The Observer

Central Washington University

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Central Washington University, "The Observer" (2019). CWU Student Newspaper. 2656.
https://digitalcommons.cwu.edu/cwu_student_newspaper/2656

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An archive of CWU history

Mariah Valles
Editor-in-Chief

With the current state of the national administration and the constant bashing of the press, it’s an inconvenient time to be a student journalist. It’s also the best time to be a student journalist.

Despite what the 24-hour news cycle seems to imply, not all news revolves around the president in Washington D.C.

This school year has been packed with news at the CWU Ellensburg campus. Two ROTC students died in fall. There was an active shooter false alarm in winter. Kittitas County’s Deputy Ryan Thompson was killed in the line of duty in early spring.

Being a student journalist this year has been eye opening. I was used to writing stories that people would quickly forget about. Not this year.

I interviewed students who were locked in Brooks Library for hours not knowing if their friends had been shot or not. I spent hours upon hours dissecting 50 pages of public records regarding the active shooter event.

I covered a memorial for a law enforcement official who died in the line of duty in Kittitas County.

I followed a protest group around Ellensburg that was known for instigating violence, front and center, for two days. The protest did not become violent.

The Observer newsroom had countless conversations about coverage plans for the memorial, aftermath of the active shooter false alarm, Patriot Prayer protest and other difficult stories.

We weren’t sure of the perfect way to cover these challenging stories, but one thing we did know was that students and community deserved the facts. The most challenging part about covering these events was deciding where the ethical boundary was.

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Pride Week to represent all students

Mary Park
Staff Reporter

In 1996, CWU held its first Pride Week. Fast forward 20 years to 2016, when CWU President James L. Gaudino helped raise a rainbow flag for the first time on Barge Hall, the oldest and one of the tallest buildings on campus.

It was a symbolic gesture to assure that students of all identities can feel safe, welcomed and equal at CWU.

This year’s Pride Week will take place from May 27 to June 2. The theme of the week will be “Pride Without Borders” and will focus on two questions: what is identity and what is intersectionality?

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Ellensburg looks forward

Nick Tucker
Senior News Reporter

Ellensburg has grown from a city with 16,000 residents to over 22,000 since 2000. That’s an average growth rate of around 1.5 percent per year. Over the coming years that rate is expected to increase to around 2.5 percent per year which will increase the population by over 12,000 new residents in the next 20 years, according to the City of Ellensburg Department of Community Development.

To meet the need for housing created by the potential population increase, city planners and officials are working to figure out what the future of the city will look like and how to ensure that the infrastructure and population grows smoothly together.

Kirsten Sackett, community development director of Ellensburg, said that it’s no secret there’s a housing shortage in Ellensburg, with only a 1 percent vacancy rate. According to Sackett, this low availability may force renters to make uncomfortable sacrifices such as not being able to live with pets, paying more for rent than they may be able to afford or being unable to find housing at all.

To meet the expected growth, an average of 333 houses will have to be built every year as long as the growth trend continues, according to the Department of Community Development.

Developers are continuing to build new housing units, largely moving north in the area between CWU and Bowers Field Airport, but part of Sackett’s job is to prevent this from getting out of hand and leading to urban sprawl.

Urban sprawl is when a city continues to spread further outward with low-density development and is what has caused many problems for larger cities like Los Angeles.

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Student fees pay for SURC

Dez Rodriguez
Staff Reporter

Over $50 million is what it cost for CWU to build the SURC. CWU will be paying the bond they got loaned for the SURC until fiscal year 2034. Student Funds Financial Manager Lacy Lampkins said the Student Union and Recreation Center portion of the bond payment is about $2.4 million a year. The Wildcat Shop and Dining Services pay about $950,000 a year collectively.

The total amount is broken up into two payments, one during the spring and one during the fall. To help pay off the bond, the SURC has multiple funding sources. The three main ones are the Services and Activities, Recreation Center and Student Union student fees.

A portion of the $171 students pay per quarter for the Student Union and the Recreation Center fees goes to support the bond. The other portion of the Student Union and Recreation Center fees pays for the operating costs of the entire SURC. The Wildcat Shop and Dining Services also contribute as SURC partners.

When things come up in the SURC that need to be addressed, like if we need to redo the floors or paint all the walls, all of the partners have to chip in to make that happen," CWU Vice President of Business and Financial Affairs Joel Klucking said.

The amount each partner pays is based off of square feet. There is a set dedicated revenue from student fees that go to the bond payment, while the Wildcat Shop, Dining Services and the SURC generate revenue to help take care of common repairs and maintenance that may come up. Lampkins said all partners are always putting money aside for future projects.

The SURC receives other revenue streams as well, such as track meets at the Recreation Sports Complex and area rentals to U.S. Bank and Outdoor Pursuit and Rentals. No state funding helps pay for the SURC, it all depends on the students.

The SURC is now 13 years old. Klucking said that they’re always always going to take care of deferred maintenance projects. For example, replacing all the entry doors to the SURC this summer where a glass plate fell out earlier in the school year. The project will cost about $200,000 and is not coming out of bonds.

“The SURC was built with fewer students than we have today so there’s tons of more traffic going in there than it was really anticipated,” Klucking said. “Those doors lasted as long as they could last.”

Another project that CWU is starting to plan for is an extensive dining renovation. Klucking said it will change up the way Central Marketplace and Holmes Dining is laid out. The way it was initially designed, Holmes Dining was supposed to be isolated as an all you can eat facility. The electrical wires in the wall between Central Marketplace and Holmes Dining may make it an expensive project in the end.

“If you’re here in three years, or come back as an alumni, you’ll see a very different SURC dining situation,” Klucking said.

Upgrades already done in the SURC include redone floors, repainted walls and technical work in the SURC Ballroom. Lampkins said expansion talks are at the beginning phase. A survey went out asking students for any changes or additions they would like to see done in the SURC. CWU sophomore Liza Conboy said she’d like to see the SURC have a designated spot away from walking traffic and more comfortable for homework.

