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Podcasts provide engaging alternative to music for listeners

By Grey Caoili
Staff Reporter

Listening to the same songs on the radio can get old after awhile and podcasts are an alternative to a music and can be found on many different platforms, and about a wide range of topics.

Created and run by CWU students, "The Real News Podcast" is a safe space to have open dialogue about the current political climate, discuss stories news stations release and interview people of differing perspectives.

Podcasts can be listened to virtually anywhere at anytime nearly all mobile devices. In 2003, Christopher Lydon was the first voice to be released as a downloadable MP3 file on an RSS feed, according to The Guardian. Lydon now hosts his own podcast, the "Open Source podcast" which was helped by software developer, Dave Winer.

Since then, podcasts have gained popularity. According to howstuffworks.com, the term "podcast" comes from a combination of the words iPod and broadcasting.

To understand why podcasts have become so widely popular, it's important to understand a huge influential provider for them: the iPhone.

Did You Know?

More than 23 million U.S. adults listened to a podcasts in the last month.

- Nielsen Ratings

In 2014, Apple introduced the iOS8 update, which made the Podcast app pre-installed on every iOS device, according to jacobsmedia.com.

With podcasting apps and websites readily available anywhere at anytime, it comes to no surprise that some CWU students have their very own podcast.

88.1 The 'Burg news reporter, junior broadcast major Kajal Lang, is one of three students who helps write and produce "The Real News Podcast."

The podcast was created last school year by Ian Collins and Brendan Dolleman, both currently sophomores.

- See "Podcasts" page 5

Soleim continues improvement in sophomore season

By Will Ortner
Staff Reporter



Heather Stewart/The Observer

Sophomore Nicole Soleim finds her best tempo at a rainy XC practice at Ellensburg High School.

While the rest of us are inside sipping hot cocoa on these crisp autumn mornings, Nicole Soleim and her teammates are training for their next cross country meet. In what is just her sophomore season, Soleim has risen through the ranks to be not only one of the top runners on her team, but also within the GNAC.

Soleim came to CWU one year ago from Kentwood High School, where she was a top runner. She continued her success at CWU by placing well in the 2017 GNAC cross country championships her freshman year, with a time of 23:44.4, one of the best times of any of the freshmen at the 6K meet. This and her team's placement that year allowed Soleim to compete in the regional championships a couple of weeks later.

The NCAA Division II West Regional Championships were a place for Soleim to gain experience in her freshman season and a place for her to show further improvement. Soleim was able to do both of these things by improving her time from the GNAC Championship by a whole 50 seconds. This stellar end to her freshman year campaign propelled Soleim into a quality sophomore season.

- See "Soleim" page 9

Rising enrollment forcing creative solutions

CWU housing and maintenance has combated rising enrollment by creating temporary living spaces, deferring maintenance and constructing a new residence hall.

By Miles King
Editor In Chief

Rune's story

On a cold Ellensburg evening in late 2016, junior broadcast journalism major Rune Torgersen was hanging out in his Getz Short apartment with some friends. He felt a drip on his bed and assumed a friend had spilled a drink.

He then looked up and realized the ceiling was dripping. When he stood up to push the ceiling tile over, his hand punched right through it. Torgersen immediately called maintenance; they arrived quickly.

"The first time they rolled through, they really didn't have an answer for me," Torgersen said. "They lent me a bucket."

Maintenance told Torgersen snowpack had melted and leaked through a hairline fracture in the concrete above his room. The snowpack was so thick maintenance could not get through it to fix the leak at the time. Maintenance covered the hole in his ceiling with plastic and directed the leak to the corner of the room where it collected in the bucket. Torgersen said he did not have to empty the bucket very often.

"My room kind of looked like a construction zone for the better part of two months while we waited for winter to be

over," Torgersen said.

Torgersen said maintenance did the best they could with the resources they had.

"Once the snow was gone, they rolled up, checked to make sure it wasn't dripping anymore and replaced the tiles," Torgersen said. "Everything looked good as new."

Maintenance was able to handle the situation rather quickly in the winter of 2017. However, with rising enrollment and residence halls at max capacity, the university can no longer close down halls like they prefer.

"It's a better situation for them [housing] to be able to take an entire residence hall out of service for a year so they can go in and do the maintenance and painting and roof repair," said Vice President of Enrollment Management Sharon O'Hare.

Every single bed in residence halls were filled last year, O'Hare said. She hopes maintenance will be able to catch up on their work this year.

Enrollment at the start of the 2016-2017 academic year was 11,047. At the start of 2017-2018, it had jumped 5.3 percent to 11,635.

What's behind the enrollment rise?

The simple answer is money. In the last few years, the university's budget from the state has been slashed,

according to O'Hare. Just a few years ago, the state provided about 70 percent of CWU's funding while the university was expected to contribute the remaining 30 percent with tuition dollars.

Now, the budget has been flipped. CWU is expected to contribute 70 percent of the budget and the state covers the remaining 30 percent. According to O'Hare, the university has two options to cover costs. The first is to increase tuition costs and the second is to keep tuition consistent, but admit more students. CWU's objective over the last few years has been to increase freshman class sizes, O'Hare said.

"Now we're a tuition-dependent university. We have to balance not putting the burden on the student for tuition with the fact that we have to run an airline [CWU]," O'Hare said.

According to O'Hare, admissions had expected enrollment to remain consistent even though admissions increased due to high school students applying to more universities than ever.

"From what we heard from the high school counselors, Central became the hot school; there's a buzz about Central," O'Hare said.

- Continued on page 6

Apartment complex will provide needed housing

By Nick Jahnke
Staff Reporter

By fall of 2019, there will be a new apartment complex for CWU students and Ellensburg residents. Douglas Properties, a Spokane based apartment rental agency, is constructing a 10-building complex at the intersection of East Helena Avenue and North Alder Street. The new site will provide Ellensburg with 288 apartment units, according to Douglas Properties Superintendent Mark Feltz.

Feltz said that construction of the complex began in March of last year and is scheduled to be completed by fall 2019. The project will include a variety of two, three and four-story buildings and offer options for single, double and triple bedroom apartments.

Feltz said that they are only working with a few Ellensburg companies because most of them simply do not have the manpower that a project of this size calls for. Douglas Properties is hiring mainly Spokane-based companies for the project.

City of Ellensburg Community Development Director, Kirsten Hackett said that Ellensburg's current vacancy rate sits at 0.05 percent. At this rate, property owners are having to create waitlists for potential residents and that those looking for housing are not seeing many options that accommodate their financial limitations.

"I remember going to a grocery store last fall, and some kids were talking about living in a hotel," Hackett said.

One of the big problems with housing in Ellensburg is that the supply of two-to-four resident small family units is not meeting demand. According to the City of Ellensburg Comprehensive Plan (CECP), which was adopted last December, less than a quarter of houses built between 2010 and 2016 were small family homes.

The need for affordable housing compounds the problem further. According to Hackett, housing is considered affordable if the cost of rent and utilities is less than 30 percent of the resident's earnings.

Ellensburg's population growth in

the last ten years has driven up housing costs and caused a major decrease in the number of affordable housing units available, according to the CEPC.

In response to the apparent lack of affordable housing, Ellensburg has put together the new Affordable Housing Commission. The commission began meeting in June and is comprised of City Council appointed community volunteers. Funding for the commission is coming from a new sales tax which also began in June. The tax is expected to bring in \$700,000 a year, all of which is dedicated to improv-



I remember going to a grocery store last fall, and some kids were talking about living in a hotel.



