more of a motion type of offense where our players are required to make reads and make plays."

Another change for Richardson-Thornley is the increase in administrative work such as parents contacting her and asking to watch their kids play when it comes to recruiting, budget, team travel added.

"More people want to reach out to you," Richardson-Thornley said. "Like in terms of people

want you to watch their kids, in terms of recruiting. Just different roles, different administrative work in terms of travel and budget and that kind of stuff."

Richardson-Thornley's graduate assistant this year is Stacey Lukasiewicz whom she had previously coached at Seattle Pacific University (SPU) before coming to CWU.

Richardson-Thornley said that Lukasiewicz has a passion for basketball, wants to coach, works hard and is positive. Richardson-Thornley said she knew Lukasiewicz would build a great

relationship with the Wildcat players because she had great relationships with her teammates at SPU.

Lukasiewicz said one of the biggest changes for her transitioning from playing to coaching, is understanding the members of the team, especially since the girls are so close to her age.

"I just have tried to get to know the girls," Lukasiewicz said. "To understand [and] build that relationship first before I'm yelling or anything like that. My job is to encourage and to bring energy, so [I] focus on that."