“The beginning phase is really getting our thumb on what the students want,” Lampkins said.

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Editor’s Note:
This issue of The Observer, the "Throwback Edition," is intended to remind our readers of the importance of student media publications. Since 1916, the student-run newspaper has worked at informing students about campus related news. Every article written this week has an old article from the history of the student newspaper.

Change is an inevitable. When The Observer staff was searching for archives, it was interesting to see how some things have changed drastically, and others not at all.

I hope you enjoy this issue and appreciate the effort that was put into it. If you have any questions, at any time, my email is cwuobserver@gmail.com.

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 of 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 or concerns, email us at cwuobserver@gmail.com.
Expansion is starting to look up in Ellensburg

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if there is too much development further away from the city center, it means that citizens have to drive their cars more. This may not be a big problem yet for a small city like Ellensburg, but according to the American Journal of Health Promotion, studies have found a relationship between urban sprawl and low levels of physical activity and health. Increased car usage also has environmental effects, creating more air pollution and causing rainwater runoff to pick up pollutants along the way to a storm drain.

To fight this and other city problems, Sackett has been working closely with the various other organizations and institutions such as CWU.

Bill Yarwood is CWU's Real Estate and Capital Planning Director. He's been working at CWU for 22 years and said that the campus will continue to change and expand as the university continues to accept more students every year. Some of these changes are new additions such as Dugmore Hall and a new dining facility.

"Up there you've got the [18th Street Grocery & Deli], but other than that, there's not really anywhere for students around north campus to eat," Yarwood said. Next to the 18th Street Grocery & Deli there is Wing Central, but Yarwood is right. Aside from those two places, there are no restaurants or grocery stores north of 18th street. According to CWU facilities, the new $2.68 million north campus dining facility will soon begin construction and is expected to open Fall 2019 one to two months after the opening of Dugmore Hall.

Other changes to campus include replacing and recycling current on-campus buildings. According to Yarwood, Hertz Hall is planned to be replaced by a new science hall which is currently being designed.

Due to the fact that students are constantly moving in and out of Ellensburg, Yarwood said that the city changes a lot more than cities like Yakima, and has a culture more accepting of these changes. Many cities go through some tensions when change happens, and both Yarwood and Sackett said there has been some of that. However, both agree that because of how closely the city of Ellensburg works with its residents, businesses and CWU, the culture of Ellensburg is increasingly collaborative.

“What would Ellensburg be without the university?” Yarwood said. "Students get involved with downtown and work, shop and live as a part of the community.”

According to the City of Ellensburg Community Development Department, many in the community are putting most of their money towards rent rather than spending it and growing Ellensburg's economy.

In Ellensburg, about 4,000 households are considered to be low to extremely low-income by U.S. Department of Housing and Urban Development (HUD) and almost half of households are considered to be cost-burdened. HUD considers a household cost-burdened if over 30 percent of the collective income for that household is spent on housing. According to the Community Development Department, cost-burdened households have limited resources left over to pay for other life necessities such as food, clothing, medical care, transportation and education. They are also at higher risk of displacement when housing costs rise or life circumstances change.

The Community Development Department said the number of cost-burdened households has been increasing over the past 10 years, but city planners like Sackett are attempting to use zoning to encourage growth in the right places to decrease home prices.

Zoning is the process cities and city planners use to decide what can be built in different parts of the city, like preventing factories from being built next to homes, for example. Homes can only be built in residential zones, stores in commercial zones and factories in industrial zones. Of course, the zoning process can be more complicated than this explanation merits, with 15 different zones in the 2017 zoning map of Ellensburg.

Sackett and the other employees of the city planning division are zoning in order to encourage things like mixed-use development: buildings with shops on the street-level and homes on the second and third levels.

The city is also continuing to annex property on the edges of Ellensburg's city limits which were previously unincorporated and only governed by Kittitas County. This allows those properties to receive municipal services like sewage and postal services. In turn this allows the city to collect taxes from a greater area as borders expand. This has been how Ellensburg has continued to expand northward.

‘63

On May 3, 1963, the Campus Crier published a story on the exact geographical center of Washington being located in the northwest corner of the Classroom Building, now known as Shaw Smyser, on campus. The story went on to state that several new buildings have been built in the southern half of campus such as Black Hall, the Groupe Conference Center and the Victor J. Bouillon Library, now known as Bouillon Hall.

“The exact geographical center of Washington”
May 3, 1963
Graduates reflect on time at CWU

Graduates use commencement as an opportunity to celebrate their accomplishments at college with their friends and family.

Nick Tucker
Senior News Reporter

Commencement is quickly approaching for thousands of graduates, and can be many students’ chance to celebrate and be recognized for their achievements in front of their friends and families. Commencement will be on June 8 and requires that graduates order a cap and gown set which is $65 for those getting their bachelor’s degrees and $40 for those getting their master’s.

One of this year’s graduates is mathematics education and elementary education double major Kassie Hill. Hill thought that she wouldn’t be able to walk due to a CWU policy preventing those with student teaching or internships in the fall from walking until that requirement was fulfilled. Hill worked with ASCWU VP for Academic Affairs Claire-Anne Grepo and other student teachers to change this, and CWU amended this policy in late March.

Hill was able to petition and was granted the ability to walk on June 8 for commencement. Hill will be able to walk across the stage in front of her friends and family, including her grandmother who is flying to Washington from Virginia.

“Honestly, I feel so shocked about it because I wasn’t planning on walking because of the policy,” Hill said. “I’m so excited to walk across the stage in front of her friends and family, in the floor covered in plywood that see me graduate.”

Not all graduates are walking at commencement. Some are unable to for various reasons like moving to start their career, and others just don’t feel like they want to, such as history major Kara Chan who said that she is just focused on getting her degree.

“My family is supportive of me and all, but they’re busy and I’m busy and I think there will be other things for them to be at to show their support in my career,” Chan said.

Like all graduating students, Chan will receive her diploma in the mail about eight weeks after the commencement ceremony, according to CWU Registrar Services.