Kirsten Hackett, City of Ellensburg
community development director

ing the affordable housing options in Ellensburg, according to Hackett.

Hackett said the Affordable Housing Commission is still in its early stages; however, they have begun working on multiple projects around Ellensburg with companies like Housing Authority, Hope Source and Habitat for Humanity. Many of these projects promise to create more affordable housing options for the community.

ASCWU Vice President of Student Life and Facilities Jocelyn Matheny said that Douglas Properties' new apartment complex is great for students as well.

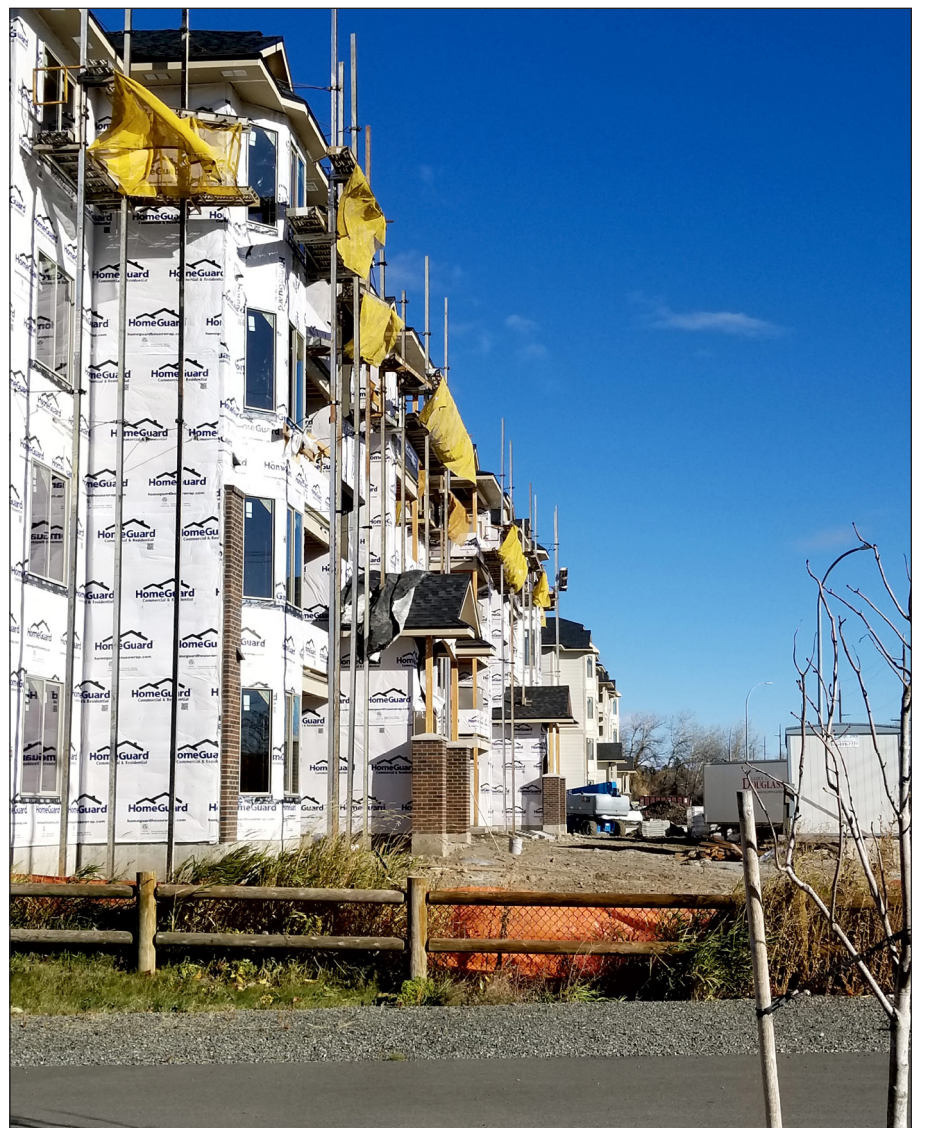
The 288 new apartment units combined with the over 400 beds that will be provided in CWU's new Dugmore residence hall next fall will be great for students who need more housing options.

Matheny said that while she's not sure if the new buildings will be the solution to housing problems, they are definitely a step in the right direction.



Mira Cummings/The Observer

The new complex is proposed to have 288 units of varying size.



Mira Cummings/The Observer

Lanzce Douglass is the developer of the new apartment complex and has proposed 10 buildings on the site.

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Quote of the Week

It takes student activism and student mobilization to get things like this on the road.



-Samuel Gutierrez, Page 8

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

NEWS

Editor: Jack Belcher | cwuobserver.com

CWU fixes heating problems in Moore Hall

By Jessica Perez
Staff Reporter

During a routine maintenance inspection of all the buildings on campus, Moore Hall's heating system was found to be unresponsive due to a malfunction with the heat exchanger part of the system. As of Oct. 21, the part has been fixed and heat has been restored to Moore Hall. Exactly how long the system was down is unknown, but residents of the building didn't seem to mind that



I looked at comments from the director of housing and they said that the students were in good spirits.



Vice President of Operations, Andreas Bohman

the system was broken in the first place.

Sophomore Carissa Ellis, a psychology major and resident of Moore, said that the system being down was a bit of a perk, because now the system is on all the time and the building overheats easily.

"It's too hot [now that the heater is fixed]," Ellis said. "They are trying to overcompensate and it's a lot hotter than it needs to be. They put the heat-

er on really high so it heats up faster."

Junior Emily Klemisch, who is also a psychology major and resident of Moore Hall, agreed with Ellis, by saying she preferred the temperature in the building before the heater was fixed.

"I overheat really easily, so I liked not having heat because we can't control the heat. We can turn it down, but not off," Klemisch said.

Despite most students not minding the heater being broken, CWU still made accommodations for students living in the residence hall to ensure their living situation was comfortable.

According to the Vice President of Operations Andreas Bohman, University Operations partnered with Student Success in order to work out a plan to keep students warm.

"We issued out blankets and space heaters, we handed out coffee cards to students and we made arrangements for students who would want to leave due to no heat, but no one took us up on that. The building stayed pretty warm with the space heaters," Bohman said.

Bohman also mentioned that he felt Student Success acted quickly when they learned of the incident, so that students would have the supplies needed to keep warm.

"I didn't hear of any complaints from students," Bohman said. "I looked at comments from the director of housing and they said that the students were in good spirits."

The repairs in the heating system



Jack Belcher/The Observer

Moore Hall's heater was broken in the beginning of October. Facilities was able to get it fixed before Halloween.

took a little longer than they would have if it had been a newer building, but because of how old Moore is, the parts had to be fabricated. However, Bohman said it was good the system got fixed before the weather got too cold.

According to Klemisch, the repairs were actually made sooner than expected.

"They got it up faster than we thought, they told us [it would be

fixed by] Halloween," Klemisch said.

All things taken into account, the residents in Moore Hall seemed to be understanding of the situation and okay with the way the situation was handled.

"I think the way they approached the problem was perfectly fine," Klemisch said. "They kept us updated and happy. There were no glaring problems about what they were doing."

Funding issues for peer assisted learning and tutoring

By Kejuan Coleman
Staff Reporter

One of the most important things for any college student is to know how and where to get help in their classes. Tutors can help students excel in courses by maintaining proficiency, but they can also be a lifesaver by pulling a student who is on the brink of failure back to a passing grade.