Whether they walk at commencement or not, after graduating, students become alumni. They will then have the choice to join the CWU Alumni Association directed by Alumni President Dan Nicklaus. By joining the alumni board, graduates will be able to attend social events like baseball games and dinners, connect with other alumni and go on subsidized trips to places like New Zealand and Europe.

Cost for alumni association membership ranges between a $5 monthly plan and the $600 lifetime membership plan.

Nicklaus graduated in the class of 1997 with a political science degree. He said that commencement was his one last opportunity to celebrate his and his friends’ accomplishments.

“It meant so many things and it really felt like it was the end of the beginning,” Nicklaus said. “If you’re there to get the degree and bounce, do what you have to do, but this is our opportunity to recognize the students.”

Stacking up dust at Old Heat

Jack Belcher
News Editor

One of the tallest buildings in Ellensburg is the Old Heat plant, the brick building with the smokestack on University Way, across the street from Kamola Hall. The Old Heat used to generate power for the university, until 1971, which is when the Heating and Cooling Plant north of 11th Ave. and west of D Street replaced it. This is because the Old Heat building used coal to generate power while the new building uses gas.

Bill Yarwood, CWU Director of Real Estate and Capital Planning, said that the Old Heat plant is a significant building to CWU because of its location near campus and its architectural design. Yarwood said that one of the reasons he took a job at CWU in 1997 was because of the fantastic architecture on campus.

“I don’t think a lot of people realize [the quality of architecture on campus],” Yarwood said.

Yarwood said the university had been using the building as a storage space until a couple of years ago. It was then cleaned out to be used as a more prominent building by the university, although, there are not any detailed plans on how to use it yet.

“It is a good candidate for an adaptive re-use of some function that really fits into that location on campus,” Yarwood said. “The location’s perfect, it’s a point on the university that I think is kinda like right on the front porch.”

The Old Heat building is one of many that were designed by architect John W. Maloney. Other buildings on campus that were designed by Maloney are Shaw-Smyser Hall, McCom- nell Auditorium, Hebeier Hall, Lind Hall and the old gymnasium.

According to Yarwood, the Old Heat building is structurally sound, and after some renovations the building could be opened again by the university.

The interior of the building is empty with cement floors and broken windows. There are four large holes in the floor covered in plywood that is a reminder of the placement of the old boilers. The building contains a vertical conveyor belt with scoops that would bring the coal up multiple floors to the roof of the building, where it would then be gravity fed into the boilers. The smoke from the burning coal was then vented to the smokestack outside of the building.

On May 24, 1929, the Campus Crier reported that CWU, then known as the Washington State Normal School, would be holding commencement outdoors for the first time. Commencement was located between Wilson Creek and Eighth Street (now University Way). Two hundred diplomas were awarded to the graduating class.

To prepare for commencement, the university set up 1000 seats for those observing the ceremony.

“200 diplomas to be awarded 1929 graduates”
May 24, 1929

On Jan. 9, 1953, the Campus Crier published a story about a third boiler being added to the Old Heat plant, then known as Central Heating. The story mentioned that the building was built with room for two more boilers if the university ever needed them (which the university eventually did). A single boiler could theoretically power the entire campus in a pinch, but the university considered it a good idea to add a third in case any broke down.

“Heating capacity expanded to increase Dame winter”
Jan 9, 1953
No summer plans? Here are five good reasons why you should take classes this summer:

1. Pell grant funding is now available for summer quarter.
2. Live at home and take classes online.
3. Save money. Shorten your time to graduation.
4. Improve your GPA. Retake a class.
5. Sample a new subject. Try something new.

Be sure to register early as courses fill up quickly. Log into MyCWU to register. Search for classes offered by visiting cwu.edu/summer and clicking on the Search Class Schedule link.
Pride Week to celebrate different identities

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The Pride Committee collaborated with other groups on campus like the Diversity and Equity Center (DEC), Wellness Center, Veterans Center, Apparel, Textiles and Merchandising department (ATM) and Equity and Services Council (ESC) organizations. A series of events throughout the week will celebrate and showcase LGBTQ and other identities on campus. An exhibit in the SURC will showcase different minority groups, such as people of color and first-generation students. It will also represent the LGBTQ in their respective communities.

Equality through Queers and Allies (EQuAL) is a CWU club that provides educational opportunities about the LGBTQ community and holds social and networking events in a safe space. To prepare for Wildcat Statue Decoration on May 27, EQuAL members gathered in the SURC and designed quilt squares that will be sewn together to dress the Wildcat statue on the SURC East Patio. Meghan Hoeye, secretary for EQuAL, instructed members to draw or write something that will speak to who they are in their identity. Hoeye explained that intersectionality is the idea that a person experiences more than one identity.

‘96

May 9, 1996, The Observer reported that the Gay and Lesbian Alliance (GALA) would be hosting CWU’s first Pride Week. Students were encouraged to participate in numerous free events throughout the week, including an art exhibit titled “Cartooning AIDS Around the World,” a Q&A forum and a dance titled “Fun and Happy Celebration of Diversity.” Krista Goodman, president of GALA, said she hoped Pride Week would be an annual event.

“GALA to host Central’s first gay pride week”
May 9, 1996

EQuAL members drew rainbows, hearts, quotes and other personal emblems on the fabric pieces. Kenny Dalton is an ESC representative at EQuAL. ESC organizations promote inclusiveness and diversity on and off campus. Dalton wrote the words, “Self Love is Radical” on his quilt piece. He explained that society puts pressure on people to fit in and to like only certain parts of their identities, which can lead them to dislike themselves.

“Liking yourself is important,” Dalton said. “Liking who you are compared to what society says who [you] should be... I’m transgender and I’m okay with that. I’m also physically disabled—I use a cane—and I’m okay with that.”

Dalton said he will take part in Pride Week as a panelist at “Queer & A: Spill the Tea,” an event where students and community members can anonymously ask any question they may have about the LGBTQ community.

“I want to encourage students who are scared to ask [and] to learn,” Dalton said. “The Q&A panel will give a foundation to learn, to be an ally in a space that’s safe and comfortable.”