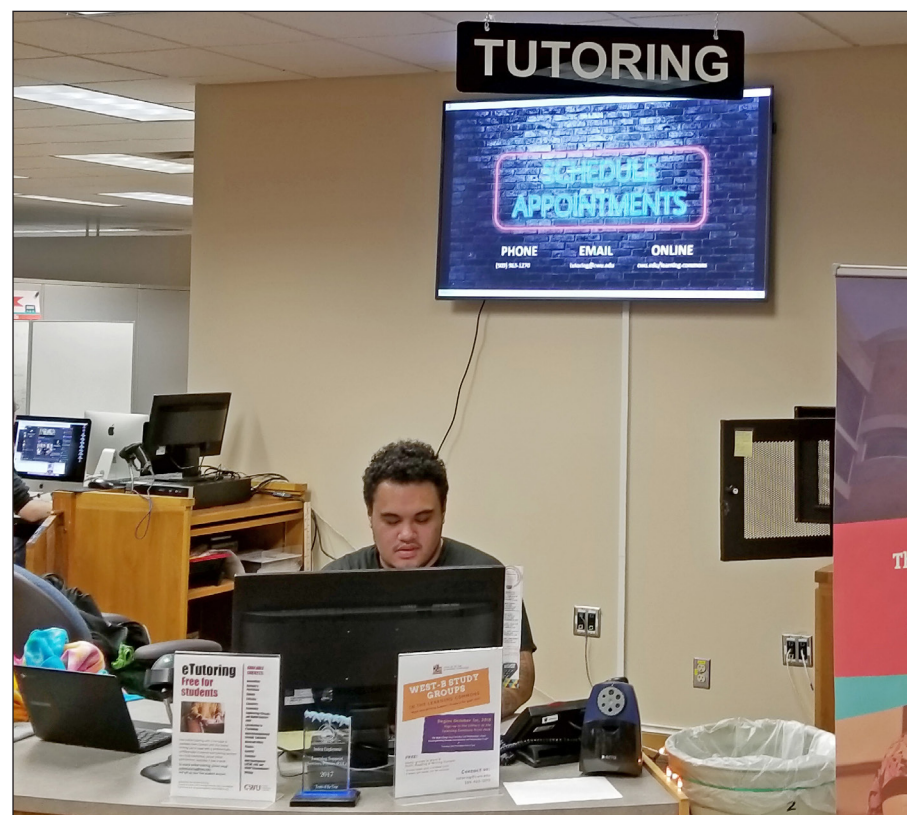
Since 2008, all students who attend CWU have had a \$5 mandatory fee charged per quarter. The fees are then put into a fund that provides all students with math and writing tutoring.

"We are paying tutors minimum wage, but we are using every penny of the tutoring quarterly budget that we bring in every year for revenue, minus the administration fee that every fee-based budget has to pay," Director of Learning Commons Katherine Boswell said.

CWU is looking for new ways to provide help and accommodations for the consistent increase of admitted students each year. The goal is to find and utilize efficient ways to provide help for students in challenging courses.

According to the Assistant Director of Learning Commons Andrew Richards, faculty member in the learning commons are looking for new ways to distribute the quarterly funds for tutoring services to provide the best outcomes for student success in challenging courses.

Peer-Assisted Learning (PALs) are tutoring groups that are focused on specific courses and sections that have



Mira Cummings/The Observer

Front desk office assistant Sione Sausau helps students check in for tutoring.

been noted as difficult by CWU faculty, helping students practice positive study habits, learn new study strategies, get to know their classmates and strengthen their understanding of class content. PALs were first initiated in 2015.

PALs group tutoring consist of math, physics and chemistry courses that are

in high need of tutors. The group-focused tutors are CWU students that completed a specific course with a 3.2 grade or higher. These tutors meet with the faculty members each week to build a better understanding for the material that is taught during that week.

Students then meet in tutor-

ing groups related to the courses for about 50 minutes twice a week, led by the group focused tutor.

"Since the first launch of PALs in 2015, we've been trying to gear it more towards a supplemental instruction model because for the last four decades has had extensive research that says it's the most effective model for student learning," Boswell said.

Consortium is an adapted online tutoring component that is in its first-year use this fall quarter. The program is compiled from a network of every community college in Washington along with 4-year institutions (EWU and WSU).

According to Boswell, the goal for CWU is to be able to support students who don't have the opportunity for in-person tutoring, and for the past few years we've had online tutoring that hasn't been the best, so this past year we negotiated with e-tutoring Consortium.

PALs tutoring and Consortium online tutoring are both funded from the same \$5 mandatory fee that every student is charged quarterly. However, minimum wage will be increasing to \$12 per hour which would make funding for tutoring scarce.

"We have been specifically looking at ways that we can make sure that we are using funds in the best way possible and being the most accountable to the revenue we bring in," Boswell said. "we're looking for the highest student need and we are targeting our funds according to that."

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Podcasts gaining popularity among students

“Podcasts” from page 1

After hearing an advertisement on the radio about the podcast, Lang asked Collins and Dolleman if he could come in and sit-in on the podcast. Shortly afterwards, the two original creators decided to make room for one more team member, which is how Lang became a writer and producer for the podcast.

“It’s a lot of conservative and libertarian ideas and we just talk about things in the news and we break them down,” Lang said. “We try to give a voice to a lot of people that we feel are underrepresented in the media.”

According to Lang, there are three main segments of the podcast.

“National Recap” is a segment that breaks down news stories. In between the National Recap and the last segment, the podcast team brings in interviewees to talk about a topic from one of the mentioned stories, where the person being interviewed will share their personal opinion on the topic. The last segment, the “Culture Conclusion” is where the team brings in topics that are not necessarily “in the news,” but that they believe should be talked about, Lang said.

The podcast is produced in both audio and video format as of this year. Prior

to this year, the podcast was only offered in audio format. The podcast comes out on Thursdays and runs for 30 to 40 minutes. It is on the “The Real News Podcast” YouTube channel along with the 88.1 ‘The Burg’s free downloadable app and website.

If you aren’t interested in politics, there are many different categories of podcasts. Some topics on the Apple podcast app specifically include: entertainment, health, arts, business, comedy, games and hobbies, music, religion, sports, technology and others.

In the same way people listen to different types of music based upon their moods, tastes and preferences... podcasts also have flexibility.

Jasmine Gonzalez, an anthropology major, is familiar with the podcast apps. She had to listen to podcasts in her environmental studies class.

Gonzalez said that she has listened to “Ted Talks” on Spotify and also “Latino USA.” She said she listens to podcasts when she wants “something mellow” rather than something crazy. Gonzalez also listens to them just for fun-or even to learn something new.

The next time you are sitting in the middle of traffic or are traveling home for the holidays, you may consider listening to a podcast.



Meghan Rochelle/The Observer

Ryan Oehmen interviews Kaitlin Crook for a podcast in the Samuelson recording studios.