Dalton will also participate in the amateur drag show and will be recognized at Lavender Graduation, along with other graduating LGBTQ Wildcats.

The amateur and professional drag shows are the most popular events of Pride Week with the biggest turnouts. It’s where drag queens and drag kings dress up, wear fancy hair and makeup and perform on stage to a cheering crowd. Crystal Nambo is an EQuAL member who said she will be attending many of the Pride Week events, including the drag shows.

“I’m excited about seeing a whole bunch of people gather and have fun,” Nambo said.

She said it’s important to celebrate Pride Week because the LGBTQ community has overcome many things like discovering and expressing their identity and personal boundaries.

“[We’re] just saying ‘we’re here, we’re not going to hide anymore, and we’re proud of it,’” Nambo said.

Nambo drew symbols that are important to her identity on her quilt square—a graduation cap, a rainbow, a Mexican flag and a bee flying through the words “Bee yourself,”—of which she said, “You’re unique, you’re the only you that you’re going to be.”

Hoeye said that Pride Week is a way of telling people who are not out of the closet that there is hope and there is a safe space.

“There are more people who love you and accept you than there are people who are going to look down on you and discriminate against you,” Hoeye said.

Hoeye added that while the LGBTQ community has come a long way, there are still milestones to reach in the future.

“I would love to see more education,” Hoeye said. “The main barrier between people accepting us and people being able to come out and feel safe doing so is that people just aren’t educated on LGBT, like language and what [LGBT] even is.”

Pride Week Events

Decorating the Wildcat Statue
May 27, 11 a.m.
SURC East Patio

Queer and A: Spill the Tea
May 28, 6 p.m.
SURC Ballroom

Professional Drag Show
May 31, 8 p.m.
SURC West Patio

Prom Without Borders
June 1, 7-10 p.m.
SURC Ballroom

Lavender Graduation
May 30 6 p.m.
By invitation

Poetry Slam
May 28, 6 p.m.
Wellington Event Center

Amateur Drag Show
May 31, 11 a.m.
SURC Ballroom

Statue Decorating
May 27, 5 p.m.
SURC East Patio

Statue Decoration
May 31, 11 a.m.
SURC East Patio

Photo illustration by Shawna Hettick

The colors on the pride flag are meant to reflect the diversity of the LGBTQ community. The use of the flag originated in San Francisco in 1978, but is now used worldwide.

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Studying abroad expands student horizons

Emma Johnson
Staff Reporter

Whether it’s studying European history in London, or perfecting the Japanese language in Japan, the CWU Study Abroad and Exchange Program (SAEP) has something for virtually any student. According to CWU’s Associate Director of Education Abroad Steve Cook, CWU has 10 different exchange program partners in different countries. Some of these countries are the U.K., Australia, France, South Korea and Japan, among others. Cook said that students can visit countries outside of the options that CWU provides, and there are hundreds of different programs they can choose from. Cook said sometimes students are unable to find a study abroad program that fits their major, but they can also find internships or practicums abroad.

A notable practicum option that Cook talked about was the Macau practicum that is held by the education department. Students who are in the college of education have the opportunity to go to southern China and do a practicum course in that country for a quarter. Cook said there are two more sessions being planned in the college of education department, one in Japan and one in Belize.

Preparing oneself for SAEP begins pretty early on, according to Cook. The student has to ensure they are talking to their academic advisors about what their academic goals are. They also need to stay in contact with financial aid and do research on the country they will be studying in. Cook said the SAEP department puts on pre-departure sessions where students meet with the department for a few hours, ask any questions they may have, get advice from student ambassadors and get any pre-departure jitters out.

Alex Kane, a senior education student ambassador, said budgeting for the trip is important. Students can not work while studying abroad because the student visa does not allow for that. What students have when they leave the U.S. is essentially the money they will have for their whole time abroad. Kane studied abroad in France in 2017. She studied French, which is her major. Kane said she was there for four months, or a whole semester. According to Cook, most universities in the world are on a semes ter basis, and the quarter system is mainly an American concept.

“It was a really good cultural experience,” Kane said. “It opened my eyes to [France’s] perspective on Americans.” Kane said that when she was in France, many locals wanted to know her political views. She said people seemed really up to date on world politics, whereas in America it is not typical to know much about the politics of other countries.

Kane and her family are originally from England and they came to the U.S. when Kane was in high school, so at the time of her abroad studies, Kane was not a U.S. citizen. She said that a lot of the time she pretended to not be from the U.S. at all. Kane said blending into the culture of the country in which a student is studying abroad is more important than one would think. One way to do that is to dress like people of the culture. Showing respect for the way people live will help gain respect from those in that country, Kane said.

Lianna Johnson, CWU graduate assistant at the International Center, went abroad twice in her undergraduate career. She went to London and Scotland respectively, focusing her education on history. Johnson talked about how much personal growth she went through while she studied abroad, and while the education she got was also a huge perk, she felt as though she gained independence she had never had before. Johnson was able to travel from one European country to the next while she was abroad, and she said being able to do that gave her a sense of confidence.

Both Johnson and Kane discussed the signs of culture shock, testing and gave some tips on how to ensure that culture shock does not ruin the students’ time abroad. Culture shock is the post “honeymoon phase” of studying abroad, according to Johnson. The once enchanting qualities of the new place and school subside, and the student begins feeling irritated towards the country itself. An inability to communicate with others gets frustrating, and so does trying to navigate a completely different world, Kane said. Johnson said some of the best ways for her to get over her homesickness and culture shock was to indulge in things from home.

Watching American TV, talking to a flat mate that is also American or calling home are a few ways someone can help combat homesickness. Overall Johnson and Kane agreed that they are much different people because of SAEP, and for them, stepping out of their comfort zone every once in a while shaped them into the adults they are now.

O n Oct. 27, 2005, The Observer reported on the study abroad program and how students could get involved. The article discussed different forms of financial aid available to students who wanted to participate in the program, including loans, grants and scholarships. It also talked about the process of applying, various fees like application and enrollment fees and the experience of studying abroad.