Top Charts

| Episodes | Podcasts |
|----------|---|
| 1 | 660: Hoaxing Yourself This American Life |
| 2 | #1192 - Tony Hinchcliffe Joe Rogan |
| 3 | The Problem With Polls The New York Times |
| 4 | Sunday Special Ep 26: Tucker Carlson The Daily Wire |
| 5 | #1190 - Joey Diaz Joe Rogan |

| Episodes | Podcasts |
|----------|--|
| 6 | BONUS: The Hearing NPR |
| 7 | Spittin' Chiclets Episode 122: Featuring Taylor Hall, Johnn... Barstool Sports |
| 8 | #1191 - Peter Boghossian & James Lindsay Joe Rogan |
| 9 | 145 - Live at the Microsoft Theater in Los Angeles Karen Kilgariff & Georgia Hardstark |
| 10 | "Every state is a swing state." Crooked Media |

“Bohemian Rhapsody” flawed yet fun

By Ceanna Heit
Copy desk staff

“Bohemian Rhapsody,” a biopic about the band Queen and the life of lead singer Freddie Mercury, premiered the weekend of Nov. 2 in Ellensburg. The film, directed at first by Bryan Singer and later on by Dexter Fletcher, was an engaging glimpse into Mercury’s (Rami Malek) complicated personal life, with a foot-thumping soundtrack and a stellar performance by Malek. The film definitely had its faults, among them a clichéd script and storyline as well as a less than revealing look at Mercury’s relationships with men.

The film was number one in box office earnings the weekend it premiered, making \$500 million dollars in North America, according to “CNN Business.

” It received a 59 percent critic score on Rotten Tomatoes and a 49 percent on Metacritic. Non-critic scores were higher, with a 94 percent score on Rotten Tomatoes and an 8.4/10 score on IMDb.

The portrayal of the ups and downs in Mercury’s life throughout the film lent a deep feeling of triumph to Queen’s music. Mercury was easy to root for from the opening shots of him as a baggage handler at Heathrow Airport in London, scribbling down songs while at the bus stop.

I continued to rally behind him when he sang in an alleyway as part of a makeshift audition for Queen in front of drummer Roger Taylor (Ben Hardy) and guitarist Brian May (Gwilym Lee).

I felt for him when he went on stage for the first time with Queen, wrenching



courtesy of Flickr

the microphone back and forth amidst the audience’s snickers before ripping it off the stand and carrying it as he strutted around the stage. Mercury’s confidence and faith, yet also fragility and uncertainty, were brilliantly portrayed by Malek.

The film also provided an engaging portrayal of the relationship between Mary Austin (Lucy Boynton) and Mercury, who seemed to care very deeply about each other despite the inevitable events that tore them apart. They were almost best friends, which made the movie about friendship as much as anything else.

Mercury struggled later on in the movie with issues like drug use and an unhealthy relationship with band manager Paul Prenter (Allen Leech). These issues drew Mercury away from Queen, but Austin was instrumental in bringing him back to his friends and his home.

Mercury contracted AIDS at this point in the movie as well. Mercury’s struggle and triumph over all of these issues was satisfyingly integrated into the last scene, a performance at the Live Aid charity concert, illustrating how the movie was as much a celebration of Mercury’s tenacity and hope as Queen’s amazing music. Still, there were a few aspects of the movie that fell short.

The script felt a little clichéd at times, as it was punctuated by a series of one-liners that robbed the story from the subtlety it could have had. Statements like “Fortune favors the bold” or the catchy

“Now we’re four misfits who don’t belong together, we’re playing for the other misfits... We belong to them,” were pleasing in a superficial way but could have been more understated.

Another problem was the treatment

of Mercury’s sexuality. Mercury’s relationships with men are hinted towards at best throughout much of the movie, and the only meaningful relationship portrayed between Mercury and a man was with Jim Hutton (Aaron McCusker). It would have been nice to see a deeper exploration of Mercury’s relationships with men.

A review of the movie from “The New York Times” stated that the “overall narrative architecture of ‘Bohemian Rhapsody’ is a Lego palace of clichés.” While watching, I recognized that the film followed a lot of the clichés in the biopic genre, perhaps striking a similar note at times to the “Love and Mercy” (2014) biopic about Beach Boys leader Brian Wilson, directed by Bill Pohlad, which touched on a lot of similar themes.

What redeemed “Bohemian Rhapsody” for me was Malek’s nuanced performance and the exploration of his complicated relationships and struggle with AIDS. The portrayal of Mercury’s life gave the ending even more of a triumphant note, illustrating how music, in a way, saved Mercury’s life.

Did you know?

The film made \$141 million during its opening weekend
- Forbes

CWU Feeling the Pressure of Rising Enrollment

Story by Miles King | Design by Ryan Edwards

How does enrollment affect maintenance schedules?

According to Associate Dean of Student Living Jenna Hyatt, rising enrollment has delayed plans to close older living spaces on campus. Facilities such as North Hall in the heart of campus and the Wahle apartment complex in north campus were planned to be shut down nearly a decade ago, according to a 15-year comprehensive housing master plan created in 2006.

“We started growing as a university and there were goals put forth from the trustees and the president saying we want to grow in this way,” Hyatt said. “That then created an opportunity for us to think differently and adjust the plan.”

Dugmore Hall, a new residence hall currently being constructed on the Northwest corner of campus is expected to open in fall of 2019. Dugmore will relieve some of the pressure that housing is facing, according to Hyatt.

Dugmore Hall will be located on the northwest corner of the CWU campus. The former chimpanzee habitat turned athletic annex was demolished before construction began.

Construction of Dugmore Hall will begin on June 7, 2018 on the corner of Dean Nicholson Boulevard and Wildcat Way. The new residence hall was named after Owen Dugmore, a CWU psychology professor for 45 years.

Fences surrounding the Dugmore Hall construction site were erected on March 7. The new residence hall is expected to open in the fall of 2019 and house more than 400 students.

“We needed Dugmore so that we could also... at times take down a building to get in there and do the hard [maintenance] work,” Hyatt said.

Larger renovation projects in facilities are funded through capital budgets, which the state legislature controls, Hyatt said. For capital projects, the university must decide if they will outsource or assign the maintenance staff to it. The university prefers the facilities crew to keep up on deferred maintenance of university buildings, according to Hyatt.

“Sometimes you’re digging deeper into the problem if you take them [maintenance staff] away,” Hyatt said. “You just delay work that has to be done in here as preventative maintenance.”

Deferred maintenance refers to work

that has been put off, but is necessary for the building’s health, Hyatt said.

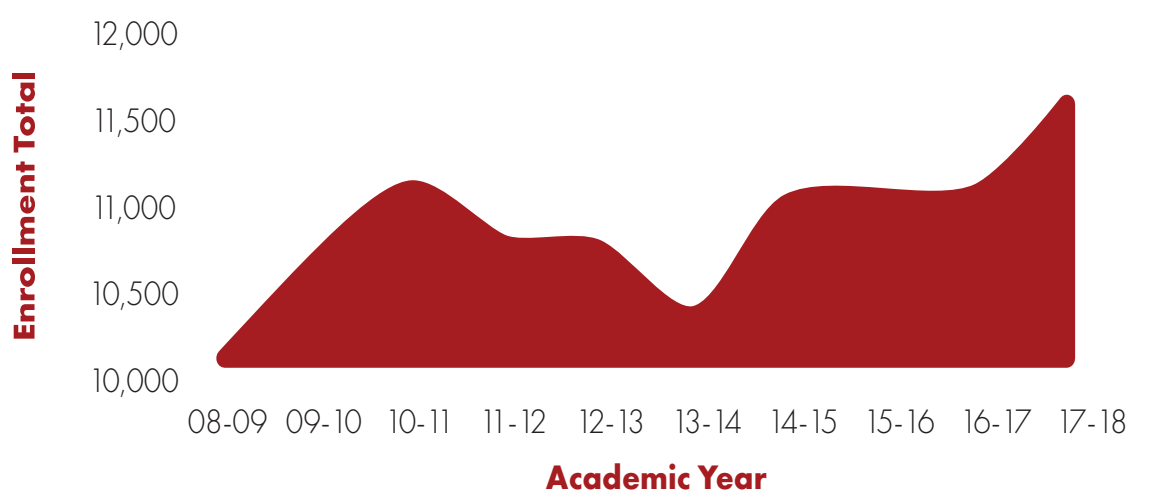
According to O’Hare, facilities maintenance prefers to close a building down for an entire academic year to complete preventative and deferred maintenance. But with enrollment rising and residence halls at max capacity, the university cannot shut down a building for maintenance because housing has filled every room on campus. Maintenance schedules are even limited during the summer because of camp attendees staying in the residence halls, Hyatt said.

How does enrollment affect housing?

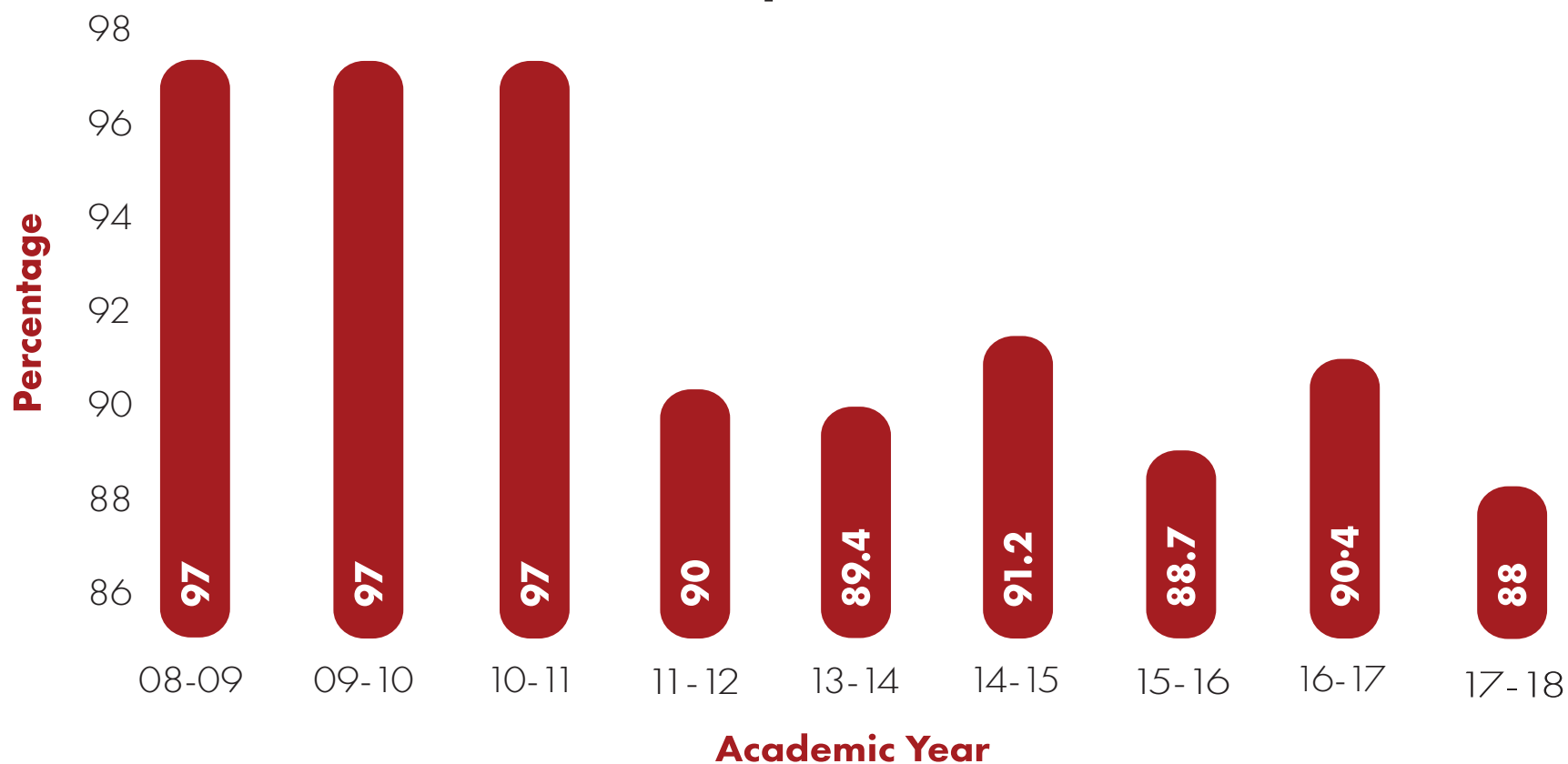
In the fall of 2017, four students were placed into a second-floor lounge of Ka-

“Sometimes you’re digging deeper into the problem if you take them [maintenance staff] away,” Hyatt said. “You just delay work that has to be done in here as preventative maintenance.”

CWU UNDERGRADUATE ENROLLMENT



Percentage of Freshmen Living On-campus 2008-2018



mola Hall. This was due to overcrowding from one of the largest freshman classes in recent CWU history. According to Jocelyn Matheny, ASCWU Vice President for Student Life and Facilities, housing started the year over 100 percent capacity.

“That’s the solution that they[housing]came up with,” Matheny said. “Because we had more students than we had designated bedrooms, they took some of the study lounges and closed them off more so they were less public spaces and put beds in there.”

Some of the newer residence halls such as Barto Hall were designed to accommodate extra students in smaller study lounges, Matheny said. Considering how old Kamola Hall is, she was uncertain if its study lounges were also designed to accommodate overflow.

According to Assistant Director of Admissions JoAnn Page, Hyatt and O’Hare, university housing does not set a cap for admissions. University housing guarantees living space for all incoming freshmen regardless of the space they have.

“We don’t tell them [admissions] to stop, that’s not our role,” Hyatt said. “Our role is to be very involved and aware of what the enrollment patterns are.”

Over the last ten years, freshmen on-campus living percentage has dropped from 97 percent in 2008 to 88 percent this year. This is the lowest percentage for freshmen on-campus in the last decade.

According to Assistant Director of Admissions JoAnn Page, freshmen are allowed to live off-campus if they complete a housing waiver. Page’s own children attended CWU and lived at home as freshmen.

Both Page and O’Hare were unsure if the increase in freshmen living off-campus correlated with current housing capacity.

Solutions

According to Page, housing has converted some rooms in dorms such as North Hall and Wilson Hall from single occupancy to double occupancy to accommodate the overflow of freshman. One of the oldest residence halls on campus, Munson Hall, located across the street from Kamola Hall, was previously closed off to students and used for conferences and visitors, according to Matheny. Due to overflow, housing has reopened Munson to students the last two years.

Single occupancy residence hall rooms are becoming a rarity at CWU. Rising enrollment has forced many halls, including Wilson to increase double occupancy rooms.

Some residence halls such as North Hall have been forced to accommodate the overflow of students. North Hall is no longer a single occupancy only residence hall.

Construction of Dugmore Hall recently began after the former primate habitat turned athletic annex was demolished. The new hall will house just over 400 students and is scheduled to be completed by fall of 2019.

Past projects such as the Wendell Hill construction and Barto Hall renovation were scheduled to be completed by 2009 and 2010

respectively, according to the comprehensive housing master plan. Both projects were not completed until 2012, behind the master plan schedule. According to Hyatt, the housing master plan is fluid.