Heather Barclay Hamir, who was the director of Study Abroad and Exchange Programs, said students returned from their trips with more independence, confidence and a better idea of what they wanted to do with their lives.

“Going abroad is easier than you think”
Oct. 27, 2005
Continued from Page 1

Do we cover the vigil for the two students? Should we interview students who were distraught after they spent hours thinking they were about to die? How do we fairly cover a protest group advocating for the Second Amendment?

These are only some of the questions we discussed as a newsroom. It's easy to self-censor as a student journalist. Being a student and a journalist simultaneously is enough of a challenge. Throwing death and guns in the mix makes for a next-level challenge.

I saw my peers upset over their friends passing away. I heard former classmates crying on their phones talking about how they didn't know what was going on, but that there was mention of a possible active shooter. It can be hard to talk about traumatic experiences. Is it necessary? Yes. It always will be.

In The Observer newsroom, we decided we would not self-censor. By doing so, we added to the history of CWU. By documenting these events in the university's history, The Observer ensured they always be accessible to present students, alumni, and future Wildcats.

According to the digital commons website, the student newspaper has been published since December 1916 and is one of the most requested university archives at Brooks Library.

In its history, the student newspaper has written stories on Barack Obama's presidency, the Columbine High School shooting and Ted Bundy's murder of Susan Elaine Rancourt.

All student newspaper archives dating from 1916 to 2009 can be found on CWU's digital commons website. There, the student-run newspaper is claimed as "not only the primary source of information on the history of Central Washington University but also an important resource on the history of central Washington state."

A majority of other archives can be found on issuu.com/CWUObserver or cwuobserver.com.

The student newspaper is just as important in 2019 as it was in 1916.

This year is the Student Press Law Center's (SPLC) "Year of the Student Journalist." The SPLC is an independent, non-partisan organization that works to promote, support, and defend the First Amendment and press freedom rights of high school and college journalists and their readers.

Story by: Mariah Valles
AIMING FOR CHANGE

DAY OF THE DEAD

CDSJ celebrates traditional Mexican holiday

ROAD TO RIO

CWU rugby alumni make Olympic team

Three states call for weed legalization while Washington votes on gun rights


All student newspaper archives dating from 1916 to 2009 can be found on CWU's digital commons website. There, the student-run newspaper is claimed as “not only the primary source of information on the history of Central Washington University but also an important resource on the history of central Washington state.”

A majority of other archives can be found on issuu.com/CWUObserver or cwuobserver.com. The student newspaper is just as important in 2019 as it was in 1916.

This year is the Student Press Law Center's (SPLC) “Year of the Student Journalist.” The SPLC is an independent, non-partisan organization that works to promote, support and defend the First Amendment and press freedom rights of high school and college journalists and their advisers. The SPLC was founded in 1974 and had been a prevalent voice in the work of “New Voices” legislations. These legislations go against the 1988 Supreme Court Case Hazelwood v. Kuhlmeier, which ended in a 5-3 ruling stating that school administrators had the right to censor student journalists from publishing stories on teen pregnancy and divorce.

A New Voices law was signed in Washington state in March 2018. The passing of the law could not have been possible without students, advisers and SPLC representative Mike Histand who all spoke about the importance of First Amendment rights for student journalists both in high school and college.

By the students, for the students” has been the slogan of The Observer for many years. The New Voices law only cements this phrase. The Observer works to report factual, informative, stories for CWU students. The Observer is not afraid to talk about struggles the university faces, even if that means making higher-ups upset or being placed in uncomfortable situations.

Unfortunately, America is seeing less and less local news. According to Poynter.com, about 20 percent of all metro and community newspapers in the United States have gone out of business or merged since 2004. In 2004, about 9,000 were being published. Coverage in newspapers that still exist has scaled back drastically. Some researches are even calling them “ghost newspapers.”

Ellensburg has a population of about 20,000. It won't get the same news coverage as larger cities like Seattle. Reporters from KING 5, KOMO or Q13 aren't going to drive to Ellensburg to cover the active shooter follow up story, but that event had a large impact on the local community and learning more about it was important to students and their families.

At the same time, The Daily Record, the local newspaper in Ellensburg, has a very different audience than The Observer. The Daily Record won't be able to cover everything CWU students care about. All of this makes student media that more important. Far from being “the enemy of the people,” we get to play an important service role in the community in which we live, study and work.

Indeed, it’s the best time to be a student journalist.

Design by: Will Yi

Student media serves as an archive of information

Mariah Valles
Ellensburg’s hottest places

As spring quarter winds down, CWU students and the Ellensburg community find themselves looking forward to the warmer and sunnier mer months. Even though many students choose to leave town after finals week, some stick around amongst the thousands of people who live in Ellensburg permanently. What is often asked as the classrooms empty is what there is to do in town between June and September. Students may be surprised to know that many unique and fun activities spring up during the quieter summer months.

Despite the decreased population, there are numerous “hot spots” in Ellensburg that have become places of popularity when the weather is just right. Even before finals are over, one particular park on the outskirts of town fills to the brim with college students, families and other recreation-minded alike. That park is Irene Rinehart Riverfront Park. Others call it People’s Pond, and some refer to it as Carey Lake. Regardless of the name, this large gathering place off of Umptanum Road welcomes individuals of all backgrounds to sample its many different activities.

The 117-acre park with two large sized ponds alongside the Yakima River frequently brings out hundreds of people on a balmy day. Even before the end of the spring quarter, you will often see CWU students come in droves to work on their tans, play volleyball, toss the frisbee around or simply enjoy a picnic. Families also enjoy similar activities, like playing the 18-hole disc golf course on site and fishing in the river or just walking through the lush green trees surrounding the park.

“After spending four summers in Ellensburg my favorite spot has to be Carey Lake. Whether it’s just laying in the sunshine or sitting in the lake, it’s always a good time,” CWU alum Maddie Drisman said. “I love the addition in the last year or so of the off leash dog park too. On top of the frisbee golf you can tell that [the city is noticing how much] the community utilizes the space.”