“As any good plan, it’s been a fantastic guide for us,” Hyatt said. “We can adjust based on fluctuations.”

Matheny is confident Dugmore will indeed be completed by the fall 2019 target. She is confident in the Dugmore planning team.

“I’ve been working with the planning team and they are rolling,” Matheny said. “This planning team has learned a lot from our previous hall to be able to do things efficient and do it right.”



Heather Stewart/The Observer
Construction of Dugmore Hall began earlier this year. It is expected to be completed by fall 2019.

Gutierrez steps into leadership role

By **Cassandra Hays**
Staff Reporter

Senior and first-generation college student Samuel Gutierrez is the president of Brother 2 Brother, a club at CWU that focuses on leadership and community engagement committed to success for men of color.

Gutierrez stepped into the role after holding the position of vice president last year. He joined the club after one of his anthropology classes inspired him to start thinking about certain topics, such as white privilege and the perceived barriers that people of color face.

“Being an anthropology student, you are exposed to different cultural elements that can be very awakening,” Gutierrez said.

Gutierrez described meeting three well-dressed black men on campus and joined a conversation about these cultural topics with them. One of these men was Dr. Tyrone Bledsoe, founder of a national organization called the Student African American Brotherhood. Dr. Bledsoe took Gutierrez to a meeting to further discuss their ideas, and two weeks later, Gutierrez was flown out to Detroit to attend the Student African American Brotherhood Leadership Conference.

“It was an enlightening and awakening experience,” Gutierrez said.

The conference inspired Gutierrez to get involved with B2B and be an activist for people of color. He added that people of all walks of life are welcome to the club. B2B has about 35 consistent mem-

bers of many different backgrounds.

“We have one of the most diverse group of gentlemen I’ve ever seen in any congregation on campus,” Gutierrez said. “You walk in and there is an immense feeling of brotherhood and camaraderie.”

B2B focuses on community engagement, activism and empowerment within the community. Leadership is one of the biggest emphasises of organization, according to Gutierrez. Members of the organization come up with different projects and ideas designed to better the community and break down cultural barriers.

“I think it’s an ideal template for how we should be grooming future leaders,” Gutierrez said.

Members of the organization are required to dress professionally at meetings.

“One of the purposes for [the dress code] is to make sure that we’re indexing different icons of success in society,” Gutierrez said. He adds that people often notice the well-dressed men and ask where they are going and what they are involved in, which also helps to get people who are curious about the organization involved.

Gutierrez is passionate about scientific education and literacy, especially among students who speak English as a second language. He has even gone to local schools to teach students and give them a role model to look up to. Gutierrez and B2B are also forming a conference interpretation program in which a group of third graders as well as members of B2B will help to interpret parent



Mira Cummings/The Observer

Sam Gutierrez leads Brother to Brother meetings in SURC 301 every Thursday at 5 p.m.

teacher conferences at local schools with high Spanish-speaking populations.

Gutierrez hopes that this program will lead to even more involvement between CWU and local schools, especially within the growing Hispanic and Latinx community.

“I call this the ‘olive branch.’ From one progressive institution to another, we are showing that we’re on board,” Gutierrez said. “I think it’s important to give everybody someone to look up to.”

B2B is also active in putting on various workshops and going to local schools to teach and give students someone

to look up to. The organization works closely with other clubs on campus such as SISTERS and the Black Student Union to collaborate on certain projects. The success of these programs is reliant on student involvement.

“It takes student activism and student mobilization to get things like this on the road,” Gutierrez said.

“There is this perceived veil and social order that a lot of men of color appeal to. Brother 2 Brother is crucial in that it helps to break that boundary of what you thought you could previously achieve,” Gutierrez said.



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SPORTS

Editor: Hanson Lee | cwuobserver.com

Soleim hits her stride for cross country

“Soleim” from page 1

The summer got off to a worrying start this year when Soleim ended up breaking her toe. Never one to let an injury stop her, Soleim rehabbed her broken toe and fought through the pain to compete this season at a top level. The team set up a training plan that allowed her to train as hard as possible without risking further injury on the toe.



I think we've been a little bit underestimated throughout this entire season.



-Nicole Soleim, sophomore

Soleim's teammates noticed early on how tough she was when it came to fighting through her injury. One of her training partners, freshman Molly Mattson, felt that Soleim's toughness has contributed to her success as a cross country runner.

“Nicole is gritty and tough and does not let pain phase her. She pushes through adversity and brings others along with her. She never stops believing,” Mattson said.

This training plan has worked as Soleim has continued to improve her times with each passing meet. Typically, Soleim trains with freshman Madison

Child and Mattson, each pushing the others to new success during practices and meets. Child has found practice more enjoyable when she trains with Soleim because she pushes Child to be the best runner that she can be.

“I look forward to practice because of teammates like Nicole who inspire me to work hard while also being someone that can make me laugh and can keep me smiling through the toughest of workouts,” Child said.

This kind of chemistry has not only helped both girls have stellar seasons, but it has helped the team as a whole turn in another solid season. On Saturday, Nov. 3, the CWU men's and women's cross country teams competed in the 2018 GNAC Championships and Soleim thought that the team would be able to surprise some people with a top-five finish.

“I think we've been a little bit underestimated throughout this entire season,” Soleim said.

This, however, wasn't the only goal that Soleim had in mind, as she had set a personal goal of breaking the 22-minute mark in the 6K, which the GNAC Championships gave her an opportunity to achieve. To beat this mark would mean that, in a year, she would have brought her time down by more than a minute.

According to Child, when it comes to setting goals, Soleim has a knack for achieving exactly what she set out to do.

“Once she has something she wants to achieve, she shares her goal aloud - almost as if she is speaking it into existence. This



Heather Stewart/The Observer

Nicole Soleim (sophomore) helps lead the pack of distance runners on CWU's athletic fields.

sheer determination and confidence in herself then allows her to succeed throughout the race,” Child said.

That's precisely what Soleim was able to do in Monmouth, Oregon for the GNAC Championships. She fought and clawed her way to a sixth-place finish and to top it off, she attained her goal of cracking the 22-minute mark in the 6K. Her new personal record is 21:42.8 in the 6K distance, which shatters her

mark from the previous year.

So as to not to fall short of her team goal, Soleim helped the team finish in the top five as well. The whole CWU Cross Country team looks to perform even better at the West Regional meet in two weeks. The NCAA West Regional Championship will be in Billings, Montana on Nov. 17, so make sure to cheer on Soleim, Child, Mattson and the rest of the team.

Nationals on the horizon for CWU Golf

By Micah Chen
Staff Reporter

The CWU Golf Club is transitioning from a club team to a varsity team. Caleb Bryant has been a part of the club for two years now and he's excited for the first steps toward this transition.

“We're in conversations with President Gaudino,” Bryant said. “There's not really a DII GNAC league. It's more of community colleges, DII teams and DIII teams all competing in one league.”

According to Bryant, there are several roadblocks for the club in trying to become a varsity program.

If they were to become a varsity program, it would take away some of the club aspects, including playing golf simply for fun and encouraging novice golfers to come out improve their game.

There's also the matter of scholarships. There are a limited number for varsity sports at CWU. Giving the golf team scholarships would take them away from others, raising the question of how scholarship funds would be redistributed.

Title IX would also play a factor in golf becoming a varsity sport. Title IX requires an equal distribution of scholarship money to men and women.

Right now, there's only one woman in the golf club. There would need to be more women participating to create equal scholarships for the golf club.

“Having a girl on the team is a big step for us,” Bryant said. “It gives the community and university recognition that girl's golf is actually going to become a bigger thing throughout Central.”

The process of becoming a varsity sport isn't the only big thing that's happening in CWU Golf. They're also send-



Meghan Rochelle/The Observer

CWU Golf is headed to nationals (left to right): Austin Edwards, Garrett Granlund, Eric Fich, Caleb Bryant, Maddie Douglas, Drew Gradwohl, David Ellithorpe, Bryce Weedman (not pictured).

ing several members of their roster to the National Invitational this month in Myrtle Beach, South Carolina.

Garrett Granlund is the president of the CWU Golf Club, and he's excited to showcase CWU Golf on the national stage. He knows that playing well at Nationals can bring more attention to the golf program.

“We've gone to back-to-back Nationals,” Granlund said. “The team's looking really good and we hope to keep progressing forward.”

CWU qualified for the National Invitational by playing well in their two tournaments this fall, which took place in Richland, Washington, and Portland, Oregon.

CWU was the highest scoring team in their region after those two tournaments, which allowed them to qualify for Nationals.

What makes CWU winning their region particularly impressive is that they can thrive in a cold weather environment. Unlike their competition in California, CWU Golf can't play year-round.

“All those Arizona schools golf year round,” Granlund said. “We have to take a few months off in the winter.”

CWU might be tucked away in the northwest, but they have schools in the Northeast and Midwest that are still considered a part of their region. Because the governing body of collegiate golf recog-

nizes that some areas of the country have a weather disadvantage, they allow those schools to form together as a region.

Despite their incredible recent accomplishments, CWU Golf doesn't actually hold regular mandatory practices.

Grandlund explains that whenever everyone can get out and play, they'll make it happen. Normally the club practices at the Ellensburg Golf & Country Club, but they recently made a deal with Sun-cadia-based private course Tumble Creek that will allow them to use their course.

The Golf Club primarily operates during the spring and the fall. There are two tournaments each season and potentially Nationals as well, if they qualify. Winter months have to be taken off due to the inclement weather.

The club is extremely excited for what they future holds in the program. They would love to see you be a part of it. If you'd like to try-out for the golf club, you have a couple opportunities to become a part of the team. Tryouts are primarily held at the beginning of fall quarter and the beginning of spring quarter.

Plenty of CWU golfers take the sport very seriously, as they treat it more as a primary sport than a hobby. Bryant knew this was what he wanted to do in college as soon as he got here.

“I have played golf with my dad ever since I was alive,” Bryant said. “Golf was going well for me, so I thought, what could I do next?”

He's looking to continue his personal golf success and CWU success at the National Invitational.

If you'd like to cheer on your fellow Wildcat golfers, you can watch the tournament online. CWU will tee off Nov. 17 at 9 a.m., and it will be streamed live on Golfchannel.com.

Pregame mentality: an athletic perspective

By Dez Rodriguez
Staff Reporter

Before the game starts, before warm-ups begin, before the fans fill the seats and before tickets are even sold, athletes prepare for competition in the most fascinating ways, ranging from the food on their plates to the clothes on their bodies. Different athletes have different superstitions that will help them perform better. It's the pregame routines that prepare CWU athletes before each game.

The CWU volleyball team likes to get active and verbal inside the locker room before running out onto the gym floor. Junior setter Gabrielle Aihara leads the team in a "Mili Mili" chant, a Samoan war chant that was traditionally done before they went to battle.

It starts with the team in a tight circle facing the center. Aihara leads the chant by signaling for the girls to rub the palms of their hands together. The team then claps and rhythmic chants are made by Aihara.

Senior outside hitter Madison Weg then leads the girls in prayer directly afterwards. Once those routines are complete, the girls always say "rise up" before leaving the locker room to get the team hyped before each game.

To get her body ready, senior outside hitter Shelby Mauritson likes to fuel with pizza Lunchables and Top Ramen prior to gametime. It's a routine that reminds her that it's officially gameday and lets her body know it's

time to prepare.

"One time I ate it and we played really good as a team," Mauritson said. "We may not always win, but now I have to do it every time we play."

Before preparing inside the locker room, freshman basketball player Zellie Hudson likes to get his mind on-track by zoning everyone and everything out. His routine involves a lot of silence and starts well before gametime.

"I have to put my phone on airplane mode two hours before the game," Hudson said. "Then I listen to my playlist two times and don't say any words to anyone until I make my first basket in warmups."

This ritual clears his mind and makes sure that all he is focused

on is the next 40 minutes of the game. Hudson's teammate Andreas Brown likes to do something a little more subtle. It's something that can't be seen in preparation and is something that most of his teammates didn't know about.

"Before each game, I always have my socks inside out," Brown said. "No rhyme or reason. I just decided one day that I was going to wear them inside out."

Any athlete likes to receive pep talks to raise their spirits and any tips that will help boost their performance. Motivation is key and football redshirt freshman Daniel Johnson likes to get his mentality straight by hearing from the ones he loves most.

"I listen to music and call my family," Johnson said. "They give me some good game day advice before every game."

“

Before each game, I always have my socks inside out.

”

-Andreas Brown, sophomore



Meghan Rochelle/The Observer

Top: Sophomore guard Andreas Brown (#33) on the men's basketball team.
Bottom: Senior outside hitter Shelby Mauritson (#5) on the volleyball team.

CWU students stay active on campus

By Aaron Zewdie
Staff Reporter

Standing at 228,261 square feet, the SURC is one of the largest buildings on campus. Built 12 years ago in 2006, this structure is currently the hub of student life at CWU.

According to Indoor Operations and Camps Coordinator Alex Lee, the Recreation Center was last renovated in 2014 and has first-rate facilities and services that all students should be taking advantage of.

The Recreation Center has an indoor track on the second floor, four basketball courts that can be equipped to support badminton, volleyball and pickleball, a 50-foot indoor rock climbing wall, a weight room, and strength training and cardio fitness areas including two group fitness studios.

Additionally, the Recreation Center provides students with activities such as intramural sports, river rafting and a ski and snowboard shuttle up to the summit at Snoqualmie every Tuesday afternoon and evening during the winter season. Students also have the option of getting a personal trainer that provides guidance and assistance in individual, small group and team environments.

In addition to the Recreation Center at the SURC, the newly constructed Recreation Sports Complex (RSC) will be opening on Friday, Nov. 9 on the north side of campus. The RSC will give students a state-of-the-art facility that will be accessible via their memberships. The Recreation Center also runs events throughout the year. This year, they have had a brunch 5K run, archery tag and the Cranksgiving bouldering competition.



Meghan Rochelle/The Observer

Junior Jack Tonzi enjoys the basketball courts and the weight room at the Rec Center.

Junior Jack Tonzi was attracted to the Recreation Center because of his love of weight lifting. He started to lift weights in high school to lose weight and kept going with it once he arrived here at CWU.

"I spend most of my time in the weight room, but I like to come out here [on the basketball courts] to get some cardio done," Tonzi said.

Peak hours for the Recreation Center are from 3 p.m. to 10 p.m. Monday through Thursday, since that's the end of the school day for most students. Lee mentions that maintaining this facility is

a full-time job.

"It's a lot of coordinated effort to be honest with you. We have floor staff students who work in our weight room, in our cardio deck; they clean all the equipment, make sure everything is cleaned up, presentable and is in good working order for our students," Lee said.