Traveling east outside of town lies a hidden gem that some CWU students may not even know about if they haven’t ventured toward the smaller towns. Just off of Vantage Highway lies Olmstead Place Historical State Park. This 217-acre park is historic in the fact that the large cabin located on park property is over 100 years old, once owned by the Olmstead family. The property also preserves a working pioneer farmhouse, also once owned by the family. Its historical value has not gone unnoticed even on the national level, as it was added to the National Register of Historic Places in 1971. Amongst the spacious large green fields and sky high trees, visitors come to picnic, walk along the scenic hiking trails, tour the museum and even fish in the winding Coleman Creek.

Local resident Linda Garcia described Olmstead as having “beautiful gardens and picnic areas,” as well as enjoyable tours of the historic buildings. Another resident Heather Heron echoed those sentiments as her family enjoyed visiting the park for a picnic.

Some like to finish off a day of enjoying the scenic parks with a nice trip back into town for food and beverages. Cooling off from the heat with an alcoholic beverage is just another way to relax and unwind. One of the places you can do that is at the Whipsaw Brewery, just off of University Way before you head into the heart of town. Whipsaw features indoor and outdoor seating, Numerous beers to taste and the Saucey Food Truck to munch from. Community resident Scott Sanders appreciates the brewery as a whole but enjoys visiting the most when the sun is out.

“I like them because they are family friendly and you can bring your pets there. Also, just off and food are amazing. And I like it during the summer because they have an outdoor seating. Just a great place to be,” Sanders said.

These are three places to enjoy a summer’s day at, but many community residents have several other unique spots to visit in town. The Ellensburg Library, Gallery One Visual Arts Center, the Ellensburg Historical Museum, the farmer’s market and even a float down the Yakima River are just some of the many different options to choose from if you are looking to escape the confines of the indoors these next few months. This is amongst the many events in town this summer, like the Ellensburg Germanfest and Dachshund Parade in June, Jazz in the Valley and the Kittitas Independence Day celebration in July, and the Ellensburg Rodeo and Kittitas County Fair in August. Although the university quiets down, Ellensburg makes a whole lot of a noise in the summer.
**Editor:** Hanson Lee

**Opinion**

### The scourge of Satan's Fun Juice

#### Rune Torgersen

College campuses are faced with a unique problem when it comes to planning celebrations. There's a big stereotype concerning the kinds of activities that take place during parties at the college level. Disrupting behavior such as drinking, smoking and other staples of the collegiate party scene aren't necessarily things that schools want to associate themselves with, and CWU is no different. I suspect that this contributes in large part to the planning of various events and activities on Friday and Saturday evenings on campus. If students are busy shooting zombies in the SURC on Saturday evenings on campus. If students are busy making fools of themselves, or even threatening roommate problems, everyone seems to be engaged in the wrong activities. They've been told their whole lives that alcohol is a fun thing that only grown-ups get to do, and now, they're told that they're grown-ups.

There's a second, and perhaps more important factor in all of this: the lack of education concerning safe drinking habits. In my middle-school health class, they used a blanket solution to teach kids about alcohol, sex, and drugs.

### Housing woes: I want my own room next year

#### TyYonna Kitchen

Beginning this academic year, I was terrified because I was entering the wold of roommates. I was right to be fearful. Fall 2008 was almost six months and three sets of roommates ago. Thanks to the Housing Office's oh so great system of first come first serve, students can end up with an assortment of roommates, and just in case it was lost in translation, that was the world of someone who really did care about her surroundings or even threaten her roommate, but they weren't, I told you, I still live with the third roommate set), let's start with set number one. We will call these women Goddess (because she thought she was one) and Joe (because it's a solid name). According to MyHousing, students are assigned not only roommate, but roommate as well. There were three beds in my suite, bed one being in a single room and beds two and three being in a double room. I was assigned bed two and Joe was given bed three, lucky us.

Skip ahead to move in day and Joe steals the single, aka Goddess' room, leaving me with an apparent problem child who was too passive aggressive to ask for her room. The complaining went on for weeks. From Joe's music to her boyfriend, Goddess always had to stick her nose where it didn't belong, and guess who heard it all?

Goddess liked to pretend that she was the only one cleaning the room, but she was the problem. She would brush her teeth in the kitchen sink, a sink that was five feet from the bathroom. For those who are wondering, yes there was a working sink in the bathroom, Goddess was just gross.

I left that situation after she went postal on me for a ridiculous reason. We had been using the same shower schedule for the weeks we'd lived together, but one morning something struck me that she wanted to shower before me. There was only one problem, I had already showered. Goddess called me a "dickhead" and "allegedly threw my personal belongings onto the ground. Living with someone who was obviously competing for the title of America's Sweetheart was hard and it didn't even last all of fall quarter. Anyone dealing with serious or even threatening roommate problems should contact one of their resident assistants (RAs).

The third roommate (second set for those who are counting) was literally one floor down from my first two roommates. So, I was able to leave the first apartment almost completely in an hour without alerting Goddess. Lucky me, I had my own room and lived in a smell that can only be described as a dumpster fire that was actively eating rotting fish and spoiled milk. The problem with roommate number three was more concrete, she was the sloppiest person I'd ever had the pleasure of meeting and I was introduced to the world of someone who really did not care about her surroundings or my well being.

From the brown mystery stains in the bathroom to the naked cooking, this woman was living her best life. Her best life came at a cost though, my sense of smell, smell and my sanity. Have no fear though the brown stains were not feces, they were feces and vomit. Isn’t learning fun?

The worst part of the ordeal was that I lived with one roommate. How could someone person make such a huge mess? I guess I'll never know because that roommate left without so much as a goodbye. She did leave me a few gifts though. A broken fan and every piece of trash that she could not be bothered to deal with. Gotta love a giver. Fall quarter feels so long ago now. Thankfully, I now have a decent roommate that I hardly ever see or hear (what an upgrade). And none of my stuff has mysteriously appeared on the floor in six months.

I think that the Housing Office should actually use those information surveys that we have to fill out so we can end up with roommates that we actually feel comfortable with. What is the point of us filling out those online forms if no matter what we do we end up living with whoever? Not everyone is comfortable rolling the dice, especially if they could end up being stuck with a control freak or a slob.
Marijuana has been a long time "street drug," and has been used for both medical and recreational use across the entire United States. One of the biggest ongoing debates over the years has been whether or not our government should legalize it across our country. Currently marijuana is legal in 23, including Washington.

It is quite evident that our government will never be able to completely remove marijuana from the streets and the danger it brings when sold illegally is enough to legalize the plant nationwide right there. We have so many other drugs prescribed by doctors, such as tobacco and alcohol, that are both more threatening, to the human body are already legalized.

Marijuana alone has never once been to blame for any deaths like alcohol has, and our government legalized it anyway after the prohibition ended. There is no doubt this little magic green plant will never stop growing, and hippies around the world will never stop smoking it, so having regulated and taxed marijuana is our best solution possible. We couldn't do it in 1933 with alcohol and there's no stopping the greens from growing either.

Legal marijuana is the way forward

Bram Wiggins
Columnist

On May 26, 1967, The Observer published an opinion piece on why marijuana should be legalized for people who are of age. The opinion states how there's no direct correlation between marijuana and crime rates. It also mentions how other drugs, such as tobacco and alcohol, are just as, if not more threatening, to the human body are already legalized.

"Why not marijuana?"
May 26, 1967

Marijuana has been a long time "street drug" and has been used for both medical and recreational use across the entire United States. One of the biggest ongoing debates over the years has been whether or not our government should legalize it across our country. Currently marijuana is legal in 23, including Washington.

It is quite evident that our government will never be able to completely remove marijuana from the streets and the danger it brings when sold illegally is enough to legalize the plant nationwide right there. We have so many other drugs prescribed by doctors that indeed account for thousands of deaths annually, yet we all have a negative outlook on a plant that has accounted for zero deaths... ever!

Marijuana is a huge industry in our country already, reeling in $1 billion last year in Washington alone, accord-
On November 4, 2004, The Observer reported that both CWU Volleyball and Football were coming home with GNAC titles. Volleyball was wrapping up an undefeated season, holding the 12th place national ranking after defeating Humboldt State University in a 3-game series.

“Two team, two GNAC titles” Nov. 4, 2004

Bryce Weedman
Senior Sports Reporter

In November 2018, the CWU Volleyball Team wrapped up their season. The Wildcats finished 23-6 overall with a 16-4 conference record, according to the Wildcat Sports website. The team was able to make it to west regionals, winning the first game 3-2 against California State University, Los Angeles. The Wildcats went on to lose in the single game elimination tournament to number one seed California State University, San Bernardino 1-3.

After a break in play from November to April, the Wildcats geared up to host Portland State University in a controlled scrimmage on May 3. The scrimmage had both Webb sisters, Bridgette and Parker Webb, on both sides of the court. According to the Wildcat Sports website, head coach Mario Andaya has coached both Webbs. He coached Bridgette Webb as CWU’s head coach and Parker Webb in club volleyball in past summers.

“Parker and Bridgette are both very savvy players,” Andaya said. “They see the game well. They find ways to score. They maximize their physicality as best as I’ve seen. They both show very good composure.”

Now that the scrimmage is over, it’s time to work on getting better for next season, according to Andaya. Andaya said a lot of things need to happen to make the post-season again next year. He said it is about carrying over the positives from this season, into next season. Andaya said he was happy to have junior defensive specialist/libero Kyla Morgan back for next year. She led the team with 596 digs and was named to the all-conference team. Andaya hopes to utilize outside hitter Makala Swart who was also named to the all-conference team last year. According to Swart, she believes that she has improved in her confidence and fundamental skills on the court. However, according to Swart, her biggest improvement is in her mental game. Swart said she feels like she is a lot more vocal on the court, because she is more comfortable with her teammates. She thanks them and coach Andaya for that.

Andaya talked about buying into the team and the way he coaches. He said that if every player can buy in and play their best every day, then the team has potential to be competitive again this season.

“I think it really comes down to the fact that he is such a great coach and you can see his love for the game in everything that he does,” Swart said. “Like the way he sets up our practices. The way that he plans every single thing out. The way he looks so much into detail, you can really tell how passionate he is.”

Andaya said the team will also need its younger players to step up and start getting more comfortable on the court. According to Andaya, it is a learning process but he believes in his younger players, like red-shirt freshman Kylee Yamashita who is from Pukalani, Hawaii. According to Yamashita was named to the All-Star Division First Team as a senior in high school.

“I think I have really improved on just focusing on myself, and bettering myself every practice. Being that I am very young, I know it is easy to get discouraged seeing all of these older players killing it everyday,” Yamashita said. “I know that it took a lot of hard work and dedication for them to get to that point, so I just have to take a step back and evaluate myself and know that I am going to be at that point one day.”

The Wildcats will start their 2019 season against Northwest Missouri State University and then against number 17 ranked in the nation Drury University in a double header on Sept. 6 in Topeka, Kansas.
Athletes grind in the summertime

Bryce Weedman
Senior Sports Reporter

The last whistle blown, and the last game-winning shot. Every season ends eventually, but for athletes, the training never stops. The academic year comes to an end in June, but what do athletes do during the summer?

For some athletes, summer is a break and a vacation. Like other students it is their time away from school after a long academic year. For others, it is time to get stronger as athletes and gain ground on their competitors. Men’s rugby hooker sophomore Chase Capiti said summer is the time to start grinding and get better. Capiti said he doesn’t want to get lazy, and for him it is all about eating right and doing workouts that will help him stronger and faster come next season.

“Just eating and dieting right is important, but running a lot to stay in shape is very important too,” Capiti said. “There are points where you want to relax, but you know that you have to make sacrifices if you want to be elite at the top.”