According to Lee, the membership desk up front makes sure that students have all their equipment needs fulfilled. He added that the CWU custodians do an excellent job of keeping the facility in good, clean working or-

der. He also mentioned that they have an outside company named Columbia Fitness that comes in to check and fix all pieces of equipment to make sure they are working properly.

"For the most part, it's students in here, mostly students keeping our building going," Lee said. "I like to say they are the day-to-day operators of our facility."

Lee expressed that the students are the driving force of the SURC. The SURC employs anywhere from 150 to 160 students at any given time. The students are the backbone of the facility and strive to give their peers the best possible service.

One of the students that works behind the scenes is senior Trista Drake Jones. Jones was hired back in 2014 after she heard about the job from her sister who worked at the Recreation Center.

Jones mentioned that at that time they were short staffed, and so they had her bring in her resume for an interview which led to her getting hired as a member of the floor staff. Jones would move up over the years until she got to her current position as operations manager.

Jones explained that the working hours for students are very flexible and that if you need to study or cram for an exam, it's easy to put your shift up and a fellow coworker can take it over.

Jones stated that her job at the Recreation Center has been the biggest influence in her college career. She originally attended CWU to study chemistry, but decided that she didn't want to do that anymore.

"I changed my degree to recreation management and I come to work every day happy to be here," Jones said.

SPORTS

Editor: Hanson Lee | cwuobserver.com

Gameday magic: a behind-the-scenes look

By Bryce Weedman
Staff Reporter

It's all tied up with a minute left in the game. The Wildcats drive the ball down field for 60 yards and score the winning touchdown. The crowd goes crazy and the players lose their minds.

It sounds exciting, but what goes into making that game day magic possible? This is the story of the behind-the-scenes heroes who make the game day atmosphere so wonderful for the fans.

"We have to control the media relations behind the scenes that make the game flow together," Assistant Director of External Affairs Ryan Maley said.

There are many different aspects that go into making the games we love to watch run smoothly, so that the fan experience can be the best one possible. One of the tough parts of preparing a field for game day is that most of the time people only notice when something has gone wrong, like if the stadium's public address system begins cutting in and out, one of the banners on the field ends up getting torn down or the officials have been given the wrong game balls to use.

"There was an issue on the road this year where the officials kept giving us the wrong balls to use throughout the game," Assistant Director of Athletic Communications Caleb Dunlop said.

The locker rooms have to be stocked with the materials that athletes need to perform well, footballs must be properly prepared and all of the technology that the coaches will use, like headsets, have to be in working condition. All



Heather Stewart/The Observer

The newly renovated Tomlinson Stadium can be seen during a quiet afternoon in Ellensburg. On gameday, this space fills up with fans, staff and players alike.

of the cameras must be placed in the correct positions so that the game runs like clockwork. Other important jobs include: medical personnel, uniform inspectors, radio coordinators, technology troubleshooters, ball boys, chain crews, sideline helpers and the referees.

"From an all-encompassing standpoint, I would say there is roughly any-

where from 75 to 100 people that make games run correctly," Dunlop said.

Just like a business focuses on making its consumers happy, athletic personnel focus on making sure games are the best that they can possibly be. The next time you are at a sporting event, take a look around and remember just how much work it took to make your experience comfortable.

Tomlinson's next game

CWU vs. Azusa Pacific University

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ENGAGE

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NOV. 8 - 14

THU. NOV. 8

Germany and the EU Opportunities Fair

10 a.m. - 3 p.m. • SURC Ballroom • Free

Learn about study abroad, internships, work and business in Germany and throughout the European Union.

Geek Out Game Out

8 - 10 p.m. • SURC Pit and SURC 137 • Free

Console games, board games, VR, free food and more. There's something for everyone at this CWU@Late! event.

Dirtbag: The Legend of Fred Beckey

7 p.m. • SURC Theatre • \$12 - \$16 • cwu.edu/tickets

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THU. NOV. 8 - SAT. NOV. 10

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SUN. NOV. 11

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When is the time for Christmas spirit to shine?

Don't wait...instead choose to celebrate all season

Cassandra Hays, Staff Reporter

It's an annual debate: how early is too early to start thinking about Christmas? Personally, I think the earlier the better. After all, Christmas is the most wonderful time of the year. The holidays are a time for laughter and cheer and I don't see the point in holding off until December to start celebrating.

Twinkling lights, fun holiday activities and Christmas music are all things that make me happy and can brighten up these cold winter months. Decorating for Christmas is something I look forward to every year. I have always loved to decorate my living space here in Ellensburg before returning home for the holidays, but with only

about two weeks between Thanksgiving and winter break, there's just not enough time for me to get into the spirit of Christmas before it's over!

I know I am not alone in my desire to celebrate the holidays early. There have even been studies published by the Journal of Environmental Psychology that prove that decorating for Christmas earlier in the year can make you feel happier overall. Considering that it's a holiday revolving around love, cheer, and giving, it's no wonder so many people want to get a head start on Christmas decorating and shopping.

Some people might argue that

you should wait until after Thanksgiving to start celebrating. While I see where this argument is coming from, I think it's possible to spread holiday cheer without overlooking Thanksgiving. After all, the two holidays share similar concepts of thankfulness, giving, and togetherness, so why not group them together and celebrate the holidays for even longer?

If decking the halls in November makes you happy, I say do it regardless of what other people might say. After all, it's not hurting anyone, and there's nothing wrong with spreading a little cheer no matter the month.

But wait...we can't forget about Thanksgiving

Wyatt Simmons, Staff Reporter

The one thing that annoys me the most these days is the fact that people start celebrating Christmas as soon as it hits November like Thanksgiving isn't even a thing. I can't grasp my head around it, because of multiple reasons.

One being that Thanksgiving is still a very special holiday, it's more than just food or getting time off school for the few days, it's all about family and being with loved ones. Just like Christmas, it's getting together with family and being appreciative of the love given. Just because you don't get presents during this holiday, or because there aren't any catchy songs about Thanksgiv-

ing, doesn't make it any less special.

The other reason why I can't understand why people just want to throw Thanksgiving to the side to celebrate Christmas is that there is an unspoken rule about celebrating Christmas too early.

As soon as Thanksgiving is over and the leftovers from are in the fridge, then you can bring out the Christmas lights and start buying eggnog- but not a second before, and once December rolls around, by all means celebrate Christmas as much to your heart's content.

But there is a reason Thanksgiving exists. It helps you build up for

Christmas and it is the perfect pace to celebrate the holiday festivities. Going straight from Halloween to Christmas is too much; we have to have Thanksgiving in there to pace ourselves on the holiday season.

It baffles me that this is even a conversation. Thanksgiving is not even given the respect that Christmas has, but it's a wonderful holiday filled with family, love, food and in some cases, football. I think there should be some justice for the holiday and everyone should hold off on the Christmas sweaters at least until midnight after Thanksgiving.

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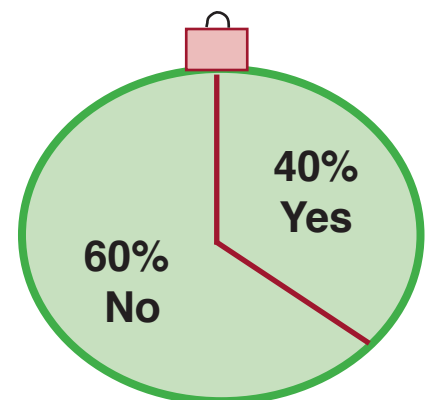


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Is it too early to be thinking about Christmas music and activities?



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