According to the National Institute for Fitness and Sport (NIFS) website, there are positives when it comes to summertime training. The weather is better so there are more opportunities for training during the summer. According to the NIFS website, most athletes have been trying to juggle school, work, games and training all year, so when it comes to the summertime, athletes are ready to change up their routines.

Junior women’s basketball guard Alexis Pana said she will be staying in Ellensburg this summer to pursue an internship, so she will have to focus on that. However, she will have to stay in shape. Pana said she will be working with strength and conditioning coach Eric Hoium. Pana believes this will allow her to stay on track for next season. Pana will workout three times per week and practice basketball to keep her game ready for next season.

“My goal is to get between 500 to 1000 shots per week so I can get ready for next year,” Pana said.

Sophomore women’s basketball forward Kassidy Malcolm said that even though the team is out of season right now, she will still lift three days a week and attend open gym practices. Malcolm said that after the spring time it is all on the players to stay ready for next season, so she will also be shooting 500 to 1000 shots per week. Malcolm said that the team will offer lifting coaching during the summer and if players do not stay in Ellensburg for the summer then the lifting coach will give them workout packets to go by while they are back home.

“I plan to stay in shape this summer by going to those workouts and shooting on my own time,” Malcolm said. “Making sure my cardio is in good shape as well by running sprints throughout the summer.”

Competitive Edge’s website says that there are five key tips to stay in shape for athletes in the summer. The first is to stay on schedule. Create a schedule for yourself during the summer and make sure you are sticking to it. The second is to keep up with your training. It is okay to take a vacation, but don’t let your strength and endurance slip away in your off time so find a balance. The third is to remember to get your sleep. It is easy to stay out in the summertime, but you need to give your body rest. The fourth is to fuel your body with the right nutrients. Don’t put bad food into your body just because it is summer time. The final tip from Competitive Edge’s website is to stay in contact with your coach. Staying in contact with your coach could help keep you motivated and give you someone to hold you accountable.

On Sept. 29, 1928, the Campus Crier published a story about the home-opening game for the Washington State Normal School Wildcats. The team was gearing up to take on the College of Puget Sound Loggers in a game that was anticipated to be one of the toughest of the year. The Wildcat’s head coach, referred to only as Sandberg, said he wasn’t overly optimistic about the coming matchup, but fans felt that the Wildcats could win if they lived up to their true potential.

“Wildcats open local football season when they battle Loggers”
Sept. 29, 1928
Shindruk nominated for NCAA Woman of the Year

CWU Track and Field long-distance runner Alexa Shindruk has been nominated for NCAA Woman of the Year. She is the only representative of CWU this year. Each school in the NCAA can nominate up to two women, as long as at least one is a student-athlete of color or international descent. The nomination process includes each conference, across all of Division I, II and III, sending up to two women to represent them. After that, the Woman of the Year selection committee selects 10 women out of the 30 they narrow it down once more to the top three from each division, sending nine women to the NCAA Woman of the Year announcement. This year the announcement will be in Indianapolis on Oct. 20.

Shindruk has impressed many on and off the track. She is competing at the Division II National Outdoor Championships in the 5,000-meter and 10,000-meter run to close out her senior season. She also has a 4.0 GPA. Earlier this year, Shindruk broke the CWU school record in the 5,000-meter race with a time of 16:48.43. Recently, she finished second at the GNAC Outdoor Championships in the 5,000-meter run with an even better time of 16:47.08. Despite the good time, Shindruk used the second place finish as motivation heading into Nationals. “I have a passion for running and I love to learn so I enjoy looking forward to that and I enjoy the challenge and face it with a positive attitude,” Shindruk said.

Earlier this year, Shindruk received the Elite 90 Award, given out to only the top athletic and academic student-athletes in the NCAA. According to NCAA data, 49,556 women compete in Division II and 15 of them were awarded the Elite 90 Award.

Shindruk and head coach Kevin Adkisson sat down when she came to CWU as a freshman to set some goals for her career here at CWU. However, it wasn’t until the end of her sophomore year that Adkisson saw something special in Shindruk. “We just missed nationals as a sophomore despite setting a school record in the 10,000-meter,” Adkisson said. “The next year she made it to nationals and coming into her senior year there’s just a few goals left to achieve at Nationals.”

The ability to balance athletics and academics, doing both at such high-levels, is a task some have a tough time achieving. For Shindruk, the motivation is there for both and her mindset is always on winning, whether it be on the track or in the classroom. “I have a passion for running and I love to learn so I enjoy looking forward to that and I enjoy the challenge and face it with a positive attitude,” Shindruk said.

Coach Adkisson said that Shindruk is “someone who totally embodies the idea of a student-athlete” and has been nothing but impressed with Shindruk’s career at CWU. As she prepares for the next chapter of her life after college, Shindruk will miss the people that helped her get to where she’s at today. “My team is probably the biggest thing,” Shindruk said. “Just all the fun times we had, and working together to accomplish our goals is something I will miss.”

On May 23, 1985, The Observer reported Bob Shultz was crowned CWU’s 1985 batting champion with a .363 batting average. Shultz was benched midway through the season by coach Dale Ehler after batting a low .229 average in his first 19 games. Shultz came back and went on a 17-game tear resulting in a .409 average.

“A Shultz wins Central batting title”
May 23, 1985

Alexa Shindruk is the only athlete from CWU to be nominated for the NCAA Woman of the Year Award this year.
This week in Observer history

On May 26, 1977, a woman by the name of Edith Ellexson was featured in The Observer as the oldest student set to graduate for the class of 1977. Ellexson first graduated from CWU in 1915, and after a lifetime of experiences, was looking to graduate for a second time at CWU with a liberal arts degree in history at the age of 82.

On May 25, 1973, it was reported that the CWU’s men’s soccer club won their first trophy after placing third in the Green River Invitational Soccer Tournament. It had taken 83 years for any CWU soccer team to win a piece of hardware in the university’s history. No club team or varsity team had earned a trophy at CWU prior to that year.